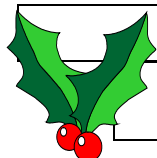




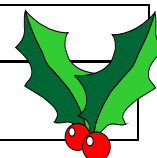
Holywell News



Issue No: 155
December 2020




HAPPY CHRISTMAS!



YEAR 5 & 6 STUDENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL TUESDAY 5TH JANUARY 2021

YEAR 7 & 8 STUDENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL MONDAY 11TH JANUARY 2021

Mr Simpson's Headlines




HOLYWELL SCHOOL
CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL CRANFIELD


Value of the Month
December 2020

Thankfulness

"Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!" Psalm 95:2




Comfort and Joy



THANKFUL FOR
IN THE MIDDLE OF CHAOS

Holywell School
A Church of England School providing a Values-based education
Enjoy ... Achieve ... Excel ... Care

"Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!" Psalm 95:2



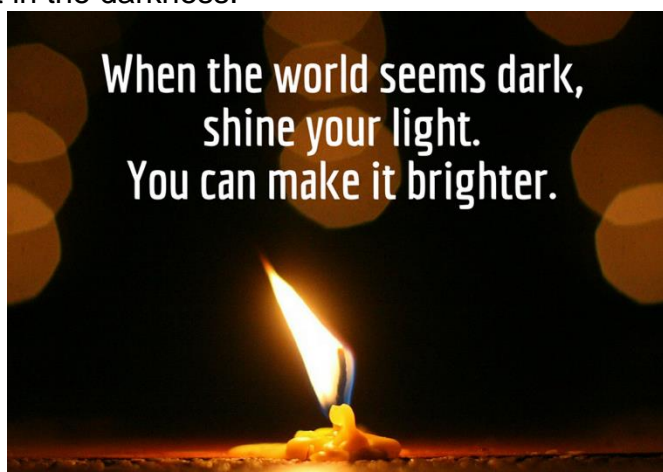
Comfort and Joy

What a rollercoaster of a term! It's hard to believe that we've actually made it to the last day and we're all safe, healthy and relatively Covid-19 free. Our Value of the Month is 'Thankfulness' and it is just the right time to say a HUGE 'Thank you' to all students and staff for their resilience, their adaptability, their care and their creativity. In spite of a whole load of new challenges, students have had a wonderful learning experience this term and it is a privilege to share with you some of the wonderful work students have been doing in the different areas of the curriculum.

Thank you for all your kind words and your support through this difficult term – your understanding and flexibility have been greatly appreciated.

As I look back on the term, we have had our challenges, but what has seen us through is that steadfast belief that good will prevail. What we are experiencing – whether this be the pandemic, grief, loss, anger, restrictions or frustration – we know that there is light in the darkness and that soon the world will re-set itself and all will be well. In the Old Testament, we read about Isaiah. He was with the people of God and things weren't going very well at that time. He was waiting not just for a short time not just for a season of months, but for centuries. He was waiting for something that was going to happen centuries in advance. In his writings, he predicted things going really, really wrong but then he predicted an answer: he predicted Christmas; he predicted the coming of Jesus: the light in the darkness.

Whatever your faith, this Christmas break provides us with a time to stop and reflect on what is important. This year, as we embark on what will be a strange, socially-distanced, quiet break, we hold our families and friends close (in bubbles or virtually through Zoom) and we treasure the light that we bring to our communities. In our assembly this week, we explored what we could do to 'be the light in the darkness'. Here are some suggestions:



Be kind
Be respectful
Have courage
Take responsibility
Dig deep and be resilient
Never give up
Be hopeful
Be helpful
Say 'Thank you'



Some students who brought 'light into the darkness' were our Values Champions for November when our value was Peace.

Whether helping others and being peaceful problem-solvers or helping each other to sort out differences, all three students were fantastic examples of how to do 'active peace'.



KS2

Logan
Alfie

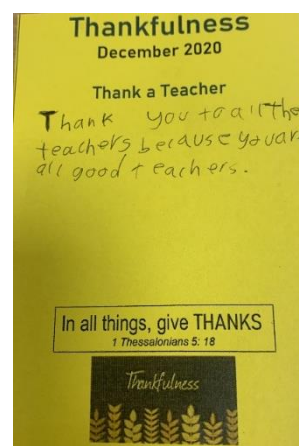
KS3

Lucas



Teachers recommend students for our values awards and the values champions are chosen by our values ambassadors in discussion with Mrs Donnellan.

We look forward to awarding our Values Champions for the month of December and students who have demonstrated 'thankfulness'. In a recent challenge, students wrote 'Thankfulness messages' for staff:



Our annual Christmas Card challenge was on the theme of 'Comfort and Joy' and here are the highly commended designs from Phoebe, Ella and Jacob:



This year's winner was Oliver. His design has been used to create this year's Holywell Christmas Card:



The card features a festive robin. Robins have a strong link with the traditional Christmas story and Christianity. In one tale, it is said that when Mary was giving birth to baby Jesus in the stable, she noticed that the fire that they had lit to stay warm and comfortable was in danger of going out. Suddenly, a small brown bird appeared and started flapping its wings in front of the fire, causing it to roar back to life. However, as the bird flew around tending to the fire, a stray ember made its way towards the bird, scorching its breast bright red. Seeing this, Mary declared that the red breast was a sign of the bird's kind heart, which would pass on to its descendants to wear proudly forevermore.

Stay safe, stay alert and keep us informed of any Covid-related issues. Have a wonderful Christmas break and here's wishing us all health and happiness in 2021.

Best wishes
Mr MG Simpson
Headteacher

WEDUC Communications from School



Please note that we no longer use Parentmail. We now use **WEDUC** to communicate with families.

We **STRONGLY RECOMMEND** that at least one parent/carer downloads the **WEDUC app**. If parents/carers need an enrolment code, please email Miss Watson on awatson@holywellschool.co.uk who will be able to supply one. Thank you.

News from the PE Department



WINTER WARNING



It is still cold outside so please can you continue to ensure that all students bring the correct kit for their PE lessons. We expect students to be wearing full Holywell PE kit for all lessons including:

- **Black shorts / jogging bottoms / leggings**
- **A Holywell polo top**
- **A Holywell rugby top / fleece and / or mid-layer**
- **Long black socks / white sports socks.**

All students will have at least 2 Units of Work on the field during the Spring term so will definitely need to bring in football boots and shin pads, when appropriate. **Students should also bring in, if possible, a spare top and trousers, in case they get muddy.**

We will, of course, continue to make sure that all activities adhere to the Government's, and our own, COVID-regulations/requirements, one of which is to use outdoor spaces for PE as much as possible.

Students will also be allowed to wear gloves and a hat when outside, although they may be required to remove them, depending on the activity.

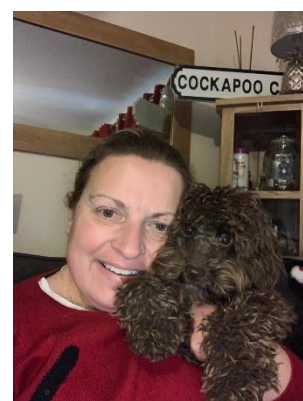
We are also hoping to run a more structured set of lunchtime clubs this term. Details will be given to the students when appropriate.

Finally, a 'thank you'...all of the PE teachers are very grateful for how well the students have adapted to all of the changes to various routines in PE. We would also like to thank all of the parents and carers for your continued support throughout this school year. Hopefully we will be able to see some of you again soon at fixtures!

Holywell PE Staff



MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE PE DEPARTMENT!



English Department News

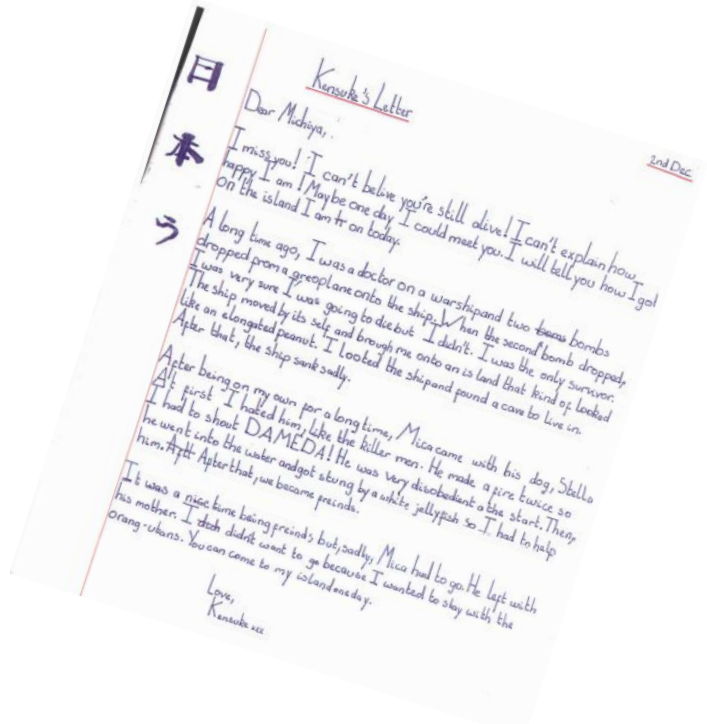
We have had a wonderful term in English and have loved having the pupils back enjoying some fantastic literature and producing some stunning pieces of writing.

Year Five

Year Five have been studying 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by Michael Morpurgo.

They have settled in really well and have written some amazing recounts about their new school; some discussion texts on whether they would like to sail around the world; descriptive writing from the perspective of an orang-utan; some haiku poetry; some non-fiction writing about WWII in the pacific and an emotional letter from Kensuke to his son.

We are now beginning to look at our next main unit- 'Passion for Poetry'



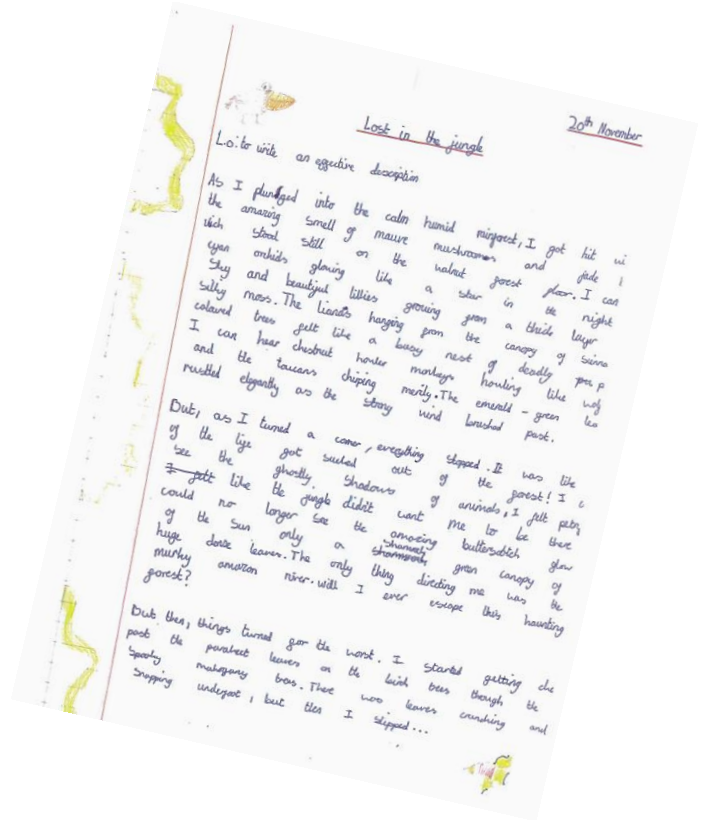
Year Six

We weren't able to go on our traditional September trip to Wrest Park this year but will hopefully be able to re-arrange the visit for early spring. Nonetheless, we had a fabulous time looking at how to write a discursive essay- the pupils looked at whether they should have limited screen time and whether the prime-minister was correct to lock-down the country at the end of March. The pupils really enjoyed looking at arguments that were relevant to their own lives and produced some very mature writing.

We have been reading some marvellous contemporary fiction by Eva Ibbotson- 'Journey to the River Sea'. The children have enjoyed following the adventures of Maia, Clovis and Finn in Brazil- linking in well with their rainforest work in Geography.

They have written some really impressive descriptions of being 'Lost in the Jungle' and some formal letters.

We will now be moving on to some more non-fiction writing and our next major unit on 'The Greek Myths'

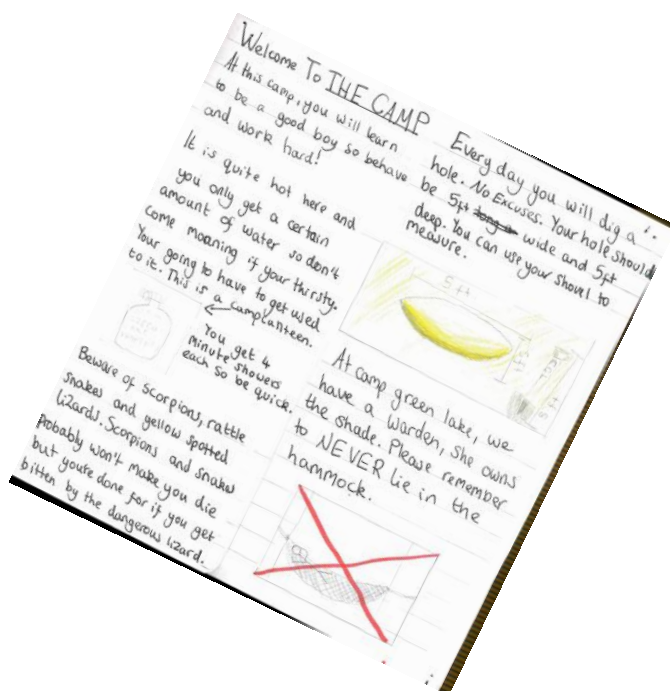


Year Seven

We began Year Seven with our 'Fantasy Worlds' project where the pupils got to be really creative and write in lots of different text types around the theme of an amazing alien world of their own creation. We have then been reading the novel 'Holes' by Louis Sachar. This has been hugely enjoyed by pupils and several have told me that it is 'the best book they have ever read'!

They have written short stories, autobiographies, newspaper reports, essay-style extended answers, informal letters, factual reports and play-scripts.

We are just about to get started on our persuasive writing unit- 'The Balloon Debate'



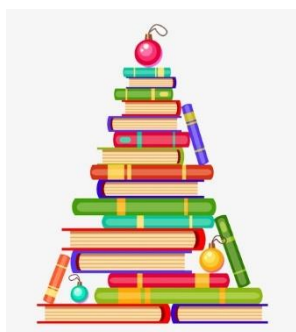
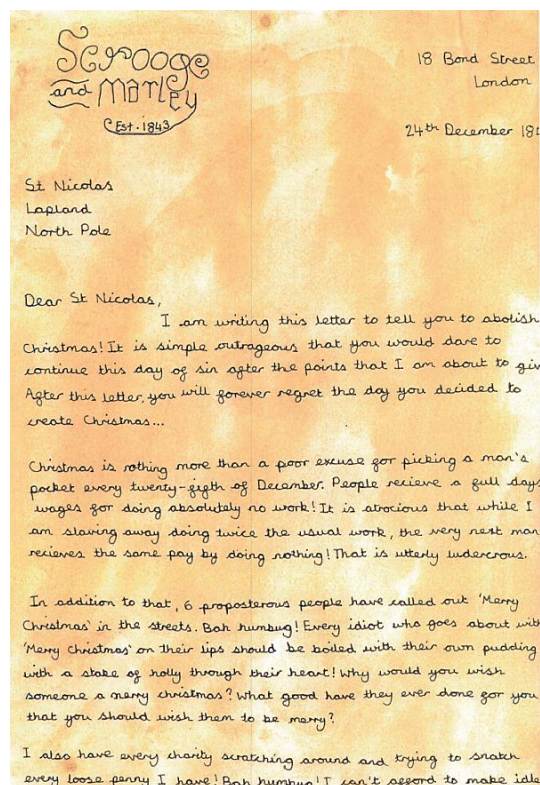
Year Eight

Year Eight had a spooky start to the year, looking at 'GothicHorror'.

They looked at lots of classic horror stories such as Dracula and Frankenstein and looked at how to build suspense and the conventions of this kind of writing. This culminated with them writing some superb gothic stories of their own.

This led on to our major unit on Charles Dickens and his novella 'A Christmas Carol'. They have written persuasive letters, factual reports and obituaries and are just embarking on a major essay in response to the text. They have enjoyed the challenge of some Victorian literature over the term.

Thanks for all your support for the English Department and remember - 20-30 minutes of reading every night makes a huge difference to pupil outcomes if you can try and find the time.



Merry Christmas
from Mr Brown and the English Department.

Library Lessons

As I am sure you are aware, we have restarted library lessons at Holywell. Can I take this opportunity to say a big thank-you to our librarian, Miss Watson, for all of her hard work in making sure pupils can borrow books safely in these difficult circumstances. Please be assured we are following all government guidelines and books are quarantined on return before going back onto the shelves.



I thought it would be useful to explain to parents how our library system works. **Pupils have one library lesson every two weeks.** This is always on the same day and they have the dates written into their organisers. During this lesson, they have the opportunity to choose **two fiction and one non-fiction book**. We are very proud of our library which has a large range of books which will hopefully suit all tastes and abilities. The pupils have a good amount of time to choose and there are adults in the room to help them make appropriate choices.

We would hope that pupils can try and read their fiction book in the two weeks before their next lesson. We have ten minutes in the morning and at least ten minutes during afternoon registration where pupils have independent reading time - plus currently pupils have five minutes at the beginning of most lessons while Covid procedures are carried out when they should read quietly. So over the two weeks they have 4-5 hours reading time in school and should be able to read much of their book in this time.

We do, however, strongly encourage independent reading at home and would hope families could find 20-30 minutes on a few evenings each week for some quiet reading. Evidence shows that reading for pleasure makes a huge difference to pupils' academic outcomes.

Pupils are asked to complete a short 'review' on their reading for the next library lesson. This is a short paragraph in their reading record and should only take 10-15 minutes. It just needs to say what they enjoyed about the book and maybe a few comments on characters and plot. Ideally, this is just a starting point for a conversation with an adult during the lesson, so we can discuss their independent reading (although current restrictions are making this difficult).

If they did not enjoy their fiction book from the library and only read the first few chapters- that is fine! They can just explain why they didn't like it and maybe tell us a little about any books they read instead. If they don't finish their book, again they can just write a few sentences on what they have read and then renew the book during their library lesson or choose a brand new one. The very last thing we would want is for children to feel that reading is a chore. We really just want to have some idea of what they are reading so we can help them find books they enjoy!

If anyone would like any further clarifications please don't hesitate to email me on pbrown@holywellschool.co.uk.
Paul Brown, Head of English

Art Department News

It's been a busy term for the Art department, we've managed to run all classes as normal, and no year groups are missing out on use of any materials. We are still sad that we are unable to run our usual Art Club, but we have had several competitions that students have joined in wonderfully with.

Here are some of the things we've been doing: We celebrated **Harvest Festival** by putting up a display at the church. We ran a **Graffiti values board competition** that all years entered, the winners' boards have now been painted and will welcome us back in the New Year. We were contacted by the Covid Testing Centre at Cranfield University and many students created some lovely pieces which will decorate the walls there. And finally we ran our annual **Christmas card competition** with Mr Simpson choosing the winner.



We wish you a peaceful and creative Christmas and look forward to seeing you in 2021.

**Mrs Milton, Mrs Jeavons and
Mrs Manning**



School Caterers



Please note the School Caterers operate a cashless system, so no money is taken at the kitchen. A small number of pupils are still bringing in cash for lunch. Please can parents regularly check the balance on their child's Parent Pay account via the ParentPay website: <https://www.parentpay.com/>.

If there are any difficulties with loading money onto the account, please contact the school office.

Science Department News

Euan (Year 5)

I have really enjoyed learning about the Earth, sun and moon and how we get day and night. We have also enjoyed my lessons on states of matter – solids, liquids and gases. I particularly enjoyed going outside and modelling the particles and collecting evidence to prove that air is actually real.



Alice and Seth (Year 6)

At the beginning of the year, we started our first topic: evolution and inheritance. We learnt about adaptations, what happened to peppered moths during the industrial revolution and this helped us learn about natural selection. I also enjoyed learning about fossils, Charles Darwin and his journey on the HMS Beagle to the Galapagos Islands to study the finches.

We have moved on to learn about light and what it does in transparent, translucent and opaque objects. We have also covered mirrors, reflections and shadows. I really enjoyed investigating how shadows can change in size.....a very fun topic!



Chloe and Erin (Year 7)

This term we have covered biology topics, which we have found interesting. We have built cell models, and learnt about specialised cells like red blood cells, white blood cells, sperm cells and many more. We like learning about what is going on in our own bodies.

We have also learnt about the reproductive systems of plants and humans. We have found it interesting learning about how babies are made and are born.



Ryan (Year 8)

We have enjoyed learning different topics so far this year but my favourite was learning about the effects of drugs, alcohol and smoking on the body. I never realised how much they can affect the brain! We have also learned lots about the digestive system and all of the organs involved....from chew to poo! I have found it useful to know what makes up a balanced diet and I think more people should understand what makes a healthy diet. I have also enjoyed learning about the acid bath murderer – George Haigh, and making my own pH indicator from red cabbage.



Bedford Food Bank Challenge

Key Stage 2 Challenge



Thinking of this month's values of thankfulness, Key Stage 2 was challenged to come up with a way of how we could show thankfulness. Years 5 and 6 were asked to show their appreciation for all that their community has done by collecting items for the Bedford Foodbank. They rose to the challenge magnificently and the school's minibus was barely able to transport the food that has been donated. The Year 5 and Year 6 tutor teams are incredibly proud of the efforts of all our pupils and the generosity of their

families during a challenging time for everyone.

Mr Ulph

In Key Stage 2 we have been set a challenge to bring in at least 25 items as a whole class to help Bedford Food Bank. Key Stage 2 have been bringing in the food and supplies that Bedford Food Bank needs. 6GLJ and 6CSG have brought in more than 100 of the things they need to bring in! Each class that brings in more than 25 items gets a Free Mufti! Each class already has at least 1 thing in their box. By January the boxes will have been collected in and classes who have more than 25 items will get to have their free Mufti day. All we need to bring in is these things:

- UHT Fruit Juice
- Chocolate Selection Box
- Long Life Sponge Puddings
- Jars of Instant Coffee
- Washing Up Liquid
- Toothbrushes
- Shampoo



- *Shower Gel*
- *Tinned Rice Pudding*
- *Cleaning Spray*

By Ava-Leigh George, 5HL

Year 5 and 6 Form Stars

Autumn 2020 has on occasion been a challenging term for staff and pupils. For our Year 6 pupils they have returned to a school they had attended for only half an academic year and were only just settling into before school closures in March and have had to contend with very different routines and get to know a new set of teachers and form tutors.

Similarly our Year 5s have had to get used to a new school, one with more pupils, more freedom (and with that more responsibility), lots more teachers, potentially transport to and from school, as well as a whole new set of rules and expectations! What's been clear throughout is the determination of the pupils and teachers to work together to make Holywell the caring and kind community that we all expect. We are starting to see signs that everyone is now settling back into school life, and thankfully for Mr. Ulph's blood pressure, have got much more proficient at tucking their shirts in!

Form tutors have been asked to nominate four pupils from their form that have quietly gone about demonstrating the school's values, have been considerate of others, showed kindness and set an example on how to behave in lessons and in social times to their classmates over the course of this term. They will receive a celebration one afternoon in the New Year in recognition of this.

Music Department News

Holywell Music Department strives to 'Keep Music Live'

COVID-19 has posed some unique challenges for musicians and the thoughts of music department remain with colleagues and friends in the industry at this most difficult and challenging of times.



Working restrictions during COVID-19 have certainly kept us on our toes here in school this term! However, we are proud to have been able to keep delivering safe and secure practical music lessons for all students. This has required some creative thinking about how to use spaces and resources leading to some unusual ways of doing things. For instance, who would have thought that Year 8 would have become so proficient at playing Adele on Boomwhackers or being proficient with a range of percussion instruments ... and Year 7 mastering playing Mozart concertos on Ukuleles was both brilliant and bizarre!



Curriculum lessons

Students have explored a wide range of different musical pieces and styles this term whilst learning about the elements of Music. Year 5 students have learnt about pitch, rhythm and notation.

I have enjoyed learning about pitch on the Boomwhackers and learning to play different Pieces. Ollie

I have enjoyed learning the notes on the keyboard and playing different pieces. William



Some of the Year 6 groups have been working on developing their listening and keyboard skills:

This year I've enjoyed the listening assignments. They have been fun and creative. George

I enjoyed learning Hedwig's Theme from Harry Potter. Charlie.

Year 7 and Year 8 have revised the elements of Music, working hard on their use and understanding of key musical vocabulary and have tackled ensemble performance work in the pop and blues genres:

With Blues music, I liked the style and with Gershwin, I really liked learning to play I've got Rhythm Shriya

I liked learning about the history of Gershwin's music. Alyssa.

I liked learning how to play the different parts of the Blues piece. Isla

I look forward to Music every week as I get to learn about different types and eras of music. Rebecca.

Even though we couldn't do what we would normally do in Music this year, we have been able to try new instruments such as Boomwhackers which were exciting and new.
Ava and Mya

We have also introduced Samba into our curriculum, having been lucky enough to secure some funding from the UKUMF Sound Foundation right before the beginning of lockdown. At the start of September, a full Samba Kit arrived from Brazil (although it did get lost along the way!) and Holywell has certainly got the Samba 'bug'. In October, 8RS enjoyed the challenge of performing their work outside while walking around the school:

During the first few weeks of the term we were just learning the different rhythms on the instruments, but after a few weeks, everyone knew what they were doing. It was cool to walk around the school! We played in time and it felt like proper music. I got to play the biggest Surdo (drum) which was awesome! Ryan

Some Year 6 classes have also looked at Samba this term. They have worked really hard (and enthusiastically) to learn all of the individual percussion parts in lessons:

You feel the rhythm in Samba when you play it! Edie.

Samba makes you dance – there is such a good feeling about it! Ollie.

You can't do Samba and not enjoy it! Lena

Samba makes you listen more and focus on what you are playing. Isabelle

Instrumental lessons

Instrumental lessons are now fully up and running for returning players and new starters. If you have registered with Inspiring Music for lessons but are yet to start, these lessons will begin in January 2021. We are particularly looking to recruit brass players, so any aspiring Trumpet or Trombone players out there, please chat to Mrs Purves or Mrs Gough. Huge thanks must go to all of our instrumental teachers here at Holywell, who are always so supportive, flexible and positive! We would also like to thank the whole team at Inspiring Music who have managed to keep such a high level of provision going online throughout lockdown and who have worked tirelessly to re-establish face to face teaching in school this term.



And finally...

We finished this Christmas term with a recording of a Carol Service for the school and wider Holywell community. Due to COVID-19 regulations, only a small number of Year 8 students were able to take part in the process. They have been rehearsing since October and have had to get used to being a much smaller ensemble than in previous years and being a very, very long way from each other!



This year, although we have been in a global pandemic, we have still been able to record a Christmas service. We really enjoyed it and are grateful for being able to return to the church and singing for the Holywell community, even though they couldn't join us. **Jasmyn and Millie**

The students have produced an absolutely beautiful service that we shared with the school today (18th December) and which you can access via this link: <https://youtu.be/Hze5THMtkw4>. Sit down with a cup of tea or coffee and spend a relaxing 24 minutes listening to the Christmas story as told and sung by the choir – they have done a great job and we are very proud of them – order of service is also attached.

We would like to thank all parents and carers for your continued support of the Music department at Holywell and wish you all a peaceful and restful Christmas.
Mrs Purves and Mrs Gough

History Department News

Year 8 began the year making some fun and educational pop-up books for children to learn about the Agrarian Revolution. Despite not being able to work together with their friends, many children made a fabulous effort and their books were amazing! Well done, everyone!



Year 7 have produced some excellent work on why William the Conqueror won the battle of Hastings and have been developing their causation skills this term. They have also been finding out about the Black Death and many have produced brilliant detailed and eye-catching posters for display in the History classroom.



Year 6 have been learning about the Anglo Saxons and have been judging whether or not they deserve the title 'Dark Ages'. It has been lovely to see their extended writing skills develop over the term and they enjoyed learning about what it might have been like to live over 1500 years ago.

Year 5 have been introduced to History by learning about Cranfield's rich and interesting past. They have enjoyed some 'competitions' in the classroom in the style of Ready, Steady, Cook and it has been lovely to see how confident they are. I am sure we have several budding

historians in the making!

Well done everyone on a fabulous term!

Mrs French
Subject Leader for History

R.E. Department News

In **Year 8** pupils have been examining arguments for and against the existence of God and have had the opportunity to re-examine their personal beliefs in the light of their learning. Many of our pupils produced some fabulous essays in their final assessments that showed great essay writing skills and revealed just how much detailed learning had taken place. Well done everyone.

Year 7 have gained a detailed understanding of the difficulties faced by Muslims living in the UK and many showed great empathy in their work. This unit has broadened their cultural awareness and they worked really hard to produce a detailed essay at the end of term.

Year 6 pupils have been studying specific pieces of Jesus' teaching about love, peace, wealth and forgiveness. They have also been learning about lots of modern day Christians, such as Mother Theresa, who have put his teaching into practice in the modern world.

Finally, **Year 5** have been finding out about key stories in the Old Testament and how these relate to both the Jewish and Christian faiths. Next term we are moving on to look at the life of Jesus.

Despite the restrictions placed on our teaching and learning at the moment, the pupils have been keen to learn and have worked hard this term to develop their skills. Well done everyone!

Mrs French
Subject Leader for Religious Education

Preparing for snow??

Please remember a few key points of how the school handles this.

We work extremely hard to stay open – including having our own mini-snow plough! However, if the weather does overwhelm us –

- Our main alert to you will be via WEDUC (before 7.00am). Please ensure your details are up-to-date.
- There will be an alert on the website.
- We also have a confidential route for informing local radio stations. Closure of the school would be announced by them and also put onto their website.
- It is usually when Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire Transport departments deem the roads too dangerous for buses to run and cancel transport that we decide to close the school. In the event of us closing, we contact the bus companies to ensure that they do not bring pupils into school.





Thank you to Mrs Fuller

Mrs Fuller joined Holywell in 2004 and, for many of those years, as Office Manager, she has been the public voice of Holywell. She knows all the students and most of the parents by name and voice! Mrs Fuller has been an incredible support to everyone here at Holywell and we will miss her greatly as she retires. We're sure she won't miss the hunting for lost uniform, the chasing-up of forms or the bumps and scrapes who arrive in reception for some 'tlc' and a plaster! We wish Mrs Fuller a wonderful retirement and we hope she will drop in to see us occasionally. Mrs Fuller hands on the challenge of Office Manager to Miss Brumsden.

Charity News



Creating a Buzz in Nepal

We raised **£554.17** for the **Bishop of St Albans - Harvest Appeal 2020** with a Mufti Day in October.

Children in Need

As the result of a Mufti Day on 13th November 2020, the amount we raised for Children in Need was **£549.75**.



Christmas Jumper Day

Our Christmas Jumper Day Fund-raising this year was in support of **Great Ormond Street Hospital**. We raised **£374.60**. Thank you very much.

Non-uniform days are a simple way to raise money and to make a HUGE difference. Wonderful generosity Holywell.

Thank you very much.



If your child is away from School

A telephone call is required on the first day of absence, before 10.00 am.

The Office Staff prepare the official registers and need to know the reason for **all** absences. It is therefore important that they are made aware of absences and they will inform your child's Form Teacher.

Please could parents remind pupils to report to the office if they arrive at school after registration. Pupils leaving school during the day, for whatever reason, must also use the front entrance to the school and sign out.

Christingle

Thanks to our friends at Cranfield Church (St Peter and St Paul's Church) and thanks to Cranfield Co-op, all Year 5 students had the opportunity to create their own Christingle. A Christingle is a symbolic object used in Christian Advent services. Christingle comes from a word of German origin, *Christkindl*, meaning 'Little Christ Child'. Each element of a Christingle has a special meaning and helps to tell the Christian story:

- The orange represents the world
- The red ribbon (or tape) symbolises the love and blood of Christ
- The sweets and dried fruit represent all of God's creations
- The lit candle represents Jesus's light in the world, bringing hope to people living in darkness.



Money for Uniform, Charities and, hopefully in the near future Trips!

Please pay online whenever possible, with the link on our website.

Tucasi (SCO.com) For payment of the following:

- Trips
- Early risers/breakfast club (booking form must also be completed)
- Ordering School tie/blazer badge.



If you have not previously logged in to Tucasi you will need an access code from the school. Please email ntallentire@holywellschool.co.uk for this code.

Parent Pay (Payment for tuck/school dinners)

Please remember to check your child's Parent Pay account balance regularly.

You can set up to receive a reminder email when the account credit goes below a certain level. To do this log in to your parent pay account>communication>alert settings>balance alerts> under threshold set an

amount and tick email alert. Once the credit goes below this level you will receive an email reminder to top up the balance.

For queries with regards to Parent Pay please email: school@holywellschool.co.uk

For web pages for the above please go to <https://holywellschool.co.uk/Parents>online payments>.

All cash / cheques brought into school by students should be in a sealed named envelope, showing the reason for payment and should be given **straight to the office**. Cheques should be made payable to 'Holywell School'.



We also have the facility to pay by credit / debit card in person at the school office.

PRACTICAL REMINDERS



- **Hydration Guidance:** All students should have a water bottle (labelled) and they are encouraged to take regular sips during the day.
 - Bottles must be anti-spill bottles - NOT GLASS - with sports tops
 - Water bottles should be carried separately from school books and library books
 - Water bottles are not allowed near electrical equipment
 - Water bottles and drinks must be for personal use only
 - Teachers have the final word in lessons as to when and if they can be used
 - Bottles must contain still WATER! Flavoured still water or sugar-free squash is also an acceptable alternative, however, water is best! (Fizzy drinks – including sparkling water drinks or power drinks – are not allowed in school.)
- **Uniform** – If you are refreshing uniform over Christmas, please make sure that the correct uniform is purchased ready to be smart in January. Make sure that shoes are shoes (no trainers)! Trousers and skirts should be grey and not black; skirts should be the correct length.
- **Chewing Gum** – Chewing gum is **not** allowed and should not be brought into school.
- **Mobile Phone Policy** – Reminder that we are now a non-smart-phone school. Smart phones are not to be brought on-site. Non-smart phones for communicating with parents out of school hours are allowed with a permission slip and are the responsibility of the child. If smart-phones are found on-site, they will be confiscated and will need to be collected by a parent. Full policy on the website.
- **Behaviour – To / From school and on the buses** – we expect the same high standards of student behaviour on the bus and walking to and from school. Students should also make sure they are behaving safely at all times – eg. seat belts on, walking a safe distance away from the pavement, not crossing in front of vehicles, etc.
- **Haircuts** – Keep it professional! No fashion cuts, no lines or patterns, no colours, nothing shorter than Grade #2.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



AUTUMN TERM 2020

End of Term – Friday 18th December

SPRING TERM 2021

Term Begins – Tuesday 5th January for KS2

Term Begins – Monday 11th January for KS3

Half Term – Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February

End of Term – Friday 26th March

SUMMER TERM 2021

INSED Day – Monday 12th April

Term Begins – Tuesday 13th April

May Day – Monday 3rd May

Half Term – Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June

End of Term – Thursday 22nd July

Please note that dates may differ from other schools

SUMMER TERM TEST DATES 2021



Year 6 Students

Key Stage 2 SATs

Monday 10th May - Thursday 13th May 2021

PLEASE DO NOT BOOK HOLIDAYS AT THIS TIME



**A REMINDER THAT PUPILS
RETURN TO SCHOOL ON:
TUESDAY 5TH JANUARY 2021**

