



Witham St Hughs Academy
A L.E.A.D. Academy

Witham News

Edition Eight
28th April 2023



Headteacher Comments

Welcome to our April newsletter and I hope that you are all keeping well following the Easter break.

The children returned to school last week with so much positivity and energy. The learning they have achieved during the past two weeks has been incredible and the children have all really embraced their new topics with so much enthusiasm.

We are delighted that our Enrichment Clubs have started this week and it has created a real buzz around school. The summer term is certainly looking action packed and this term especially, our football teams and netballs team are continuing to participate competitively with local schools and are very busy. Thank you to everyone who has supported with this and helped encourage your children! As we have said all year, developing sport and understanding of healthy lifestyles is so important and this continues to be developed in school.

Later this term we are looking forward to our Coronation Event, Sports Week, the Y5/6 production, as well as other year group activities. We will keep you informed of future events as soon as dates have been confirmed.

As always, if you do have any questions then please come and speak to your class teacher or alternatively contact the school office.

Kind regards,

Richard Stock

Headteacher, Witham St Hughs Academy

Office Opening Hours

Monday — Thursday

8.15am—4.15pm

Friday

8.15am—4.00pm

PE kit

Just a reminder that children should have both their indoor and outdoor PE kits in school every day.

Please ensure that trainers are brought into school for outside PE as well.

Thank you.





School drop off and pick up

Thank you to everyone for ensuring that our start and end times to the school day have worked so well this term.

Just a reminder that we close the gates at **9.00am** in the morning to ensure that lessons start promptly and we have maximum teaching time.

After school, the collection window has reduced slightly and the children should be collected between **3.25pm—3.35pm**.

Thank you.



Wildlife Project Part Two

First of all, a massive thank you to everyone who has supported us with this project already and it has made such an incredible difference. Already, the children have had the opportunity to see the changes but there is still some more to do!

Once again, we are looking for **some adult volunteers** to help continue to clear some of the overgrown areas so that we can shape and design the area even further.

On Thursday 18th May between 10.00am—12.00pm a small group of staff will be spending the morning helping. If you wanted to join them and help—even if just for an hour—this would be brilliant! Please let the office know if you think you can spare some time so we know numbers.

Thank you so much everyone.

Cross Country Success

Just to say a massive well done to some members of our cross country team. Four members of our team from Y5 and Y6 took part in the mixed relay event in Lincoln this week.

They did so well and finished collectively in fourth position. This is an amazing achievement from 25 schools who took part.

Well done to Savannah, Leyton, Luisa and Theo. You should all be so proud of yourselves!



Absence

The procedure for reporting pupil absence is as follows:

- Contact the school office via email or phone call
- No pupil absence should be reported via Seesaw or Tapestry

Staff contact

Just a reminder that if you would like to contact school staff then emails should be going through the school office who will forward as appropriate.

Please use either the admin or enquiries email addresses:

admin@withamsthughs.org

enquiries@withamsthughs.org



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 bring 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.

It has been brilliant this term to see so many children start to earn their silver citizenship badges and I know they all wear their badges with pride.



School Singing



Just to say well done to all of the children who have been taking part in our choir this year.

With nearly fifty children taking part in KS2, the sound they are creating is absolutely fantastic.

Mr Norton and Miss Sharp, our singing teacher, are doing a brilliant job and there will opportunities for them to perform later during the summer term.

Usborne Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who helped support the Usborne Book Fair last term.

It was an amazing success and we have no doubt that you have all been enjoying your chosen books!

Reading is such an important life skill and we are so lucky that we can now buy a few more books for our library. Thank you for your support.

NSPCC

As part of our Character Education curriculum there will be some workshops which are taking place across the school, run through NSPCC.

Speak out. Stay safe. is a safeguarding programme available to all primary schools in the UK. It aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse in a very child friendly way. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a trusted adult or Childline.

We will also be continuing to promote the children's understanding of how to stay safe in school and within the community. We will continue to remind children to speak to their trusted adults in school and out of school.

Y6 and Y2 SATS WEEK

Just a reminder:

Y6 SATS week will be taking from **Tuesday 9th May to Friday 12th May.**

Y2 SATS week will be taking place from **Monday 15th May until Friday 19th May.**



Diary dates

April 2023

Tuesday 18th April **Term five starts**

May 2023

Monday 1st May **Bank Holiday**

Friday 5th May **Coronation event for parents—2.00pm**

Monday 8th May **Bank Holiday**

*Tuesday 9th May -
Friday 12th May* **Y6 SATS week begins**

Tuesday 9th May **Y3 to visit Pizza Express**

Wednesday 10th May **Y3 to visit Pizza Express**

Monday 15th May **Y2 SATS week begins**

Tuesday 16th May **RSHE parent meetings on Zoom**

Monday 22nd May **Forces Quiz Night from 5.00pm—7.00pm— further information to follow**

Friday 26th May **Term five ends at 3.25pm**

June 2023

Monday 5th June **Term six starts**

July 2023

Monday 3rd July **Y5/6 Sports Day**

Tuesday 4th July **EYFS/Y1/Y2 Sports Day**

Wednesday 5th July **Y3/4 Sports Day**

Monday 17th July **Week beginning— Y5/6 production performances—TBC**

Friday 21st July **Term six ends at 2.00pm**



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Witham Well-Being



Welcome to the Witham Well-Being update. As we start the new term we will continue to support the children in school with their mental health. As part of this the children enjoy regular Yoga sessions. Why not try some of these at home!



We have bought into the **YogaBugs** Virtual Programme for our school, and this includes access to YogaBugs videos and mindfulness techniques for you and your children.

On the YogaBugs Parent Portal you will have access to Yoga and Mindfulness videos, along with helpful mindfulness activities and visualisations that you can use for you whole family.

To register and log into your portal please click on the link below and register your details:

www.yogabugsvirtual.com

You will need to select **parents** and click to register as a new user.

Complete the details requested and select **school** for the eCode type.

The eCode you need to enter is:

witham-st-hughs-2258

*** Please note your access code MUST NOT be shared with anyone else, as the school has signed a confidentiality agreement ***

We hope you enjoy using the YogaBugs activities at home.



Pastoral Support

Ms Ford continues to support those children who may need additional support. She has dedicated time during the school day to talk to children about their feelings. These sessions take place in the nurture room on an individual or small group basis. There are a range of groups which Ms Ford regularly leads including :

* Young Carers * Bereavement * Separated families * Emotions and Feelings

Please do let us know if you would like more information about these groups.

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

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

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

Attendance

Part of Mrs Dexter's role is continuing to monitor attendance at the academy. She will regularly contact families where children's attendance has dropped below 90% to offer support if required.