

Newsletter



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

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

11th December, 2020

Autumn Term

Last day of the Autumn term will be 18th December, 2020 Half term Monday 26th October, 2020 – Friday 30th October, 2020 inclusive

Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

A message from Mrs. Denham

We would like to thank Mrs. Coram and The Well in Braunton for the donating copies of 'It begins in Bethlehem' A Nativity Rhyme for Christmastime, to all the children of Holywell school. This will be sent home with the children with their Christingles after the service with the Rev. Gary next week.

Wow dress up for Wednesday 6th January.

We would like to introduce our history topic for the Spring term by completing a whole school dress up to provide a taster of what the terms main focus will be.

Robins and Hedgehogs: Kings, Queens, knights and ladies

Foxes: Romans

Squirrels: Anglo Saxons

Holywell virtual school tour

On our school website and facebook page we now have a virtual tour. Please can we ask that you take a look at this and share it with anyone who may be interested in joining the school.

Carol singing in the churchyard

Pop along to Tawstock churchyard between 4.00pm and 5.00pm on Sunday to join in an outdoor carol sing-along. Bring your own flask of hot chocolate and mince pies!

Download or print the carol words from www.tworiversmissioncommunity.org or just sing along.

Hang a star with the names of loved ones on our Christmas tree (stars available at the lych gate).

Please note the rule of six does not apply in churchyards so you must remain in your household bubble. Socially distance at all times. Wearing of masks is advised when singing and compulsory when hanging stars.

For more information see www.tworiversmissioncommunity.org

Vodafone Sim Card

Vodafone UK wanted to do their part to help keep children and parents connected and be able to continue learning from home during this difficult time. They have given away for free 250,000 data SIMs with 30GB of data to use for 90 days.

We requested and have been allocated a small number of Vodafone data SIM cards to give out to parents who have problems logging on to the Wi-Fi for their children to access Microsoft Teams from home. As they are limited, they will be given out on a first come first served basis.

Vodafone data SIM to use as a Wi-Fi replacement.

- ❖ 30GB data (lasts for 90 days)
- ❖ Need a smart laptop/dongle that has a slot for a sim card or a smart phone that takes a sim card
- Need good Vodafone signal (you can use the Network Status tracker on www.vodafone.co.uk)
- If your phone is locked to another network, you just need to contact your network provider's customer service team to request for your phone to be unlocked.
- ❖ You won't be able to use your phone to make calls/texts while using this data SIM.
- You will be able to enjoy 30GB data for 90 days this will start once you insert the SIM into your phone and start using the data.

<u>Christmas swap shop</u> – Monday December 14th at 1pm. On day, the children will hand sanitise before and after the swap shop. They will only touch the item they choose as their present. They will put it in a **decorated white paper bag** and then take it home the same day. Parents can then isolate the item for 72 hours, in line with all present guidance.

Free School Meals over the Christmas Holidays

If you are entitled to free school meals, please look out for a letter or email from DCC on or after the 8th December next week for details of how to access your vouchers or an alternative food box. On or after the 8th December you should receive a unique code per child. Each code can be used once on a website call 'Hawk Select' to redeem your voucher/s to the value of £30.00 per child (£15.00 per week for the two weeks of school holidays) for Sainsbury's, Tesco, Morrison's, Asda, M&S Food and Waitrose.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please visit the Devon County website:

 $\underline{https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/free-school-meals-holiday-voucher-scheme/$

Help with Microsoft Team

We have not been able to check these all the way through but you may find them useful. Please copy into your browser.

https://computeam.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6502ccd6ae7fa097838c4488b&id=2a3105a94d&e=715cfa1d2b

Severe weather conditions and the closure of School

I thought I would take the opportunity to update you on the procedures for the closure of the school in bad weather.

- 1. We will send out a message on the Holywell C of E Primary School Facebook page as soon as we know the weather conditions, we will also put a message on the Holywell PTA Facebook page, Holywell website page and we will also email you.
- 2. You can register with Devon County Council school closures, alert me -stay up to date. The email link is: https://new.devon.gov.uk/schools/closure/ They will then alert you if the school is closed.
- 3. Listen to Heart Radio.
- 4. If you are unsure, as a last resort please telephone either Holywell C of e Primary school on (01271) 345908. However, if we cannot get into school to man the phone please try Bratton Fleming on 01598 720337 they may be open to assist you. We will always have staff, if possible, to answer the telephone.
 - We will always try, wherever possible, to remain open. Alternatively, it may be safer to open school later than normal.

Individual families should assess the risk posed by their journey to school and make their own decision. Many families who live close to the school will have a different level of risk to those who have much more complex travel arrangements. Let's hope that we have a trouble-free winter!

Privacy Notice

The Trust has updated its Privacy Notice for parents. It is available for you to view on our website https://www.ventrus.org.uk/our-people/privacy-notices/

We have set up a collecting page within ParentPay, like the Children in Need/sponsored child in Africa fundraiser. For the donation of £2.00 your child will be able to wear their Christmas Jumper to school **every Friday** until the end of term. Dates – Dec 16^{th} & Dec 18^{th}

Admission to primary school 2021 (for children born between 01/09/2016 and 31/08/2017

The application facility opens on 15th November 2020 and closes at midnight on 15th January 2021. 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.

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 16th December Christmas Lunch + Christmas Jumpers.

Wednesday 16th December Carols and Christingle Service with the Rev. Gary via Teams.

Friday 18th **December** Last day of term - Christmas Jumper day.

Term Dates - Dec 2020 to July 2021

18th December 2020 Last day of Term

5th January 2021 Spring Term begins

15th February to 19th February 2021 Half Term

1st April 2021 Last Day of Term

19th April 2021 Summer Term begins

3rd May 2021 Spring Bank Holiday

28th May 2021 Non Pupil Day

31st May to 4th June 2021 Half Term

23rd July 2021 Last Day of Term

News from the PTA



Christmas Quiz and Raffle draw

Join us tonight at 6 pm. We will start with an interactive festive quiz on Kahoot followed by the draw of raffle prizes. To take part in the quiz you will need to have your phone at hand to connect and answer the questions shown on screen. Winners will be contacted and prizes will be distributed next week.

https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9360807188?pwd=NUgrbXpMcnRpSzBGM0RYNDVvNXY4QT09

Meeting ID: 936 080 7188 Passcode: 8BGEfQ

If you enjoy the event and would like to make a donation, you can do so in this link: https://www.paypal.com/gb/fundraiser/charity/3276041

Tea Towels

These have now arrived! They will be distributed next week

Paypal Giving Fund

We are now registered with the PayPal Giving Fund. Being listed on PayPal's dedicated fundraising site makes it easy to donate to our cause but also makes it possible to raise funds through PayPal's partners eBay, GoFundMe and Facebook.

If you are thinking of donating any items such as the pushchair you no longer need or any unwanted Christmas presents, please consider selling the items using eBay, where you have the option to donate up to 100% of the sale to go to "Friends of Holywell School - Tawstock". You can customise the donation percentage and the charity you want to support for each individual listing.

Your School Lottery

Thank you to everyone who has bought a lottery ticket! Tickets cost just £1 for the chance to win up to £25,000 jackpot and there is a prize winner every week. Simply go

to https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/holywell-church-of-england-primary-school Good luck!

Online shopping

If you are going to do any shopping online, please remember to use these links:

Amazon

Smile: https://smile.amazon.co.uk/gp/chpf/homepage/ref=smi_chpf_redirect?ie=UTF8&ein=1045040-

0&ref_=smi_ext_ch_1045040-0_cl

or with AmazonSmile ON in the Amazon Shopping app

Easyfundraising: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofholywellschool/?invite=2RQAJ0%

<u>26referral</u>- campaign=c2s%26utm_campaign=admin-trigger%26utm_content=srt

Second hand uniform

If you require or wish to donate pre-loved uniform, please contact Hazel on 07974208835.

Next meeting: Wednesday 13th January 7.30pm