



## Headteacher Comments

Welcome to term two everyone and I am sure that you are starting to think about the magical month of December which is rapidly approaching!

Once again, the children have started this term with so much confidence and enthusiasm. The quality of learning has been inspiring and it has been lovely to see the children take so much pride in their achievements.

As always, our teaching team have worked so hard to ensure that the curriculum is exciting and makes children want to learn. The wow day for our Y1 children last week certainly motivated the children to learn and the outfits were brilliant!

Today was our Remembrance Day service and we were delighted to be able to share this with our school community—having our parents in school more often this term has been excellent and is so important to us. Thank you for spending the time to come along this morning and well done to our Forces children who led the service so well. Follow this more on our Facebook page.



Next week we have our English in Action where we have invited parents to come into classrooms. Again the interest for this has been amazing so thank you for showing such great support.

Enjoy the next few weeks of term everyone!

Kind regards,  
Richard Stock

*Headteacher, Witham St Hughs Academy*

## Office Opening Hours

**Monday — Thursday**

8.15am—4.15pm

**Friday**

8.15am—4.00pm

## Children In Need

Please be reminded that next week on Friday 18th November is our opportunity to support the wonderful charity that is Children In Need.

This is such a great cause and makes such a big difference.

Children are invited to take part in the 'Spotacular' theme for a donation of £1.00.





## Challenge Week

Just to say thank you to everyone for supporting our Challenge Week.

The children experienced a range of activities including a science workshop, the Happy Puzzle Company workshop and a music workshop.

Our ambition is to allow children to always be excited to learn and have new experiences. This week certainly achieved this and we know that children will continue to be challenged in lots of different ways.

## Luke Temple

We were delighted to have the brilliant author Luke Temple attend our school recently and listen to his many stories about how he became an author as well as hear him read some highlights from his books.

The children were so excited that he could sign their books and I know he has inspired children to continue reading and even want to become authors themselves! He loved coming to our school as well—see the Tweet below!



**Author Luke Temple**  
@authorLTemple

Replying to @WSHacademy

Witham St Hughs is amazing! The best 'reading for pleasure' school I've visited in 15 years of authoring. Your library space is wonderful, the diverse selection of books truly inspiring, and the presence of books around the building so effective. See you all again soon I hope!

22:39 · 01/11/2022 · [Twitter Web App](#)



## PTFA news



WITHAM ST HUGHS  
ACADEMY PTFA

## Autumn Fair

We would like to say a massive thank you to our PTFA for organising the Autumn Fair and to everyone in our community for attending. It was great to have an event once again and see so many of you support our Academy.

The PTFA have worked incredibly hard this term to introduce new events and I know they are looking forward to their next event in December. More information to follow next week.



## Staff news

We are delighted to welcome our new Y4 class teacher to our Academy. Mr Adam Welham will be joining us in January 2023 and I know he is very excited about his new role.

Sadly, we will also be saying goodbye to **Mrs Wallace** at Christmas. She has worked tirelessly for our Academy over the years and I would like to thank her for her commitment—the children have always thrived in her class. We wish her the very best in her new adventures!

This means we will be recruiting for a new Y2 class teacher over the coming weeks—we will of course keep you updated about this and we thank you for your understanding.



## 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.

## English in Action

Next week, we are excited to have our English in Action events take place in school.

We are all so proud of our school and we all know that the children will love having the opportunity to showcase their classrooms.

The organisation of this event has certainly not been easy and the uptake has been amazing, so thank you all so much for this.

Unfortunately, the classrooms simply are not big enough to allow everyone to take part. If you have been unsuccessful this time please do not worry. When the sessions take place in the Spring term your names will be first on the list.

## 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.

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

Thank you.



## Library

We are delighted with how well the new library has been embraced by our children.

They all love spending time reading in their new space and we are so pleased with the way in which they are thinking about what books they would like to see added to the library. The reading post box has been very popular and this has allowed children to ask for certain books which interest them—these have been added to the library.

Thank you to our Reading Champions and library monitors for ensuring that the books are looked after and the space is kept tidy.

## Parent Questionnaires

Thank you to everyone who returned our recent questionnaire. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive and as always we really do value your support and continued commitment to our Academy. Some highlights of the outcomes are below:

***My child is happy at this school: 100%***

***My child makes good progress at this school: 97%***

***My child is taught well at this school: 100%***

***This school has high expectations for my child: 99%***

***There is a good range of learning opportunities: 99%***



## **Diary dates**

### **November 2022**

<i>Friday 11th November</i>	<b><i>Remembrance day</i></b>
<i>Monday 14th November</i>	<b><i>Healthy Minds workshop for parents</i></b>
<i>Tuesday 15th November</i>	<b><i>Forces Family Breakfast and EYFS Open Morning</i></b>
<i>Wednesday 16th November</i>	<b><i>Y4 to Hartsholme Park</i></b>
<i>Friday 18th November</i>	<b><i>Children in Need and Y3 Healthy Minds workshop</i></b>
<i>Thursday 24th November</i>	<b><i>EYFS Open Morning</i></b>

### **December 2022**

<i>Thursday 1st December</i>	<b><i>EYFS Christmas Production</i></b>
<i>Friday 2nd December</i>	
<i>Tuesday 6th December</i>	<b><i>Y1/2 Christmas Production</i></b>
<i>Wednesday 7th December</i>	
<i>Friday 9th December</i>	<b><i>Christmas Jumper Day</i></b>
<i>W/C Monday 12th December</i>	<b><i>Christmas parties - further details to follow</i></b>
<i>Wednesday 14th December</i>	<b><i>Health Team in to administer remaining flu sprays</i></b>
<i>Friday 16th December</i>	<b><i>Term two ends at 2.00pm</i></b>

### **January 2023**

<i>Wednesday 4th January</i>	<b><i>Term three starts</i></b>
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Welcome to the Witham Well-Being update. This month the children will find out more about Anti-Bullying week at school. The children will be having assemblies and lessons based around this and will learn different ways to express themselves and celebrate all the reasons why they are individual and special.

## Being me!

Talk to your child about all the amazing features they have that make them and special. This can include;

- eye and hair colour
- skin colour
- their interests and hobbies
- their family
- things they find easy AND tricky to do

Tell your child that nobody is the same as them and that is what makes them amazing! Ask them what they think they are amazing at! Remind them who they can talk to if they are worried at school.

Set your child a challenge to think of all the brilliant things that makes their family or friends unique. How could they tell these people? Write them a letter to tell them or give them a phone call to share something that is amazing about them.



## Useful Numbers

Academy number: 01522 869 590  
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

## Pastoral Support

Ms Ford and the pastoral team will 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.

Please do let us know if your child needs support.

## 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)

