

Many other school events and news can be found on our [Facebook page - click here](#)

17<sup>th</sup> March 2023

## Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

### Message from Mrs. Lowrey

Firstly, can I thank all of the parents for their kind get well messages that they have passed on while some of our staff have been poorly. It is really appreciated! I think we are seeing a little bit of light at the end of the tunnel with some of the bugs going around and the mild spring weather is helping everyone to play outside a little more frequently!

Today has been such a success, with funds being raised for Comic Relief and Edukid! The playground was filled with colours of the Ugandan flag. I was also particularly impressed with our school council, who managed to run competitions and the cake sale with little help from the adults in school. Thank you, School Council!

Hedgehogs class had a fantastic walk to the woods and had outdoor learning in the woods today! Here are some of the photographs that were taken while they were out.



On **Tuesday**, Mr Day will be running some additional PE sessions, which form trials for **a cross-country** event in May. We are inviting all children from years 3-6 to try some distance running on Tuesday morning and we will be selecting a Team to send and represent our school in a racing event. **Please could all children from years 3-6 bring PE Kit and trainers that you do not mind getting a little muddy for the morning.** Thank you!

Finally, the PTA have a fantastic **Disco** planned for the **31<sup>st</sup> March**. Please do see the flier attached with this newsletter and follow the link to book your place. This should be such a fun evening to end our school term – I look forward to seeing you there!

### **Mothing Sunday – St Peter’s Church**

This Sunday (19th March) all are invited to a special mothing Sunday family service in St Peter's Church at 11.00am. We'll be celebrating mothing and praying for all mothers.

### **Check if your child can get free school meals and additional funding support**

All children in reception, year 1 and year 2 at state schools in England automatically get free school meals. However, parents and guardians are encouraged to apply for free school meals when they enrol their child in school, as this can help their child's school to attract additional '[pupil premium](#)' funding to support learning.

From year 3 onwards, children whose parents are getting any of the following are entitled to free school meals:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).
- Income Support (IS).
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA).
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (IRESA).
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income that does not exceed £16,190).
- Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment you get for a further 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit).

### **How to apply**

Apply through the [Devon Citizens Portal](#). This is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in you getting an instant decision. Alternatively, call the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019.

### **IMPORTANT - Paignton Zoo Trip – Robin & Hedgehog Classes**

Although the Paignton Zoo trip is free due to the amazing work from the PTA to secure funding for the coach, and Paignton Zoo offering free entry during March we still require you to consent for your child to attend through ParentPay.

If you are one of the parents who haven't already done this can we please ask that you log-on as soon as possible to complete this task.

Thank you.

### **Driving Through the Villages of Tawstock & Eastacombe:**

Please can we remind everyone driving to school through the lanes and villages of Tawstock & Eastacombe to reduce your speed accordingly. We have received several complaints from the local community regarding the inconsiderate speed at which some cars are travelling. We also have several families who live in these villages who walk their children to and from school. All routes to the school have narrow lanes and we have heard of a few near misses involving families from our school. We all leave and arrive at different time, so please respect other road users including pedestrians and keep your speed down; I am sure you will all agree that our children's safety is paramount.

## **School News**

### **Changes to Early Years Funding**

We have attached a chart to this newsletter to show the changes the government have announced which include the dates on which they take effect.

### **30 hour codes for the Summer Term**

In order to access 30hour funding for the Summer Term 2023 (which for funding purposes starts on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023) parents need to have applied to HMRC through their Government Gateway Account and received a code by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023. Any codes with an eligible date of 1<sup>st</sup> April onwards will not be funded in Summer 2023 term. We encourage parents to apply in plenty of time incase HMRC require any additional information.

Sadly, a number of families across Devon did not reconfirm their details and missed the 31<sup>st</sup> of December deadline for Spring Term, moved settings in the Grace Period or had a gap in eligibility meaning they could not claim 30 hours funding in the Spring. Please make sure this doesn't happen to you.

## **School Uniform**

We are in the process of moving our school uniforms sales from school to Daw's at Daw's Clothing Company Ltd, Unit 2 Affinity Devon, (Atlantic Village) Clovelly Road, Bideford.

As we sell out of items they are taking them on and can be purchased on-line at:

<https://schoolthreads.org/collections/holywell-c-of-e>

PE T-shirts will still be available to purchase from school.



## **ParentPay**

The following trips are now available or will be available shortly for payment and consent to be made:

**School Meals – £2.30 per day**

**Breakfast & ASC**

**Swimming and Gymnastics – Reception & yrs. 1, 2, & 3.**

Please remember to pay the correct funds into the correct account item, and for the correct child in your family

## **Parent Pay Debts.**

We currently have **26 children** showing debts on their ParentPay school meals account. Can we please ask that you check your accounts over the weekend and pay these off as soon as possible?

## **Diary Dates**

**21<sup>st</sup> March (final week).** - Gymnastics and Swimming Years R, 1, 2 & 3 – **Please remember to collect your child from the Tarka Leisure centre at 3:00pm.**

**28<sup>th</sup> March** – Easter service at St Peter's Church – further details to follow.

**31<sup>st</sup> March** – Disco - straight after school

**9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> May** – KS2 STAT's week

## **Term Dates**

**Easter Holidays – 3<sup>rd</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> April 2023 - inclusive**

**Non-Pupil Day – Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

**May Day Bank Holiday – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023**

**Celebratory Bank Holiday for the King's Coronation – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

**Summer Half Term – 29<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023 – inclusive.**

**End of Term – last day Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023.**

## **Ventrus Job Vacancies**

<https://ventrus.current-vacancies.com/v?id=VENTRUSMUL&t=Ventrus-Careers>

Including vacancies at local schools.

## **Free School Meals**

If you think you may be entitled to Free School Meals please go to the [Citizen Portal](#) which is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in an instant decision.

## **School Transport**

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-and-college-transport/>

[School and college transport](#)

[– Education and Families](#)

School transport information,  
including free school  
transport

[www.devon.gov.uk](http://www.devon.gov.uk)

## **NEW Privacy Notices – November 2023**

### **Important information**

Ventrus main privacy notice can be found at <https://ventrus.org.uk/our-people/privacy-notices/>

Ventrus pupil privacy notice can be found at <https://ventrus.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Pupil-Privacy-Notice-2022-23-Academy-Ventrus-Nov-22.pdf>

### **Community News**

West Buckland School is holding an Open Day on Monday 1st May. Click on the link for more details or to register your interest: <https://westbuckland.com/open-day-registration-2023/>