



December 2019

Newsletter



Diary Dates

December 2019

2nd	PTFA Polar Express Evening
4th	EYFS Christmas Production at 9:30
5th	EYFS Christmas Production at 14:30
6th	EYFS Christmas Production at 9:30
w/c 9th	KS2 Learning Showcase sessions
9th	KS1 Christmas Production at 14:30
10th	KS1 Christmas Production at 18:00
11th	KS1 Christmas Production at 18:00
13th	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
w/c 16th	Forest School sessions
w/c 16th	Class Christmas parties
16th	Christmas lunch
16th	KS2 Christmas Enterprise Event
19th	KS2 Christmas Carol Concert at 13:15
19th	Children break up for Christmas at 14:00

Diary Dates

January 2020

6th	Children return to school
w/c 13th	Arts and culture week
22nd	Y3 STEM Day 1
24th	Y3 STEM Day 2
31st	Y3 MSP Sports Competition



Welcome to our December newsletter

Welcome to our December newsletter! With Christmas fast approaching the children have been busy with both their learning and rehearsals for their various Christmas performances. The corridor has been filled with beautiful singing and smiling faces - what a joyful place to be! We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Children in Need

The School Council members would like to say a huge 'Thank You' for dressing up in pyjamas and loungewear for Children in Need this year. Due to all of your efforts, we have managed to raise a fantastic £378.51 as a school and we look forward to proudly donating this money to this worthy cause.

New library

We are delighted to announce that our new library area is finished. Thank you to the PTFA for contributing to the cost of this project. The children are enjoying using this new reading space.



Christmas Productions

Key Stage One and the Foundation Stage Christmas productions are fast approaching and both the pupils and staff are busy preparing for shows. KS1 pupils will be performing 'Born in a Barn' and the Foundation Stage pupils will be performing 'Christmas Counts'. The Foundation Stage Performances will take place in the 'Immersive Technology Suite' on the 4th, 5th and 6th December. We are really looking forward to these pupils performing in this magical and intimate setting! These performances are within the school day as we have found that pupils of this age become too tired to cope with an evening performance. The KS1 performances for pupils in Years One and Two will take place in the School Hall on the 9th, 10th and 11th December.

Christmas Carol Concert

On Thursday 19th December, we will be ending the term with our Key Stage 2 Carol Concert. This will take place at 1.15pm and will be held in the school hall. Everyone welcome! Please note that all children finish school at 2pm on this day.



Christmas Lunch

The hot Christmas Lunch day will be on Monday 16th December. Orders for lunches have already been placed. For those not wanting hot meals on this day, we are inviting children to come to school with a 'festive pack-up'! Thank you.

Christmas Party Days

Monday 16th: Reception Party at 9:15
Year 1 Party at 1:30
Tuesday 17th: Year 2 Party at 9:15
Year 3 Party at 1:30
Wednesday 18th: Year 4 Party at 9:15
Thursday 19th: Year 5 & Year 6 Party at 9:15

Children are invited to come to school wearing their party clothes for their party day, even if their party is in the afternoon.

Christmas Cards

For Christmas Cards this year, we have a Christmas post box where the children will be able to post their Christmas cards to one another. To help with the accurate and swift delivery of all cards, please can you write the recipient's full name, year group and their class teacher's initials onto the front of the envelope. Thank you in advance.

Staffing changes

We are pleased to welcome Mrs Helen Wallace to the team as a Year 2 class teacher. Mrs Wallace will be taking over from Mrs Younger full time as the class teacher for Year 2 in January. This allows Mrs Younger to fulfil a new role as Acting Deputy Head Teacher in the new year. Mrs Robertson and Miss Houlty continue to work within the Key Stage 1 team but will be working with slightly different classes moving forward. Miss Houlty supporting in Y1 and Mrs Robertson supporting in Y2.



Emergency Contacts

Please may we kindly request that school are kept up to date if emergency contact numbers are changed. We are able to hold several contact numbers on file for each child but it is highly important that these are accurate. Should we need to contact a parent or carer in the case of an emergency we must hold accurate, up to date information. Please also note that family friends and work numbers may be added as extra emergency contacts in the event that we are unable to contact parents.

Armed Forces Families

As you may be aware, there is lots of support available in school for pupils with a parent or parents in the Armed Forces. This includes weekly drop in sessions offered by Miss Johnson and Miss Burr and exciting trips, visitors and experiences for our Forces pupils. If you think we are unaware that your child is part of a 'Forces Family' please do contact the office and let us know.



Parental Forum

Unfortunately, no parents attended the Parental Forum offered in November to discuss home-school communication. We understand that 3:00pm may not have been a convenient time for all so will be rescheduling this for a different time of day in the new year. As always, parental feedback is greatly appreciated and vital for the continuous improvement of our Academy.

What's been on offer in the Autumn Term?

We work incredibly hard as a staff team at Witham St Hughs Academy to consistently go 'above and beyond' for our children and families. We are proud of everything that has been on offer across the Autumn term, some of which include: Dads, Lads and Lasses, Trips to the theatre, Macmillan coffee afternoon, Science enrichment days, A visit from a poet, Litter picking in the community, Projects with PCSO's and the election of Mini Police, Drama workshops, Forest school, Visits from local religious figures, Challenge week, Many trips, Cookery week and many more!

Sharing important messages with school

We understand that there are many important messages that need to be shared between home and school. As an Academy, we are keen that these messages are shared through the correct channels and that you as parents can receive prompt responses from the correct teams within school. As such, we have created a short guide to suggest the best avenues to share information.

<u>Information</u>	<u>Where to share</u>
Requesting an absence from school.	enquiries@withamsthughs.org
Letting us know that your child is ill.	01522 869590
Requesting a new home learning sheet.	Speak to the class teacher at the door at the start or the end of the day.
Lost property.	Speak to the class teacher at the door at the start or the end of the day.
Sharing a concern/worry/positive news from the school day.	Speak to the class teacher at the door at the start or the end of the day.
Sharing a significant concern.	Speak to: Emily Broadley, Michelle Dexter or Hannah Younger.
<i>Emails for specific members of staff can be sent to enquiries, unless that staff member has shared their email details directly with yourself.</i>	

Sports Competitions

Our Key Stage 1 pupils have been enjoying the opportunity to compete against pupils from Waddington All Saints Academy and Manor Farm Academy in Multi-Sport competitions. You may have seen the medals and certificates which came home with as a result of this exciting opportunity. We are proud of all of our children's achievements in these competitions.

LEAD Enrichment Days

This term has seen our first year group take part in a LEAD Academy Trust enrichment day. Our Year 3 pupils travelled to Nottingham to take part in a 'Science Live' experience day working alongside other schools from within the Trust. Children represented our Academy beautifully and had a fantastic day of learning and meeting new friends.

A message from the PTFA

Please can we remind parents to register with the PTFA Events Account. When you have signed up, check your preferences and please ensure that you tick the box to confirm you would like to receive newsletters. This way you will be informed of any upcoming PTFA events.

Please see the image for guidance on the boxes you will need to tick to receive newsletters.



Witham St Hughs Academy PTFA collects personal information when you register with us or place an order for products or services. We will use this information to provide the services requested, and if you agree, to send you marketing information. Witham St Hughs Academy PTFA will not share your information for marketing purposes with other companies. For more information explaining how we use your information please see our privacy policy.

I agree to receive Witham St Hughs Academy PTFA marketing emails



Witham St Hughs Academy PTFA would like to add your contact details to our marketing list so we can keep you informed about future news & events. We promise only to contact you via email, will not share your information with any other companies and you can unsubscribe at any time by visiting "My Account".

I agree to receive the Witham St Hughs Academy PTFA newsletter



Witham St Hughs Academy PTFA would like to occasionally

Winter Reading Challenge

We would like to encourage all our pupils to join in the Winter Mini Reading Challenge run by The Reading Agency. To take part, children simply read three books of their choice over the winter period, then add each book to their Challenge website profile and leave a short book review. The Winter Mini Challenge starts on Monday 2 December 2019 and finishes on Monday 13 January 2020. For more details, please see The Reading Agency website: winterreadingchallenge.org.uk. If any children complete the challenge, we would love to see their certificates after Christmas.



Scholastic Book Club

Thank you to everyone who ordered books from our recent Scholastic Book Fair. Your orders have raised £63 of free books for the school which have already been delivered!

And Finally...

May I take this time to say a heartfelt 'Thank you' for all of the support and kind words I have received from parents and carers over this first term. It is truly appreciated and reminds me every day how lucky I am to work at such an amazing Academy. Have a wonderful Christmas break.

Yours sincerely,



Emily Bradley

