



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 12th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We’ve come to the end of our first full week back at Witheridge C of E Academy, and it’s safe to say that both staff and students are feeling a little tired after a busy and productive week of learning!

As we head into the weekend, please make sure your children have plenty of time to rest and recharge, ready for another great week ahead.

Attached to this newsletter, you’ll find our **Parent and Carer Behaviour Policy**. We kindly ask that you take a few moments to read through it over the weekend. We all share a responsibility in creating a calm and respectful environment, ensuring every child arrives at school ready to learn.

A reminder that on **Wednesday**, we will be holding our **Phonics Information Evening** for parents and carers of children in **Reception**. The session is designed to help you support your child at home as they begin their reading journey. Parents and carers of children in **Years 1–6** are also very welcome to attend – just let us know if you plan to come along.



We hope you have a lovely weekend – fingers crossed for some good weather!

All the best,

Miss Ratcliffe

Head of School

Guinea Pigs

Sadly, over the summer holidays, one of our school guinea pigs, Nibbles had to be put to sleep. This leaves Rosie by herself in our Class 3 hutch. If you have a friendly female guinea pig who also needs a buddy and would consider donating to the school to become a class pet, please do get in touch. Thank you!



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	90%
Reception	98%
Year 1	94%
Year 2	99%
Year 3	98%
Year 4	96%
Year 5	100%
Year 6	100%

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 **97.6%**

Our attendance for the year to date is **97.5%**

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





**Celebration Assembly
Well Done
For receiving a
Certificate of Achievement**



Class Award
Nursery – All the children for settling in so well. Reception – Ada for excellent ‘readiness’ throughout the day. Class 1 – Lucas for a great start to a new school and brilliant class contributions. Class 2 – Charlie – For a fab start in Class 2. Class 3 – Freddie for a superb attitude to learning. Class 4 – Freddie B for consistently maintaining the highest standards for others to follow.
Writer of the Week:
Reception – Class 1 – Monty for writing full sentences independently. Class 2 – Isabel for showing great perseverance. Class 3 – Zoey for beautiful presentation. Class 4 – Bella for careful handwriting and use of a dictation tool.
Contribution Award:
Hunter for helping a new friend find their way around the school and setting a good example. Ms Wyborn

Find us on:

Website: [Witheridge C of E Academy - Home](#)

Facebook: @Witheridge CofE Academy

Email: admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk

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

TEAM MAT have job vacancies, for more information & how to apply please visit our website [Teaching & Education Jobs Search | Find Teaching, Leadership & School Support Vacancies](#)

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

Key Dates for the Autumn Term 2025

Monday 15 th September	Reception PE – am Class 3 PE – pm / Class 3 Forest School Group 1
Tuesday 16 th September	Rocksteady
Wednesday 17 th September	Class 1 PE / Class 1 Forest School Group 1 Mr Rogo – Music Tuition Meet the Teacher 3.30-4.00 Phonic Information Evening 15:30 – Please see email
Thursday 18 th September	Class 2 PE / Class 2 Forest School Group 1 Mr Rogo – Music Tuition Steve Godfrey Drumming
Friday 19 th September	Class 4 trip to SS Great Britain Class 4 PE CANCELLED NO - Reception Forest School Group 1

Autumn Term - Dates for your diary:

Friday 26 th September	KS1 Reptile Visit
Thursday 2 nd October	Flu Vaccinations
Tuesday 7 th October	C4 Farmwise - Exeter
Wednesday 8 th October	Parents Evening
Thursday 9 th October	Parents Evening

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

Amended PE and Forest School Days at Witheridge

Monday - Reception PE (am)

Class 3 PE (pm) or Class 3 Group 1 Forest School (Ava-Grace, Zoey, Keeley, Lily, Mya, Hunter, Ronnie B, Ruby & Ivy-Rose)



Wednesday - Class 1 PE or Class 1 Group 1 Forest School (Riley, Taylor, Imogen, Bille & Dylan)

Thursday –

Class 2 PE or Class 2 Group 1 Forest School (Elliot, Lorcan, Georgia, Wren & Reuben)



Friday – Class 4 PE

Reception Group 1 Forest School (William, Ada, Eva, Oscar, Zack, Mia & Aspen)

Please ensure your child brings the appropriate Forest School or PE kit on the correct days.

House group - coloured T-shirt now available to purchase from the office

Team Meal Menu – Autumn Term 2025 Week 3 - W/B 15 th September	
Monday	Margherita 3 Cheese Pizza & Pasta V – Tomato Pasta Bake Baked Beans or Peas Peach Melba & Ice Cream
Tuesday	Butcher Hotdog V – Quorn Dog Potato Wedges, Beans & Sweetcorn Fruit Jelly
Wednesday	Roast of the Day - Chicken V – Quorn Bites Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Veg Pancakes & Cream (Strawberries & Cream)
Thursday	Minced Beef Soft Taco V – No meat Mince Taco Rice, Seasonal Veg or Salad Ginger Cake and Custard
Friday	Fish Cakes V – Vegetable Fingers Golden Fries, Seasonal Vegetables & Baked Beans Shortbread Biscuit

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.

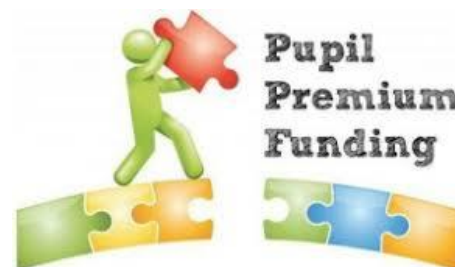


If you have any questions in relation to this, please contact the School Office.

Thank you for your consideration and for safeguarding our students.

Pupil Premium

Did you know that schools receive extra funding called Pupil Premium to help provide children with additional support, resources, and opportunities? If you think your child might be eligible, it doesn't take long to check, and even if your child doesn't take up free school meals every day, the school can still receive this valuable funding to support their learning. If you'd like to find out more, please apply via this link - [Free school meals - Support for schools and settings](#)



We've also attached a leaflet to this email with more details about eligibility and how to apply.

Changes to Nursery Funding

From September 2025 in England, eligible working parents will be able to access 30 hours of government-funded childcare per week for children aged 9 months to 3 years, not just for 3 and 4-year-olds, as the government's phased expansion of free childcare continues. This means that from this date, all eligible working parents will be entitled to 30 hours of government-funded childcare for their children aged from 9 months old until they start school. If you have a two year old and had a valid funding code (without being in a grace period) at the start of September this will automatically have changed to 30 hours. If you have any questions or queries, please feel free to contact the school office or to find out how to apply please click this link: [How to apply for 30 hours government funded childcare for working parents and find out if you're eligible – The Education Hub](#)

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.)



Witheridge CofE Academy
After School Club
 FSU to Year 6



**Monday -
Crafts**



**Tuesday -
Board games**



**Wednesday -
Cooking**



**Thursday -
Keep Fit**



**Friday -
Movie & Quiz**

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)

TEAM Multi-Academy Trust Vacancies



Life, Love and Learning to the Full

Working in partnership with



Part of **TEAM MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST**

APPLY NOW DIRECT WITH **mynewterm**

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 1 vacancy available at Team Multi-Academy Trust:

Assistant SENDCO at Team Multi-Academy Trust




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

Witheridge 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@witheridge.devon.sch.uk

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

WITHERIDGEWARRIORSYFC@GMAIL.COM

07969 485366



South West Care Homes

WHERE QUALITY COMES FIRST

with **Witheridge
Online**

The Firs Care Home

Charity Open Day

Supporting Dementia UK

Saturday 20th September

10am to 2pm

South
Molton
Town Band

Games &
Prizes

BBQ

Explore
the Firs

Cream teas &
Refreshments

Ice
Cream

Dog Show

Bouncy
Castle

And much more..



DementiaUK
Helping families face dementia



South West Care Homes

WHERE QUALITY COMES FIRST

with **Witheridge
Online**

The Firs Care Home

Dog Show @ 1pm

(as part of Charity Open Day)

Supporting Dementia UK

Saturday 20th September

- Waggiest Tail
- Most Handsome Dog
- Prettiest Bitch
- Best Trick
- Cutest Puppy
- Best Veteran (8 years or older)
- Dog the Judge would most likely take home.
- Best Hairstyle
- Best Rescue Dog
- Best Family Dog



DementiaUK
Helping families face dementia



Witheridge Farmers Market

Witheridge Parish Hall

Produce, Crafts,
Refreshments, etc.

Market Dates for 2025:

15th Feb, 15th March, 19th Apr,

17th May, 21st Jun, 19th Jul, 15th

Aug, 20th Sep, 18th Oct, 15th


Nov, 20th Dec

10am-1pm

Follow us on Facebook

WANTED

Charity Donations





Tim Bird

Head shave

20th September at the Firs Care Home
Please scan QR code below to donate ☺

Or bring cash donation to:
The Firs
27 Fore Street
Witheridge
Tiverton
EX16 8AH

Raising money for

CRUWYS MORCHARD NEW MEMBERS EVENING

EVERYONE IS WELCOME COME ALONG AND SEE WHAT YFC IS ALL ABOUT!

YOU DONT HAVE TO BE A FARMER TO BE A YOUNG FARMER

THE CADELIGH ARMS
15TH SEPTEMBER,
7PM START
WHAT3WORDS -
MONDAY.UNDERTONE.MOUNT







Join Witheridge Taekwondo Club




- 8yrs and above (no upper limit)
- ALL abilities welcome – from complete beginners to experienced martial artists.
- Qualified Instructors – certified by Britosh Tae Kwon-Do Council.
- Build confidence, strength & discipline while learning this dynamic martial art.

Witheridge Village Hall 6pm - 7pm Thursdays

Pop in and see us, find us on Facebook, Or call Andrew on 07966982889

PETROC FREE ADULT LEARNING

FREE SHORT COURSES

LEARN NEW SKILLS TO GET AHEAD

Your future starts here!

Get ahead with a FREE Short Adult Course at Petroc!

Ready to dive into something new? Why not enrol on one of our FREE short adult courses and start your journey today!

Whether you're looking to explore a passion or learn something completely new, our courses are a fantastic way to get started. With just a few hours a week, enjoy, upskill and be inspired - no pressure, just a chance to explore.

Check out our FREE short courses now and see where learning with Petroc can take you.



Visit petroc.ac.uk/free-adult-courses to find out more!

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

Why Choose Chulmleigh College?

Top Academic Achievement

- Progress 8 score of +0.81 (2024) – top 5% nationally
- Consistently outstanding GCSE results over the last 10 years
- Ofsted: “Good” with potential for “Outstanding”

Safe, Supportive & Aspirational Environment

- Pupils feel happy, safe, and proud (Ofsted)
- 95% of parents agree their child is thriving (Ofsted)

Strong Values & Ambitious Ethos

- Motto: Nihil Quam Optime – “Nothing but our best”
- Culture of compassion, ambition and teamwork

Rich Curriculum & Vibrant Enrichment

- Broad range of subject provision to GCSE level
- Diverse clubs: Lego robotics, sports, drama, music, chess
- Active Pupil Senate & Year 11 leadership roles
- Outdoor excellence: Ten Tors & Duke of Edinburgh

Outstanding Leadership & Inclusive Support

- Expert teachers fostering independent, resilient learners
- Tailored support for SEND & disadvantaged pupils
- Focus on reading fluency and curriculum access for all

Out of catchment area?

- Priority given to pupils from Chulmleigh Academy Trust primary schools
- Subsidised bus transport routes available

Open Evening

Thursday 25 September 2025
4.30pm to 7.00pm

- Tours of the College
- Interactive activities
- Showcasing of pupils' work
- Address by Neil Payne, Headteacher, at 6.30pm

Open Mornings

Tuesday 30 September or
Thursday 2 October 2025
11.15am - 1.00pm

Come and see the College in action

- Tours of the College
- Meet the Senior Leadership Team



To book please visit: www.chulmleigh.devon.sch.uk
Or click on the links above

We look forward to meeting you!



SOUTH MOLTON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
— supporting success —

OPEN EVENING 2025

Wednesday 17th September
4.30PM TO 7PM

Open to Year 5 and 6

Alsweare Old Rd, South Molton EX36 4LA
Telephone: 01769 572129 Email: enquiries@smcc.devon.sch.uk

www.smcc.devon.sch.uk

“Our aim as a school is quite simple:
We want to be the ‘very best school in Devon.’”



EXCELLENT
GCSE
RESULTS 2025

EXCEEDING
NATIONAL
AVERAGES

73% Pass Rate
in English and Maths



Ofsted
raising standards
improving lives

RATED GOOD
IN ALL CATEGORIES