



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 19th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a busy week of learning at Witheridge Academy this week. We have enjoyed some lovely cold, but sunny days here at school. Please make sure your child has a named hat, scarf and gloves every day so that they can go outside at break and lunchtimes - and not feel too cold.

On Tuesday, we had a visit from our Chair of Governors - Sue Wells - to have a look at the SEND and RE offer we have here at Witheridge Academy. I was delighted by the feedback from Sue and it was really positive. Obviously, there are always things we can work on and improve, but it was great to hear such a great report.

On Sunday, our Y6 Exmoor Challengers have their first practise walk - a 10-mile walk on the Tarka Trail! Please keep your fingers crossed for good weather on Sunday!

I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards,

Miss Ratcliffe

New Guinea Pig

We have been very excited to welcome Rosie, our new guinea pig, into the school community this week. Rosie has been enjoying getting to know Nibbles and having lots of cuddles and treats this week in Class 4. Over the next few weeks, all the children will have the chance to meet our newest addition during Golden Time and class visits.



Changes to Nursery Fees

From 1st April 2024, TEAM will be increasing the charges for nursery places:

3/4 year old sessions - **£5.22**

(6.5% increase on our current price of £4.90)

2-year-old session - **£6.30**

(Less that DCC will fund at £7.10 but is a 6.5% increase on our current charge of £5.90)



Life, Love and Learning to the Full



Building Community
Building Futures
Building Learning Power
Building Self Esteem



Please do not bring your mobile phone to school

Reception - Sharing our Learning session

We would like to invite Parents and Guardians to share the Reception children's learning on Friday 9th February from 8.45 – 9.15. The children would love to show you some of the wonderful work they have produced this half term. If you would like to attend but are unable to come at this time, please let me know.



Mr Wiggins Forest School News....

This week class 1 pupils have been looking closely at leaves.

They have examined a range of leaves, discussing colour and shape. Learning about the importance to plants/trees of leaves for breathing and turning sunlight into energy.

They have created their own unique tree pictures with leaves.





Weekly Attendance	
Nursery 1	98%
Nursery 2	99%
Reception	98%
Year 1	98%
Year 2	100%
Year 3	92%
Year 4	98%
Year 5	96%
Year 6	92%

Every Day Counts

Attend and achieve.

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



Attendance Update

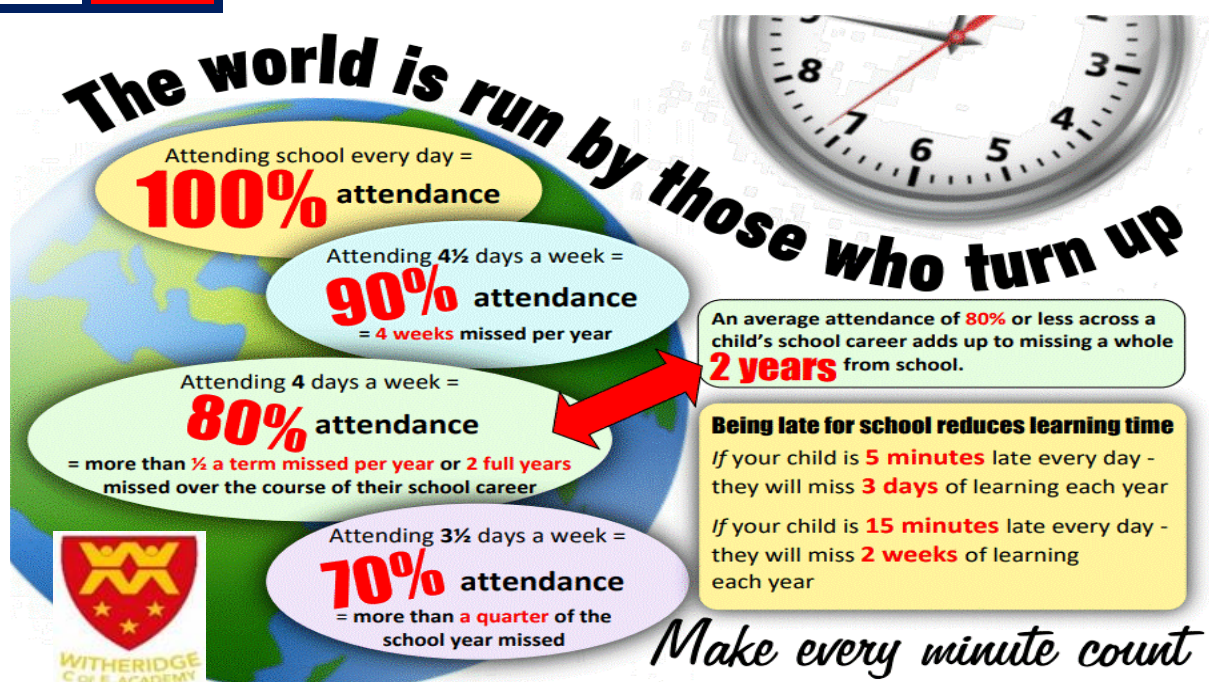
It's great to see everyone working so hard to achieve or beating our **96.5%** target.

We can only do this if we all work together!

Our attendance for the week is **96.3%**

Our attendance for the year to date **96.0%**

Together Each achieves More!





Celebration Assembly
Well Done
For receiving a
Certificate of Achievement



Class Award

Nursery – Imogen for working well with her peers, doing problem solving during Maths.

Reception – Chester for a great week of reading and singing.

Class 1 – Zoey for consistent perseverance in all areas.

Class 2 – Betsy for showing perseverance in her reading.

Class 3 – Olly for contributing wonderfully in all class discussion.

Class 4 – Liberty for showing kindness to others around the school.

Writer of the Week:

Reception – Georgia – Independent writing of her explorers backpack kit list.

Class 1 – Olivia for trying really hard with her writing with Ms Barrett

Class 2 – Hunter for his fab phonics work this week.

Class 3 – Arthur B for working really hard to improve letter formation.

Class 4 – Evie – Wonderful imagination and creative language in your story writing.

Book Review of the week

Mason Bragg

Reaching 10 on the Nursery Caterpillar

Florence ☺

20 Merits

Reception – Barney,

Class 1 – Keeley

Class 2 – Betsy,

Class 3 – Scarlett, Blythe, Betsy, Josh, Olly & Lily Sue

House Points

Discovery 65

Endeavour 91

Enterprise 51

Voyager 72

Find us on:

Website: <https://www.teamacademytrust.com/witheridge>

Facebook: @Witheridge CofE Academy

Email: admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk

Witheridge Blog: <https://witheridge.edublogs.org/>

Team Meal Menu – Spring Term 2024 Week 1: W/B 22 nd January	
Monday	Cheese Rolls V – Veggie Wraps Potato Wedges, Seasonal Veg or Baked Beans Fruit & Yogurt
Tuesday	Spaghetti Bolognaise V – Quorn Bolognaise Vegetables Lemon Drizzle Cake
Wednesday	Roast of the Day V – Vegetable Bites Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Veg & Gravy Fruit Platter
Thursday	Bobbie's Fry Up – Sausage & Bacon V – Veggie Sausage Hash Browns, Scrambled Egg, Mushrooms & Baked Beans Apple Crumble & Custard
Friday	Oven Baked Fish V – Tomato Pasta Bake Golden Fries, Seasonal Vegetables or Baked Beans Flapjack

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.



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

Wednesday 24th 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

Key Dates for the Spring Term 2024

Sunday 21st January

Exmoor Challenge Practice Walk – Tarka Trail

Monday 22 nd January	Class 4 Swimming Class 3 Group 3 – Forest School Teacher Led Club – Choir Club
Tuesday 23 rd January	Rocksteady Teacher Led Club – Dance, KS2 Football, Times Table & Film Club
Wednesday 24 th January	Class 3 – PE Class 3 Group 1 – Forest School Farm School Infant B Group 3 Music Tuition with Mr Rogo Stay and Play Session in FSU at 13.45 Messy Church 3.30-4.45
Thursday 25 th January	Reception Class – PE (AM) Class 2 – PE (PM) Infant B Group 3 – Forest School Music Tuition with Mr Rogo Teacher Led Club – Coding Club
Friday 26 th January	Stay and Play Session in School Hall at 9am Class 1 – PE (PM) Infant A Group 3 - Forest School

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 30th January

Year 5 London Residential

Tuesday 30th January

Film Club

Wednesday 31st January

ALL ASC / Teacher Led Club CANCELLED due to Staff Training

Friday 2nd February

NSPCC Number Day

Monday 5th February

Dog Trust Visiting School

Tuesday 6th February

NO FILM CLUB Teacher Led Club – Finished

Tuesday 6th February

Opal Working Party Group Meeting at 3.30pm

Wednesday 7th February

Farm School Infant B Group 1

Thursday 8th February

Exmoor Challenge Practice Walk – Local

Thursday 8th February

School Council Meeting at 1pm

Friday 9th February

Share our learning session for Reception Class from 8.45am

Friday 9th February

Reception & Year 6 National Children Measurement Programme

Monday 12th 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 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~~

**No After School Club with Jayne and Laura
on Wednesday 31st January – Whole School Staff Training.**

Parent & Toddler Group at Witheridge CofE Academy

Foundation Stage Unit every Wednesday 1.45pm-3.30pm

School Hall every Friday 9am - 10.30am

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.

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.

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.





Parents
Teachers
Friends
Association

Party planning is underway for our disco 🕺
buy your ticket and food before 4th February for a reduced cost. Pre sales help us with organising and keeping costs down.

<https://witheridgeptfa.sumupstore.com> tickets/food also available to buy on the door.

Send those song requests in - the playlist is underway! We're aware there was a printing error for some on the disco flyer coming home in book bags which we're sorting out.

We would be grateful for helpers on the night to help it all run smoothly. We're asking for a few extra helpers so we can all tag team so you're not expected to do the whole duration of the disco. Please sign up to help here: <https://volunteersignup.org/JYD89>

At the last disco, we had a bit of trouble with children pulling on the curtains and going on the stage. This is a polite reminder that children need an adult supervising them, as we do not want to have a bill for damages. **Any child who is unaccompanied will be asked to go home.**

We have managed to secure a grant to support the school completing the eco award. The children in the school work really hard towards the Eco Schools Action Plan and goals, so this will support their work and be a fantastic recognition. Good for the school, community and environment.

Recognising the increasing impact of the cost of living crisis for a large amount of the community, the committee has agreed to form a Hardship Fund where 5% of what the PTFA raise will go to school to use at their discretion to ensure children's basic needs are met in school so they are ready for learning. We also have second hand uniform available. Let the school or PTFA if you need something and can't wait for the next uniform sale later in the term.

Thank you from the PTFA 😊





🎬 Did you know?
Witheridge Parish Hall Film Night
takes place every month!

🍷 Come and watch some great films with your
community for only £5 with bar and
refreshments available.

📅 Next showings:

- Saturday February 24, The Great Escaper with
Michael Caine and Glenda Jackson
- Saturday March 16 Haunting in Venice with
Kenneth Branner
- Saturday April 20, The Miracle Club with
Maggie Smith

All will start at 7.30pm at Witheridge Parish
Hall. Doors will open at 7pm.

Tickets will be £5 at the newsagents nearer the
time or you can pay on the door.

Bar & refreshments will be available.

Make a note in your diaries! 😊🍷





**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
All our staff members are certificated with the
Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).
PART OF THE LITTLE DART MISSION COMMUNITY

Witheridge Parish Church
Folk Concert
Sunday 28th January 3pm
Coffee and cake from 2.30

COBBLED TOGETHER



Five folk musicians perform a wide variety of songs.
Of the sea. Of the land. Of everyday life.

Guitar, ukulele, mouth organ, whistle,
hurdy gurdy and concertina etc..

This is to be a light-hearted concert,
a chance to blow away some of the winter's cobwebs
in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Just turn up

Donation's for Folk Groups charity
We will shake a jar at the end.

Nursery Funding

Devon Early Years and Childcare Service are running some online sessions for parents in February to give an overview on what funding is available for Early Years children, the eligibility criteria, how they need to apply for different funding streams and how a child can access funded time.

There is no need to book, just join by clicking on the Teams link below.

Dates for online sessions:

- Monday 5th February, 10.30-11.30 – [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Wednesday 7th February, 19.30-20.30 – [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Wednesday 14th February, 16.00-17.00 – [Click here to join the meeting](#)

   @creditonrfc

https://creditonrfc.rfu.club/

COME ALONG AND
TRY
RUGBY
AT CREDITON RFC
THE TEAM NEEDS YOU - YOU NEED THE TEAM

YEAR 6 TO YEAR 13
GIRLS


GET INVOLVED AT **FINDRUGBY.COM**



JOIN US FOR AN INTRODUCTORY SESSION ON
THURSDAY 25TH JANUARY FROM **6PM - 7PM**
FOLLOWED BY FREE PIZZA!

Allianz 
INNER WARRIOR