

Holywell News

Recognising and Realising Aspirations

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the start of Term 2. I hope you all managed to have some well earned rest over the week and were able to spend some time together as a family (despite the horrible weather!)

What have we been learning in Term 1?

I thought it would be lovely to start our newsletter this term with some photographs of some of the learning we have been doing as we settled back into our routines in Term 1. We have been busy!



CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

As a school that respects the rights of the children and adults in our school family, community and beyond, we aim to adhere to articles from UNICEF's Convention on the Rights of the Child.



unicef
UNITED KINGDOM

GOLD - RIGHTS RESPECTING

What the children are saying

As the children began settling back in to learning last term I asked them what they thought about Holywell and their learning. Here are a few of their thoughts:



“At Holywell, we learn about our rights and we have the Rights Respecting Gold award. Our rights are important because if the school did not respect our rights we would not have a good education and mental well-being” Mia, Year 5

“I feel great about being a pupil at this school because the staff here are kind and are always willing to help me with any learning I struggle with” Alice, Year 5

“I would never want to go to another school because the teachers and children at Holywell are like a team who all care about each other” Ashton, Year 5

“I really like how challenging the millionaire’s mountain is (Accelerated Reader). Right now I am on 10000 words but my goal by the end of the year is 600000” Lilia, Year 5

“I like the spelling games we play because they help me with learning my sounds” Betsy, Year 3

“One thing I find amazing about Holywell is the morning work because it gets our brains ready for the day” Phoenix, Year 2

“Holywell is a very unique and wonderful place. I am proud to be a part of this community” Bethany, Year 6

“At Holywell excellent learning is everywhere. I really enjoy English, the Maths is great, the Science is fun and topic is amazing” Harry, Year 6

“I love how the staff sometimes ask us how we are feeling and ask us to write how we felt after we finish our learning. Some days are so fun we do not realise how fast the time goes by!” Bella, Year 6

“We like being at Holywell. We love having fun in the forest school. We love learning in our great classroom” All children in Year 1

“We remember our 4 ‘R’s so we can make good choices” All children in Year 1

Quotes from Parents and Carers

I would like to share some of the great comments we have received from Parents and Carers at this time. They have been very uplifting for the staff.



“Well done to the school and staff for keeping the children working and motivated and being a great support working well with the parents and children”

“Thank you for all you are doing in these challenging times”

“I think you are doing a great job”

“I feel my children are fully supported and would like to thank the school for everything you are doing”

“Thank you your efforts during a very challenging time”

“I’ve been really happy with everything and feel you’ve communicated it well which has put my mind at ease”

“We're so grateful to Holywell staff for how they've dealt with lockdown and opening back up again. Amazing school and staff”

“We just wanted to say a huge THANK YOU to you all for making the children's return to school so safe, stress-free and enjoyable! Our boys have come home so happy, bursting to tell us about the exciting things they have been learning each day”

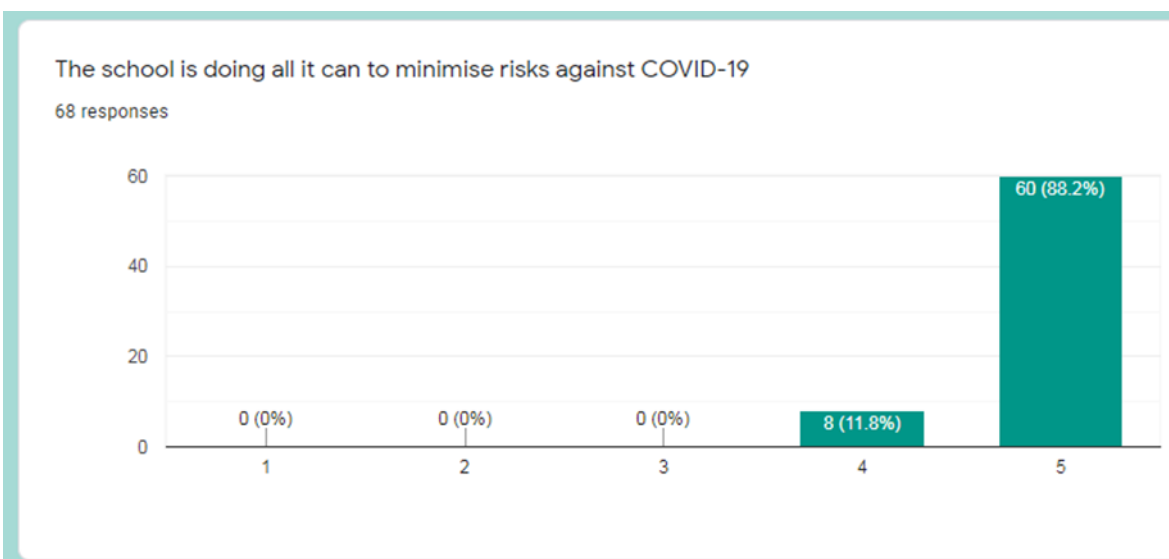
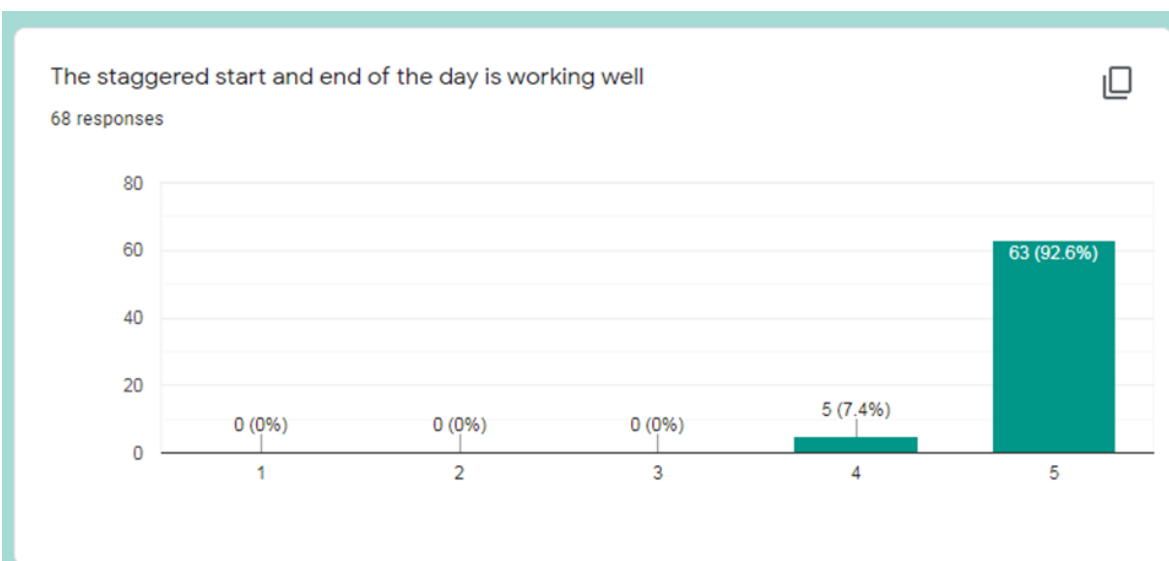
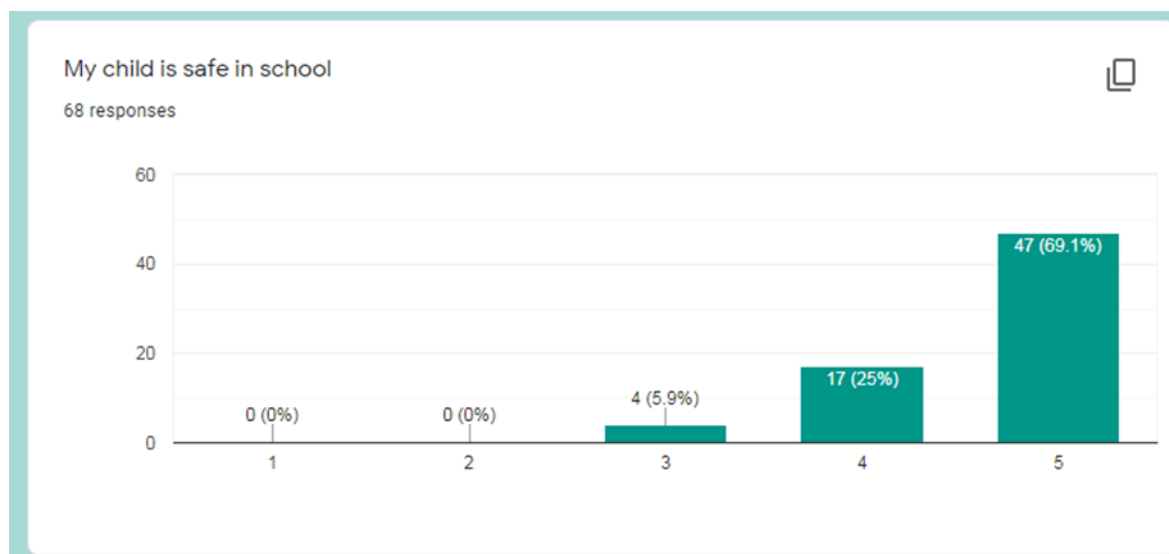
Thank you also for the comments made about remote learning. They have proved very useful in helping us to work out the best ways we can support children and parents/carers should the need arise for us to return to remote learning. Please see the section on remote learning for details about our plan moving forward.

School Video

At the end of last term we worked with the EKC Group to make a short promotional film about our school to celebrate all the amazing things we do here and to share with the school and wider community. The film will hopefully be available on our website soon.

Parental Survey responses.

Thank you to all parents who submitted a response to the parental survey from last term. As you can see from the result of the survey the overwhelming majority of parents and carers feel the school is doing all it can to ensure the children and adults are safe and well looked after when on site. (5 indicates strongly agree with the statement, 1 indicates strongly disagree with the statement).



Remote Learning in the event of children isolating or class bubble closures

Following the survey, we have refined our remote learning plan which we will use from this term onwards to support staff in planning for and delivering remote learning and to help parents to understand the requirements in the event we have to work remotely.

At the risk of sounding like Boris(!), we have drafted a 4 Tier plan for remote learning delivery based on several different factors:

Tier 1 - Self Isolating or waiting for test result – up to 14 days.	Tier 2 – Shielding for a length of time (longer than 14 days)	Tier 3 – Full class closure/Bubble Pop.	Tier 4 – Local/National Lockdown – whole school closed.
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In all Tiers, all children will have a Google Login and work will be uploaded to Google Classroom (Tapestry for Reception). Children unable to access online learning will be provided with paper learning packs for the duration of the isolation.

Specific requirements of each Tier:

Tier 1 – Self Isolating or waiting for test result – up to 14 days.

In the event of self-isolation – including staff – the following will be provided either by the class teacher or cover (SLT):

- Weekly learning will be set. (English, Maths and one topic area)
- Specific feedback will not be provided as the class teacher will be responsible for maintaining their classroom responsibilities but the class teacher will acknowledge the work has been 'handed in'

Weekly learning **may** take the form of:

- Mathletics/Maths Seeds activities
- Accelerated Reader tasks
- Worksheets or online tasks
- Oak Learning Academy or BBC Bitesize or any other online teaching websites
- Learning which is not 'online' such as art activities, writing tasks, outdoor learning (in your own garden)

In the event the class teacher is isolating and not ill they will provide pre-recorded lessons/ instructions for the class to access or any children also isolating.

Tier 2 – Shielding for a length of time (longer than 14 days)

In the event of isolation – including staff – the following will be provided either by the class teacher or cover (SLT):

- Weekly learning will be set. (English, Maths and one topic area)
- Feedback will be provided weekly on the child's learning and the class teacher will acknowledge the work has been 'handed in'
- The class teacher or other adult will check in with child once a week – via Zoom or telephone – in liaison with the parents

Weekly learning **may** take the form of:

- Mathletics/Maths Seeds activities
- Maths No Problem/ White Rose Maths lessons
- Reading comprehension lessons
- Accelerated Reader tasks
- Oak Learning Academy or BBC Bitesize or any other online teaching websites
- Learning which is not 'online' such as art activities, writing tasks, outdoor learning (in your own garden)

In the event the class teacher is isolating and not ill they will provide pre-recorded lessons/ instructions for the class to access or any children also isolating.

In both Tier 3 and 4 situations class teachers will provide an overview of learning being set for the following week. This will enable parents to have an overview of each day and what to expect.

Tier 3 – Full class closure/Bubble pop	Tier 4 Local/National Lockdown
<p>In the event of whole class self-isolation – including staff – the following will be provided either by the class teacher or cover (SLT):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set at least 3 daily tasks. (One English and Maths and one other) Provide an introduction to the daily tasks being set either written or pre-recorded. Feedback will be provided to written work that has been submitted to the teacher through Google Classroom (Tapestry for Reception). The feedback will be offered within a daily window of time. A register will be kept of all pupils accessing the learning. Those absent will have a welfare call. <p>Daily learning may take the form of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mathletics/Maths Seeds activities Maths No Problem/ White Rose Maths lessons Reading comprehension lessons Accelerated Reader tasks Oak Learning Academy or BBC Bitesize or any other online teaching websites Learning which is not 'online' such as art activities, writing tasks, outdoor learning (if appropriate and safe to do so by following current guidelines for isolation) 	<p>In the event of a whole school closure the following will be provided by the class teacher – unless they are unwell or cover (SLT):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set at least 3 daily tasks. (One English and Maths and one other) The classteacher should provide pupils with an outline of the day – with tasks focussed on: English (reading, phonics, writing) and Maths followed by an additional non-core subject activity task. Provide an introduction to the daily tasks being set either written or pre-recorded. Feedback will be provided to written work that has been submitted to the teacher through Google Classroom (Tapestry for Reception). The feedback will be offered within a daily window of time. A register will be kept of all pupils accessing the learning. Those absent will have a welfare call. Weekly check ins via Zoom – Classteachers to invite children attend a weekly Zoom call. The usual Online Safety rules will apply for all pupils, staff and parents. Additional calls from SLT may be made as appropriate. <p>Daily learning may take the form of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mathletics/Maths Seeds activities Maths No Problem/ White Rose Maths lessons Reading comprehension lessons Accelerated Reader tasks Oak Learning Academy or BBC Bitesize or any other online teaching websites Learning which is not 'online' such as art activities, writing tasks, outdoor learning (if appropriate and safe to do so by following current guidelines for isolation)

When providing remote learning in Tier 3 and 4, class teachers will be 'online' between 9.00am and 3.00pm and be available to provide feedback at an agreed time with their class (for example at the end of a morning session and at the end of the afternoon session).

At present, we have no plans to move to teaching via live lessons in Tier 3 or 4 but this is something we are considering for the future.

As with all things at the moment, please bear with us as we introduce any new ways of working. There may be teething problems at the start and we may have to adapt or change any arrangements as we move further through the year.

We also understand the huge pressures families are under at the moment and as long as we keep communication open between home and school, we will support you in whatever way we can. Our children, their safety, their health and their education is the most important thing to us all, and by working together we will get through this together.

Hot Chocolate Friday! (#hotchocfri)

Unfortunately we were unable to have our special Hot Chocolate Friday at the end of Term 1 but that did not stop us from celebrating the hard work and effort of those children who have demonstrated an Over and Above attitude since returning from the Summer break.

Congratulations to our Term 1 winners of Hot Chocolate Friday:



Year R – Lucas and Tobias

Year 1 – Grace and Dawson

Year 2 – Juniper and Oscar S

Year 3 – Emma and Evie

Year 4 – Archer and Lucy

Year 5 – James and Molly

Year 6 – Vaughn and Tyra

Parent Consultation Meetings

May I take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for supporting us with our parent meetings at the end of last term. They were very successful and thankfully the technology didn't let us down too much, which is always a bonus!

We have received some very positive feedback on how they were organised and run throughout the day and the staff commented on how easily the system allowed us to coordinate each session and keep to time.

Our next Parent meetings are scheduled for Term 4 and the plan will be to hold them as face to face meetings if appropriate and safe by that time. If this is not possible, we will resume the online meetings. Further details will follow nearer the time.

Daily Mile

This term we are trying something a bit different with our daily mile walking. Children in Year 5 and 6 will be completing their daily mile every day by walking up to and around the Paddock in the village.



As the children will be walking on grass for some of their mile, please can you supply your child with a pair of wellies or shoes and socks they don't mind getting muddy. This will avoid a trail of mud coming back into the school upon their return!

If this proves successful we will be extending this to Children in Year 3 and 4 next term.

Foodbank collections

Thank you to all parents, carers and children who supported the Foodbank for the Harvest festival this



year. We were overwhelmed with the number of carrier bags we were able to fill with donations which have been gratefully received by those who need it the most. Thank you.

We are working with the Foodbank in the next few weeks to support families as we approach the Christmas period. We would like all classes to collect food and donations to make up some special Christmas hampers which can be delivered to families who need support at this time. Further details of this will follow from Mrs Shellard.

Remembrance Day 2020

We would normally hold a special remembrance service in school where the whole school community would come together to think about what it means to remember those who have fallen in conflict.



This year however, we will be holding a virtual service in classrooms and children will be asked to take part in a 2 minute silence within their bubble.

We will be selling poppies and other Remembrance Day merchandise to raise money for The Royal British Legion. Each class has been given a selection of items to buy from. Please consider donating to this very important charity.

Assessments

Towards the end of last term and at the start of this term the teachers will be working with children on some assessments of their learning in order for us to determine where any gaps have appeared as a result of the lockdown in March and what steps are needed to support them in the coming months. Please do not be alarmed if your child is coming home saying 'we've been testing all day today!' Many of the assessments involve practical or informal questions and are part of our usual teaching and learning and follow closely the schemes of work we use.

It is still the Government plan to continue with statutory assessments this academic year so children in EYFS, Year 1, Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6 will be working towards their end of Key Stage assessments, the phonics screening check and the Times Tables check. Parents and Carers of children in those year groups will be kept informed of progress and how they can best support from home.



Welcome!

We are pleased to be able to welcome back Mrs Mace to the Holywell Team. Mrs Mace has returned to the school after taking some time out to look after her family.



She will be working in KS1 initially supporting some catch up learning for children who need additional support with reading and phonics.

PFHS Change the Rule Day



Thank you to everyone who took part in our Change the Rule Day on the last day of



Term 1 and thank you to the PFHS for organising it. There were lots of rules being changed throughout the day! We raised £320.

These funds will be put towards the purchase of new chrome books for our computing curriculum. Thank you and well done!

Looking ahead...

KS1 Nativity and KS2 Carol Service

It will not be possible this year to hold a KS1 Nativity or KS2 Carol Service in the same way we have done in previous years.



This is a real shame as it is one of the many events at the school we look forward to each year so we have been looking at an alternative option.

We have consulted with other schools and plan to have a virtual Nativity and a virtual Carol Service. We will film the children in their bubbles performing songs, dances, readings or prayers and will then upload this to Google Classroom for Parents and Carers to view at home.

We understand not all parents will feel comfortable with this format so we will be seeking parental consent before filming. Further details of this will follow nearer the time.

If you have made any changes to phone numbers, email addresses or emergency contact details, please tell us as soon as possible so we can update our records. Please email the school office with any changes at office@holywell.kent.sch.uk

All of our Birthday celebrations and achievement certificates are celebrated each week on our Twitter page as well as photos and updates of our learning throughout the week.

Don't forget to check out our Twitter page for updates!



@SchoolHolywell

Thank you for your continued support and understanding of our current situation.

I will do my best to keep you as up to date as possible.

Best
Wishes,

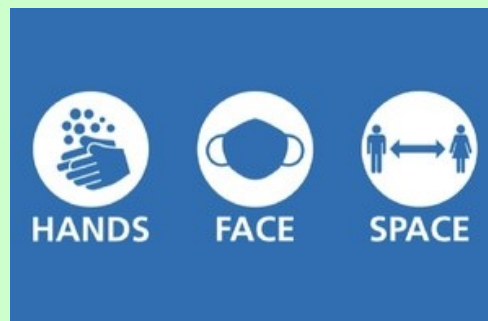
Darran Callaghan,
Headteacher

Updated COVID-19 guidance following the announcement of a new National Lockdown

The situation across England is clearly changing on a daily basis and we all have a duty to ensure this is followed for the best interests of our community and families.

The Prime Minister set out four key preventative measures we are all asked to follow. These are:

1. Wash your hands, regularly and for 20 seconds.
2. Wear a face covering over your mouth and nose if you are in an enclosed space and in close contact with people you don't normally meet.
3. Make space. Always stay 2 metres away from people you don't live with – or 1 metre with extra precautions, like extra ventilation, screens, or face coverings.
4. If you have COVID symptoms, get a test and self-isolate.



What has changed?

The most important changes **from Thursday 5th November:**

1. **Stay at home except for specific purposes**
2. **Avoid meeting people you do not live with unless for specific purposes**
3. **Closure of business and venues**

The new measures will be in place until 2nd December and will be underpinned by law.

How we can all support one another

In order to help everyone to keep safe at Holywell and in our community, please can you ensure:

- Your child **does not attend** school if they have COVID-19 symptoms or have tested positive in the last 10 days.
- You follow the 'stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection' which sets out that **individuals should self isolate for at least 10 days** and should arrange to have a test. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>
- Members of your household (including any siblings) **self isolate for 14 days** from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms
- Avoid congregating in groups outside the school gates.
- Forming support bubbles with only one other household for drop off and pick up times for your child
- Encouragement to wear face coverings when entering the school grounds, especially at busy times such as drop off or pick up times

Suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19

The most important preventative measure is to ensure everyone within the school community understands what to do if someone becomes ill with COVID-19 symptoms. May I remind you the symptoms are:

- a new, continuous cough **or**
- a high temperature **or**
- loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell

If you, your child or anyone else living in your household becomes unwell with symptoms of COVID-19 **you must:**

Follow '[stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)'

- Self isolate for 10 days
- Arrange a test
- Other members of the household to self isolate for 14 days from the date the symptomatic person first had symptoms

For anyone who becomes ill while in school we will follow our existing guidelines and isolate that person until they can be collected and taken home. If your child becomes ill only someone who lives in the same household will be able to collect from school.

Arranging a COVID-19 test

Parents and staff will be informed they are expected to engage in the NHS Test and Trace process if required to do so. They will be required to book a test and provide details of anyone they have been in close contact with. The school have been provided with a small number of home testing kits for any families unable to go to a test centre.

Please visit <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/> to book a test and find the nearest test centre. If you are unable to use the internet to book a test please contact 119.

If you are unable to attend a test centre, you can order a home kit which will be posted directly to you. Please see this video for how to conduct a home test:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xaw8DsF2Igc>

Please note, *the school may be required to share pupil/parent contact information with public health officials. This sharing of information is permissible under current law and is in line with data protection guidance covering schools.*

If the test is negative the child can return to the setting assuming they are well enough. If the test is positive, all children and adults within that group should follow the 'stay at home' guidance and self isolate. This is why it is so important to not mix with other children and adults outside of your group – it is a protective mechanism.

We may be required to close the bubble temporarily until the results of the test have been given. The school will liaise with the Kent Health Protection Team for further guidance.

In the event of a bubble closure or a school closure we will continue to provide home learning through Google Classroom.

NHS Guidance:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/COVID-19-COVID-19/>

Government Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/COVID-19>

Public Health England:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>