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| Ventrus logo |  | **Newsletter** | C:\Users\Head\Documents\Logos\Holywell school Logo Ultimate Version.jpg  **LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE**  [**www.primaryschoolsbarnstaple.co.uk**](http://www.primaryschoolsbarnstaple.co.uk)  **holywell@ventrus.org.uk** |

15th March 2024

**Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.**

**Message from**

**Mrs Lowrey**

This week we have been very fortunate to have a special visitor with us on work experience! We have welcomed Maddie back to us at Holywell to help out for the week and Maddie has a been a great help across all of the year groups. The children have really appreciated her efforts to listen to them read, help with their learning and play alongside our youngest children. Maddie, you have been a delight to have in school and I really value that you have gone out of your way to help. Well done!

Overall, in school, the weather has been a little grey and miserable and of course the children are beginning to tire. It has been a busy week for them and I appreciate that there are a few more fall outs that we had been seeing before. This also tends to go hand in hand with underlying sickness and bugs. Please do remind your child to speak to an adult if there is a problem. Historically, I know the children can perceive this as snitching, but we have moved away from that a long time ago and we always will listen and deal with any problems that arise. I am pleased to hear that the children are speaking to a grown up more and more and this is always the correct path. Please do continue to talk to your child and reassure them that they must talk to the adults in the classroom and on the playground.

Today, we have welcomed visitors from Park School to talk to our Year 6 leavers about transition to the school and to find out about them as individuals. The children have been fantastic and I am proud of the way they have represented our school. Our Year 6 children continue to work hard towards their SATs and are attending weekly boosters to support their learning. I am extremely impressed with the focus that they demonstrate during these sessions.

Our Year 5 children were lucky to be part of the Sport and Joy sessions which have started on Thursday afternoons! These are additional PE sessions focused on teaching about the love of movement and sports. The children thoroughly enjoyed their session and these will continue over the coming weeks. Great behaviour, Year 5!

Finally, on a Friday it is always a pleasure to celebrate our children. We are seeing more and more children receive their badges for the 99 club maths awards and to continue to receive Headteacher and light awards. It is actually getting harder and harder to select children – they are all fantastic and have excellent attitudes to learning.

Keep going, children, you are continuing to work very hard. Have a great weekend – 9 school days to go!

**Site update**

Unfortunately, this week I do not have much news to share, although I am meeting with Ventrus CEO and premises lead on Monday for a fresh update. I will send parents and carers a fresh email on Monday with any further developments to the site. In house, Steve has continued to clear and we are delighted that the roof has been cleared of moss. I can also let you know that the memorial garden at the front of the school will be repaired during the Easter holidays, which has been needed for a long time, so we are very grateful for this. Thank you, Mr Coles and Mrs Palmer for your efforts in this.

**School**



Links you may find useful.

[HANDi Paediatric app: advice for common childhood conditions - One Devon](https://onedevon.org.uk/our-work/services-and-support/children-and-young-people/handi-app/)

**Diary Dates**

**Wednesday 20th March** - **Dental Survey** – Children Aged Year 5 - Please return the forms sent home

**Thursday 21st March** – **Holywell and Roundswell cross country festival**

**Tuesday 26th March -**Barnstaple boys football finals @ Tarka

**Wednesday 27th March** – Easter Church service – 2-3pm – please collect from the church

**Easter Treat – a tasty surprise from the PTA – Thursday 28th March**

**Term Dates**

Last day of the Spring Term – Thursday 28th March 2024

First day of the Summer Term – Monday 15th April 2024

**School Uniform**

[**https://schoolthreads.org/collections/holywell-c-of-e**](https://schoolthreads.org/collections/holywell-c-of-e)

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

**Ventrus Job Vacancies**

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

Including vacancies at local schools.

**Free School Meals**

**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](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.devon.gov.uk%2Feducationandfamilies%2Fschool-information%2Fschool-meals%2Fnew-starter-pupil-premium&data=05%7C01%7CElaine.Palmer%40ventrus.org.uk%7C7109e4304a9443c58c6708db26ce8e88%7C668515dda7fb41788c34b3c52dd93f70%7C1%7C0%7C638146440824987705%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=E1xb%2B33KaszaeeBnofCVVbtqTBsE1ead7Mmg28rMO34%3D&reserved=0)‘ 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](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Foneonline.devon.gov.uk%2FCCSCitizenPortal_LIVE%2FAccount%2FLogin%3FReturnUrl%3D%252fCCSCitizenPortal_live&data=05%7C01%7CElaine.Palmer%40ventrus.org.uk%7C7109e4304a9443c58c6708db26ce8e88%7C668515dda7fb41788c34b3c52dd93f70%7C1%7C0%7C638146440824987705%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=TDzWR7PVGNQy40PMgfbNnyUdRz%2BFPER5%2F05sUzSpOXM%3D&reserved=0). 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.

**School Transport**

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

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|  | [School and college transport – Education and Families](https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-and-college-transport/)  School transport information, including free school transport.  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 forum at <https://ventrus.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Pupil-Privacy-Notice-2022-23-Academy-Ventrus-Nov-22.pdf>

