



# Witham St Hughs Academy

*'Education For Lifelong Learning'*

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## January 2014 Newsletter

### Happy New Year!

Welcome back to the start of a new term and a new year. May we take this opportunity to wish you all the very best for the year ahead.

The first week of the new year has been a good one here in school, with the children returning in a very focused way and ready to learn.

### End of Last Term

Thanks to all who took part in our end of term YR – Y2 productions, and Y3-Y6 Christmas Songs Event either as performers or spectators. As usual, our children did us proud, producing fantastic performances.

We would also like to thank you for your generosity at the performances. Altogether, we raised a total of £409.75, all of which will be donated to Witham LIVES.

### Reception 2014 Intake

January 13<sup>th</sup> is the application closing date for entry to Reception in September 2014. Please make sure all applications are in by this date. Thank you.

### Consultation Regarding Expansion of Witham St Hughs Academy

For the academic year starting September 2012, and for subsequent years thereafter, we had been asked to offer 45 places for pupils wishing to start Reception at the academy instead of our usual 30 places. To enable this to happen, mobile classrooms have been located on the school grounds.

In order for the increase in pupil numbers to continue in coming years, we are planning to undertake a formal consultation regarding a permanent expansion of the academy to allow us to admit 45 pupils for every forthcoming Reception intake. Money has already been secured for a permanent build of 4 new classrooms and associated additional space, which would see a new build in place before September 2015, subject to a final agreement to expand following consultation.

A letter explaining the proposal in more depth along with how to give your views will be sent home in the near future.

### Adverse Weather Reminder

During adverse weather, details of any closures, should they need to be made, will be communicated directly using our text messaging service and where possible, we will leave a message on the school website. In addition, closures will also be broadcast on LINCS FM and BBC Radio Lincolnshire as well as on the Lincolnshire County Council snowline webpage. Please let the office know if any of your mobile phone numbers have recently changed. Thank you.

### Staffing Update

At the end of last term we said 'Thank you, good bye and good luck' to Mr Wilson who took up post at Leslie Manser School in Lincoln following the end of his maternity cover contract at Witham. We warmly welcome back Mrs Hall who returned from her maternity leave this week.

### Curriculum Newsletters

Our curriculum newsletters for the spring term will be sent home next week. The purpose of these is to give you an overview of the learning that your child will be involved with during the term. If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to see your child's class teacher.

### Sport Relief

This year our academy will be supporting 'Witham Runners' to help raise money for Sport Relief. The Witham Runners will again be hosting 'The Witham Mile'. This will take place on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. For anyone wishing to take part, there will be 1, 3 or 6 mile runs around the village. Participants can then enjoy the other sporting entertainment on offer.

Until Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January, entry fees are half price. To enter, please visit the Sport Relief website and then click the following links: Events, The Mile, Enter Now.

### Holidays in Term Time

Following on from previous information regarding holidays in term time, we have been asked for further information regarding this area, and the system for issuing Fixed Penalty Notices. As such, we intend to produce a separate letter



later this month which provides full information around this aspect.

### PTFA Update

#### PTFA Second-Hand Uniform Shop – Spring

The shop is back in action! The main information is:

- Uniform Collection Week Mon 27<sup>th</sup> – Fri 31<sup>st</sup> January
- The shop will run once a month on a **MONDAY** from 3.15pm – 3.45pm
- The shop will take place in the school playground, **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February** and **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

### Parents' Forum

This month, we would like to hear your views regarding:

***Would short video resources be useful in helping you to understand more about school life and learning? If so, which areas would be most beneficial?***

Please email any thoughts through to [enquiries@withamsthughs.org](mailto:enquiries@withamsthughs.org) Thank you!

### Children's Centre

Please find the January timetable attached.

Yours sincerely

Neil Spencelayh,  
Headteacher

### Dates for the Diary

#### January

- 15<sup>th</sup> PTFA Meeting, 6pm: All Welcome
- 20<sup>th</sup> Bring Your Family to School Sessions (Details to Follow)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Bring Your Family to School Sessions (Details to Follow)

#### February

- 7<sup>th</sup> Y3 Class Assembly
- 10<sup>th</sup> PTFA Valentine Disco
- 13<sup>th</sup> End of Term
- 24<sup>th</sup> Children Back

#### March

- 6<sup>th</sup> Y3/4 Visit to The Collection
- 13<sup>th</sup> Y5/6 Visit to Southwell Workhouse
- 14<sup>th</sup> Y2 Class Assembly
- 18<sup>th</sup> Parent Consultation Evening 4 – 7pm
- 19<sup>th</sup> Parent Consultation Evening 4 – 7pm
- 25<sup>th</sup> Application of Learning (Details to Follow)
- 26<sup>th</sup> Application of Learning (Details to Follow)
- 27<sup>th</sup> Dads, Lads & Lasses, 5 – 6.30pm
- 27<sup>th</sup> Y5 Bikeability
- 28<sup>th</sup> Y5 Bikeability

#### April

- 4<sup>th</sup> End of Term. Children Leave at 2pm
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Children Return to School