



Witham St Hughs Academy
A L.E.A.D. Academy

Witham News

Edition Six
20th February 2024



Head teacher Comments

Welcome to term 4 and I hope that you all had a great half term!

As always, we are so proud of our children who have started the term so well. Their enthusiasm, commitment and desire to learn continues to shine through and this is what makes Witham so special. On the first day back during lunchtime, one of our Y2 children came up to me and announced that they really love being back at school as they simply love learning and love their teachers! Our children are certainly amazing.

As a school, we continue to develop both music and sport. On Monday this week, our choir of over 30 children took part in the Young Voices Concert at Sheffield Arena. What an experience this was for our children who took part in this concert with 5,000 other children. They were certainly inspired and this is our continued ambition for all of our children.

This week we also start our football journey and have a home match against Manor Farm Academy. The cross country league also starts this week and we have a group of Y5 and Y6 children taking part in the first meet at the Priory City of Lincoln Academy. Next week, we also have a group of exceptional Y6 swimmers taking part in the Lincoln Swimming Gala. Good luck to everyone taking part and thank you to parents who are supporting us. Our commitment to these subjects continues to grow and we are excited about the increasing participation.

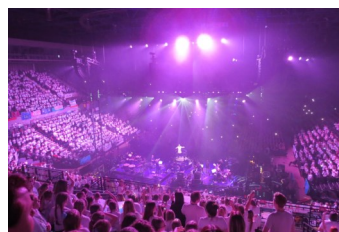
Thank you as well to everyone who has signed up for the Maths in Action sessions—your engagement is always fabulous.

As always, if you do have any questions then please come and speak to your class teacher or alternatively contact the school office.

Kind regards,

Richard Stock

Headteacher, Witham St Hughs Academy



Office Opening Hours

Monday — Thursday

8.15am—4.15pm

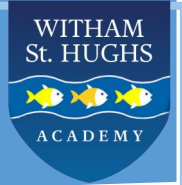
Friday

8.15am—4.00pm

Facebook

As always, please remember to follow all of our brilliant and varied curriculum activities and find out what your children have been doing on our Facebook page.





Maths in Action



Thank you so much to everyone who has shown an interest in coming into our Academy to see some Maths in Action! Emails have been sent today if you have been successful in obtaining a place.

The timings are below:

EYFS: 28th February at 9.10am

Y1: 28th February at 10.30am

Y2: 28th February at 10.30am

Y3: 26th February at 10.30am

Y4: 27th February at 10.30am

Y5: 29th February at 10.30am

Y6: 27th February at 9.10am

If you do have any questions about this then please do let us know. We all look forward to seeing you later this term. A gentle reminder that no hot drinks are allowed in classrooms.

Thank you!

Staffing News

As we said before half term, we welcome Mrs McCann to the team and she is teaching our Y3 class and she replaces Miss Miller.

On 1st March 2024, we will also be saying goodbye to the amazing Miss Gosling who has been working at Witham for over 15 years. During her time here, the impact she has had on so many children's lives has been massive so we would all like to say a huge thank you for everything that she has done for our school and the community. She is moving on to new adventures and is relocating from Lincoln.

As always, if you do have any questions about any of our staffing news then please do let us know.

Thank you!

Midday Supervisor

We are delighted to inform you that we have a vacancy for a midday supervisor role at Witham.

If you feel that this is something that might be of interest or even know of anyone who might be interested then please do let us know and contact the school office for further information.

Email: admin@withamsthughs.org

Phone: 01522 869590

Enrichment

Clubs and Sport



All of our fantastic clubs have been a real success this term. This term, we also start our many sporting events as part of our promotion of school sport. This week our Y5 children have started swimming and we have a football match against Manor Farm Academy.

Thank you for all of your support with our club offer and we really do appreciate the high uptake of all of our clubs.

Parking outside school reminder

Please can we remind parent/carers that you should not be parking on the double yellow lines outside our staff car park gates.

It is causing difficulties and danger for people trying to cross the road safely as well as problems for staff and visitors who may be trying to leave or enter school at this time.

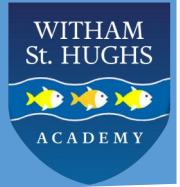
If the Market Lounge car park is full, you can use always use the village hall car park.

Thank you for your support with this.



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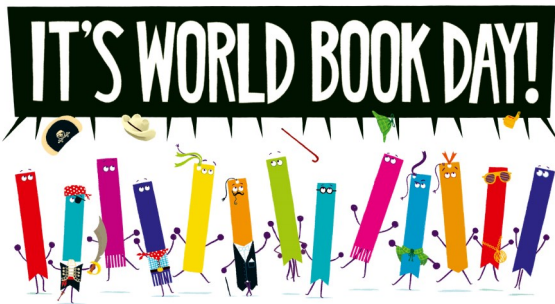
Lost Property

Since we changed the frequency of changing this, it is so much better, so thank you to all of you!

Please do help us by continuing to ensure that any item of clothing is labelled clearly and please also do regular checks to ensure that your child has not lost anything!

Thank you!

World Book Day—7th March 2024



Our new **Scholastic Book Club** is up and running!

Go to <https://schools.scholastic.co.uk/witham-st-hughs/digital-book-club> to browse the latest books and order online.

For **every £1 you spend** on this month's Book Club, **our school will earn 20p** in Scholastic Rewards.

Please place your **order online by March 4th, 2024**.

You can redeem World Book Day vouchers as part payment for your order. Children will be bringing home their £1 World Book Day vouchers and a copy of the latest Scholastic Book Club leaflet on Thursday.

Thank you!

Playtime equipment

During playtimes, our children play with a range of equipment and games.

One of the popular areas is using our Lego tables.



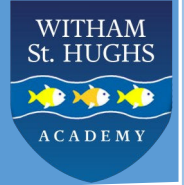
If you have any unwanted Lego then we would love this as a donation. Our children would really appreciate this because over the years our own supply of Lego has dwindled.

Thank you for your support with this.

School Values

Just a reminder of our school values. These form the heart of our school ethos and we promote them each day. Our KS1 children bring home stickers home if they show our values and our KS2 children earn citizenship points for showing them.





Diary dates

February 2024

Monday 19th February

Term four starts
Young Voices in Sheffield—Choir Performance

Monday 19th February

Y5 swimming starts

Monday 26th February

Maths in Action—various times

Thursday 29th February

KS2 Music Showcase Assembly

March 2024

Monday 4th March

Parent library session visits—further information to follow

Tuesday 5th March

Y5 Space Centre visit

Wednesday 6th March

Hobgoblin Theatre Company visiting

Thursday 7th March

World Book Day

Friday 8th March

Y3 Cresswell Craggs visit

Monday 11th March

British Science Week

Wednesday 13th March

Y1 Lincoln Castle visit

Wednesday 27th March

Y4 Roman Britain experience day

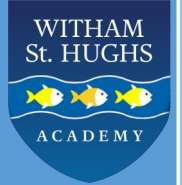
Thursday 28th March

Term four ends at 2.00pm

April 2024

Tuesday 16th April

Term five starts



Welcome to the Witham Well-Being update. As we start the new term we will hopefully see some more signs of spring arriving in the next few weeks. Here is a lovely resource for something to do each day throughout March. Why not try a few?

Mindful March

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 Set an intention to live with awareness and kindness	2 Notice three things you find beautiful in the outside world	3 Start today by appreciating your body and that you're alive	4 Notice how you speak to yourself and choose to use kind words	5 Bring to mind people you care about and send love to them	6 Have a 'no plans' day and notice how that feels	
7 Take three calm breaths at regular intervals during your day	8 Eat mindfully. Appreciate the taste, texture and smell of your food	9 Take a full breath in and out before you reply to others	10 Get outside and notice how the weather feels on your face	11 Stay fully present while drinking your cup of tea or coffee	12 Listen deeply to someone and really hear what they are saying	13 Pause to watch the sky or clouds for a few minutes today
14 Find ways to enjoy any chores or tasks that you do	15 Stop. Breathe. Notice. Repeat regularly	16 Get really absorbed with an interesting or creative activity	17 Look around and spot three things you find unusual or pleasant	18 If you find yourself rushing, make an effort to slow down	19 Appreciate nature around you, wherever you are	20 Focus on what makes you and others happy today <small>dayofhappiness.net</small>
21 Listen to a piece of music without doing anything else	22 Notice something that is going well, even if today feels difficult	23 Tune into your feelings, without judging or trying to change them	24 Appreciate your hands and all the things they enable you to do	25 Focus your attention on the good things you take for granted	26 Choose to spend less time looking at screens today	27 Cultivate a feeling of loving-kindness towards others today
28 Notice when you're tired and take a break as soon as possible	29 Choose a different route today and see what you notice	30 Mentally scan your body and notice what it is feeling	31 Discover the joy in the simple things of life			

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS **Happier · Kinder · Together**

Pastoral Support

Ms Ford continues to support those children who may need additional support. She has dedicated time during the school day to talk to children about their feelings. These sessions take place in the nurture room on an individual or small group basis. There are a range of groups which Ms Ford regularly leads including :

* Young Carers * Bereavement * Separated families * Emotions and Feelings

Please do let us know if you would like more information about these groups.

Who to contact?

Remember that we are always here to support you and Michelle Dexter our distinct groups leader contacts many parents regularly to make sure everything is going well. Her email address is michelle.dexter@withamsthughs.org

If you think that you need further support then do not hesitate to contact school on: 01522 869590 or enquiries@withamsthughs.org

Useful Numbers

Child Line: 0800 1111

Young Carers Helpline: 01522 553 275

Samaritans: 01522 528 282

Family Services: 0800 195 1635

Women's Aid: 0808 2000 247

Attendance

Part of Mrs Dexter's role is continuing to monitor attendance at the academy. She will regularly contact families where children's attendance has dropped below 90% with a welfare check and to offer support if required.