

# Witham Newsletter

Headteacher welcome May 2026



What a wonderful and incredibly busy half term it has been at Witham St Hughs Academy! We are incredibly proud of all our children and the fantastic opportunities, achievements, and experiences they have embraced over the past few weeks.

A special mention must go to our amazing Year 6 pupils, who approached SATs week with maturity, resilience, and determination. They represented the school brilliantly and should be extremely proud of themselves.

Sporting events this half term have truly been off the scale! Our football team have finished their season strongly, our cross-country runners have celebrated fantastic success, and both our netball and girls' football teams have represented the school with pride, determination, and excellent sportsmanship. Our cricketers have also been out in force enjoying opportunities to compete and develop their skills.

Across school, pupils have enjoyed a wide range of exciting trips, visits, and learning experiences. From EYFS exploring habitats, to pupils learning about Ancient Egyptians and World War II, the quality of learning taking place across the academy continues to impress us all. Year 5 pupils have successfully completed Bikeability, building confidence and important life skills, and we finish the term with our exciting Year 2 residential visit to Rand Farm.

This half term, we have also worked incredibly hard on establishing and embedding our behaviour expectations and routines across the school. The children have been absolutely amazing and have responded positively to our restorative and relational approach. We are extremely proud of the kindness, resilience, and positive attitudes we are seeing every day.

A huge thank you to Saul Fairholme for their generous donation of our sports tops, and also to our PTA for organising another successful clothes collection event to support the school community.

Some parents have recently expressed concerns regarding the crossing and road safety near the school site. I have written to Highways to formally raise these concerns and will continue to push this agenda forward to ensure the safety of our community remains a priority. In the meantime, can I please remind all parents and carers about the importance of safe parking and taking extra care during drop-off and pick-up times. The safety of all our pupils, families, and staff is incredibly important, and we appreciate your continued support with this.

It has certainly been a busy term, but also an exciting and positive one as we continue to move the school forward together. Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support, encouragement, and partnership. We wish all our families a wonderful half term break and look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for the final part of the academic year as we continue striving to make a difference to every child, every day.

Mr Coy



## Witham News



### Sports Day Dates

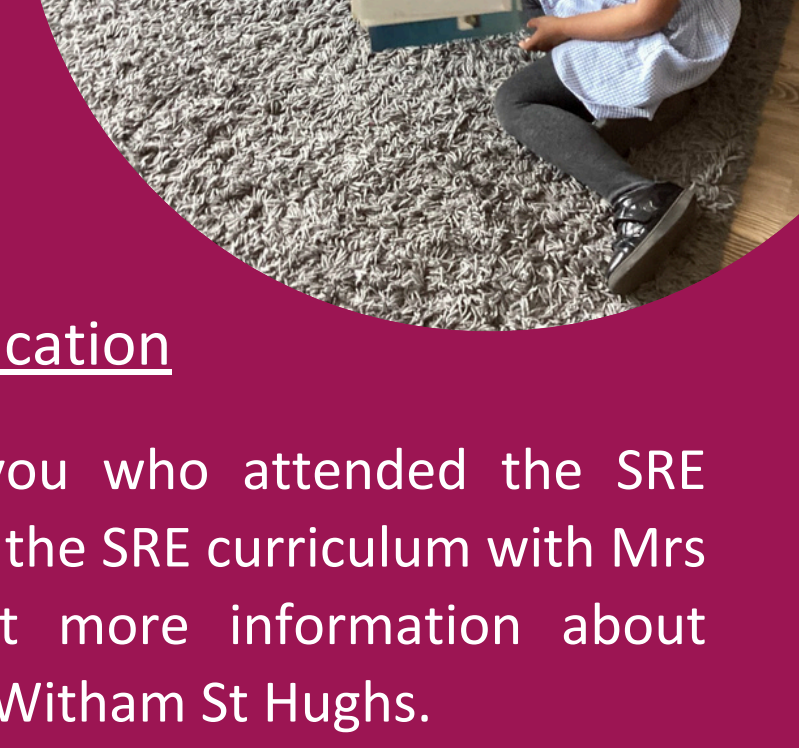
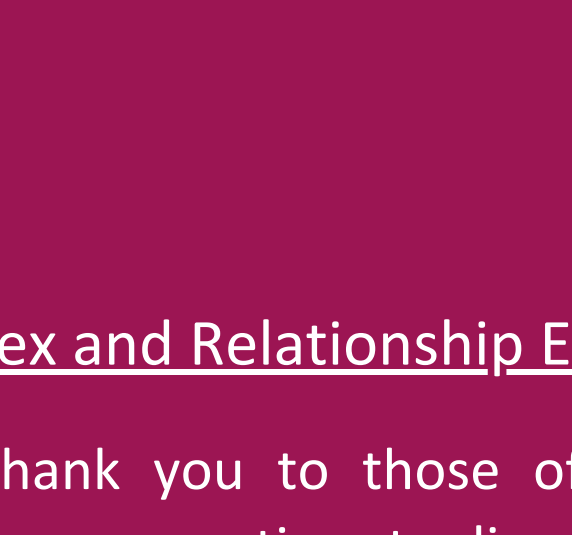
The dates for sports days are as follows:

- EYFS - June 29<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm
- Year 1 & Year 2 - June 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:15am
- Year 3 & Year 4 - June 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:15am
- Year 5 & Year 6 - July 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:15am

We of course cannot guarantee events will happen on these days, as they may need to be rescheduled in the event of poor weather. We will always endeavour to let parents and carers know of any changes with as much notice as possible.

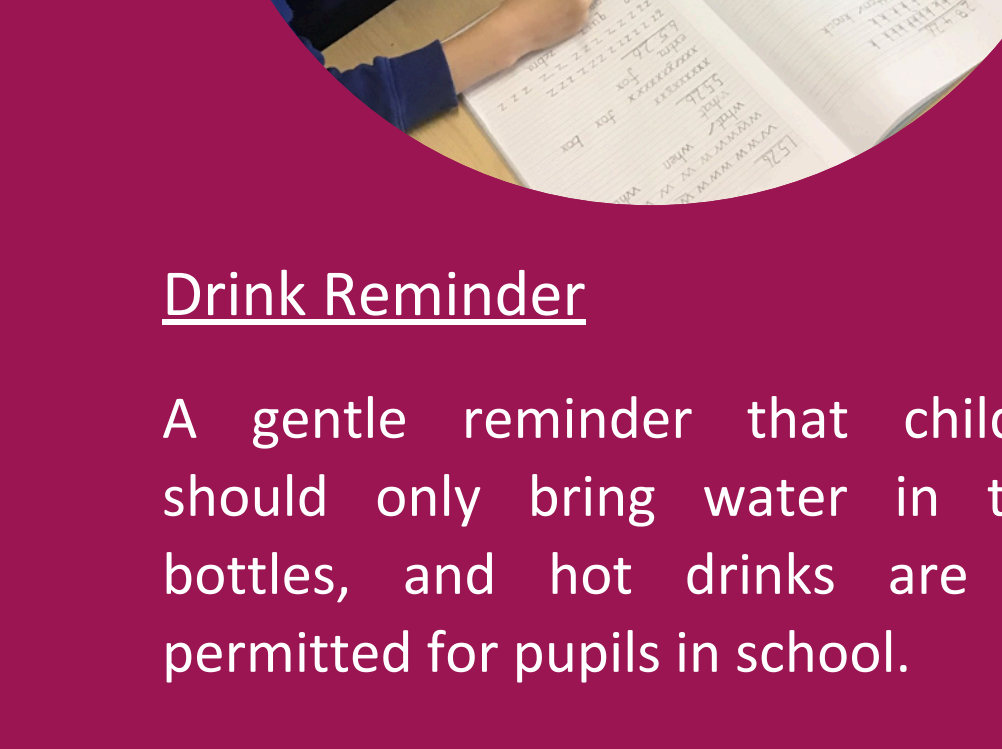
### Free School Resources – Just by Shopping!

Thank you to everyone who has signed up so far. We now have 35 supporters and have raised £200 for our school resources this year! If you haven't joined yet, it's really easy – simply scan the QR code below to sign up. Your everyday shopping (Amazon, ASOS, Asda, B&Q, holidays, insurance and more) will automatically raise a donation for our Academy at no extra cost to you. Every purchase makes a difference – thank you for your support!



### Sporting Fixtures

We are excited to have several sporting events coming up next term, including Year 5 boys' football friendlies throughout June and a UKS2 cricket competition in early June. Our girls' football fixtures are also being rearranged (date TBC). We hope to confirm additional events soon once final details are agreed with organisers and venues. Stay tuned!



### Sex and Relationship Education

Thank you to those of you who attended the SRE Teams meetings to discuss the SRE curriculum with Mrs Younger and to find out more information about relationships education at Witham St Hughs.

If you were unable to attend but would still like to understand the curriculum areas taught, you can find the objectives being taught on our website under: Curriculum Offer → SRE Information for Parents (which is at the bottom of the page).

### Lost Property

We are currently finding a significant amount of lost property around school, particularly school jumpers, which are often unnamed. Please can we ask for your support in ensuring all items are clearly labelled with your child's name. Thank you for your support with this.

### Fidgets/Focus Tools

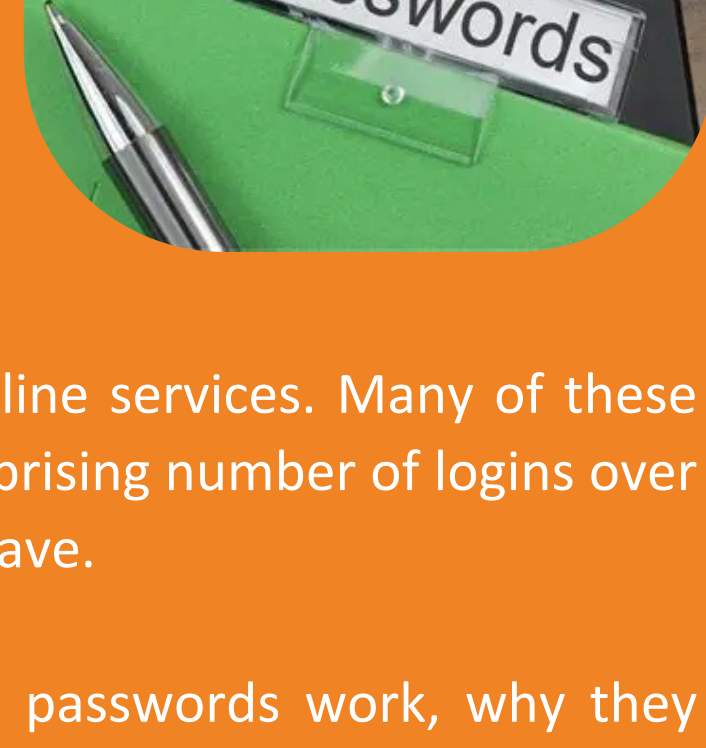
We understand that some children benefit from using small tools to support their concentration in school. These are now referred to as 'focus tools' as they are intended to help pupils stay engaged and focused on their learning. School has a range of appropriate focus tools available, which can be provided following discussion with Mrs Hall or Mrs Dexter. To ensure consistency and avoid distraction, children should not bring their own items from home. If you feel your child may benefit from additional support through the use of a focus tool, please speak to Mrs Dexter.

### Walking to School

A gentle reminder to all parents and carers that children in Year 5 and below should not walk into school unaccompanied. Please make sure they are brought to the school gates and supervised until they safely enter the premises. This helps us ensure everyone arrives safely and supports our safeguarding procedures. Thank you for your cooperation.



## Online Safety & Wellbeing



### Accounts, Passwords and Online Safety – Do We Know What OUR Children Can Access?

As children grow, they naturally begin to access more apps, games and online services. Many of these require an account and password, and it is easy for children to build up a surprising number of logins over time – sometimes without adults fully realising just how much access they have.

During recent online safety learning, children explored how accounts and passwords work, why they matter, and how they help protect personal information. They also discussed the importance of keeping accounts secure and understanding that passwords are private – even between friends.

One key message we shared with pupils was that a password is like a key. If someone else has it, they may be able to access personal messages, photos, game progress, spending options, location data or even linked social features. Children don't always see the risks straight away, especially if accounts were set up quickly or long ago.

It can be helpful to take time as a family to check:

- \* Which apps, games and websites your child has an account for
- \* Whether those accounts are age-appropriate
- \* What information the account can access or share
- \* Whether spending, chat or sharing features are enabled

Another important part of staying safe online is good password habits. Children are often tempted to reuse the same password or choose something easy to remember, but this can make accounts more vulnerable. Encouraging children to use strong, unique passwords – and to never share them with friends – is a simple but powerful step in keeping them safe.

Talking openly with your child about their online accounts can make a real difference. Asking them to show you the apps they log into, discussing why some passwords need to stay private, and reassuring them that they won't be "in trouble" for being honest all helps to build trust and safer habits.

Ultimately, supporting children with accounts and passwords isn't about monitoring every click – it's about helping them understand responsibility, privacy and safe choices as their digital world expands. Regular check-ins at home can help ensure children don't have access to more than they're ready for, and that they know they can always come to a trusted adult if something doesn't feel right.



## Safe, Ready, Respectful

We are thrilled with how confidently all of the children in school now know our rules: Safe, Ready and Respectful.

These simple, clear principles have been developed to ensure a shared language and consistent understanding of expectations across every classroom and all aspects of school life. They help pupils to be clear about what is expected of them, while allowing us to celebrate the many ways our children demonstrate that they are safe, ready and respectful each day. Many of our pupils have already been recognised for their exemplary behaviour in relation to these rules and enjoyed a hot chocolate with Mr Coy!

**Our rules at Witham St Hughs Academy**

**Safe**  
Keep ourselves and others safe

**Ready**  
Prepared to learn and participate

**Respectful**  
Kind, polite and considerate

## Diary Dates



<b>MAY 20-22</b> Year 2 Rand Farm residential	<b>MAY 22</b> Last day of term	<b>JUN 1</b> Children back to school	<b>JUN 2</b> Book Bus in school	<b>JUN 5</b> Year 4 Trip to Lincoln Castle	<b>JUN 8</b> New to EYFS 2026 Parent Meeting	<b>JUN 8-12</b> Year 1 phonics screen
<b>JUN 8-12</b> Year 4 Times Table Check	<b>JUN 9</b> Reception Trip to Pink Pig Farm	<b>JUN 10</b> Year 6 Trip to Bomber Command	<b>JUN 11</b> Year 3 Athletics Trip	<b>JUN 15-17</b> Fathers' Day Shop	<b>JUN 18</b> Year 1 Trip to the beach	<b>JUN 24</b> New to EYFS 'Stay and Play'
<b>JUN 29</b> Y3 & Y4 Sports Day (morning)	<b>JUN 29</b> EYFS Sports Day (afternoon)	<b>JUN 30</b> Y1 & Y2 Sports Day (morning)	<b>JUL 1</b> Y5 & Y6 Sports Day (morning)	<b>JUL 1</b> New to EYFS 'Stay and Play'	<b>JUL 8</b> Transition morning	<b>JUL 10</b> School Reports out
<b>JUL 10</b> Summer Fair	<b>JUL 14-15</b> Y5 & Y6 Production	<b>JUL 22</b> Leavers Assembly 1:15pm-1:45pm	<b>JUL 22</b> Last day of term			

## Who to contact?

Remember that we are always here to support you and to make sure everything is going well.

If you need and support or have any questions, then do not hesitate to contact the school on:

01522 869590 or admin@withamsthughssacademy.co.uk

Witham St Hughs Academy



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