



Witheridge Church of England Primary Academy

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

admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk



‘Encourage One Another and Build Each Other Up’

1 Thessalonians 5: 11

Thankfulness	Compassion	Perseverance	Forgiveness	Friendship	Courage
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Newsletter – Friday 26th September 2025

Witheridge C of E Primary School – Harvest Festival Newsletter 🌾

Date of Event: Wednesday 16th October at 10:00am

Location: St. John the Baptist Church, Witheridge



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to invite you to join us for our **Harvest Festival** celebration on ****Wednesday 16th October at St. John the Baptist Church.**

This special event is a highlight of our school year, where all the children from **Reception through to Year 6** will come together to share songs, poems, prayers and reflections about the importance of Harvest and what it means to be thankful.

Our school value for this half term is **Thankfulness**, and the Harvest Festival provides a meaningful opportunity for our pupils to reflect on all that they have – from the food on their tables to the people who care for them. We are encouraging the children to consider how we can show our gratitude by giving back to others in our community who may be in need.

As part of our celebration, we are collecting **donations of non-perishable food items**, such as **tins, packets of dried food, and jars**, which will be placed in our **Harvest Donation Box**. All donations will be shared with local foodbanks and charities to support families during the autumn months.

We would love for as many **parents and carers** as possible to join us for this occasion. Your presence makes these moments even more special for the children, and it’s a wonderful way to come together as a school and village community.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

With warm wishes,

Miss Ratcliffe
Head of School



Harvest Wish List 2025

No one should have to struggle to put food on the table, yet every day we see people who are. In just one month, we provided 161 emergency food parcels to households facing urgent need, and our affordable food pantry now supports over 65 households every week. We couldn't do this without your help and you can be sure every donation is making a big difference.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long-life Milk Tea/Coffee Tinned Pies Tinned Chili/Curry Tinned Vegetables Tinned Sausage & Beans Tinned Meat/Fish Tinned Hotdogs Pasta Sauce Pasta/Rice Squash 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pot Noodles Custard/Rice Pudding Tinned Fruit Biscuits Cereal 	<p>“Before using the pantry I had £20 a week for food and the cupboards would have nothing in them by Friday. Now when I open the cupboard I have a choice of what to eat.”</p>
<p>Non-Food Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toilet Rolls Washing Up Liquid Toiletries Feminine Hygiene 		

Please drop donations at: Coggan’s Well House, Tiverton EX16 6LU, 9:30am-4.30pm Monday- Friday. (Please note: We are only able to give out in date and unopened items.) You can also donate items via our Amazon Harvest Wishlist www.amazon.to/3VeHdaZ or an online supermarket shop for delivery straight to us.

Since 1995, CHAT has been supporting those facing housing challenges and helping people rebuild their lives. Together we can make sure no one is hungry or without a home. If you are able, please consider making a financial donation via www.chatmid.org/donating

Would your school, group or workplace like a talk about our work? Contact Holly at holly.reid@chatmid.co.uk

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

0800 059 0104 www.chatmid.org the.office@chatmid.co.uk

Bringing Hope throughout Mid Devon
Registered in England No. 03096996 Registered Charity No. 1049478

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



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow
Every Day Counts!

Weekly Attendance	
Nursery 1	100%
Nursery 2	91%
Reception	99%
Year 1	91%
Year 2	97%
Year 3	93%
Year 4	95%
Year 5	99%
Year 6	98%

Reminders:

- If your child is poorly, please report their absence to the school office on 01884 860205 by 9.20am.
- All medical appointments are to be advised in advance to the school office.
- Any other absences must be applied for via an absence request form.



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 **95.8%**

Our attendance for the year to date is **96.4%**

Together Each achieves More!



The world is run by those who turn up

Attending school every day = **100%** attendance

Attending 4½ days a week = **90%** attendance
= 4 weeks missed per year

Attending 4 days a week = **80%** attendance
= more than ½ a term missed per year or 2 full years missed over the course of their school career

Attending 3½ days a week = **70%** attendance
= more than a quarter of the school year missed



An average attendance of **80%** or less across a child's school career adds up to missing a whole **2 years** from school.

Being late for school reduces learning time
If your child is **5 minutes** late every day - they will miss **3 days** of learning each year
If your child is **15 minutes** late every day - they will miss **2 weeks** of learning each year

Make every minute count



Key Dates for the Autumn Term 2025

Monday 29 th September	Reception PE – am Class 3 PE – pm / Class 3 Forest School Group 1
Tuesday 30 th September	Rocksteady
Wednesday 1 st October	Class 1 PE / Class 1 Forest School Group 1 Mr Rogo – Music Tuition
Thursday 2 nd October	Flu Vaccinations Class 2 PE / Class 2 Forest School Group 1 Blundells Literacy Festival Year 4 – Details to follow Mr Rogo – Music Tuition Steve Godfrey Drumming
Friday 3 rd October	Class 4 PE Reception Forest School Group 1

Autumn Term - Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 7 th October	C4 Farmwise - Exeter
Wednesday 8 th October	Parents Evening
Wednesday 8 th October	Mr Rogo in School all day
Thursday 9 th October	No Mr Rogo today
Thursday 9 th October	Parents Evening
Thursday 16 th October	Harvest Festival
Thursday 23 rd October	Individual School Photo
Thursday 23 rd October	Open wide step inside for Year 2
Monday 27 th – Friday 31 st October	OCTOBER HALF TERM
Monday 3 rd November	Bike Ability for Year 5
Tuesday 11 th November	KS1 Northcott Theatre – Children’s book show.

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

Term Dates 2025/2026

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First day of term – Thursday 4th September 2025 • Half Term - Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October 2025 • Last day of term - Friday 19th December 2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First day of term - Tuesday 6th January 2026 • Half Term - Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February 2026 • Last day of term – Thursday 2nd April 2026 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First day of term – Monday 20th April 2026 • Bank Holiday - May Day - Monday 4th May 2026 • Half Term - Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May 2026 • Non Pupil Day - Monday 1st June 2026 • Last day of term – Tuesday 21st July 2026

Team Meal Menu – Autumn Term 2025 Week 2 - W/B 29 th September	
Monday	Macaroni Cheese V – Tomato Pasta Bake Garlic Bread, Peas & Sweetcorn Jam Doughnut or Fruit slices
Tuesday	Team's All Day Breakfast V – Team's All Day Vegetarian Breakfast Potato Waffles, Beans, Peas, Tomatoes & Mushrooms Fruit & Yoghurt
Wednesday	Roast of the Day (Chicken) V - Homity Pie Roast Potatoes & Seasonal Veg Angel Delight & Fruit
Thursday	Chicken Katsu Curry (Or Plain Chicken) V - Quorn Katsu Naan Bread, Rice, salad sticks or Peas Chocolate Sponge & Chocolate
Friday	Oven Baked Fish V – Quorn Nuggets Golden Fries, Seasonal Veg & Baked Beans Oaty Cookie (various flavours)

Also available every day:
Jacket potato with Tuna, Cheese or Beans
Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit

Cost of School lunches:
Nursery – £2.00 per meal.
Reception & KS1 children –
Universal Infant Free School Meals,
KS2 children £2.58 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.

NASAL FLU VACCINATION

We are due to visit your child's school on **2nd October 2025**. 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 complete the online form by **Midday on 30.9.25** 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.



flu: 5 reasons to vaccinate your child



1. Protect your child

The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia

2. Protect you, your family and friends

Vaccinating your child will help protect more vulnerable friends and family

3. No injection needed

The nasal spray is painless and easy to have

4. It's better than having flu

The nasal spray helps protect against flu, has been given to millions of children worldwide and has an excellent safety record

5. Avoid costs

If your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare

For more information visit www.nhs.uk/child-flu

Flu i mmunisation
Helping to protect children, every winter



Arbor

We kindly ask that **Dinner, Breakfast, and After School Club** accounts are kept in credit at all times.

Topping up is quick and easy — simply log in to your account, head to the **'Accounts'** section, and make a payment by card.

If you're experiencing any difficulties or have any questions, please don't hesitate to speak to Miss Ratcliffe Head of School or Mrs Eastman in the school office.

It's time for a little housekeeping! We kindly ask all parents and carers to log in to Arbor to:

1) Check and update your contact details

please review the following and update anything that may have changed:

- Home address - Many people have moved in the last 12 months and not informed the office!
- Mobile & home telephone numbers
- Emergency contacts / people authorised to collect your child
- Medical conditions and allergies

2) Complete your child(ren)'s parental consents for the 2025/2026 academic year, including:

- ✓ First Aid
- ✓ Bad weather / emergency arrangements
- ✓ Events
- ✓ Photographs
- ✓ Medical
- ✓ Parental information
- ✓ Videoing
- ✓ Transport

Your prompt attention helps us keep all records accurate and ensure the safety and wellbeing of every child in school. Thank you for your continued support!



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.)



After School Club
Monday to Friday
3.30 to 5.30
Booking essential

01884 860518

admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk

£4.00 per hour (Pre-School hourly rate)



**STAY & PLAY
TODDLER GROUP
FOR BUMPS & BEYOND**


Wetheridge CofE Academy

Wednesday 13:45-15:30 in our FSU
Friday 9:00-10:30 in the School Hall

£1.00 donation per family


For more Information:
Call 01884 860518 or email admin@wetheridge,devon.sch.uk

TEAM Multi-Academy Trust Vacancies



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Part of TEAM MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST


APPLY NOW DIRECT WITH 

For more information and how to apply directly with My New Term please visit our website
<https://www.teamacademytrust.com/vacancies> or <https://mynewterm.com>

We currently have 4 vacancies available at Team Multi-Academy Trust:

TEACHING ASSISTANT & MTA
at Horwood and Newton
Tracey Community Primary
School

Cleaner at Pilton Bluecoat Church
of England Academy.



Cleaner at Pilton Infants'
Academy.

Cover Supervisor at Pilton
Bluecoat Church of England
Academy.

Mr Wiggans Forest School News....

This week we have been blessed with some beautiful sunny days. The pupils have continued looking at seeds and this week we were learning about sunflowers. They were amazed to hear that they can grow up to 15ft high, can come in yellow, red, maroon or brown. In addition, they are heliotropic meaning their heads follow the sun during the daytime.

We discussed what sunflowers and their seeds are used for. The pupils made their own sunflowers showing its life cycle.

Mr.Wiggans



Head lice has been reported

Head lice, is still being reported to being in school (FSU, Class 2 and Class 3). As many of you are aware, head lice can cause problems both at home and in school. Please can everyone check and treat their child's hair over the weekend, then try to check your child's hair regularly and if you see any head lice, treat both them and the whole family. To find out more about this then please follow the link below.



**REMEMBER
ONCE A WEEK,
TAKE A PEEK**

below. <http://www.onceaweektakeapeek.com>

Headlice & Nits

Unfortunately we have had a couple of cases of Nits in school this week. Please can parents make sure to check their children's hair over the weekend.



Head lice are small insects, up to 3mm long.

Head lice can make your head feel:

- itchy
- like something is moving in your hair

The only way to be sure someone has head lice is by finding live lice.

You can do this by combing their hair with a special fine-toothed comb (detection comb). You can buy these online or at pharmacies.

Treat head lice as soon as you spot them.

You should check everyone in the house and start treating anyone who has head lice on the same day.

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice.



They can be difficult to spot in your hair.

Wet combing

Lice and nits can be removed by wet combing. You should try this method first.

You can buy a special fine-toothed comb (detection comb) online or from pharmacies to remove head lice and nits.

There may be instructions on the pack, but usually you:

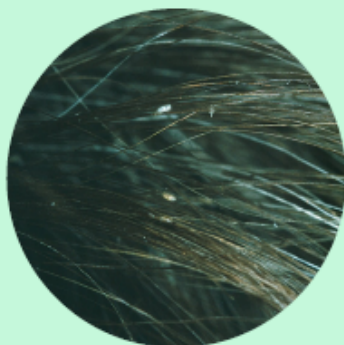
- wash hair with ordinary shampoo
- apply lots of conditioner (any conditioner will do)
- comb the whole head of hair, from the roots to the ends

Do wet combing on days 1, 5, 9 and 13 to catch any newly hatched head lice. Check again that everyone's hair is free of lice on day 17.

Medicated lotions and sprays

Ask a pharmacist for advice if you have tried wet combing for 17 days, but your child still has live head lice.

They may recommend using medicated lotions and sprays. These kill head lice in all types of hair, and you can buy them from pharmacies, supermarkets or online.



Head lice eggs (nits) are brown or white (empty shells) and attached to the hair.

Check the pack to see if they're OK for you or your child and how to use them.

If lotions or sprays do not work, speak to a pharmacist about other treatments.

WITHERIDGE WARRIORS YOUTH FOOTBALL

6-7PM EVERY THURSDAY

WITHERIDGE FOOTBALL CLUB, EX16 8AH

FIRST TWO WEEKS TRAINING FREE
£2 PER WEEK TRAINING FEE
£30 ANNUAL REGISTRATION FEE
FREE TRAINING KIT ON 1ST SIGN UP



**EXCITING AND FUN TRAINING DRILLS
TEAM BUILDING
MAKE LIFELONG FRIENDS**

WITHERIDGEWARRIORSYFC



**OPEN TO AGES
SCHOOL YEAR 1 – YEAR 11**



OUR FRIENDLY COACHES

·ARE DBS CHECKED.

·HAVE FIRST AID & SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

·HOLD AN FA LEVEL 1 COACHING BADGE

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CRUWYS MORCHARD PARISH HALL

BINGO



ON



**SATURDAY 18th
OCTOBER 2025**

AT

**CRUWYS MORCHARD
PARISH HALL, EX16 8LD**

**DOORS OPEN 7.00 PM
EYES DOWN 7.30 PM**

Raffle, usual good prizes plus prizes
for children - bring all the family!

Any articles, which appear in the school newsletter, that have not been organised by or on behalf of the school, have not been verified by TEAM Multi-Academy Trust as to the suitability for children. The news items are for parent information only