



October 2020 Newsletter



Diary Dates

October 2020

13th	Parents Evening 1
15th	Parents Evening 2
22nd	Last day of term

Diary Dates

November 2020

11th	KS2 author visit
16th	New intake open evening
19th	New intake open evening
24th	New intake open evening
25th	Flu sprays
26th	New intake open evening



Welcome to the October newsletter

Welcome to our October newsletter, doesn't time fly! The children have settled extremely well back into learning in their new classes and our new friends in Reception are getting to know their new rules and routines very well. In such a short space of time, pupils have had so many fantastic learning experiences learning all about their exciting new topics. We really hope you have enjoyed following their adventures on our Facebook page and talking to your child about their learning within school.

COVID-19

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents and carers for their continued support of the Academy during this difficult time. We understand that accessing testing is frustrating, but this is a necessary requirement at this time to ensure that all pupils and staff are safe in school and that the Academy can remain open for all. If your child is absent from school awaiting a test result, learning will be set for them via Tapestry or SeeSaw to ensure they do not miss out. We also kindly ask that a copy of their test result is shared with school before your child returns to their classroom.





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My Book Blog

As in previous years, many children are already reading and reviewing books using My Book Blog. To support us further with this, once your child has read their book, please make sure it is returned promptly for others to read. Many of these books may be the same as books on home book shelves - all school My Book Blog books have the Book Blog sticker on the spine so please keep an eye out for these at home. If you would like to sign up to receive regular parent emails updating you on your child's reading on My Book Blog, please follow the link below.

https://mybookblog.org/parent_email_signup/

Parents Evening

We aim to keep you regularly informed about your child's progress via termly updates – Parents' Evenings in the autumn and spring terms, and end of year reports with follow up meetings as required in the summer term. Outside of these formal times, staff are available to discuss your child's progress with you as the need arises. The first Parents' Evenings of the new academic year will take place on Tuesday 13th and Thursday 15th October. Due to the current COVID-19 situation, these meetings will be telephone consultations rather than the usual face to face meetings. This decision has been taken to keep our staff and parents safe at this time. Please use these meetings to get answers to any questions you may have regarding how your child has settled into school this year, along with any information you require regarding their academic performance to date. Meetings are restricted to 10 minutes as in previous years to ensure that all parents are able to speak to their child's class teacher at the designated time. Should you require a longer discussion for a specific reason, this can be arranged subsequently with class teachers at a mutually convenient time.

Cold Weather

Unfortunately, the colder weather is now definitely upon us! As such, please can you ensure your child comes to school each day with their coat. As the weather continues to turn, your child is welcome to bring a hat, scarf or gloves with them to school. Please do ensure these are clearly named. PE will be taking place outside whenever possible during this term. PE lessons will only take place inside in the event of persistent rain, they will not be brought inside unnecessarily. You may therefore wish to add a pair of black or blue jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt to your child's PE kit for the colder weather.



One way system

Thank you so much to our parents and carers for following the one way system in place for drop off and collection of pupils. This system ensures the playground is not overcrowded, people have plenty of room to observe social distancing and our staff, children and families are safe. A reminder that those with Reception pupils only, may access directly onto the Reception playground to avoid walking around the whole school building. We kindly request that parents with a Reception child and other older children, collect their Reception pupil first to avoid walking against the one way system at any point.



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Scooters

Due to the one way system in place, we appreciate that scooters cannot be easily dropped off in the sheds before entering the playground. Please do feel free to walk scooters across the playground if needed. We do request that these are not ridden across the playground to avoid any potential injury to others.

Road Safety

The Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership have shared the attached road safety information with schools. Please take a moment to look at this document.

We are also aware of some children who are not taking care when crossing the road near the Coop—if your child walks home alone, please take a moment to explain to them the importance of crossing roads safely.

We are incredibly lucky that the majority of our families can walk to and from school, and those that need to use a car have access to the village car park directly adjacent to the school site. We encourage all those who do drive at pick up and drop off to park sensibly and whilst keeping in mind local residents.



SeeSaw

A huge thank you to all those who have logged into SeeSaw to access home boards or home learning. We are hopeful that this is not only a COVID secure way of sharing information, but a more environmentally friendly one too! Please do not feel you must respond to home boards or home learning on SeeSaw, there is no requirement for you to do so. If you have any questions or queries which require a response from staff, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher at the door or give us a call or email.

Protecting Our Staff

At Witham St Hughs Academy, ensuring our staff team feel happy and safe at work is a top priority. As such, we will not tolerate any aggressive, rude or threatening behaviour towards our staff team. Whilst we appreciate only the smallest minority of people have engaged in such conduct, it is vital that this message is understood by all.

Yours sincerely,

Emily Broadley

