



Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Dear Parents,

We have had a sporty and successful couple of weeks. Very well done to all the children who took part in the St Stephens Shield cross country event. It is highly competitive and the children really did aim high and showed great resilience. Well done to everyone. Particular well done to the following children:

Erin Currah who came 18th out of 200 children in her Year group. Congratulations Erin.



Huge congratulations to the Federation Y5/6 Girls Football Team! They competed on Monday against 5 other teams at Hoslworthy College and won the tournament! They showed great team spirit, resilience and an aim high attitude. Well done to Poppy (Halwill Class 4) and Amelia (Ashwater Class 2) who were awarded Players of the Match.



Ashwater PTFA

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



Sad News

I am sorry to share the very sad news that Louise Watts has passed away. Louise taught science at Ashwater and worked here for many years, having left only a couple of years ago. Louise was a very special person in our Ashwater history, always taking care of the children and encouraging them to aim high through exciting and stimulating science lessons. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family at this time.

Louise's funeral celebration will be held on 3 November at 11 am at Fairplace Church, Okehampton. It will be followed by an informal celebration buffet reception at The Pavilion in the Park, Okehampton.

For more details, please see Louise's tribute website: <https://louise-watts.muchloved.com/>



Mini Medics First Aid for Children

The PTFA have very kindly offered to pay for Class 2 to receive Mini Medics First Aid training from Joe Rice. This will take place on Tuesday 7th November during the school day. First Aid is such an important life skill and for children to learn this skill is so important as you never know when it could be needed.

Harvest Assembly

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

Donations of non-perishable foods are requested in advance of the assembly. These will be donated to the food bank.



New Secondary School



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

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs R Cawsey

Miss H Frayn

Safeguarding Governor:

Mrs A Clark

Safeguarding

Keeping Safe at Halloween

1. Switch to Battery Powered Tea Lights
2. Remember the fire risks of fancy dress
3. Be seen whilst walking around For more information, please click here: <https://www.dsfire.gov.uk/news/safety-during-halloween>



Christmas Dates

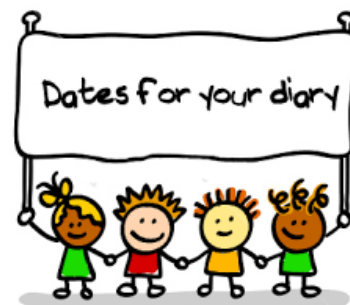


Saturday 2 nd December	12:30 – 2:30 pm Ashwater Christmas Extravaganza
Wednesday 6 th December	Christmas Production 9:15 am
Thursday 7 th December	Christmas Production 5:00 pm
Wednesday 13 th December	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 14 th December	9:15 am Church Service

Dates for your diary:

October

- 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
10th Parents viewing of Home Learning projects 9am
20th Yr 3 & 4 Tag Rugby Festival at HCC
29th Parent Consultations 1.30pm—6.00pm

December

- 6th Christmas Production 9.15am
7th Christmas Production 5.00pm
13th Christmas Lunch
14th Christmas Church Service 9.15am
15th End of term

January

- 2nd Non-pupil day
3rd Start of term

February

- 12th to 16th Half term

March

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

June

- 24th Yr 5 & 6 Cricket Festival at HCC

July

- 8th Beach Festival Y3 and 4 at Bude

Term dates: <https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/halwill-primary-school/parents/term-dates/>



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.

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

Welcome to the October 2023 Scomis Online Safety Newsletter for Parents/Carers

New to the Scomis Online Safety Newsletter?

Welcome to the Scomis Online Safety Newsletter for parents/carers. The aim of our half-termly newsletter is to signpost parents and carers to websites which will provide:

- Online safety advice and guidance for parents and carers
- Raise awareness of current Online Safety issues
- Information on how/where to get help

Remember to talk to your child about Online Safety

Be aware of key issues! How?

Visit the following websites to find out:

Internet Matters – Advice by Age Whatever your child's age, Internet Matters provides guidance to help you find out more about your child's digital lives. Their site includes practical advice on the steps you can take as a parent to keep them safe on social media, in online games and around the web and includes video, tips on how to start a conversation and much more.

How you can protect your child

Children use the internet in different ways depending on their age, [Internet Matters](#) has developed checklists for parents /carers that provide top tips on how to help them stay safe. Get your toolkit [here](#)

Help children understand the dangers of sharing personal information, the best ways to balance screen time and more with the age-specific guides available [here](#)

0–5 years Find out what's new and

download the [Online Safety guide](#)

6–10 years Find out how they might

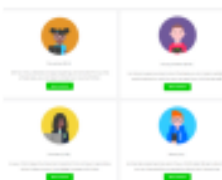
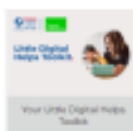
be at risk and download the [Online](#)

[Safety guide](#)

11–13 years Find out how to start those tricky conversations and download the [Online Safety guide](#)

Teens 14+ Find out what's new and download the [Online Safety guide](#)

NB. Each age-specific section includes 'easy to view' videos



PEGI Ratings

PEGI ([Pan European Game Information](#)) ratings is a popular gaming rating system used mostly in Europe and Asia.

PEGI ratings are quite easy to understand. They use a clear number to show from which age the game is suitable for. Find out more [here](#)

The age rating confirms that the game content is appropriate for players of a certain age.

PEGI considers the age suitability of a game, not the level of difficulty.

- Find out what the labels mean [here](#)
- Find out what the course descriptors mean [here](#)



Childline's Advice for Staying Safe Online

There are a number of things **you** can do to keep yourself safe online:

- Think before you post
- Don't share personal details
- Watch out for phishing and scams
- Think about who you are talking to
- Keep your device secure
- Never give out your password
- How to spot [Fake News](#)

Read how to keep you and your children safe online [here](#)

Find out more about:

- [Keeping your device secure](#)
- [Strong passwords](#)
- [Grooming](#)

Access and view a range of easy to watch videos on all sorts of things including

- Getting help [here](#)

Watch the [toolbox videos](#) and get help and advice on all sorts of things.

Remember you can contact [Childline](#) about anything. online, on the phone, anytime



Keeping up to date with Media Sites, Apps and Games

- Keep up to date with the latest sites, apps and games
 - Find out how to keep your child safe when playing online games
 - Access resources for children with [SEND](#)
- Visit [NSPCC's Chat App](#) site to find out more about Social media and Chat Apps including:
TikTok; Instagram; WhatsApp; Telegram
Find out more [here](#)

Need Help?

Worried about something a child or young person may have experienced online, you can contact the [NSPCC](#) helpline for free support and advice on **0800 800 5000** or [contact NSPCC online](#).

Reminder! Children can contact [Childline](#) any time to get support themselves:
0800 1111

SCOMIS
Your ICT Partner

Bag2School



www.bag2school.com



follow us on Facebook

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

Struggling to top up your prepayment meter?

You might be able to claim fuel vouchers

If you have prepayment meters and can't afford to top them up, we can help. We may be able to give you fuel vouchers, and our specialist energy team can help you find ways to save money on your household bills

Call 01237 879233, email fuelvouchers@ruraldevoncab.org.uk or scan the QR code to request a call back

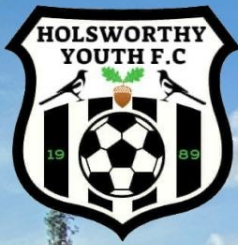


**citizens
advice**

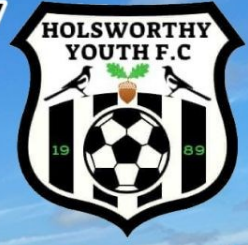
**Torridge, North,
Mid & West Devon**



Registered charity number: 1068496



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