

# HOLYWELL SCHOOL

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*A Church of England School  
providing a Values Based Education*

Update Letter 28<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

I hope this letter finds you all well. The latest update from The Prime Minister about all students not returning to school until at least 8<sup>th</sup> March was devastating news – we can't wait to have everyone back in lessons. I think we all understand, however, that students should only come back to school when it is safe, when the number of cases reduces, when the most vulnerable have been vaccinated and only when the risk of transmission is manageable. Whatever happens, we are here to support our Holywell family.

As we come to the end of January, it is good to reflect back on our value of the month. In PSHE, Mrs Gough set a Respect Art and Poetry Challenge to all year groups – here is a montage of some of the wonderful images, acrostic poems and messages - from Abigail, Abigail B, Ahmed, Amalia, Charlotte, Gam, Imogen, Julia, Lily and Matthew:

Respect is about showing people that they are just important as everyone else and to listen when they are talking to you.



## Some ways I can show respect to my family.

1. Speak Politely and say please and thank you
2. Listen when someone is talking to me
3. Do not SHOUT!
4. Clean up my own mess
5. Offer to help
6. Cook dinner
7. Make lunch for my little sister
8. Do something nice to impress my parents.

Respect

Everyone

Seriously

Pay attention to what is being said

Even when you do not agree

Choose to listen

Treat everyone how you would like to be treated



Headteacher: Mr MG Simpson MA, NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Mr S Van Der Merwe – Deputy Headteacher / Designated Safeguarding Lead: Miss A Stewart

Assistant Headteacher: Mrs H Donnellan – Designated Safeguarding Lead / SENDCo: Mrs J Davies

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Respect others  
 Everyone is equal  
 Speak respectfully  
 People need to be treated with care  
 Equality is important  
 Come together as a community  
 Treat people with respect

### Respect

Respect is fair treatment and often means having consideration for someone regardless of their opinions. It can also mean admiration towards someone for a talent they possess.

You can show respect to family members by: addressing them politely, listening to them, having conversations or saying something like good morning/good night. Settling disagreements calmly, cleaning up after yourself, offering to do chores when someone is busy, taking advice and giving when needed.

Respecting peers and their opinions

Each person is entitled to basic respect

Speak when needed and listen when others are speaking

Politeness and manners around people

Equal care

Calmly resolving problems

Treat each other fairly

Respect others  
Everyone is important  
Speak nicely  
People are all the same  
Everyone matters  
Care for people  
Talk nicely



Respect  
 Each other  
 Support  
 People  
 Ears are for listening  
 Care for each other  
 Think before you talk!



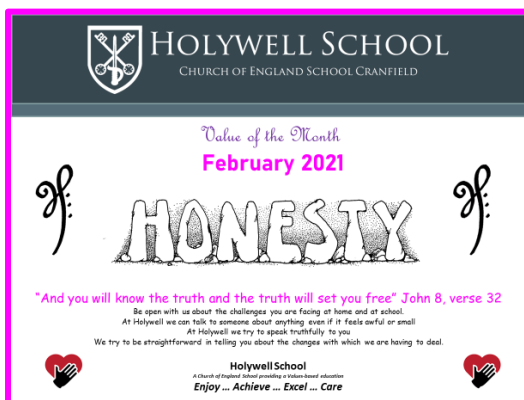
Respect:  
 Each other  
 Stand up for each other  
 Pray for each other  
 Be excited for each other  
 Cheer for each other  
 Trust each other



There is a lovely KS2 Assembly from Mr Ulph, Mrs Purves and Miss Lau which you can access via this link (I'm sure KS3 would enjoy it too!):

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yJZFyRACHCnullmD-vIXMsFUi4UleE9U/view?usp=sharing>

Our Value of the Month for February is HONESTY:



**“And you will know the truth and the truth will set you free” John 8, verse 32**

- Be open with us about the challenges you are facing at home and at school.
- At Holywell we can talk to someone about anything even if it feels awful or small
- At Holywell we try to speak truthfully to you
- We try to be straightforward in telling you about the changes with which we are having to deal.

In these challenging times, it's important to be open and honest about how we feel, always remembering that 'feelings are feelings, but we choose our behaviour'. Whilst it is OK to be sad, upset, angry and frustrated, we sometimes need to take a step back, take a deep breath, take time to count our blessings and to deal with difficult situations calmly, quietly and assertively. We need to think about the impact of our words and actions on others and be honest about our motives and purposes. At Holywell we try to be mindful of others and hope that what we do has a positive impact on the lives of others.

## REMOTE LEARNING

On the subject of 'Honesty', we would appreciate your honest feedback on our Remote Learning provision. We had some lovely feedback at our recent Year 5 Parents' Evening with many families commenting that the balance of work being set was 'just right'. We do know, however, that there are also some parents who are not happy with our provision. We were made aware of some specific concerns via an Ofsted phone call where a single anonymous complaint had been raised – a similar complaint has also been communicated to the local press. We welcome challenges to our practice and always prefer to deal with issues directly. Initial feedback from Ofsted is that our provision meets DfE requirements. We would, nevertheless, like to know how you are feeling about our provision. Some things we will not be able to change due to the specific circumstances we find ourselves in. This is why comparisons with other schools are difficult to make as each school is trying to cater for all of their students within its unique set of circumstances. Where we can adapt and support further, we will. We would be grateful, therefore, if you could fill in an online questionnaire which you can access by clicking on this link: [https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DQSIKWdsW0yxEjajBLZtrQAAAAAAAAAAAAAO\\_S28CCpUOTBLQ0VXR0hSVkhUMElwQ1o3QTAWsENFVC4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DQSIKWdsW0yxEjajBLZtrQAAAAAAAAAAAAAO_S28CCpUOTBLQ0VXR0hSVkhUMElwQ1o3QTAWsENFVC4u) or by entering the following in a web-browser:

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DQSIKWdsW0yxEjajBLZtrQAAAAAAAAAAAAAO\\_S28CCpUOTBLQ0VXR0hSVkhUMElwQ1o3QTAWsENFVC4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DQSIKWdsW0yxEjajBLZtrQAAAAAAAAAAAAAO_S28CCpUOTBLQ0VXR0hSVkhUMElwQ1o3QTAWsENFVC4u)



## Satchel One Help

We have had some enquiries about how best to organise work and how to navigate Satchel One/Show My Homework. Our recommendation is that students follow their normal timetable. This can be viewed on Satchel One – just click on the ‘Timetable’ option on the menu on the left-hand side of the screen:

The screenshot shows the Satchel One app interface. On the left is a dark blue sidebar menu with the following items: 'To-do list' (green button), 'Calendar' (calendar icon), 'Timetable' (bell icon, circled in blue), 'Gradebook' (book icon), 'Notice board' (megaphone icon), 'My drive' (folder icon), 'Support' (headset icon), and 'Logout' (power icon). The main area displays a timetable grid for the week of 25th Jan to 28th Jan. The grid shows subjects like English, Maths, DT, PE, Option, French, Geography, Drama, RE, History, and Science, along with room numbers and teacher names. A red 'Due' label is visible in the English and Maths cells for 10am and 11am.

Where the ‘Due’ symbol appears, this is a direct link to the Description of the work. Another alternative is to use the ‘Calendar’ option:

The screenshot shows the Satchel One app interface with the 'Calendar' menu item circled in blue. The main area displays a calendar view for the week of 25th Jan to 28th Jan. The calendar shows a grid of days with various work items listed below it. The work items include: '8TCM - Zoom PowerPoint - Stone Cold Intro' (8TCM English, Miss A. Norman), 'WIC 18th January Year 8 Franc...' (8XTC/F French, Mr S. Johnson), 'Year 8.1 Pe lesson-Netball Wk 3' (81/Pe PE, Ms E. Abbey), 'Week 3 - Erosional Landforms' (8XTC/Gh Geography, Miss L. Jones), and 'DT Textiles research task Year 8' (81/Te DT).

This displays all the work set of the week. You can then click on the bar and it will take you to the Description of the work.

For help with downloading and/or accessing specific documents, please have a look at the Update Letter of the 15<sup>th</sup> January as there are lots of tips and suggestions to access Microsoft Office and GoogleDocs.

We will continue to develop our use of Zoom to provide ‘live lessons’ and catch-up sessions. We are grateful for your support with the protocols for these lessons (inc. students logging in with their own names, having video cameras on, good behaviour expected at all times and mobile phones ‘out of the area’). Please remember that as we have 110+ students in our Critical Worker/Vulnerable Learner groups in school, staff are also in school teaching as well as providing online learning support. Particularly for English and Maths teachers, when they are teaching in school, they will not be available for live lessons for that particular week. Lessons will still be set but they will be video lessons.

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week and the theme this year is 'Express Yourself'. The week is supported by "Place2Be" - a children's mental health charity that provides counselling and mental health support and training in UK schools. This is their introduction to the week:

A circular logo with a yellow border. Inside the circle, the text "Place2Be's" is written in black on a yellow banner. Below it, "CHILDREN'S" is in red, "MENTAL HEALTH" is in blue, and "WEEK" is in large green letters. At the bottom, a yellow banner contains the text "1 - 7 FEBRUARY 2021" in black.

*It's important to remember that being able to express yourself is not about being the best at something or putting on a performance for others. It is about finding a way to show who you are, and how you see the world, that can help you feel good about yourself.*

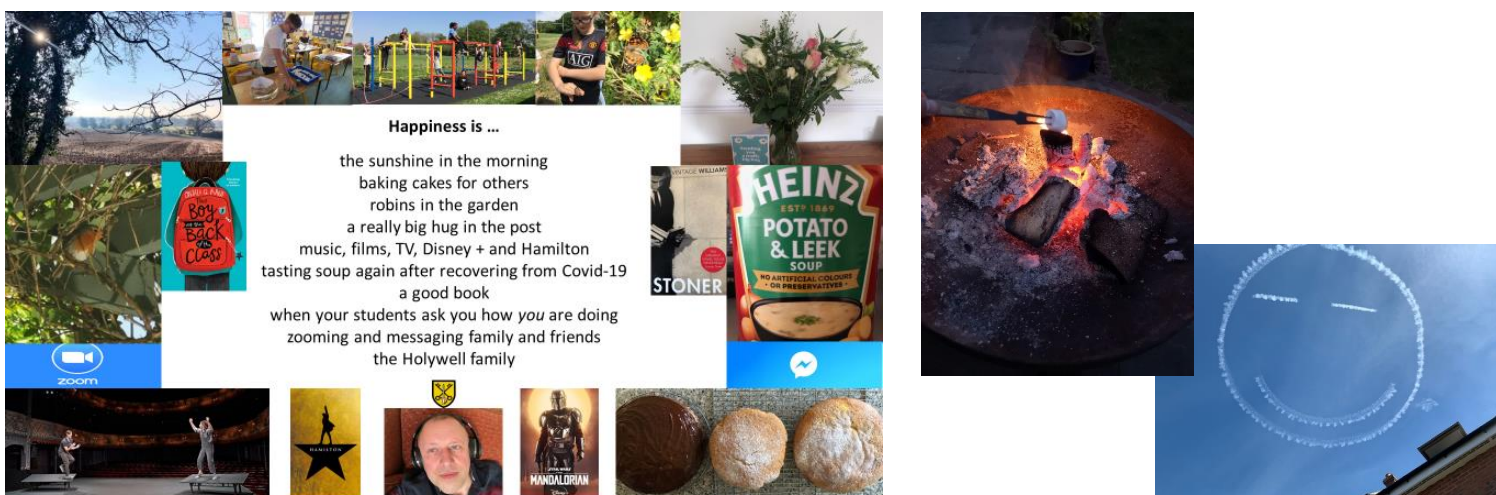
*For Children's Mental Health Week 2021 we will be encouraging children (and adults) to explore the different ways we can express ourselves, and the creative ways that we can share our feelings, our thoughts and our ideas.*

We are concerned for everyone's mental health at the moment and a positive, confident view of 'who you are' is an important foundation on which to build a resilient and optimistic outlook. In Tutor Group catch ups this week, staff will be exploring this notion of 'Express Yourself' with students.

Looking after the wellbeing of the students of Holywell is one of our main priorities, especially at this difficult time. We are now in a position to offer 1;1 support for any of our pupils who would benefit from it. We are able to book appointments in school and Wootton Lower School have kindly offered us a room to ensure that we can accommodate those living in both villages.

If you believe this is something that would help support your child over the coming weeks, please email Miss Stewart on [astewart@holywellschool.co.uk](mailto:astewart@holywellschool.co.uk) to arrange an appointment.

Why not take a moment or two this week to 'Express Yourself' as individuals or as a family – send in a photograph, a poem, a video, some music, an image of what you and your family stand for and are proud of ... even just a montage of what makes you who you are. This is the 'Challenge of the Day' for next week – send us your contributions to [challengeoftheday@holywellschool.co.uk](mailto:challengeoftheday@holywellschool.co.uk) and let's see if we can create some sunshine expressions. Here are a few memories from our Summer Museum of Happiness where staff and students 'expressed themselves ... it might give you some ideas!







We'll be challenging the students with The Squiggle Challenge – for more ideas, have a look at <https://www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/parents-and-carers/coronavirus-wellbeing-activity-ideas-for-families/> ... and why not make next Wednesday 'Wellbeing Wednesday' ... put some of the usual school work 'on hold' and go for a walk together, make a cake, play a game (I can recommend 'Carcassonne' [especially with 'The Princess and The Dragon' expansion pack!] and 'Sushi Go!') or make a video!

#### **Year 6 Virtual Parents' Evenings - Wednesday 3rd February 4pm-7pm and Thursday 4th February 4-7pm**

If Year 6 parents/carers haven't already signed up for subject-based appointments, there is still time! The process is relatively straightforward with no software or applications to download and meetings can be kept using smartphones, tablets, or laptops and can be made with or without video function. Once appointments have been made you will be sent an email to confirm the times and dates. You will also be able to change or cancel appointments if circumstances change. To access a very clear and easy online tutorial for parents to learn how to make appointments and attend the meetings please use this link <https://support.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/article/801-video-parents-how-to-attend-appointments-over-video-call>. To log in to the site to make appointments and attend the meetings on the night please go to [holywellschool.schoolcloud.co.uk](https://holywellschool.schoolcloud.co.uk) and sign in. We look forward to catching up with you. Year 7 & 8 information will be available soon.

Have a great week and stay safe.  
Best wishes

Mr Simpson