

# November 2019 Newsletter

### Diary Dates

#### November 2019

<b>4th-8th</b>	Maths in Action sessions across school
<b>5th</b>	Year 4 at Woodside Wildlife Centre
<b>6th</b>	Year 3 at Woodside Wildlife Centre
<b>8th</b>	Reception visit to the Fire Station
<b>14th</b>	Year 5/6 trip to the theatre
<b>15th</b>	Children in Need Pyjama Day
<b>18th</b>	Dads, Lads and Lasses
<b>21st &amp; 26th</b>	New Reception intake Open Morning
<b>22nd</b>	Year 2 MSP sports competition
<b>27th</b>	Forces pupils trip



### Diary Dates

#### December 2019

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

### Welcome to our November newsletter

Welcome to our November newsletter. We are so pleased to have had such a positive first half term and we are looking forward to more exciting learning opportunities in the term ahead. We hope the children had a relaxing half term break and are ready for a busy second term! There is always lots going on in the run up to Christmas. Hopefully the dates section at the top of this newsletter will help at this busy time!

### Colder Weather

As the colder weather inevitably closes in over this next term, please ensure your child has a named coat with them each day. Academy staff will be insisting that children wear their coats when spending time outdoors to ensure that they remain safe and well. If you wish to send your child with additional cold weather items such as hats, scarves and gloves, please could we again request that these are clearly named as it can be quite a task for class teachers finding the correct homes for 60 individual gloves!



### Parents Evening

We are truly grateful for the overwhelmingly positive responses in the Parent Questionnaires at our recent Parents Evening. We really do value your feedback and act upon this wherever possible. Outcomes and comments shared are shared at the back of this newsletter.

### Car Park Fences

One area raised through the parental survey at Parents Evening was the fencing around the car park. We recognise that there are small adjustments that need to be made in regards to this fencing and these will be happening over the coming weeks. As always, our main priority is always to keep our pupils and parents safe.

### After school clubs

After school club provision is an area of constant review and discussion between the Academy and parents in order to best meet the needs of our pupils. Whilst some after school clubs are offered at a nominal charge by external agencies, a significant number are offered free of charge by Academy staff above and beyond the school day. We have researched after school club provision by other Lincoln schools and we took a sample of 10 local settings. After school club offers ranged from 3 clubs in a term to 11 with an average number of clubs offered being 7. Witham St Hughs Academy offered 17 clubs to pupils in Term 1. We are always open to constructive feedback in terms of our club provision and work hard to offer 'above and beyond' for our pupils in this area. If any parents feel they are able to offer an after school club themselves, please speak to the school office.

### Parental Forum

We are always keen to work alongside parents to ensure the most effective provision within the Academy. As such, we are holding our next parental forum on Friday 15th November at 3:00 - 3:30. The topic of this will be home-school communication. If you wish to share your views but cannot attend on the 15th. Please email [enquiries@withamsthughs.org](mailto:enquiries@withamsthughs.org) with the subject 'Parental Forum' and these emails will be directed to myself. We look forward to seeing you on the 15th.



### Foundation Stage Area

Our Foundation Stage team work incredibly hard to provide the best possible resources and learning environment for our Reception pupils. This involves setting up and tidying away the outdoor learning area every day to ensure it is both safe, and meeting the learning needs of pupils. Please can you support us in this by ensuring that siblings of Reception pupils are not playing in the Reception outdoor area. We understand this is a tempting space, but it is making our Reception team's job trickier both before and after school. Thank you for your understanding in this.

### Crisp packets

We are still collecting crisp packets for recycling. Crisp packets and also the outer packaging from multi-packs can be brought to the Y5/6 classrooms or to the school office. The crisp packets that we collect will be recycled into benches. We also receive money for school funds for every parcel that we send off.

### Rand Farm

Last term saw Year 2's residential visit to Rand Farm. All of the children had a fantastic time learning all about farm life, feeding and mucking out the animals and making some delicious food! A wonderful time was had by all, with plenty of life skills developed along the way. Thank you to the amazing Year 2 team for providing this opportunity for the children.



### Christmas Productions

Christmas will soon be fast approaching and both the pupils and staff will be busy preparing for the Christmas Productions. 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.

### Cooking Week

At the end of last term, each class took part in our 'Cooking Week' and produced a fantastic dish! We had everything from guacamole to stir fry produced across the week and the children learnt lots of valuable cookery skills along the way. Thank you to Miss Edey for planning such a great learning opportunity.

### Healthy snacks

A polite reminder that children's snacks at break time should be healthy in line with our 'Healthy Schools' approach. Snacks might include fruit, veg or cereals.

### Sensory room

As you may be aware, Ms Ford runs a weekly 'Sensory Room'. This is a fantastic experience for our pupils and those who attend thoroughly enjoy doing so. Ms Ford works hard to include as many children as possible in this learning opportunity and has worked tirelessly to ensure this provision is the best possible for pupils.

### Scholastic Book Club

Our new Scholastic Book Club is up and running! Go to <http://schools.scholastic.co.uk/witham-st-hughs> to browse the latest books and order online. There are some good discounts available. Children have also been given leaflets to take home. For every £1 you spend on this month's Book Club, our school will earn 25p in Scholastic Rewards. Please place your order online by November 18th 2019.

Yours sincerely,



Emily Broadley



# Witham St Hughs Academy Parent Questionnaire Oct 2019 - summary of responses

	Question:	Strongly Agree & Agree	Disagree	Don't Know/ No response	Total
1	My child is happy at this school	100%	0%	0%	93
2	My child feels safe at this school	100%	0%	0%	93
3	My child makes good progress at this school	100%	0%	0%	93
4	My child is taught well at this school	100%	0%	0%	93
5	This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	100%	0%	0%	93
6	This school deals effectively with bullying	72%	0%	28%	93
7	This school is well led and managed	96%	1%	3%	93
8	This school responds well to any concerns I raise	92%	2%	6%	93
9	I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	100%	0%	0%	93
10	I would recommend this school to another parent	99%	0%	1%	93
11	I receive information about what my child will learn during the year	100%	0%	0%	93
12	If my child has any special educational needs or disabilities, the school gives them the support they need to succeed	55%	0%	45%	93
13	This school has high expectations for my child	97%	0%	3%	93
14	There is a good range of subjects and learning opportunities available to my child at this school	100%	0%	0%	93
15	My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school	88%	2%	10%	93
16	This school supports my child's personal development	99%	0%	1%	93

## Any other comments regarding the academy:

- > My child is happy and settled here.
- > Made to feel comfortable in the environment.
- > My child is happy.
- > Learning is at a fast pace.
- > Encouraged to have good friendship groups.
- > My child enjoys being in school.
- > Different children being chosen for leadership roles and plays.
- > High standards.
- > Good meal options.
- > Responds quickly to concerns.
- > Fantastic leadership.
- > Communication great.
- > Very approachable teachers.
- > Excellent teaching and facilities.
- > Holistic, caring approach.
- > Great feedback since starting Year 6!
- > Very friendly and welcomed us with open arms.
- > Both girls are very happy, they love to come to school.
- > Balanced against creating a supportive, non-pressurised environment.
- > Pupils are always really well behaved.
- > Reception staff are always super helpful.
- > Opportunities for learning are varied.
- > Wow - fab school!
- > Friendly approachable teachers who are great at what they do.
- > Well managed.
- > Children are spoken to and treated with respect.
- > Clean and positive in every way.
- > Great home learning.
- > Thank you for all of your hard work.
- > Really great communication and sets high standards for children, while keeping school fun.