

Newsletter



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

www.primaryschoolsbarnstaple.co.uk holywell@ventrus.org.uk

Many other school events and news can be found on our Facebook page - click here

7th January, 2022

A message from Mrs. Denham

Happy new year and welcome back to the Spring term. We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and let's hope the new year brings us all some happier and healthy times. Unfortunately, my new year didn't start as planned as on New Year's Eve I started with a bit of a sore throat and was constantly sneezing — both symptoms of OMICROM I have since found out. A positive lateral flow followed by a positive PCR means I have been self-isolating all this week. I enjoyed seeing all the staff and pupils via Teams for an assembly this week and I look forward to returning to school on Monday.

I would like to say a huge thank you, from myself and all the staff for the lovey cards and gifts sent in before we broke up. They were very much appreciated. We would also like to thank the amazing PTA for all they did to support the children and school last term. They are just wonderful.

We would like to welcome new staff to the Holywell family. Mrs Boast is the new teacher in Hedgehogs class and she has had a lovely first week with the children. She knows the school well as she has been in on supply many times before. We also welcome two TA's to the team - Miss Hutchinson and Mrs Williamson (who was Miss Purchase and worked at Holywell a few years ago.)

We teach phonics throughout the school but especially in KS1. Over the last year, we have bought into a fabulous phonics programme called Read, Write Inc. This programme is a method of teaching reading, which is centred around learning the sounds of the letters (phonics) and then blending them together. Following this, children then have the opportunity to learn to break down the words into individual sounds in order to write them. The link below is a series of videos which support parents to support their children with their phonics learning at home. We hope you find them very useful.

https://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/parents-copy-2/

Important information regarding Breakfast and After School Clubs

The After School Club and Breakfast Club are being continued (5 days a week) until the end of this academic when they will both be reviewed.

School News

Stunning Start Robins.

Robin Class will be holding their Stunning Start on Friday 14th January. This will be an introduction to our New Topic Take a Walk on the Wild Side. Please could the children dress up as an animal or an explorer for the day. Thank you.

ParentPay Payments

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

ParentPay

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

School Meals

Skern Lodge – Residential

Breakfast & ASC Uniform Gymnastic Year 4 & Year 5.

ATTENTION YEAR 4/5 PARENTS

Year 4 & 5 children will be attending Falcons Gymnastics in the Spring term starting on Tuesday 18th January. The total cost for 9 sessions will be £33.00

A letter was sent out today via Arbor with the final details and will also be an attachment to this newsletter.

Admission to Primary School September 2022

Admission to primary school 2022 (for children born between 01/09/2017 and 31/08/2018 The application facility opens on 15th November 2021 and closes at midnight on 15th January 2022. It is important that parents apply before the closing date, even if they are intending to defer their child's admission until later in the academic year, they must secure a place before that decision need be made.

The Step by Step Guide and poster is now available for download from our website, http://www.primaryschoolsbarnstaple.co.uk/website/joining_our_school/261003

The Education Helpline Advisers are on hand to manage queries and will help parents navigate the system if necessary, telephone 0345 155 1019.

Facebook https://www.facebook.com/DCCSchoolAdmissions and twitter www.twitter.com/DevonAdmissions

Breakfast & After-school club (Spaces available).

The cost for Breakfast club is £4.50 per child - can drop off from 8am.

After School Club starts - pick-up 4.15pm (£4.50) or 5.15pm (£9.00).

If you are going to be late collecting or if you need to collect at an alternative time, please can you phone to school by the end of the school day (3.15pm).

After 3.15pm, or in an emergency **only** please email <u>myka.scott@ventrus.org.uk</u> (Wed & Thurs) or <u>lily.derges@ventrus.org.uk</u> (Mon, Tues & Fri)

Ventrus Job Vacancies

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

Admissions Policy consultation 2023-2024

The consultation period for the 2023 – 2024 - Holywell C of E Primary School admissions policy began on the 1st November, 2021 The consultation period ends on 8th January, 2022.

Below you will see a link to our proposed admissions policy for 2023-24

http://www.primaryschoolsbarnstaple.co.uk/website and found on the Homepage under 'Links and Downloads' We are consulting on this between 1st November 2021 and 8th January 2022 and invite any parent or other person with an interest in our admission arrangements to read the policy and make any comments you wish.

Free School Meals

If you think you may be entitled to Free School Meals please go to the <u>Citizen Portal</u> which is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in an instant decision.

Privacy Notices

Important information

Ventrus main privacy notice can be found at https://ventrus.org.uk/our-people/privacy-notices/ and the privacy notice for pupils can be viewed https://ventrus.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Pupil-Privacy-Notice-2021-Final.pdf

DIARY DATES:

January **18**th (Tuesday) – to Tuesday **22**nd March (9 weeks) – Years 4 & 5 Gymnastics (18th, 25th January, 1st, 8th 15th February, 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd March). **Please collect your child from Falcons Gymnastics at 3pm.**

March 30th to April 1st - Skern Lodge Residential – Years 3 & 4.

Term Dates

Term Dates for this academic year September 2021 to July 2022 are as an attachment to this newsletter. There has been a slight change to the original dates due to the extra bank holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

Spring half term - Monday 21st February 2022 to Friday 25th February 2022 (inclusive)

News from the PTA



Happy New Year! We hope you have all enjoyed the holidays and look forward to the new term. Thank you for your incredible support during the past year!

Please join us in providing exciting experiences for our children while raising funds for their school!

Next meeting online Thursday 20th January at 7.30 pm. We really would like to see some new faces please! Look out for joining details in next week's newsletter and pop in to say hi and find out a bit more about what we do. If you have any ideas or would like to get involved in any way but can't make the meeting, please get in touch!

Asda Green Tokens

Thank you for voting for the chance to receive £500 for the school! We are already in the lead but voting stays open until the end of January so please go back to vote every week! This is online and available to anyone, no purchase necessary. Simply vote in this link: https://www.asda.com/green-tokens/store?store=4399

Your School Lottery

This is a weekly draw and tickets are just £1! Tickets can be bought any time at https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/holywell-church-of-england-primary-school Good luck!

Online fundraising

If you are doing any shopping online, please remember you can raise money for the school at no cost to you on:

Easyfundraising

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofholywellschool/?invite=HP2SQV&referral-campaign=c2s&utm_source=rtwsharebox

AmazonSmile https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1045040-0

Second hand uniform

If you need to buy or wish to donate uniform, please contact Hazel on 07974208835. At the moment we can only accept donations of items with the current school logo please.