



## Headteacher Comments

As we head towards half term, I would like to say how impressed the teaching team have all been with how well the children have settled into our Academy. They really are a credit to our school community and the manner in which they all approach learning is unbelievable.

Already the children have experienced so many exciting parts of our curriculum and have had new opportunities and challenges to explore.

The children in EYFS have been absolutely amazing and the manner in which they have settled into their new school routines is impressive. Thank you to our parents for really supporting our teaching team as we know the start of school is not easy.

Our Year 1 and 2 children are equally as impressive and again they have settled in so well. On visiting their classrooms recently, I was blown away by their Maths and English knowledge.

Our Year 3 team have been finding out about the rainforest and already they have visited Woodside Wildlife Park. Our Y4 children have been busy finding out some amazing facts about natural disasters and this week have been writing some super information texts on earthquakes.

Our Year 5 team have visited The Collection this week to find out more about the Vikings whilst our Year 6 children have visited Snipe Dales to develop their geography skills. They have also been lucky to visit Lincoln Showground to take part in their Construction Week.

I look forward to seeing everyone next week for our Parents' Evening and as always, thank you for your continued support. If you do have any questions or queries then please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Enjoy the half term when it arrives everyone.

Kind regards,

Richard Stock

*Headteacher, Witham St Hughs Academy*

## Office Opening Hours

**Monday — Thursday**

8.15am—4.15pm

**Friday**

8.15am—4.00pm

## Curriculum Champions

We are delighted to let you know of a new element of our curriculum design. This year we are having **CURRICULUM CHAMPIONS**.

This is a group of KS2 children who have been chosen to represent different subjects, ranging from Maths to PE.

They have all been awarded with a special champion badge which you may have seen on their jumpers or cardigans.





## Challenge Week

We are all so excited that next week sees the return of Witham Challenge Week!

The children will be taking part in a range of activities, including science, problem solving, music and writing challenges. They will have the opportunity to try new skills and to develop their understanding of our Witham Values.

Check out the Facebook page next week for updates of how the week has gone.

## Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to our collection for Cancer Research at our summer production of Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies.



An amazing **£238.61** was raised in total which is incredible!

## Lincoln Community Larder



### **Lincoln Community Larder**

Helping local people in crisis

Thank you to all of our brilliant families for contributing so much food for the Lincoln Community Larder.

They were overwhelmed with your generosity and it will all make such a significant difference to families in Lincoln.

Joan from the Lincoln Community Larder took part in our Harvest Festival assembly where our school choir also impressed us with their version of the Harvest Song.

## PTFA news

### Non-uniform day

On **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October** the children will be allowed to come into school wearing suitable non-uniform clothing for the donation of a tombola prize to be used at the Autumn Fair.

We are asking:

- EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 for donations of chocolate.
- Years 3 and 4 for donations of pre-loved cuddly toys
- Years 5 and 6 for general tombola prizes

Thank you for your support.

### Autumn Fair

Our Autumn Fair will be held in the school hall on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November from 4.00pm to 6.00pm.**

There will be lots of stalls for you to start your Christmas shopping plus a raffle and tombola.

We would love to see you there and hope that together we can raise some serious money!

### Beginning and end of the school day

The arrangements for the beginning and end of the day remain the same as were in place in the summer term.

The gates will open at 8.50am in the morning and at 3.25pm in the afternoon. The one-way system is still in place so where possible it would be appreciated if this could still be used.

### No dogs

Please be reminded that we do not allow dogs onto our Academy premises.



## School Values

Just a reminder of our school values. These form the heart of our school ethos and we promote them each day.

Our KS1 children will be bringing stickers home if they show our values and our KS2 children earn citizenship points for showing them. So many children have managed to achieve so many values already, and truly deserved, as they have been brilliant.



## Seesaw

As you are aware, the children in Y1—Y6 use Seesaw as a learning platform to share and celebrate some of their learning. Homework is also available via Seesaw.

Please be reminded that the teaching team will not respond to any questions and communication through this platform. ***If you do have any questions then please contact school via email, have a quick conversation on the door or if needed arrange a meeting.***

Thank you

## Reminders

Please can you make sure that when queuing for the gate to open in the morning, your children are not playing in front of the automatic doors making them open and close. Visitors have been finding it difficult to get past them and this can be avoided.

Please can you also ensure that children are not climbing on the pram/buggy cover as this is presenting a hazard.

## Class teacher conversations

We are very aware that having the opportunity to meet the class teacher is not always easy.

If you would like to arrange to speak to the class teacher then please arrange an appointment via the school office.

You are welcome to have brief conversations on drop off or pick up but if you require a good length of time then please follow the process above.

Expecting long conversations on the door is extremely difficult when the teaching team are also managing the other children.

With regards to conversations, please also be reminded that we expect parents to show respect to our teaching team. We do not expect our teaching staff to be spoken to disrespectfully and this will not be tolerated and is unacceptable—especially when other children are around.

We appreciate that there are circumstances in school where discussions need to take place but these must remain amicable at all times. If you feel strongly, it is advisable to arrange an appointment so that it can be discussed inside school.

## Staff news

We are delighted to welcome our new Sports Leader, **Mr Jack Medley** to our Academy. He will be working with us for five days a week to promote sport across our Academy. Already, he has made a really positive start and I know he is very excited about his new role.

We will also be saying goodbye to **Miss Smyth** after Christmas who will be leaving us as she is relocating away from Lincoln. We wish her the very best in her new adventures.

This means we will be recruiting for a new Y4 class teacher over the coming weeks—we will of course keep you updated about this.



## **Diary dates**

### **October 2022**

Monday 17th October **Challenge week**

Tuesday 18th October **Parents' evening**

Thursday 20th October **Parents' evening**

Friday 21st October **Term one ends**

### **November 2021**

Monday 31st October **Term two starts**

Friday 4th November **Year 1 Toy Experience Day**

Monday 7th November **Autumn Fair from 4.00pm—6.00pm**

Friday 11th November **Remembrance day**

Monday 14th November **Healthy Minds workshop for parents**

Tuesday 15th November **Forces Family Breakfast**

Wednesday 16th November **Y4 to Hartsholme Park**

Friday 18th November **Children in Need and Y3 Healthy Minds workshop**

### **December 2021**

Thursday 1st December **EYFS Christmas Production**

Friday 2nd December

Wednesday 6th December **Y1/2 Christmas Production**

Thursday 7th December

Friday 9th December **Christmas Jumper Day**

Friday 16th December **Term two ends at 2.00pm**



Welcome to the Witham Well-Being update. This month we are fortunate to be able to work with Healthy Minds again to offer parent and child support workshops. Many of you may have heard of the service and indeed had some materials shared with you from school. The children often work with Ms Ford with these resources in school and we would like to invite parents and carers to find out more and have an opportunity to use these resources along side their child in school.



## KEY STAGE TWO Parent/Carer and Pupil

### HEALTHY MINDS Workshop

#### All about worries



Healthy Minds Lincolnshire are running a bookable session for **Key Stage Two** parents and carers to work with their child on **Monday 14th November from 2.00pm—3.00pm** in the school hall. Members of the Healthy Minds team will be available to talk to, alongside Mrs Dexter and the school team. This will be a practical session based around worry and emotions where parents/carers can work together with their child.

The session will provide strategies and tools that parents/carers can use within the home to support their child to develop positive emotional wellbeing and to answer any questions that you may have. It is also an opportunity to talk together as parents/carers.

If you would like to join this session please email the school office no later than Monday 7th November with the subject Healthy Minds Workshop.

#### **Pastoral Support**

Ms Ford and the pastoral team continue to work hard to support those children who may need additional support.

Ms Ford has dedicated time at the start and end of each day to talk to children about how they are feeling.

These sessions will take place in the new nurture room at school and are led by Ms Ford on an individual or small group basis.

#### **Useful Numbers**

Child Line: 0800 1111

Young Carers Helpline: 01522 553 275

Samaritans: 01522 528 282

Family Services: 0800 195 1635

Women's Aid: 0808 2000 247

#### **Who to contact?**

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

Her email address is [michelle.dexter@withamsthughs.org](mailto:michelle.dexter@withamsthughs.org)

If you think that you need further support then do not hesitate to contact school on: 01522 869590 or [enquiries@withamsthughs.org](mailto:enquiries@withamsthughs.org)

