



Witheridge Church of England Primary Academy

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‘Encourage One Another and Build Each Other Up’

1 Thessalonians 5: 11

Thankfulness	Compassion	Perseverance	Forgiveness	Friendship	Courage
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Newsletter – Friday 13th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a busy few weeks at Witheridge Academy over the last few weeks.

Last week we had our Harvest Festival in the church. Thank you to all the Parents and Carers who joined us for the service - it was lovely to see so many of you in the Church celebrating with us.



This week, we have been thinking about ways we can keep our minds healthy, alongside World Mental Health Day on Tuesday. Today, we are wearing yellow in support of the charity Young Minds. Thank you to the Parents and Carers who have donated to the charity via our JustGiving page. It is not too late to make a donation. If you would like to do so, you can still do this via the JustGiving page.



Life, Love and Learning to the Full
Building Community ~ Building Futures ~
Building Learning Power ~ Building Self Esteem

October is Black History month. In our classes, we have been learning about different previously overlooked people of colour throughout history. Next week, we will be displaying all our fantastic learning in the hall every day after school. You can come in to look at our learning from 3:30 Monday-Thursday next week.

Thank you to all our Reception and Year 1 Parents and Carers who attended our Phonics Information Evening this week. It was great to see that so many of you appreciate how important this early support for reading is.

Finally, this week I am proud to report that two different visitors to our school commented on the fantastic, polite and respectful behaviour of the children in our school. Well done, everyone!

All the best,
Miss Ratcliffe

Year 6 Parents – Secondary School applications

If your child is in current Year 6 and born between 01/09/2012 & 31/08/2013 then please remember that applications for secondary school transfer must be submitted by midnight on the 31st October 2023. Information on open evenings and the application process can be found below <http://soc.devon.cc/6NNjn>



NASAL FLU VACCINATION (Reception to Year 6)

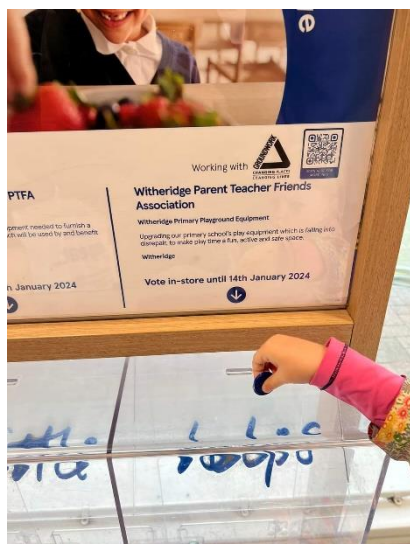
We are due to visit your child's school on **18th October 2023**. In order to access the online consent form, please enter or click on the following link <https://www.kernowimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu>

PLEASE ENSURE YOU ENTER THE FULL UNIQUE SCHOOL REFERENCE CODE.

The code for your child's school is: DV144560

Please submit your consent form by midday 18th October 2023 to ensure your child receives their vaccination. If you experience any problems accessing the form please telephone 01392 342678 and the team will be happy to help.

Please note that as in previous years you must opt into the programme. If a consent form is not submitted your child will not be vaccinated.



We need your support!
If you shop in Tiverton Tesco
Please grab some tokens and vote for
Wetheridge C of E Primary Academy PTFA
to get some additional funding for our
brilliant school!

Thank you 😊

Mr Wiggans Forest School News....

Last week we learnt about apples. We are fortunate to have a range of different apple trees growing in the school grounds. So much to the delight of the pupils; we were able to collect a selection; and put them to the taste test. The pupils found it interesting discovering the difference they had between which apples they liked, which were sweet, which were sour. Juicy ones, tough skinned ones and the range of flavours irrelevant if an apple is red or green.



This week groups have been looking at common house and garden spiders. They were able to view a number of spiders in our two-way magnifier viewers. We have learnt about arachnids and interesting facts about the spiders. Thankfully our spiders were quite small compared to the Goliath bird eating spider of South America that can grow to 30cm. Scary!

We learnt about the life cycle of the spider and how it catches its food. We explored the outdoor learning area and found many great examples of their webs.



This week, despite a few showers, we have managed to get out each day to the Outdoor Learning Area.

We have been looking at fires and how over time humans have made use of it to their advantage from heating, cooking, light and protection.

We have cooked Drop Scones with Cinnamon Sugar on the fire in a large pan and discussed different cooking methods on the fire.

Class 4 pupils also had a session on fire lighting with some great success.

Mr.Wiggans



Class 3 Roman Baths Trip

On Friday (29th), Class 3 were lucky enough to visit the Roman Baths in Bath. The children came into School at 7.45am in preparation for their 2-hour minibus journey and despite some very questionable singing; we made it to Bath on time and ready for the day ahead. We navigated our way through the busy City Centre and found our base for the day at the Education Centre. Our first activity was a self-led audio tour of the Roman Baths.

The children loved typing the numbers into their audio guides and finding out more information about the artefacts on display in front of them. We learned all about the different baths and what they were used for and we were even lucky enough to meet a 2000-year-old Gaul who told us some wonderfully dramatic stories.

After the tour, we returned to the education centre where we joined up with Beaford and High Bickington for lunch. Our afternoon started with a classroom session where we rotated around 3 Roman activities. The activities were mosaic-making, artefact handling and dressing up like Romans. The children showed an eagerness to be stuck in and especially loved dressing up Mrs North and myself in Togas.

To end the day, we went underground beneath the Roman Baths for an investigation activity. The children used archaeological skills to uncover artefacts hidden in the sand and grit. We also used iPads to find different rocks, which were used in the original building of the Roman Baths.

The children represented the School impeccably throughout the day and everyone got stuck right in to all of the activities throughout the day. Well done Class 3!

Mr Manning



Essebeare Farm School

There was great excitement last Wednesday morning, as our first group of Reception children prepared to board the minibus, bound for Farm School! The children were greeted by Farmer Ollie who took us in search of fruit and vegetables growing above the ground, under the ground and on the trees above our heads. The children were amazed and intrigued to find more than 20 types of fruit and vegetables - many of which we have been singing about in our Harvest Festival songs. They were delighted to collect lots of these in their basket and return to school to share their finds with the rest of the class - who, meanwhile, had been busy preparing some delicious apple crumble with apples collected in the school grounds. Well done Reception!



Team Meal Menu – Autumn Term 2023 Week 1: W/B 16th October

Monday	Macaroni Cheese V – Cheese Salad Wraps Salad or Vegetables Fresh Fruit Salad & Yogurt
Tuesday	Beef Lasagne V – Quorn Lasagne Garlic Bread & Mixed Veg or Salad Fruit Crumble With Custard
Wednesday	Roast of The Day V – Quorn fillet Roast Potatoes & Seasonal Veg Fruit Cocktail Platter
Thursday	Chicken Tikka Curry V – Sweet Potato Curry Rice & Vegetables Sticky Toffee Pudding
Friday	Oven Baked Fish V – Macaroni Cheese Golden Fries, Baked Beans & Carrots Homemade Cookie

Also available every day: - Jacket Potato with Tuna, Cheese and/or Beans. Yogurt or Fresh Fruit.

Cost of School lunches: Nursery – £1.94 per meal.
Reception & KS1 children – Universal Infant Free School Meals, KS2 children £2.53 per meal.

Payment to be made via The Arbor App



A gentle reminder that we are a **NUT FREE SCHOOL** and we have a number of students, staff and visitors with serious nut allergies.

With this in mind, could we politely ask that NO products containing nuts be sent into school.

If you have any questions in relation to this, please contact the School Office.

Thank you for your consideration and for safeguarding our students.



Celebration Assembly
Well Done
For receiving a
Certificate of Achievement



Class Award

Nursery – Amelia for good recall during focused maths.
Reception – Olivia for a great week of learning and always doing the right thing.
Class 1 – Libby for amazing effort in phonics and working really well in a group.
Class 2 – Amelia for showing perseverance in all areas of her learning.
Class 3 – Isabella for growing in confidence and seeking support when necessary.
Class 4 – Evie for an excellent attitude to your learning in maths.

Last week – Friday 6th October

Nursery – Toby for doing the right thing during focused activities.
Reception – Whole class for representing our school sensibly and safely at Farm School and in the Church.
Class 1 – Archie for clearly explaining how to work out answers to help others.
Class 2 – Jenson for his perseverance in his maths learning.
Class 3 – Lily-Sue for showing beautiful creativity in her sketchbook.
Class 4 – Sophia for great explaining of a maths problem.

Writer of the Week:

Reception – Nancy for excellent effort in holding and controlling her pencil to form sounds and words.
Class 1 – Zoey for beautiful presentation with her writing and taken pride in her writing outside of class.
Class 2 – George for his fantastic work on adjectives and expanded noun phrases.
Class 3 – Alfie for writing an incredible biography including all of our grammatical features.
Class 4 – Lena for an excellent kenning about Cesar Picton.

Last week – Friday 6th October

Reception – William for using his Fred talk and Fred fingers to write words.
Class 1 – Mitchell for independence while writing tricky red words.
Class 2 – Ronnie for her beautiful handwriting
Class 3 – Bella for showing a real eagerness to improve presentation.
Class 4 – Lola for creating a beautiful page about Heathcoat in you topic book.

Contribution::

Paige for asking if an adult needed help when taking the nursery children back to class.
Emily for being helpful waiting at the hall door for the nursery children
Gladys always looking out for others.
ALL KS2 – Being kind and setting a fab example for the rest of the school.

House Points

Discovery 16

Endeavour 22

Enterprise 21

Voyager 31



Weekly Attendance	
Nursery 1	97%
Nursery 2	96%
Reception	99%
Year 1	99%
Year 2	98%
Year 3	83%
Year 4	100%
Year 5	91%
Year 6	93%

Every Day Counts

Attend and achieve.

Absences add up and have a detrimental effect on your learning.



Attendance Update

It is great to see everyone working so hard to achieve or beating our **96.5%** target.

We can only do this if we all work together!

Our attendance for the week is **94%**

Our attendance for the year to date **96%**

Together Each Achieves More!



Please inform the school office if your child has a medical appointment during school time, giving as much notice as possible in advance of the appointment.

Also please let us know by phone 01884 860518, In-App Messages or email of any sickness absences by 9.20am.

Thank you

Key Dates for the Autumn Term 2023

Monday 16 th October	Class 1 Wildlife & Dinosaur Trip Coombe Martin Leave at 8.30am Class 3 – PE – Whole Class Class 3 Group 1 – <u>NO</u> Forest School please bring kits Teacher Led Club – Story Club, Jambie Jams & Girls Football Club
Tuesday 17 th October	Rocksteady NO Teacher Led Club – Board Games Club CANCELLED
Wednesday 18 th October	Nasal Flu Spray Class 4 – PE Class 4 - Forest School Group 1 Farm School Infant A Group 2 Music Tuition with Mr Rogo Stay and Play Session in FSU at 13.45
Thursday 19 th October	Class 2 Wildlife & Dinosaur Trip Coombe Martin Leave at 8.30am Music Tuition with Mr Rogo Teacher Led Club – Sewing Club
Friday 20 th October	Stay and Play Session in School Hall at 9am Reception Class – PE (AM) Class 1 – PE (PM) Infant A Group 1 - Forest School
Dates for your diary: Monday 23 rd October HALF TERM Monday 30 th October PTFA AGM 19:30 Wednesday 1 st November Class 4 Tiverton Museum Trip – Details to follow Thursday 2 nd November TEAM Cross Country Comp @ High Bick Saturday 4 th November Wales vs Barbarians Rugby Trip Wednesday 8 th November Farm School Class 4 Group 1 <p style="text-align: center;">These dates are intended as a guide and you will be notified of any changes.</p>	

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2023 / 2024

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
First Day 6 th September 2023 Half-term 23rd - 27th October 2023 Last Day 15th December 2023	First Day 3rd January 2024 Half-term 12th - 16th February 2024 Last Day 28th March 2024	First Day 15th April 2024 Bank Holiday 6th May 2024 Half-term 27th - 31st May 2024 Non Pupil Day 3rd June 2024 Last Day 23rd July 2024

Non-pupil days and occasional holiday days:

~~4th & 5th September 2023~~, 2nd January 2024, 3rd June 2024, 24th, 25th & 26th July 2024



PTFA

Parents
Teachers
Friends
Association

Thank you for the returned festive card/gift designs. They look great ☺
A sample card will make its way home and you will be able to order direct from Class Fundraising in the coming weeks.

A whole school Christmas tea towel is also underway and will hopefully be available to buy from the PTFA sumup shop in a few weeks too. More details to follow. Any queries just ask on the PTFA Facebook page or over class WhatsApp's.

(No obligation to buy cards or a tea towels!)

Disco TONIGHT the 13th

Buy your ticket now and food pre order for a reduced cost. Pre sales help us with organising and keeping costs down. <https://wetheridgeptfa.sumupstore.com> (also available on the door). Send those requests in - the playlist is underway!

A huge thank you to class four for supplying treats this Friday and to those of you that purchased them. We will let you know how much was raised ☺ these funds will go towards class trips for each class so every pupil will benefit.

Our AGM is also coming up 30/10. If you are thinking of getting more involved (or just feeling curious), please do come along. Kids jumble sale 13th Nov, with bags2school collection on 15th for any adult's clothes."

Kids Disco
Friday
13th October
5:00 - 7:00pm
@Wetheridge Parish Hall

bit.ly/3YmF5ZS

PREORDER TICKETS NOW
Child entry + sausage in a roll = £2

ON THE DAY TICKETS
Child entry = £1
Sausage in a roll £1.50

Pre-school to year 6 (any school welcome)
Additional refreshments available
Adults and under two's free
Bar open - responsible drinking! ;)

Facepaint
Glitter Tattoos

Children to be supervised by parents/carers. Proceeds to Wetheridge PTFA. Charity Reg No. 1079365

Kids jumble sale
toys, puzzles, books,
shoes, coats, clothes
from baby up to 12yrs

13 NOV
3.30 - 5 PM
WETHERIDGE C OF E ACADEMY

DROP OFF DONATIONS ON
THE DAY 8:45AM OR 3PM
PLEASE SEPERATE
CLOTHES BY AGE RANGE

PROCEEDS TO WETHERIDGE PTFA CHARITY NO: 1079365

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WETHERIDGE C OF E ACADEMY

PARENT TEACHERS FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

30.10.2023

Monday, 7.30 PM - 9 PM
at Wetheridge C of E Academy

Our Agenda

- Previous year reports
- Elect committee
- School's funding requests
- Fundraising plans

FOLLOWED BY TRIP TO THE PUB



**WETHERIDGE
Christmas
Market**

Enjoy school lantern parade and performances, market stalls, santas grotto, mince pies, mulled wine, BBQ.

Colouring competition winner to switch on the lights!

Parade leaving school at 4.15pm.
Stalls open from 4.30pm
Dec 1st .
in Wetheridge Square



**LIGHTHOUSE
HOLIDAY
CLUB**

**October Half-term
Wednesday 25th, 10am - 3pm
at Wetheridge Parish Hall**

Come and join us for...

- Fun, craft and Bible stories
- All Children Reception to Yr 6 welcome
- Packed lunch and water bottle required.
- Afternoon snack provided.
- The site has security all day & all leaders are DBS checked.
- Please register at tinyurl.com/thelighthouseclub

For further info please contact
lighthouse@gmail.com




MORCHARD BISHOP PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION
presents



**FAMILY CAR TREASURE
HUNT**

FRIDAY 27TH OCTOBER 2023
2PM START

LEAVE FROM THE SPORTS CLUB
MORCHARD BISHOP

ENTRY £5 PER CAR

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE ON
RETURN

**WITHERIDGE
ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY**

7.30pm in the Committee Room,
Wetheridge Parish Hall
Thursday 19th October 2023

Welcome
Sharing experiences

Next month's sky highlights

Learning topic: Finding and Zoning in on objects.
Bring your laptop (if you have one) with Stellarium
installed.

Bring your completed homework with you

Date of next Meeting: Thursday 16th November,
7.30pm in the Committee Room

Just £3.00 per session. Open to all ages. Do come along and
see what we are looking at.

Steven Smith, 07460 961838



Interschools CLIMBING COMPETITION



NO
EXPERIENCE
REQUIRED

Top Rope - Bouldering - Speed Climb

Day 1 SAT 25TH NOV

PRIMARY SCHOOLS COMPETITION

Years 3 - 4 **AND** Years 5 - 6

Registration between 09:00 - 09:30
Competition starts at 10:00
We estimate the day will end at 15:00

ENTRY WILL COST £10 PER PARTICIPANT

Day 2 SUN 26TH NOV

SENIOR SCHOOLS COMPETITION

Years 7 - 9 **AND** Years 10 - 13

Registration between 09:00 - 09:30
Competition starts at 10:00
We estimate the day will end at 15:00

ENTRY WILL COST £10 PER PARTICIPANT

BOOK TODAY

To enter your team in this competition
call 01769 309 003 or email info@rockandrapidadventures.co.uk

**rock
rapid**



Sandford Parish Hall

MONDAY

CardioFlex 6.30–7.15pm
Men On Mats 7.30–8.15pm
Pilates/Yoga mix

TUESDAY

Keep Moving! 10.30–11.15am

WEDNESDAY

PILATES 2.00–3.00pm
Mat-based Pilates



Contact Emma now: emmahealey2015@gmail.com



Unite Carers Support Groups – October 2023

Who's it for?	Group Name	Location	With	Date	Time
All Carers	Bampton Carers' Coffee Group	Spelt, Bampton	Denise	3 rd October	10.30 am - 11.30 am
All Carers	Crediton Carers' Coffee Group	@100 Café, High St, Crediton	Tracy	19 th October	11.00 am - 12.30pm
All Carers	Cullompton Carers' Coffee Group	The Hayridge, Cullompton	Jean	11 th October	10.30 am - 12 noon
All Carers	Tiverton Carers' Coffee Group	Unite Carers, 4 Bridge St, Tiverton	Denise & Fiona	24 th October	2 pm
All Carers and Former Carers	Uffculme Support Group	Locations change monthly – Please call the office	Jackie	23 rd October	12.30 pm
Cared-for-people	Tiverton Safe Stop Group	Cherith Church, Tiverton	Jenny	11 th & 25 th October	10.00 am - 12.30 pm
Cared-for-people	Witheridge Safe Stop Group	Witheridge Parish Hall, Witheridge	Jenny	17 th October	10.30 am - 12.30 pm
Carers of adults and teens with additional needs	Carers of Adults and Teens with Additional Needs	Unite Carers, 4 Bridge St, Tiverton	Jenny	18 th October	10.30 am - 12 noon
Carers of school-aged children with additional needs	Let's Unite Outdoors	Wilcombe School, Tiverton	Katie	21 st October	Please call the Office
Carers of school-aged children with additional needs	Let's Unite at Number 4	Unite Carers, 4 Bridge St, Tiverton	Jenny	4 th October	9.30 am - 11.30 am
Dementia Carers	Culm Valley Oasis	Padbrook Park Hotel, Cullompton	Audrey & Veronica	16 th October	2.30 pm - 4 pm
Dementia Carers	Exe Valley Oasis	Unite Carers, 4 Bridge St, Tiverton	Denise & Fiona	12 th October	10.30 am
Dementia Carers and Cared-for-people	A Different Journey Support Group	Unite Carers, 4 Bridge St, Tiverton	Fiona	3 rd October	10.30am – 12 noon
Dementia Carers and Cared-for-people	Tiverton Forget Me Not Cafe	Cherith Church, Tiverton	Denise & Fiona	17 th October	2 pm - 3.30 pm
Former Carers	Tiverton and Cullompton Ex-Carers Lunch Group	Locations change monthly – Please call the office	Veronica	3 rd October	12 noon

PLEASE CALL THE UNITE CARERS OFFICE TO REGISTER - 01884 257511



WE NEED YOU.

We are looking for keen and enthusiastic volunteers to join our Local Governing Bodies (LGB) as a school Governor and/or a Trustee.

Governor

The role of a School Governor is key in ensuring the school offers high standards of education for all children.

Each school within TEAM Multi -Academy Trust has its own Local Governing Body. The LGB meet once or twice a term and are encouraged to join in with our school visits and learning walks throughout the school year. This is a voluntary position and training is available for this role.

Trustee

Our Trustees oversee the strategic direction of the Trust schools along with holding the senior school leadership to account and monitoring the trust's finances– amongst many other aspects of school performance.

They can draw on their own expertise from all aspects of business and industry and have specific interests as part of their role such as – Curriculum, Personnel, Admissions, Finance, Safeguarding, Premises or SEND. They meet approximately 6 times a year as a whole group and are active within a range of committees and individual portfolios.

VOLUNTEERING IN THIS WAY BRINGS MANY REWARDS. YOU WILL ENJOY WORKING ALONGSIDE LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE AND GET REAL SATISFACTION AT USING YOUR SKILLS TO CREATE A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR CHILDREN.

If you are interested in volunteering or to find out more about being a local governor at your school or a TEAM trustee, then we would love to hear from you. Please email vacancies@team-mat.org.uk



**WITHERIDGE
C of E ACADEMY**

For more information, please visit our Governance section on our website: www.teamacademytrust.com