

# Holywell News

Spring term Issue 12

February 2019

**'Expanding our Horizons with Contagious Enthusiasm'**

The window for booking **consultation evening** has now closed (4<sup>th</sup> February). Thank you everybody for using our new system. It was a successful trial and we will continue using this in future with a range of other events available for booking online. Year 2 have an invitation to a SATS workshop session in March and Year 1 parents and carers were sent an invitation to book onto the phonics information session held this morning. We have also set up a year 4 event and music event for Year 2. Invitations will always be sent for you to book.

An email has been issued by the system reminding all parents and carers of your consultation appointment time next week. Teachers will have 10 minute slots to share your child's achievements. Books will be coming home ahead of these meetings this weekend. Year 1-6 will also receive a short spring term report. This outlines achievements from autumn term, spring term, targets for the end of year and personal targets to work on at home. Again, this is a trial so future reports may change depending on the term.

A crèche will be available at Parent/Carer consultation evening for £1 per family payable on the night.

**Worship theme – Generosity.** Over the last few weeks we have found out about giving cheerfully. You may have noticed the older children being more cheerful at the gate 'giving' a welcome 'good morning' and smile! We also found out about Candlemas and this week considered being World Keepers and Protectors and considering what we could do with our time to make a difference to the Planet.

At the start of assembly we usually discuss a piece of music, and due to our Rythmicity visit, we have viewed some amazing Boomwhacker videos:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HO\\_SAlCehmM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HO_SAlCehmM)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YHlrb9KsyP4>

## **STAFF NEWS**

We are delighted to let you know that our **Apprentice Teaching Assistant** advert was very successful with 11 applications received. We interviewed for this post on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February and Miss Sharp, the successful candidate will begin working with us after half term.



## SAFER INTERNET WORK

A Safer Internet plan has been included in the mail drop to support families talking to their children about internet devices at home (see left).

[https://parentzone.org.uk/system/files/parent\\_resources/YouTube%20Kids%20Parent%20Guide.pdf](https://parentzone.org.uk/system/files/parent_resources/YouTube%20Kids%20Parent%20Guide.pdf) With 52% of children saying they would recommend 'YouTube Kids' to cheer somebody up, we have added this useful link for parents and carers.

We are pleased to share the 6<sup>th</sup> Issue of **Digital Parenting**:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/system/files/attachments/Digital%20Parenting%206%20NEW.pdf>.

This is also attached to this newsletter.

We now have a live feed through our website from ParentZone with useful support for parents for your children staying safe on the internet. : <https://www.horizonslearning.org/holywell-c-of-e-primary-school/our-learning/e-safety/>

These articles support your child's mental health and wellbeing around being online.



Children have been considering what they think **bullying** means and receiving support from adults at school to deal with any forms of bullying – online or in the real world. Here are some of their thoughts:

Bullying is...

- where someone sizes you up and intimidates you.
- sometimes when someone is troubled they bully others and it goes on and on
- to offend someone or hurt their feelings constantly
- all types of bullying e.g. cyber, physical, mental
- where people mock others e.g. Gentle with cleft palate in our story shared during assembly
- we treat people like they are nothing. It is mean, constant and makes them feel big and the other feel small.
- destroying property on purpose
- annoying others even though they have been asked to stop, even doing it more
- continuously assaulting others by children or adults to make them feel hopeless, small, weak and bad
- sticks and stones hurt my bones but words hurt me more inside
- it is often because of jealousy
- continuously picking on others, spreading rumours that are not true
- physical or unkind comments
- constant, deliberate annoyance
- sticks and stones may break my bones but bullying makes me sad

Attached to the newsletter is our Anti Bullying policy. We realise this is very long and have fed this back to the PHSE services. Our aim is to condense this into a more user friendly document. However, in the meantime this provides great details for all families. Mrs Fear has agreed to run a workshop on Internet Safety which will include elements of online bullying. She will be working with our older children to present a workshop either later on in the spring term or early in the summer term. More details to be sent soon.



Do you have a budding coder at home? Want to find out more about how to code? Check out **Scratch**. It's a user friendly, free resource where you can create stories, games and animation!

<https://scratch.mit.edu/>



**Parent pay** – As you know, we are moving across to ParentPay next week allowing you to make online payments for lunch and trips. Mrs Cooper our Finance Administrator has offered to come into school next week on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February from 5.15 – 6pm** (during one of

the Parent/Carers consultation evenings) to support any families to activate ParentPay accounts. Guidance notes will be emailed this week, so we are not foreseeing any issues, however the support is there should you need it.



**TOYS AT SCHOOL** – are sadly becoming a bit of a problem. Children are sending them home with friends, swapping them and then distress is caused. Teachers would like to see models that have been made by children linked to homework tasks or books to share.

Teachers do not have enough time to be sorting out children's toys. Please keep them at home. Thank you.



**Willow class** are asking for some utensils for their muddy kitchen. They have enough pans, but if you have some other kitchen utensils, they would be very grateful.



**Holly class:** Holly Class has spent the last few weeks learning all about dental health and the effects of sugar on our teeth. We produced these wonderful 'Toothy Fact Files' (please do read them during Parents Evening). We then welcomed Year 1 to our class to share what we had learned.



**LUNCHTIME Co** meeting feedback – I had a meeting with our Lunchtime company last week with some exciting plans for the future. Thank you for all your

feedback on our social media post. Some of you were concerned that your child was having pasta every day. Currently pasta is not offered every day, but there is a mixture of pasta and jacket potatoes. People also asked about the sauce being made of various vegetables and blitzed! We are very pleased to let you know that this is already happening and the children who choose to have it are enjoying it.

Going forward, we will be working with our cooks and asking them to offer small taster pots to the children who they notice are having the same things each day. Remember that the menus are online and in the main entrance so you can talk to your child about what they might choose.

The cooks always cook over the amount so we will continue to monitor the amount of food left for the children who are in the hall last. This has and will continue to be on a rota basis.

Plans in the months ahead include running cooking classes for families and children as well as offering a sandwich option once a week and making some changes to the menu.

Maths and English books will be coming home tomorrow. Please ensure they are returned back Monday morning for children to be able to work in them.

### Maths News – Mrs Davies

We have continued our subscription to MyMaths for this year. It is a wonderful online resource and we would like to encourage the children to use this at home to practise their maths skills. We have found that regular use of this app has a real impact on children's progress and confidence in Y1 to Y6. Teachers will set homework on MyMaths when it is linked to the learning in class. In Y6, Mrs Davies has opened up several areas, so that Y6 children and their parents can decide which areas of maths they need practise in. There is no expectation for Y6 children to do all the tasks.

### English News - Mrs Nicholson

The Book Crew are getting ready to judge the Book Exchange Token competition as the deadline of **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February** approaches- 'You've got to be in it to win it!' Please encourage your child to enter this competition. They know all about it and previous letters have been sent out. They are also busy thinking up ideas for this year's Book Week and World Book Day.

This year we would like the children to dress up as a '**Story Hero**'- a character who has stood up for something that they believe in. As Greta Thunberg (15 year old Swedish Climate Change activist) said, 'You're never too small to make a difference.' There are plenty of costume ideas on the World Book Day website (<https://www.worldbookday.com/dressing-up/>).

We would also be keen for parents and carers to come in and share a favourite story with their child's class. If you know of any budding authors who would like to come in and talk to the children about their books, we would be delighted.

The **Book People** will be in school from **13<sup>th</sup> until 20<sup>th</sup> March** with lots of new books to browse.



**CHOIR T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE VERY SOON.** I will be working with some members of the choir on our design. (If there are any parents out there who have skills and expertise in this area, we would love to hear from you!) T-Shirts will be in the region of £11 to purchase. More details coming soon.

Cont...



As you will know, our Year 5 pupils entered this competition and the votes is still happening! We will know towards the end of this week if we have been successful.



**Feedback from the Reviewers** – Each song was reviewed by a member of the Cambridgeshire Music SFYS Team, and by a member of one of our wildlife partner organisations as well. Their comments are written below:

What a lovely subject to write a song about! I really enjoyed listening to your piece and learning all about the different things which you gain by having a school allotment and the processes and activities which you go through in order to maintain it. The melody of the chorus is catchy and fits well with your chosen backing track. You sing it well, with clear diction. I really enjoyed the rap which you have written for the middle 8 and think it makes a good contrast with the rest of the song.

**Alex Bowen, Cambridgeshire Music (SFYS Team)**

These lyrics are wonderful – there are so many images and ideas captured in them. I was left with pictures in my mind of thistles growing up fences, dented wheelbarrows, and also lots of wonderful things I love to eat too – berries and beans and tomatoes. There was also a sense of the many wonderful sounds you noticed – the wind, the bees buzzing and the trees moving. And importantly, a sense of people using the allotments and caring for them, being there together creating these shared spaces. You say in your notes that you were impressed by their passion and I really felt this came through in your passion in this song. The rap element made me smile. Well done on such a happy song about such an important feature of your local area. Thanks for sharing it with me.

**Ruth Sapsed, Cambridge Curiosity and Imagination**

**As we say – you've got to be in it to win it!**

**Some competitions your children may be interested in:**

**There is always a host of competitions to get involved with on National Geographic - <https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/category/play-and-win/competitions/>**

**Are you a talented writer? Why not enter this poetry competition? <https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/competitions/deck-the-halls.php>**

**Cont...**



Cambridgeshire  
County Council

## Understanding your child's Anxiety and worries Workshop

Holywell school  
March 7th  
9.30-11am

- Gain a better understanding of your child's anxiety and worries.
- Strategies to help you and your child manage their anxiety and worries.

For more information contact  
Zoe Hope  
Early Intervention Family Worker  
07795300979

