



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 17th November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. It feels like the weather has really turned this week, and we can feel a cold snap in the air. All children can bring in named hat, scarf and gloves to wear at break and lunch time.

This week, it has been anti-bullying week. We started the week by wearing odd socks to demonstrate that everyone is different and unique. In our classes, we completed activities linked to the theme for this year of 'Make a noise about bullying'. The children discussed the difference between bullying - which is ongoing, repeated incidents of unkind behaviour - and a falling out with a friend. We also linked this back to our new 'School Code' for this year.

On Tuesday, we learnt more about how to spot the symptoms of diabetes, as part of World Diabetes Day, which is a day to celebrate progress in diabetes care and an opportunity to raise awareness.

- * Type 1 diabetes is a lifelong condition for which there is currently no cure.
- * The exact causes of Type 1 diabetes are still unknown.
- * It is often diagnosed in childhood, however you can develop Type 1 diabetes at any age.
- * There is no food you cannot eat.

Management of Type 1 diabetes is complex and involves the use of insulin to help manage blood glucose levels. Living with Type 1 diabetes can feel relentless but with advancements in research, the way Type 1 diabetes is managed is ever improving.

Many people are not aware of the symptoms of Type 1 diabetes. Diabetes UK is a fantastic charity and their website has a wealth of information. There will also be some posters displayed on the school main entrance door over the next couple of weeks to help raise awareness. There are leaflets with further information available if needed which you can collect from the school office.



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

On Thursday, we had our termly review, which is an OFSTED style deep dive into the curriculum provision we offer here at Witheridge. I am pleased to inform you that the review went really well, and we were able to show off our fantastic writing, EYFS and PE provisions. Of course, there are always things we need to work on, but it is great to hear that we have made such wonderful progress since our grading of 'Good' in September 2021.



Today, we are celebrating Children in Need in our classes by wearing something spotty! The children look fantastic, and it is great that we have been able to raise a whopping **£41.00** for the charity. Thank you for all your generous donations.



The children who participated in the Go Beyond residential have just arrived back in school - it is great to hear that they had such a wonderful time! Thank you to Josette and Hayley for accompanying them on their visit.

Next week, it is Assessment week for all children in Y2-Y6. The purpose of this is for Class Teacher's to make an informed decision about exactly where the children are in their learning and what they need to focus on next. Please make sure all children are in school every day, after a good, filling, breakfast.

We are looking forward to the first of our Christmas events on Friday - our Christingle Service!

I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

All the best,

Miss Ratcliffe



Weekly Attendance	
Nursery 1	86%
Nursery 2	79%
Reception	94%
Year 1	93%
Year 2	100%
Year 3	88%
Year 4	93%
Year 5	97%
Year 6	98%

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 **93%**

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

Team Meal Menu – Autumn Term 2023 Week 2: W/B 20th November	
Monday	Cheese & Tomato Pasta Bake V – Broccoli & Cheese Bake Vegetables or Salad & Garlic Bread Fresh Fruit Salad & Yogurt
Tuesday	Cottage Pie V – Quorn Sausage & Mash Mixed Veg Peaches & Ice-Cream
Wednesday	Roast of The Day V – Vegetarian Roast Roast Potatoes & Seasonal Veg Fruit Cocktail Platter
Thursday	West Country Sausages V – Vegetarian Sausage Mashed Potato, Vegetables & Beans Artic Roll & Strawberry Sauce
Friday	Fish Fingers V – Toasted Baguette Golden Fries, Baked Beans & Seasonal Veg 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.



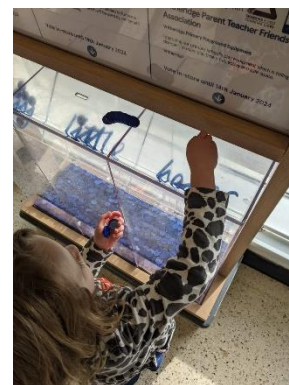
With this in mind, could we politely ask that NO products containing nuts be sent into school.

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

Thank you for your consideration and for safeguarding our students.



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 for sharing your pictures with the PTFA 😊



Celebration Assembly
Well Done
For receiving a
Certificate of Achievement



Class Award

Nursery – Elaina for fantastic listening and joining in with group discussion.
Reception – Lorcan for excellent definitions of vocabulary when speaking like an expert.
Class 1 – Olivia for a great effort in maths this week and learning about subtraction.
Class 2 – Hazel for having a wonderful learning attitude, especially during Maths and making a great contribution to class discussion.
Class 3 – Freddie for always setting a wonderful example in class and around the school.
Class 4 – Harry for an independent and confident attitude to your learning.

Writer of the Week:

Reception – Isabel for blending Fred sounds to say words.
Class 1 – Archie for fantastic ideas in writing this week and writing questions using 'who'.
Class 2 – Rosie consistent effort to keep your handwriting neat.
Class 3 – Blythe for using a wonderful opening sentence to grab the reader's attention.
Class 4 – Jack for holding a complex sentence in your head and accurately recording it.

Contribution

Molly for keeping the library tidy.
Friday morning Nursery children for sitting beautifully for two minutes silence.
After School Club Children – For a wonderful piece of artwork that was selected for publication in an After school Book – Perfect Pets 2023

Reaching 10 on the Nursery Caterpillar

Elaina, Rosalie & Felicity

20 Merits

Class 2 - Samuel

House Points

Discovery 44

Endeavour 54

Enterprise 40

Voyager 46

Key Dates for the Autumn Term 2023 – Assessment Week

Monday 20 th November	Class 4 – PE Class 4 Group 2 – Forest School Teacher Led Club – Football & Jambie Jams Club
Tuesday 21 st November	Rocksteady Teacher Led Club - Times Table Club (No Film Club – Club finished)
Wednesday 22 nd November	Class 3 – PE Class 3 Group 2 – Forest School Farm School – Class 4 Group (Rescheduled Visit) Music Tuition with Mr Rogo Stay and Play Session in FSU at 13.45 Messy Church – Sign up on Arbor
Thursday 23 rd November	Reception Class – PE (AM) Class 2 – PE (PM) Infant B Group 2 – Forest School Music Tuition with Mr Rogo Teacher Led Club – Class 4 Christmas Craft & Story Club KS2 Football Matches against South Molton at Witheridge School 3.30pm.
Friday 24 th November	Stay and Play Session in School Hall at 9am Class 1 – PE (PM) Infant A Group 2 - Forest School

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 28 th November	No Film Club
Tuesday 28 th November	Opal Working Party group meeting
Wednesday 29 th November	Farm School – Class 4 Group 2
Wednesday 29 th November	Reception Class Vision Screening
Thursday 30 th November	Dark Skies Event @ High Bickington
Friday 1 st December	PTFA Christmas Fayre/Lantern Parade
Monday 4 th December	FSU Nativity Performance 1 @ 10am
Monday 4 th December	FSU Nativity Performance 2 @ 2pm
Wednesday 6 th December	Elf Day – Raising money for Alzheimer's Society
Thursday 7 th December	Christmas Jumper Day – Raising money for Save the Children
Friday 8 th December	Nativity Performance 1 @ 10am
Monday 11 th December	Nativity Performance 2 @ 2pm
Monday 11 th December	Nativity Performance 3 @ 6pm
Tuesday 12 th December	Nativity Performance 4 @ 4pm
Wednesday 13 th December	Christmas Dinner Day
Friday 15 th December	Christmas Church Service @ 10am
Friday 15 th December	Nursery and Toddler Group Christmas Party at 9am

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

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2023 / 2024		
Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
First Day 6th 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

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

Mr Wiggans Forest School News....

This week we have been investigating Arachnids and in particular Spiders.

The pupils have had a chance to take a close look through our "viewers" to examine a range of house and garden spiders.

With over 30,000 species in the world there are plenty of types.

Despite the fear of some of the pupils, they were all quite brave and happy to get up close to them.

We discussed the life cycle of a spider and how the female spider cleverly creates an egg sac to protect its eggs. Spiders can lay between 2 to 250 eggs.





At Witheridge Academy, we have been enjoying the OPAL project at lunchtimes, the children love exploring different types of play and expressing themselves creatively through their play.

As the weather begins to turn and we experience more wet days, we would like all children to bring in a pair of named wellies that they can keep at school so that they can still engage with messy/muddy play at lunchtimes.

Please send your child in with their named wellies

If anyone has any OLD wellies that they would be happy to donate for general use or as spares, please send them in as well.



IT'S A WANT!

We are looking for donations
of clean bamboo cains, for Class 4
lantern making

And

2x White flat sheets in either Double or Kingsize

– To make the Nativity scenery backdrops.

Many thanks in advance ☺

BLACK FRIDAY SALE

**From November 16th until
November 26th**

**10%
OFF**



My Clothing's Black Friday Sale

We want to offer your parents exclusive access to our Black Friday sale before it opens to the public. Your parents can enjoy a 10% discount on My Clothing's school uniforms from November 16th to November 26th.

Don't miss out, remind them via your weekly newsletters or WhatsApp messages. Make sure they use our discount code: **BLACKFRIDAY**

Thank you for your continued support

Visit: www.myclothing.com Or Call: 0800 059 0594



Parents
Teachers
Friends
Association

Thank you to all that came to the Kids Jumble Sale on Monday. There was a great atmosphere and lots of bargain treasures! Plus, we gave some items to the OPAL project, the Toddler group and for class room resources. Left over clothes went to bags2school to be distributed to people in need all over the world and the left over toys went to a selection of charity shops so the benefits are far reaching. Plus we raised £229.50! Thank you to everyone that helped - parents and school staff.

Plans are underway for Christmas fun and fundraising. We will have popcorn, a Christmas game and raffle at the Christmas market in the square (1st Dec). You can buy tickets for the Christmas raffle online and also on the day <https://witheridgeptfa.sumupstore.com/> Buy tickets for the prize you want including some AMAZING prizes like... 2x tickets to Sandy Park EXETER CHIEFS v. Glasgow on 13/01/2024!

The PTFA are having a Christmas meal at the Mitre on 14th Dec 7.45pm. Let us know if you want to join. The more the merrier and no requirement to have done loads for the PTFA! We need to confirm numbers, meal choice and a £5 deposit with the pub by 1st Dec so get in touch with someone from the PTFA, on the Facebook group or via a class WhatsApp if you want to come along.

If you did not order your child's Christmas cards in time before, the class fundraising shop will reopen on 17/11/23 until 24/11/23. Unfortunately, the school do not get commission for the late order sales but still a nice treat and saves making Christmas cards.

DEADLINE
26
NOV 12PM

WOULD YOU LIKE TO TURN ON
THE VILLAGE CHRISTMAS
LIGHTS???

COLOUR/PAINT A CHRISTMAS
SCENE, NAME/AGE/TEL ON THE
BACK & DELIVER TWO MOORS
PAPER SHOP TO ENTER

CREATIONS WILL BE DISPLAYED
IN THE CHURCH ON 1ST DEC

WINNER CHOSEN BY ART
TUTORS DAVID DICKINSON AND
EILEEN CURTIS

The poster features a red background with a white banner at the top left containing the deadline. Below the banner is an illustration of a red barn with a white roof and string lights. Inside the barn, a person is painting a Christmas scene. Outside the barn, several people are standing, some holding bags. To the right of the barn is a large green Christmas tree decorated with lights and ornaments. The text is arranged in a vertical column on the right side of the poster.



**LANTERN PARADE
SCHOOL PERFORMANCE
GROTTO, LIGHT
SWITCH ON, MULLED
WINE & MINCE PIES,
BBQ, CRAFT MARKET**

FRI 1ST DEC, PARADE 4.15 FROM
SCHOOL, STALLS OPEN 4.30 IN
THE SQUARE, WITHERIDGE
COMP TO SWITCH ON THE
LIGHTS - A CHRISTMAS
PICTURE/PAINTING FROM
A CHILD, HANDED IN AT
THE PAPERSHOP BY SUN
26TH NOV 12PM, JUDGED
BY ART TEACHER ELAINE
CURTIS

Event managed & sponsored
by Knights Of Witheridge

REDUNDANT CHRISTMAS JUMPERS NEEDED

In preparation for Christmas Lantern Parade & performance in the square.
If you have any you can donate to the PTFA jumble, please let us know so we
can pass these on to our School children.





Christians in Witheridge
Working together to serve the community

Café Church

**Come and join us on
Sunday 19th November
@ 4 p.m.**

**Witheridge Parish Hall
Led by Denise Henson**

**Come and enjoy cake,
Tea/coffee/hot chocolate
and craft**



Coffee Morning

**Saturday 18th November
10 am -12 pm**

Church of St John the Baptist,
Witheridge



Raffle, Bonus ball
cake and produce stall,
Christmas cards and books.

Ham and cheese croissants, coffee, tea and
biscuits available



Witheridge Concert Season

Wednesday
November 22nd 7.30pm
Doors open 6.45pm

Parish Church of St. John the Baptist

Andrew Millington
Organ
and
Matthew Jeffrey
Tenor

Presenting a varied programme of
organ and vocal music
to include well-known arias
from oratorio and opera
and music by Bach, Handel,
Mendelssohn and Elgar

Tickets £10
Wine, soft drinks and nibbles available

Tickets: On the door
or Andrew 01884 860612
Email astonguy@tring92.f2s.com

Struggling to top up your prepayment meter?

You might be able to claim fuel vouchers

If you have prepayment meters and can't afford to top them up, we can help. We may be able to give you fuel vouchers, and our specialist energy team can help you find ways to save money on your household bills

Call 01237 879233, email fuelvouchers@ruraldevoncab.org.uk
or scan the QR code to request a call back



citizens
advice

Torridge, North,
Mid & West Devon



Registered charity number: 1068496