

NEWS

10th November 2023 Issue 2



We have LOTS of information, diary dates and reminders within this newsletter – so please make sure you read it thoroughly.

We are coming into some of the busiest weeks within the school year and there is LOTS going to be happening in school, so please be sure to check out the website, newsletters and Facebook for information and updates.

UPCOMING EVENTS

14th November

Odd Sock Day in School for Anti-bullying week

14th and 15th November

Parent/Teacher Consultation Evenings (Rec to Y4)

17th November

Children in Need fancy dress day in school - £1.00 MINIMUM donation required.

7th December – Festival of Light 4-6pm

22nd December 3pm

School breaks up for Christmas

Monday 8th January

Staff Training Day

Tuesday 9th January

School resumes for spring term



Children in Need Appeal..... We are supporting the Children in Need Appeal this year on FRIDAY 17TH NOVEMBER by asking all children and staff to dress up with the theme of 'heroes or inspirational people'. Children might want to dress as their favourite superhero, or maybe an inspirational famous person past or present or even their Mum, Dad or other family member.

We are asking for minimum donations of £1.00 for the day and the biscuits will be on sale for 25p also!


Please be mindful that the weather is turning colder so fancy-dress costumes need to be warm and functional for a whole day in school.

Please help us by digging deep and helping us to support this worthy cause.

Film Night:

Tickets are on sale next week for our Puss in Boots: The Last Wish film night on 22nd November from 3-5pm.

As this is a PG rated film, you will need to sign the permission slip and send this into school with £4 to secure your child a ticket. Children will get to watch this new film and enjoy a hotdog, drink and sweet treat also, whilst giving parents/carers the opportunity to squeeze in a little Christmas shopping hopefully? Thank you to our PAF Association for hosting this event and for their continued support.

 Why not follow our school Facebook page? Teachers and staff will often share some interesting events or lessons that children have enjoyed. Just search for @holywellschool on Facebook and a page with the school logo should appear.

Reception 2024 School Applications

Northumberland County Council portal for Reception School applications for September 2024 opened on 1st November 23 and closes on 15th January 2024. Please ensure you have applied for your child if required before this date:

https://schadm.northumberland.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en

School visits for new parents are taking place on 18th and 19th December – please contact the office to register to attend.

National Offers Day is Friday 1st March 2024



Christmas is coming.....

There is no escaping it; it is on the horizon now!
With only 30 school days left until we break for Christmas we have a LOT to fit in.

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25

Here are some diary dates to pencil in:

- * 24.11.23 – Village Lights switch winners assembly 9am
- * 01.12.23 – Christmas arrives at Holywell Village First School
- * 01.01.23 – Village Lights switch on from 4.30pm
- * 07.12.23 – Christmas Jumper Charity Day
- * 07.12.23 – Festival of Light in school 4pm to 6pm
- * 11.12.23 to 15.12.23 – Christmas Performances (see below)
- * 14.12.23 – Christmas Dinner Day in school
- * 19.12.23 – Special Christmas Visitor in school
- * 20.12.23 – Christmas Parties (details to follow)
- * 21.12.23 – Whole school surprise courtesy of the PAF Association



Christmas Performance Important Information.

We are going to plan for TWO performances per class this year only. **Seating will be STRICTLY restricted to 3 people per child.**

Please note that we ask that babies and small children only attend the performances in RED below to avoid disruption and distraction for the children performing.

Dates and times are:

- Monday 11th December 9.15am – Years 1 & 2
- Monday 11th December 1.45pm – Years 3&4
- Tuesday 12th December 9.30am – Nursery & Reception
- Tuesday 12th December 1.45pm – Years 1&2
- Wednesday 13th December 9.15am – Years 3&4
- Friday 15th December 9.30am – Nursery & Reception

There will be a £1 entry charge per person (payable on the door at each performance) to help towards the costs of creating Christmas productions and performance licenses.

We have received a number of requests for class lists for Christmas cards, party invitations etc; however, we are unable to provide named lists – apologies.

There are 21 children in Nursery, 30 in Reception, 32 in Y1, 26 in Y2, 23 in Y3 and 30 in Y4 at present – hopefully this will help a little.

Raffle tickets will be on sale at each performance for two amazing Christmas hampers (kindly supplied by the school staff). The raffle will be drawn after the final performance on Friday 15th December.

Refreshments will be served at each performance also – so don't forget to bring your purses and wallets!

Packed Lunch Reminder:

Please can the parents/carers of those on packed lunches remember that we have a 'healthy packed lunch' protocol within school. **Chocolate and sweets are only permitted once per week, on a Friday as a treat** and in moderation please.

Look out for our next newsletter which will be the last one before Christmas!

..... ONLY 45 SLEEPS TO GO!

GOVERNOR NEWS

Governor activity this term (so far):

Carol Redhead – SEND visit to look at the school's audit of its provision for pupils with Special Needs and to see interventions and support in action. **Dave Anderson** – accompanied Mrs Endacott on her termly maths observations and discussed the monitoring and evaluation of this subject.

Resource Management Committee met and discussed the following policies: Finance, Best Value Statement & Statement of Internal Control, Whistle Blowing, Looked After Children and First Aid. They also discussed the new emergency internal alert system, the premises, finance and the visiting governor's report on safeguarding.

Strategic Policy and Direction Committee met and discussed the following policies: PSHE, Assessment, Emotion Self-Regulation and Behaviour, Child Protection and Safeguarding, Special Educational Needs, Tackling Extremism and Radicalisation, Complaints Against the Curriculum, Educational Visits Off-Site, Online Safety, Fluency in Maths and Computing. They also discussed the visiting governors' reports on Science and safeguarding.

REMINDER:

Our uniform policy is for children to have a reading folder type bag NOT rucksacks/backpacks as we simply do not have the storage space. Please ensure your child has a reading folder in school in compliance with the policy and not a large bag/backpack. Thank you



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



Emergency Out of hours contact:
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