



# Witheridge Church of England Primary Academy

Fore Street, Witheridge, EX16 8AH Tel: 01884 860518

[admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk)



**‘Encourage One Another and Build Each Other Up’**

1 Thessalonians 5: 11

Thankfulness	Compassion	Perseverance	Forgiveness	Friendship	Courage
--------------	------------	--------------	-------------	------------	---------

## Newsletter – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope this first newsletter of 2024 finds you well and that you had a lovely Christmas break with your family and friends.

The children have returned to school full of joy and ready to start a new term of learning. It is so lovely to see all the children again and to hear about their Christmas holidays.

The children have been introduced to their new topics this week. In Class 4, the children will be finding out about where their food comes and land use as part of their 'Sow, grow and farm topic'. In Class 3, the children will be learning all about volcanoes in their 'Rocks, relics and rumbles' topic. In Class 1 and 2, the children will be finding out about Antarctica during their 'Great Scott!' topic. The children in EYFS will be enjoying exploring their surroundings as part of their 'Let's Investigate!' topic. Curriculum Newsletters will be coming home next week, alongside key vocabulary sheets to accompany each topic.

This week, the children in Classes 1 and 2 have been busy! On Thursday, they had their Polar Explorers Day to launch their new topic. On Friday, the children visited the Museum of the Moon in Barnstaple to follow up on their learning from last half term about Space, and their focus on Neil Armstrong - the first man on the moon!



We have so many exciting things coming up this term - so please do keep an eye on the 'dates' section of the newsletter and the whiteboard on the big playground gate for the latest information.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

All the best,

Miss Ratcliffe



**Life, Love and Learning to the Full**

Building Community ~ Building Futures ~  
Building Learning Power ~ Building Self Esteem



After school club for Nursery up to Year 2  
(Nursery Children must be accompanied by an adult)

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> of January 2024  
3.30 - 4.45 pm  
in Class 1's classroom

Parents and Carers are welcome to join us  
and take part.

We will be offering some craft and activities  
based around the Bible story.

Please sign up on arbor to book a place if  
you want to attend so that we have enough  
snacks and crafts available.

Thank you, Sue and Adrian Wells

# COFFEE MORNING

Hosted by St John the Baptist church

**Tuesday 16th January**

**9am to 9.30am**

**at**

**Witheridge School Hall**

**Come and join us for a chat  
over a cup of coffee  
& piece of cake!**

**Everyone  
Welcome!**



Was your child born between  
**1st September 2019** and  
**31st August 2020?**

## How to Apply for a Primary School Place in Devon

You can apply online at  
**[www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline](http://www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline)**  
from 15th November 2023 to the 15th January 2024

If you cannot access the school  
admissions website you can get  
more information by calling our  
Education Helpline on  
**0345 155 1019**  
or email: [admissions@devon.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@devon.gov.uk)



Even if you have already given  
details to a primary school, you  
must apply for a place through the  
Admissions Team. This is the only  
way to apply; other forms or lists  
held by schools will not count.

**Devon**  
County Council



Team Meal Menu – Spring Term 2024 Week 2: W/B 8 <sup>th</sup> January	
Monday	<b>Macaroni Cheese</b> V – Vegetarian Sausages & Pasta Seasonal Veg & Garlic Bread Fruit & Yogurt
Tuesday	<b>Beef Lasagne</b> V – Vegetarian Lasagne Crusty Bread, Peas & Carrots Peach melba and ice-cream
Wednesday	<b>Roast of the Day (Pork)</b> V – Broccoli & Cheese Bake Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Veg & Gravy Fruit Platter
Thursday	<b>Hunters chicken or Plain Chicken</b> V - Sweet Potato Curry Rice and Seasonal Veg Iced sponge
Friday	<b>Cod Fish Cakes</b> V – Cheese baguettes Golden Fries, Seasonal Veg & Baked Beans Chocolate Cracknel

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.

## Pupil Premium Funding – are you eligible?

We receive a sum of money for every child who is entitled to free school meals (or would be if the meals were not provided free of charge to all children in reception and key stage 1). This money is used by the school for the benefit of your child(ren), through funding areas such as additional training for our staff, reduction of class sizes, investing in partnership working with our colleagues in the area to further our expertise, and supporting our staff in working on specialised areas such as speech and language. If there are any changes in your circumstances, please notify the office and Kelly will take you through the procedures to apply for the premium.

Please see useful links below: -

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

[https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal\\_LIVE/en?ReturnUrl=%2FCCSCitizenPortal\\_live](https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/en?ReturnUrl=%2FCCSCitizenPortal_live)





### After School Club

Monday to Friday

3.30 to 5.30

Booking essential

01884 860518

[admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk)

£4.00 per hour (Pre-School hourly rate)

## Breakfast & After School Club

Bobbie's Brekkie served at 8am (£4.00)

Or

Drop off at 8.30am (£2.00)

After School Club

With daily activities

3.30-4.30 or 3.30-5.30

£4.00 per hour

All payable on the Arbor App

Discount for Pupil Premium

(Nursery aged children charged

At hourly rate.)

## Parent & Toddler Group at Witheridge CofE Academy

### Foundation Stage Unit every Wednesday 1.45pm-3.30pm

A range of indoor and outdoor activities will be available for your children, who will have the opportunity to play alongside 2 and 3 year olds who attend the setting.

A quiet area for babies will be available until 3pm.

Wednesday please arrive via the main school entrance and follow signs to the FSU (by 2pm).

Parents/carers are welcome to bring your own drink in a cup with a secure lid.

An undercover area is available for pushchairs.

### School Hall every Friday 9am - 10.30am

A small charge of £1 per family will include a drink and healthy snack for the children.

Please note that all parents/carers must be responsible for their child while on school premises.



Weekly Attendance	
Nursery 1	100%
Nursery 2	96%
Reception	100%
Year 1	100%
Year 2	99%
Year 3	97%
Year 4	93%
Year 5	98%
Year 6	86%

### Every Day Counts

Attend and achieve.

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



## Attendance Update

It's 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 **96.8%**

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 9.00am.

Thank you

## Key Dates for the Spring Term 2024

Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Class 4 Swimming Class 3 Group 1 – Forest School Teacher Led Club – Choir Club London Residential Parent information meeting 3.30
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January	Rocksteady Teacher Led Club – Dance, KS2 Football & Times Table Club NO FILM CLUB THIS WEEK (16/01, 23/01, 30/01)
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> January	Class 3 – PE Class 3 Group 1 – Forest School Farm School Infant A Group 3 Music Tuition with Mr Rogo Stay and Play Session in FSU at 13.45
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	Reception Class – PE (AM) <b>Class 1 – PE (PM) SWAPPED DAYS FOR ONE WEEK</b> Infant B Group 3 – Forest School Music Tuition with Mr Rogo Teacher Led Club – Coding Club PTFA Meeting @ 7pm
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	Stay and Play Session in School Hall at 9am <b>Class 2 – PE (PM) ) SWAPPED DAYS FOR ONE WEEK</b> Infant A Group 3 - Forest School

### Dates for your diary

Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	Coffee Morning
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> January	Exmoor Challenge Practice Walk – Tarka Trail
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	Farm School Infant B Group 3
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	Messy Church 3.30-4.45
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 5 London Residential
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	<b><u>ALL ASC / Teacher Led Club CANCELLED due to Staff Training</u></b>
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	NSPCC Number Day
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Dog Trust Visiting School
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	NO FILM CLUB Teacher Led Club - Finished
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Farm School Infant B Group 1
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Exmoor Challenge Practice Walk - Local
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Reception & Year 6 National Children Measurement Programme
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	February Half Term

**These dates are intended as a guide and you will be notified of any changes.**

## Residential Trips

### Year 5 Residential to London

Our Year 5's are starting to look forward to their trip to London at the end of this month.  
Please do not forget that the final payment is due on the 26th January 2024.

### Year 6 Adventure International Bude

Please do not forget to sign your child up to their final residential trip of  
Primary School by the 6th February.



SCHOOL TERM DATES 2023 / 2024		
Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
First Day— 6th September 2023	First Day 3rd January 2024	First Day 15th April 2024
Half term— <del>23rd – 27th October 2023</del>	Half-term 12th - 16th February 2024	Bank Holiday 6th May 2024 Half-term 27th - 31st May 2024
Last Day— 15th December 2023	Last Day 28th March 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

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2024 / 2025		
Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
First Day 5th September 2024	First Day 7th January 2025	First Day 22nd April 2025
Half-term 28th October - 1st November 2024	Half-term 17th - 21st February 2025	Bank Holiday 5th May 2025 Half Term 26th - 30th May 2025
Last Day 20th December 2024	Last Day 4th April 2025	Last Day 22nd July 2025

Non-pupil days and occasional holiday days: 3rd & 4th September 2024, 6th January 2025, 2nd June 2025 & 23rd July 2025

## PE & Forest School Days Spring Term 1



### Monday

Class 4 - **SWIMMING for PE consent required on Arbor**

Class 3 Group 3 Forest School (Blythe, Arthur C, Jack E, Jacob, Jessica, Freddie, Nyiamh, Khalid & Mia)

### Wednesday

Class 3 PE

Class 3 Group 1 Forest School (Scarlett, Alfie, Josh, Arthur W, Lola, Lily Sue, Arthur B, Mason, Max & Declan)

**Thursday Morning** - Reception PE (Children can come to school wearing their PE kits and bring their school clothes in their bags)

**Thursday Afternoon** - Class 2 PE

Infant B Group 3 Forest School (Class 1 – Keeley, Lily Eat, Iris, Olivia, Aurora, Ethan, Freddie & Libby)

### Friday

Class 1 PE





Infant A Group 3 Forest School (Class 1 – Zoey, Lily Ed, Archie, Mitchell, Ronnie, Monica & Lacey)

**NEXT WEEK For one-week ONLY PE day swap for Class 1 & Class 2**

# No After School Club with Jayne and Laura on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> Janaury – Whole School Staff Training.

## Instrument Lessons

- At Witheridge Academy we have two peripatetic music teachers who offer private instrument lessons; either one to one or in small groups
- The teachers come into school during term time and lessons are during the school day
- Please contact the teacher directly for the cost of lessons and availability
- If your child is interested in learning but doesn't have an instrument, the teacher may have an instrument that they can borrow or hire – please ask
- If your child receives pupil premium funding, you are entitled to a 50% reduction in the cost of lessons. Please let the instrument teacher know this when you are arranging lessons so that you are charged the correct amount

<b>Keyboard/Piano</b>		<b>Alex Rogozinski</b> 07565 951786 <a href="mailto:alexrogo@hotmail.co.uk">alexrogo@hotmail.co.uk</a>
<b>Guitar</b> (Classical and/or Acoustic)		<b>Alex Rogozinski</b> 07565 951786 <a href="mailto:alexrogo@hotmail.co.uk">alexrogo@hotmail.co.uk</a>
<b>Ukulele</b>		<b>Alex Rogozinski</b> 07565 951786 <a href="mailto:alexrogo@hotmail.co.uk">alexrogo@hotmail.co.uk</a>
<b>Rock Band</b> <i>Keyboard, electric guitar, drums, voice. Taught in groups.</i> ALL INSTRUMENTS ARE PROVIDED BY STUART		<b>Stuart Snelling- Rocksteady</b> <a href="https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/primary/">https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/primary/</a> 0330 113 0330



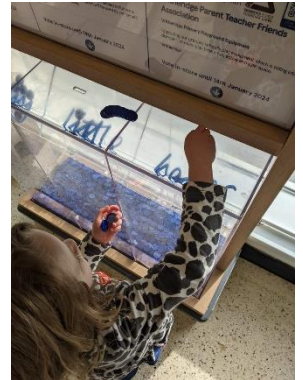


# PTFA

Parents  
Teachers  
Friends  
Association



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



'Life is nothing without a party on the horizon...

Disco planning is underway for Fri 9th Feb, Valentines Disco 5-7pm  
Witheridge Parish Hall to end this half term on a high ♥



## SUNDAY CLUB



next club  
21st January

**SUNDAY CLUB** is held in  
St John the Baptist Church, Witheridge  
from 10:30 until 12:00

For children of preschool & primary age.  
Looking at the Bible in a fun and safe environment  
with **CRAFT, STORIES, GAMES** and more.

For more details email [sundayclub11@gmail.com](mailto:sundayclub11@gmail.com)

All our staff members are certificated with the  
Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

**PART OF THE LITTLE DART MISSION COMMUNITY**