

A message from Mrs. Denham

CHRISTINGLE BOX

This week your children have come home one Christingle box per family can the box please be brought back to school on the morning of the 19th December, the day of the Christingle service. This is to collect for the Children's Society who are the charity that help to organise Christingles throughout the world. Thank you for your support.

Use of Pupil Images

All parents have signed the consent form for Use of Pupil Images by Holywell C of E Primary School. Now that we are part of Ventrus Multi Academy Trust we would like to expand that permission to enable the Trust to use images for publicity and marketing purposes. If you have any concerns regarding this please contact the office.

Hedgehogs & Robins

KS1 Nativity and Whole School Carol and Christingle service at Tawstock Parish Church starting at 2 pm.

This year the Reception & KS 1 children (Robins & Hedgehogs) will be performing their Nativity 'Jesus' Christmas Party' at the church on **Wednesday 19th December**. We look forward to seeing you all in the Church.

The children are already rehearsing for this and on **Wednesday 12th December Robins and Hedgehogs class** will be having a dress rehearsal for our KS 1 Nativity at St Peters Church.

Please can all children have their costumes in school by this date.

As the rehearsal will take place in the morning can we please ask for your child to be dropped off at St Peters Church at 8.50 am.

If this proves to be difficult, please let us know.

KS 2 (Foxes & Squirrels), Christmas Performances

The KS 2 Christmas performances are being held on:

Wednesday 12th December, - Dress Rehearsal **1:30pm**.

Thursday 13th December, - Performance starts **2pm**

Friday 14th December, - Performances start **6 pm**. The children will need to be back in school by **5.30 pm**. **NOTE CHANGE OF TIME**

The PTA will be serving refreshments and selling raffle tickets on Thursday and Friday for the KS2 Christmas performances and at the church before the Nativity & Christingle.

Robin's Class

Please can the year 1 children in Robin's class stay in the playground with the year 1's from Hedgehogs until the bell is rung at 8.50 am. Then can they line up with the other year 1's in hedgehogs before proceeding into class.

Thank you.

PTA Christmas Hampers

The PTA would be most grateful for any donations of goodies that they could put in this year's Christmas raffle hampers. Every penny raised goes to our wonderful school and children.

School News

Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

Pupil Achievements

Congratulations and well done to **Gracie-Anne Bearman** who last week played Gretl in The Sound of Music at The Landmark Theatre, Ilfracombe. The hours of practice and hard work paid off and she was absolutely fabulous and

enjoyed it immensely. There wasn't a dry eye in the theatre. Gracie-Anne is now looking forward to her next audition.

Year 5/6 Sports Hall Athletics

Well done to group of year 5 and 6 children who represented Holywell at the Sports Hall Athletics Competition at Park School this week. We know the competition was tough but you all tried your best. Mrs. Garland, who went with the pupils, said that their effort, sportsmanship and behaviour were all excellent. You certainly let your lights shine!

North Devon Cross Country League - West Buckland.

A big well done; to the 10 Holywell Cross Country runners who represented the school at the last North Devon League event at West Buckland. It was a very, very windy day and quite chilly too. Despite this the children ran their hearts out and were amazing as always. Thank you as always to the parents who also attended to support all of the children, it was very much appreciated by us all!

Results were:

U9 Girls - Lottie 18th, Matilda 48th, Sophia 50th, Flossie 55th, Olivia 59th

U9 Boys - William 45th, Ollie 84th, Archie 87th

U11 Girls - Maddie 12th, Holly 52nd

CHRISTMAS PRESENT SWAP SHOP

We are planning on holding our annual **CHRISTMAS PRESENT SWAP SHOP** in school on the morning of Monday 17th December. This is where the children are able to choose Christmas presents to bring home to you that will have cost nothing, which in today's present financial climate we hope will be a help!

This is how it works - we would be very grateful, if you are able to send in any small donations of presents suitable for a mums, dads, and brothers and sisters, such as small bubble bath, talc, soap, pens, pencils, chocolates, sweets, gloves, socks etc. from **December 1st**. This 'Swap Shop' will hopefully be a way for you to be able to 'recycle' some of the small presents you do not need, that you have at home! Any donations of wrapping paper and tags/labels will also be useful.

On the day of the Swap Shop, children are able to choose and wrap at least a couple of presents from those brought in, to bring home for Christmas Day. **There will be no charge on the Swap Shop day so you do not have to send in money!** The children are just bringing home recycled presents! We hope you like this idea – the children are very excited about it!

Christmas Jumper Day:

Next Friday 14th December and the last day of term Thursday 20th December, the children can wear their Christmas jumpers for a one off donation of £1.00. All money raised go straight to the Save the Children Jumper Day appeal. Thank you.

Driving Through the Villages of Tawstock & Eastacombe:

Please can I remind everyone driving to school through the villages of Tawstock & Eastacombe to reduce your speed accordingly. We 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 are school. We all leave and arrive at different time, so please respect other road users and keep your speed down; I am sure you will all agree that their safety is paramount.

Admission September, 2019 – closing date 15th January, 2019

Children born between: 1st September, 2014 and 31st August, 2015.

If you have family or know of friends who have children due to start school in September 2019, please promote Holywell and inform them to call Holywell. (01271) 34908 and Mrs. Denham will be delighted to show them around and discuss their child starting school.

Even if you have already given details to school, you must apply for a place through the Admissions Team at Devon County Council. This is the only way to apply; other forms or lists held by schools will not count.

How to apply for Primary School place in Devon:

You can apply online at:

www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline : from 15th November 2018 to 15th January 2019. Or

If you cannot access the school admissions website you can get more details by calling our Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019 or email: admissions@devon.gov.uk

Cool Milk

Our school milk scheme is administered by Cool Milk. To register your child for school milk, please visit <https://www.coolmilk.com/register> "

If you have already registered your under 5s using our bulk registration process, **parents are still able to register using the form/website**. This provides them with the opportunity to make payment for milk when their child turns 5, in line with School Food Plan legislation.

More promotional material is available on our website - <https://www.coolmilk.com/promote/>

If you need any help with any aspect of your school milk scheme, please don't hesitate to contact us - we're here to help!

Preschool vacancies and free taster sessions

We still have places available in Pre-school on all days. Pre-school is a valued part of our school community and is an important link to the success of the school which we are very keen to keep as a thriving asset to the school. If you know of anyone who is looking for a place please ask them to contact Mrs. Denham or Elaine Palmer at adminh@gatewayfed.org.uk or (01271) 345908 who will be very happy to show them around.

Cheques

If you have paid any money to the school this week by cheque made payable to Devon County Council, please can you call in and see Elaine, as we now need cheques to be made payable to Ventrus Ltd. Cheques will only be accepted for a short period as new procedures will be in place shortly.

Free School Meals

If you are eligible to claim for free school meals we advise you to do so. Not only does your child benefit from receiving a meal, the school has additional funding for your child. This is in addition to the Universal Free School Meal Scheme. Even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 & 2 we ask you please to still apply.

Guitar Lessons

Alex Rogozinski has a space for either a group of 2 or 3 children or an individual lesson. If your child is interested please call into the office to collect the relevant letter. As there are few spaces available they will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

News from the PTA



Op Shop

If you have or require any good quality, secondhand school uniform please contact Emma Barstow on 07976 269525

Clubs

Please see the information above.

Monday	Netball	Mrs Hammond	Yrs., 3, 4, 5 & 6	No Netball club until January
Tuesday	Pottery	Mrs Coulam	YR, R, 1 & 2	No Pottery until January.
Wednesdays	Handball and Bench ball	Mr. Day		No Handball and Bench ball until January
Thursday	Football	Mr Dymond	Yrs., 3, 4, 5, & 6.	Football club is cancelled until further notice.
Thursday	Staff Meetings			
Friday	Cross Country	Mrs Hammond	Yrs., 3, 4, 5, & 6	No Cross Country until January

Diary Dates – forthcoming events

Term Dates

Last day of the Autumn term, – Thursday 20th December, 2018.

Non Pupil Day – Monday 7th January, 2019.

Start of the Spring term, - Tuesday 8th January, 2019.

Spring half term starts, - Monday 18th February to Friday 22nd February, 2019.

End of the Spring term, Friday 5th April, 2019.

Easter holiday starts, - Monday 8th April to Monday 22nd April, 2019.

Start of the Summer term – Tuesday 23rd April, 2019

May Bank holiday, - Monday 6th May, 2019.

Summer half term starts; - Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May, 2019.

Non Pupil Day – Monday 3rd June, 2019.

Last day of the Summer term, – Wednesday 24th July, 2019.

Diary Dates

Christmas Performances KS2 (Yrs. 3, 4, 5 & 6 only)

Wednesday 12th December, - Dress Rehearsal 1.30 pm.

Thursday 13th December, - Performance starts 2 pm

Friday 14th December, - Performances starts 6 pm. The children will need to be back in school at 5.30 pm.

Wednesday 19th December, - Whole school **Christmas lunch** - 11.50 am.

Wednesday 19th December, - **KS1 Nativity** and whole school Christingle service at Tawstock Parish Church starting at 2 pm.

Community News

The Greatest Journey

Family Christmas Service

St Peter's Church, Tawstock

Sunday 23rd December, at 3.00 pm

Children are encouraged to come dressed as their favourite nativity character (optional)

Tea, Coffee & Mince Pies

Served after the service

ALL WELCOME

Tawstock Parish W.I.

Christmas Fayre & Coffee Morning

With a chance to buy Christmas goodies from a selection of stalls

At

Tawstock Village Hall on

Saturday December 1st

10.00 – 12.00

Entry is £1.50 which includes coffee and mince pie

Bacon baps available - £1.50

St Michael's Nursery

St Michael's Nursery operates a breakfast club open from 8am, and after school club 3.15 - 6pm. We still have a limited number of spaces available so please phone us 01271 327074. office@stmichaels-nursery.org

Tawstock Tiddlers and Toddlers

Bumps, babies and all preschoolers welcome

Snacks provided Guest speakers and Messy play.

Monday from 9.30 – 11.00 at Tawstock Village Hall

For more details contact Sue on 07890 046033.

Circuits

Every Tuesday

9 – 9.45 am, in the village hall.

£4 pay as you go

All fitness levels welcome!

Children welcome to come along and play whilst mum/dad get fit.

Contact Estelle Liepa for more info or just turn up.

07973 533668

Links you may be interested in?

West Buckland School Activity Day

<https://www.westbuckland.com/prospective-parents>

Early Help for Mental Health

<http://eh4mh.co.uk>

Early Help

<http://devon.cc/earlyhelp>

Courses for Parents and Children

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/d/united-kingdom--bideford/family-and-education--classes/>

These events are only open to parent/carers this time around.

<https://20novemberdpcv.eventbrite.co.uk> - Buckfast Abbey Conference Centre

<https://27novemberdpcv.eventbrite.co.uk> - Cullompton Community Centre

The Plough Torrington

<https://www.facebook.com/StAnnesArtsCommunityCentre/>

Devon Library Services (including Barnstaple)

<https://www.devonlibraries.org.uk/web/arena/events>

Royal Albert Memorial Museum - (Exeter)

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKGCC/bulletins/20a0199>

Barnstaple Library

<http://devonlibraries.org.uk>

On-line Safety

Online safety is an ever expanding area and you can find further valuable information on the CEOP website 'Think you know' has produced some useful conversation starters and advice to help you talk to your child about staying safe online <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk> and the NSPCC website <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventingabuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety>

Some good sources of information and advice for parents:

- <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

The Professionals Online Safety Helpline is available Monday to Friday 10am – 4pm

Call 0344 381 4772 or email enquires@saferinternet.org.uk

<https://parentinfo.org/>

Parent Info is a free web service providing information to parents and carers.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/ShareAware>

Advice from NSPCC on social networks, apps and games.

<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>

A non-profit organisation working with others to help make the internet a great and safe place for children.