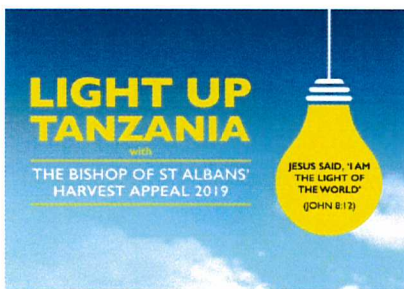


11<sup>th</sup> October, 2019

Dear Parents and students

I hope that this letter finds you all well. It's hard to believe that we have just one more week until half-term! There will be a full newsletter next week with lots of information about what's been happening at Holywell this half-term. However, this is a quick note to make you aware of our first charity non-uniform day next Friday (18<sup>th</sup> October) and to ask for your support in reinforcing some of our basic expectations.

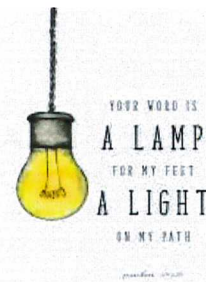


## Non-uniform day to support the Bishop's Harvest appeal: Light up Tazmania – Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2019.

At this time of year we celebrate HARVEST. The term 'Harvest' originates from the Old English word hærfest, meaning 'Autumn'. It then came to refer to the season for gathering in the crops grown on the land. Given the differences in climate and crops around the world, Harvests can be found at various times at different places. Harvest

festivals typically feature eating and sharing food together. In Britain, we have celebrated Harvest since pagan times and the celebrations on this day usually include singing hymns, and decorating churches with baskets of fruit and food, to give thanks for the gifts that nature has provided.

This year we are supporting the Bishop of St Albans' Harvest Appeal, 'Lighting Up Tanzania', which is taking a different approach to Harvest. The appeal is to provide around 2,500 family households in Tanzania with solar panels to provide them with electricity. Solar panels are cheap to run, create clean, renewable energy, and have zero emissions! For many people in Tanzania, where access to electricity and light is restricted, households cannot continue to run after dark. They struggle with everyday chores, and children suffer with poor performance and attendance at school. Without electricity, basic services – water, health and education – are all hindered. 'Lighting Up Tanzania' will be run from the local church and bring transformation to their community. People will be able to join a savings group and have access to greatly discounted prices for the solar panels; also, key people in the community will be trained to install and repair them.



We hope that you will join us in supporting this lovely appeal by taking part in our £1.00 Charity non-uniform day on Friday, wearing something light and bright to show your support. ... and, on the subject of uniform ...

## Holywell Uniform

We would be grateful if all parents and students could review the school uniform pages in the organiser (pp 20-21 and on the website) and ensure that our uniform standards continue to be high (Smart students in smart uniform). Please note in particular, that black shoes are to be worn – no trainers – especially those with sports branding. Nike Air Force One trainers are not to be worn, nor are boots. Some local shops and supermarkets are also displaying some trainers as school shoes. Please ensure that students wear school shoes – especially as we are coming into the Winter season.



Please note that skirts, where worn, should be plain grey and should not be more than 7.5cm above the knee (preferably below the knee). Although our policy states skirts can be 'any style', please ensure that skirts are appropriate for school in terms of decency and practicality. Grey trousers can be worn by all students.

## Safety and behaviour on the buses

At Holywell, we expect all students who travel on buses to behave in the same exemplary way they behave in school. We also expect them to keep themselves safe by wearing a seatbelt at all times during the journey and certainly NOT moving around the bus whilst it is moving. Students should sit quietly and talk to their friends – music, eating, unkind behaviour and unsafe behaviour (eg. being physical with each other, using offensive language, intimidating behaviour) is NOT acceptable. All of our bus service providers have a clear code of conduct and this must be adhered to at all times. There is CCTV on each bus and recently-viewed footage has been of great concern. Issues have been addressed and we will continue to review this regularly with both council transport providers and the bus companies. Students found behaving inappropriately will not be allowed to travel on the bus – bans may be for a short period of time (1 week) or they could be permanent depending on the seriousness or the regularity of the unacceptable behaviour. We all want students to arrive in school and back at home safely; please re-inforce this with your son/daughter.

## KS2 Tutor evening

On Wednesday, we had the first of our Parent-Teacher evening during which tutors met with Year 5 and 6 parents and students. We had some lovely comments about how the Year 5s have settled in and Year 6 have made a good start to their SATs year. There is an information evening for Year 6 parents next week about SATs and how you can help (Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> October - 6.00pm start).

More updates and information in next week's Newsletter.  
Best wishes

Mr MG Simpson  
Headteacher