



Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Dear Parents,

Well done to all the children who took part in the Holsworthy College Cross County. They all aimed high and were resilient. Particular well done to the following children:

Year 5/6 girls Leonie 4th, Summer 5th from Halwill

Year 5/6 boys: Alfie 3rd and Sidney 4th from Halwill

Year 3/4 girls: Erin 4th from Ashwater and Emily 5th from Halwill

Year 3/4 boys: Henry 2nd from Halwill

Selection for the more challenging Torrington Cross Country, on Friday 13th October, will be made shortly and if your child is selected, they will receive a letter for this.



Key Stage 2 children from Halwill and Ashwater thoroughly enjoyed their visit from Clive Pig last week. He really helped to bring the History topic to life through storytelling. Thank you to parents for taking the children to Halwill School. We do appreciate your effort in helping the children receive more experiences.



Ashwater PTFA

There will be an Ashwater PTFA AGM on Friday **3rd November at 9:00 am**. All welcome

Illness

It is important children are in school if they are well enough to be, however, we do also have guidance to follow to avoid spreading of diseases to other children and staff. Therefore, please note the following:

Latest Government Guidance of COVID

What happens if a staff member or my child tests positive for COVID-19?

For children and young people aged 18 and under who test positive for COVID-19, the advice is to try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for three days. This is because children and young people tend to be infectious to other people for less time than adults.

Adults with a positive COVID-19 test result are advised to try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for five days, which is when they are most infectious.

NHS Advice on Diarrhoea and Vomiting

Stay off school or work until you've not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours). If you also have a high temperature or do not feel well enough to do your normal activities, try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until you feel better.

Harvest Assembly

We look forward to welcoming parents and carers to our Harvest Assembly on Friday 20th October at 9:15 am
Ashwater



Photographer for Leadership Focus

Leadership Focus is a magazine for headteachers and school leaders. We have an exciting opportunity as the Federation will be featured in a forthcoming on-line edition regarding the benefits and challenges of small rural schools. In the next week or so, a photographer will come in to both schools and take photos for the feature.

If you consent to your child's photograph being taken by the Leadership Focus photographer and appearing in the magazine feature, in print, on-line and on social media, please complete this form: <https://forms.gle/zJWKgm8N8tDNbZ8w9>

Please note that consenting to your child appearing in the magazine does not guarantee that they will be in it. Once the date is confirmed, we will let you know.

Year 6 Parents - Apply for Your Child's Secondary School Place

Applications for your child to start in year 7 at secondary school in September 2024 opened on 1 September 2023 and close on 31 October 2023. You need to apply even if you already have a child at college.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place/>

Safeguarding at Ashwater

The Safeguarding Team

Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs R Alford

Attendance Officer:

Miss S Revers

Safeguarding Governor:

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs R Cawsey

Mrs A Clark

Miss H Frayn

Safeguarding

HOW TO COPE WITH TANTRUMS

Click here for tips and advice on dealing with tantrums:

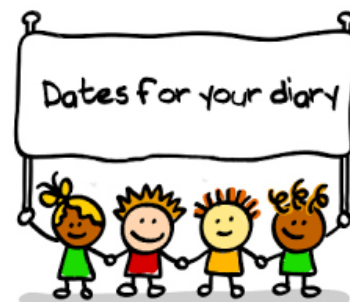
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/cope-with-tantrums/>



Dates for your diary:

October

4th	Okehampton College open evening
9th	Gifted & Talented athletics trials Yr 5 & 6
13th	Torrington Cross Country
16th	Yr 5 & 6 girls football tournament at HCC
17th	Flu immunisations years R to 6
18th	Vision screening Yr R
20th	Harvest Assembly 9.10am
23rd to 27th	Half term
30th	Non-pupil day
31st	Deadline to apply for your year 6's secondary school place.



November

3rd	PTFA AGM 9am
3rd	Home Learning Projects to be submitted
6th	KS1 Multi Skills Y1 and 2 at HCC
9th	Tempest Photos—individuals and families
20th	Yr 3 & 4 Tag Rugby Festival at HCC
10th	Parents viewing of Home Learning projects 9am

December

15th	End of term
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January

2nd	Non-pupil day
3rd	Start of term

February

12th to 16th	Half term
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March

11th	KS1 Performing Arts Festival Y1 and 2 at HCC
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June

24th	Yr 5 & 6 Cricket Festival at HCC
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July

8th	Beach Festival Y3 and 4 at Bude
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Please see the following message which we have been asked to share with you by Devon County Council:

We believe that in order for a pupil to fully benefit from their education, good attendance is crucial.

As of September 2013, an amendment to the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 came in to force and greater clarity was introduced to the issue of schools authorising absence requests. These changes reinforced the Government's view that every minute of every school day is vital and that pupils should only be granted authorised absences by the school in 'exceptional circumstances'.

A family holiday is not normally considered by the Government to be an 'exceptional circumstance' and therefore will not be authorised by the school.

Should you choose to take your child out of school without the authorisation of the school, then Parental Responsibility Measures could be instigated. This could mean receiving any of the following;

- *A Penalty Notice*
- *A summons to the Magistrate Court which could result in a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a term of imprisonment for up to 3 months.*

Schools are required to notify the Local Authority if a pupil has a number of unauthorised absences. Unauthorised absences can be acquired when;

- 1) Leave has been requested, but the circumstances are such that the school is unable to authorise the leave and it is taken anyway.*
- 2) Leave is not requested and/or the school has grounds to believe that the child has been taken out of school for an avoidable reason (example – a family holiday). Only the Head teacher can authorise an absence. This year there have been occasions when schools have been notified that the pupil is sick, but the school later discovers and reasonably believes that the reason given for the absence is not genuine.*
- 3) A child continually arrives late after the registration period has closed.*

Schools need to notify the Local Authority in all of the circumstances listed above.

Should a Penalty Notice be issued as a result of unauthorised absence then one notice will be issued to each parent/carer for each child involved. Currently, each Penalty Notice is for £120, which is reduced to £60 if paid within the first 21 days. If a Penalty Notice goes unpaid after 28 days, then court proceedings will be initiated.

We understand the disappointment that the refusal of a leave request may cause, but as you can appreciate this policy represents the school's responsibility and commitment towards providing your child's education and supporting their future life opportunities.

COULD YOUR CHILD BE ENTITLED TO A SUBSIDY TOWARDS THE COST OF RESIDENTIAL OR DAY TRIPS, SPORTING EVENTS, SCHOOL UNIFORM, EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, BREAKFAST CLUB, AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS AS WELL AS FREE SCHOOL MEALS IN KS2?

If you are in receipt of any of the following, your child could be entitled to a subsidy towards the cost of the above:

- 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).

Please apply even if your child is in Foundation, Year 1 or Year 2 and receives a meal under the Universal Infant Free School Meals Scheme. As well as financially benefiting as described above, your child may receive additional learning support where appropriate because of the additional funding that school receives from Government for known free school meals pupils.

How to apply

Through the Citizen Portal (https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fCCSCitizenPortal_live) which is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in you getting an instant decision.

Parents and carers can also ring the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019.




Okehampton College OPEN EVENING

*Wednesday
4th October 2023*

An opportunity for Students and Families in Years 4,5,6 to visit the College and meet existing students who will be on hand to give guided tours. There will also be an opportunity to attend a presentation by the Principal. Full details can be found on the College Website and promoted through the Primary Schools.

If you are unable to attend on the 4th October alternative visits can be arranged on either Thursday 5th, Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 18th October. For further information please contact the College.

 Tel: 01837 650910

 admin@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk

 www.okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk

*We Look Forward
to Meeting you!*



**Devon
Murd Academy
Trust**
Part of the Devon
Academy Trust



NORTH DEVON CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE

**SPONSORED BY
BREMCO HYDRAULIC SERVICES LIMITED, YELLAND**

**Six Races throughout the Winter
2023- 2024**

Sunday 1st October: West Buckland School

Sunday 5th November: Northam Burrows

Sunday 26th November: Coxleigh Barton, Shirwell

Sunday 14th January: Westward Ho!

Sunday 4th February: Northam Burrows

Sunday 3rd March: West Buckland School

**FULL DETAILS AND TO ENTER ON LINE GO TO:
www.northdevonxcleague.weebly.com**



2023-24 LEAGUE PROGRAMME

ENTRIES INVITED FROM

SCHOOLS, RUNNING CLUBS, BUSINESSES AND INDIVIDUALS

THE LEAGUE IS OPEN TO NORTH DEVON COMMUNITY IRRESPECTIVE OF ABILITY OR EXPERIENCE

RACES FOR UNDER 9's THROUGH TO SENIORS



www.northdevonxcleague.weebly.com

Bag2School



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www.bag2school.com



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Our next **Bag2School** collection
has been arranged for

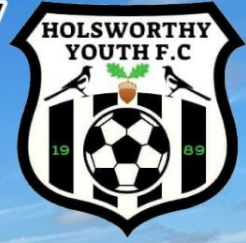
Monday 6th November
Ashwater Primary School
at 9am am / pm

Any questions - please ask your school collection organiser	Tash Crocombe ...ashwaterptfa@aol.com...
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www.bag2school.com



HOLSWORTHY YOUTH F.C



*** 2 FREE TASTER SESSIONS ***

U10G-YR 4/5

COME ALONG & HAVE A TRY.....

**EVERY TUESDAY 6-7PM
TRAINING @ YOUTH PITCH**

**ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE MESSAGE/CALL
TERINA 07415 498680**

Ashwater Baby and Toddler Group!

Held at Priestacott Cottage EX21 5EW

Thursday mornings
from 9.00am to 11.00am
(Term Time only)

£1.00 per child towards
snack etc

For more information
please contact Joy Dawe
on 07879336743
Or PM on Facebook