

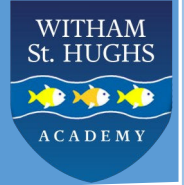


Witham St Hughs Academy
A L.E.A.D. Academy

Witham News

Edition Eight

21st June 2024



Headteacher Comments

Welcome to our June newsletter and I hope that you are all looking forward to some summer sun.....if it ever arrives of course!

What a term so far we have had! As always, every week seems to be so busy as the children start to think about the transition to their next year group. Already, we have had an extremely successful new parent meeting for our EYFS children and we cannot wait to meet them next week when they attend the Stay and Play sessions.

Our Year 5 and 6 children are now in the middle of practicing for their amazing production of Rock Bottom and already the singing, acting and dancing is impressing everyone. We are all very excited about seeing the first performance at the end of term.

A big well done must go out to the Y1 children who have all completed their Y1 phonics screen assessments and did so well. Early reading is so important in schools and our children have been brilliant and really shown they have worked so incredibly hard. Well done as well to the Y4 children who have all completed the multiplication check. Again, they have been superb and have really impressed everyone with their maturity, dedication and knowledge.

As we head towards the end of term, we have so many events to look forward to, especially the Sports Days and during the final week of term, we have a very special Olympic Week planned. Parents will be invited to a closing ceremony for this event on Thursday 18th July at 2.15pm — more information to follow shortly.

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 rich and varied curriculum activities and find out what your children have been doing on our Facebook page.

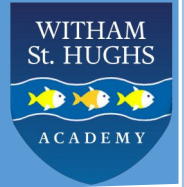
We work hard to show all of our ambitions so again, thank you for supporting us with this!

Lincolnshire Show

Well done to our brilliant children who took part showcasing our Witham Woods project. They have been brilliant and have received a highly commended award for being outstanding.

Thank you to Mrs Hartley and Mrs Hensmann for being so inspiring with this project.





Staffing news

Since half term, we have made some new staffing appointments and we are excited to be able to welcome some new members to our team who will start in the Autumn term. The overall staffing overview will be sent out to parents on Friday 28th June. However, in the meantime below are some staff changes which will be taking place.



Miss Chloe James is leaving us at the end of the summer term as she is moving on to her new adventures teaching in Alicante. I am sure you will join us all in wishing her the very best. Mrs Krystal McCann is also leaving us in the summer term and again we wish her the very best from September.

Miss Danielle Mercer will also be leaving at the end of this term, and from September she will be taking on a new teaching role in a new school. We wish her the very best. Miss Laura Fisher, who has been working as a 1:1 teaching assistant is also leaving as she is relocating.

Miss Hannah Malone will be joining us in the EYFS team from September and she is so excited to be joining us— she will be involved in all of our transition events this term and will start to get to know the children next week.

Miss Alice Crooks will also be joining the teaching team and she has been training with us during this year so knows the school extremely well which is amazing. Both of our new appointments are thrilled to be joining us. We are in the process of recruiting a new teaching assistant into KS2 and we will keep you informed of this.

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

Thank you!

Lost Property

We have an increasing amount of lost property being left at school and mainly jumpers.

In order to help us ensure we have every chance of the lost property reaching their owner, can you please make sure ALL items are named and the outside box is checked on a regular basis.

School safety reminders

Please be reminded that children and adults should not be on their bikes and scooters once they come onto the school premises.

When your children are off site, can you also consider their own safety and supervision. At the end of the school day there are a lot of cars outside school so please ensure that children are supervised.

Can we also remind your children that when they are outside of school wearing our school uniform, they are still representing our school values and they should still be showing respect and behaving sensibly within the community. Your support with this would be appreciated.

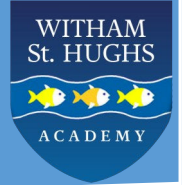
Warmer weather

Please be reminded that as we approach the last month of term (when the sun will be shining!) that you consider ensuring that your children have hats when in school and apply some sun cream before they come to school.

Unfortunately outside on the field, we have limited shady spots so this will help ensure they are protected from the sun if needed.



The PTFA school disco is on **Monday 24th June**. See the correspondence from the PTFA for details.



Diary dates

Friday 21st June

World Music Day

Friday 28th June

Armed Forces Day

July 2024

Monday 1st July

***Y3/4 Sports Day— AM
EYFS Sports Day—PM***

Tuesday 2nd July

Y1/2 Sports Day – AM

Wednesday 3rd July

Y5/6 Sports Day—AM

Friday 5th July

Y1 visit to Mablethorpe

Tuesday 9th July

Y4 Greek workshop

Wednesday 10th July

Transition afternoon

Thursday 11th July

***Y2 visit to Hill Holt Wood
ADHD Lincs workshop for parents***

Friday 12th July

Reports out to parents/carers

Monday 15th July

***Olympic Week with closing ceremony for parents at 2.15pm on Thursday
18th July at 2.15pm***

Monday 15th July

Y5/6 Summer Production at 6.30pm—details to follow

Tuesday 16th July

Y5/6 Summer Production at 1.45pm and 6.30pm—details to follow

Friday 19th July

***Y6 Leavers Assembly at 1.15pm—details to follow
Term six ends at 2.00pm***

We are now approaching the final few weeks of our academic year and the children will be experiencing a busy time with transition arrangements. They will be getting ready to meet new staff and work in new environments with a new group of peers. We understand this can be daunting so please continue to talk to your children and us at school.

Change

Changes are inevitable, but that doesn't make them any easier for children (or adults) to manage. Structure and stability feel safe for children. As we face changes, we develop the skills of resilience.

Here are some key points to support children during transition;

* Listen

While you'll want to focus on the positives associated with change, also take time to address your child's questions and concerns. Help them work through the emotions that they're feeling. Often, children simply want empathy and understanding. Acknowledge and validate their feelings without being too quick to distract them or shield them from their emotions.

* Talk About Other Changes

Discuss or even sketch your child's life path so far. What changes have already happened? What did your child learn from each experience? How did they get through it, and what coping skills have they learned? Discuss the idea that every time your child experiences a change, they're stronger and more prepared for the next one. By now, these changes are probably a normal part of life that no longer feels scary or overwhelming. Discussing the changes that are now in the past can help put the current situation in perspective.

* Looking forward

Write a list of all the exciting things that your child is looking forward to. What are the new challenges and how might they work on these?

Healthy Minds have a transition support booklet on their website full of ideas.

https://www.lpft.nhs.uk/application/files/3915/9196/2855/Transition_Online_Booklet_Final_20200603.pdf



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.

Useful Numbers

Academy number: 01522 869 590

Child Line: 0800 1111

Young Carers Helpline: 01522 553 275

Samaritans: 01522 528 282

Family Services: 0800 195 1635

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@withamsthughssacademy.co.uk

If you think that you need further support then do not hesitate to contact school on: 01522 869590 or admin@withamsthughssacademy.co.uk

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 95% with a welfare check and to offer support if required.