



Witham St Hughs Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy



Witham Newsletter

September 2025

Headteacher welcome



What a fantastic start to the academic year we have had! Children have come back to join their new year groups with positivity, enjoyment and ambition. They have got stuck straight into learning in all classrooms, enjoying choosing exciting stories from the library, conducting science experiments and creating some wonderful artwork.

It has been a pleasure beginning to get to know our families new to the Academy, and I have been blown away by how positively and quickly our new Reception children have settled into school life! Our enhanced provision offer has also now begun, an exceptional additional offer that we are all rightly proud of.

As always, if you do have any questions or queries, then please do not hesitate to speak to staff on the playground or contact the school office.

Mrs Broadley



Witham News



Fantastic Friday Texts!

We are so excited to continue our 'Fantastic Friday' text messages this year. This is an opportunity for children across the Academy to be recognised by any member of staff and a celebration text message be sent home. This year, Mrs Hall will be collecting the 'Fantastic Friday' children the following Monday afternoon for some reward time in the Woodland Den. If you get a text celebrating your child, please to let them know - we are so proud of them!

Choir

After the information was shared with the children, and posters placed in all classroom windows, Mr Norton has run a series of choir auditions this month. After a lot of deliberation, he has selected the talented children who will represent our Academy in choir. Choir is for KS2 children, with practice taking place weekly towards the end of the school day.



Jewellery

A reminder that jewellery should not be worn in school with the exception of one stud in each ear. Earrings must be removed for PE in line with our policy. Any jewellery worn to school will be kept safe by the class teacher and returned to a parent or carer at the end of the day. We appreciate parent's support with this matter.

Scooters

We love just how many of our children bike or scooter to school! Please could children be reminded to ensure bikes and scooters are left safely in the racks and not on the grass or leaning against the fences as this creates a hazard for people walking into the school.

Our value of respect

In line with our Academy values, please can all parents and carers be reminded that staff must be spoken to respectfully both face to face and over the phone. The whole staff team are here to support you and your child, and should not experience rude or aggressive behaviour whilst they are at work. We appreciate your support in this matter.



Call back times

Responding to parent/carers queries is always a high priority for the team at school. Please know that all enquires will be responded to by a relevant staff member, but this may not always be possible on the same day. Our priority is always the children face-to-face within the Academy, and this may mean that a member of staff cannot respond back to a parent or carer immediately. Please trust that all enquires will get a response in due course.

WhatsApp

Whilst a separate letter has been sent to Y6 families regarding WhatsApp, a reminder that it is school's advice that any child with access to a smartphone or social media has their device monitored very closely. Our core role remains teaching and learning, and online disputes out of school take valuable teaching time away from all.

Congratulations!

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Bertram is expecting her first child in the spring. Huge congratulations to her and her husband at this exciting time.

Naming PE kits & coats

Please can parents/carers ensure that all PE kit items, including jackets are named. Children are misplacing these and without names, they are hard to return. Similarly, please could all coats be named.



Parents' Evenings

Thank you so much to all those families who responded to our parent-voice on parents' evening timings. It is always valuable to check-in to ensure that we are making arrangements to best meet families' needs. Some of the wider points raised included length of appointments. For clarity, the 10 minute appointments are the only way to allow all parents to be seen. With some KS2 classes as large as 32 pupils, 10 minutes per family still creates 5.5 hours of meeting time for each teacher after school, and still within a full week of teaching commitment. As always, if a further meeting is required, this can be booked in with the class teacher.



Friday 10th October - Yellow Day

To mark World Mental Health Day, on Friday 10th October, children will be invited to wear something yellow alongside their normal uniform. MHST will also be running a parent drop in session on this day.

Diary Dates

SEP
9

New to
Y1 parent
talk

SEP
10

New to
Y2 parent
talk

SEP
15

New to
Y3/4/5/6
parent
talk

SEP
16

New to
EYFS
parent
talk

SEP
18

School
photographs

SEP
22

Enhanced
Provision
starts

SEP
24

Y6 trip
to
Snipedales

SEP
25

Y3 trip to
Lincoln
Zoo

SEP
26

MacMillan
coffee
afternoon

SEP/
OCT
29-3

Phonics/
English in
action
sessions

OCT
1-3

Y6 PGL
residential
visit

OCT
7

Flu
vaccinations

OCT
10

Wear
something
yellow

OCT
14

Parents
Evening

OCT
16

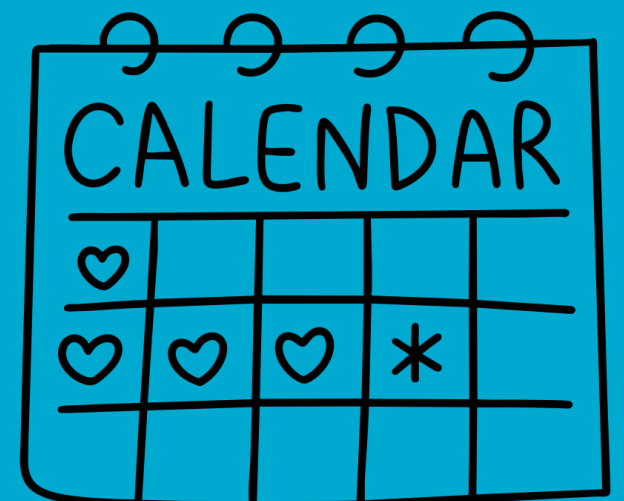
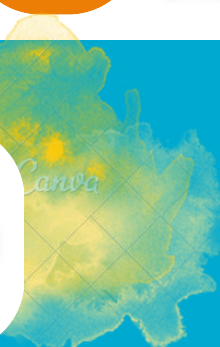
Parents
Evening

OCT
23

Last day of
term 1

NOV
3

First day of
term 2





Who to contact?

Remember that we are always here to support you and Michelle Dexter our SENDCo, contacts many parents regularly to make sure everything is going well.

Her email address is: michelle.dexter@withamsthughacademy.co.uk If you think that you need further support, then do not hesitate to contact the school on: 01522 869590 or admin@withamsthughacademy.co.uk



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