



Witham St Hughs Academy

'Education For Lifelong Learning'

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July 2014 Newsletter

Another Year End Approaches!

It feels like two minutes ago that we were welcoming in the 2013/14 academic year, and here we are nearing its end. As is always the case in schools, the end of the year is a very busy time; reports are being produced, summer production rehearsals are well underway, and the staff and children are still working hard to complete all of the necessary learning prior to the summer break.

We also hold our 'meet your new classes' session, which will be held on Thursday 17th July. Parents are more than welcome to meet their child's new teacher after school on this date, before the whole process of a new academic year starts again...

Sports Week

Sports Week was a great success, with our pupils involved in a whole range of activities including kayaking, rock-climbing and multi-sports. It was also great to see parents attending the parental sessions in this week, with several of you enjoying games of croquet, kurling and rounders??!

Staff were also included in the proceedings: we had the pleasure of a very intensive workout led by Mrs Broadley, and were also treated to Sumo wrestling matches!! I'm a little worried about what will happen during Sports Week next year! A huge thank you to Mrs Gelsthorpe and Ms Ford for organising this week for us.

Our annual Sports Days were also held during Sports Week. We would like to pass on our thanks to all who attended and also to those of you who took part in the parents' races at the end. Unfortunately, Mrs Griffiths and myself were unable to take part in these races this year as we were called to a meeting which we could not escape from. However, we will look forward to being part of the fun next year!

Enterprise Events

Thank you to all who attended our enterprise events last Friday after school. The 'Bake-off' was fiercely contested, and was judged by local chef Sally Elkington. She was very impressed by the quality of the entries into this competition.

The 'Crafty Kids', 'Withmix' and 'Miss Smeller's Team' also all helped to make the event an overall success.

Tonight, the 'Night Night' enterprise event takes place from 7 – 9pm. There will be hot-dogs, marshmallows and stargazing on offer for those with valid tickets!

Absence From School

Thank you for all of your efforts in ensuring children are at school. The overall attendance level this year has been very good, and is currently just above 97% - the best it has been for several years.

We occasionally get children sent to school who are clearly 'not well' and who still have upset stomachs following illness. Our records show far fewer incidences of this type and we would like to thank you for your consideration in this area.

End of Year Reports

End of year reports come home on Thursday 10th July. Due to reports being sent home, there is no Parents' Meeting in the summer term. However, should you feel the need to discuss any aspect of your child's report, please arrange a time to discuss this with your child's class teacher. Thank you.

Transition Arrangements

Transfer of information is crucial in helping children move smoothly into the next year of their education. Following feedback last year regarding transition from pre-school into Reception, we have reviewed transition arrangements for pupils entering Reception this year.

For pupils in other year groups, on Friday 11th July we will be sending home transition information letters. The purpose of these letters is to support transition arrangements by giving parents and carers information about the year group their child will be moving into. Again, as with all aspects of our work, if you can think of other information it would have been useful to have received, then please let us know.



Class Updates

Each of the year groups has composed a short section to update you on some of the things they have been involved with so far this term!

YR

Reception have had a very busy term! They have been thoroughly enjoying our 'Make It' topic and have all participated in lots of activities such as making gingerbread men, blending healthy fruit smoothies, making pizzas, designing and making our own buildings, and creating musical instruments! It has been lots of fun, and they have learnt lots of new skills along the way.

Our enterprise work is coming to a close, with final card sales being completed in Mrs Rocks' class, and plants being sold on Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th July in Miss Easey's class. The children have developed a good understanding of money through this work and have had some fantastic ideas.

The children have also taken part in their very first sports day, which was a huge success! Thank you very much to all of the parents who came along and supported this event, the children were brilliant team players and all tried their best.

Y1

This term we have continued to explore the I'm Alive topic. We have been exploring sculptures in Art and have made our own animal sculptures. In PSHE we have talked about looking after our own personal hygiene and becoming more independent: this will help us prepare for Year Two! Next week, we will be exploring animal habitats and making our own habitat out of junk modelling materials.

Y2

In Year Two, we have had a fabulous time this Term! We have continued to learn about animals and had a wonderful time at the Yorkshire Wildlife Park, where we saw giraffes, lions, wallabies and many more animals! Within school, we have learnt about habitats around the world. We also know lots about animals that are endangered or have become extinct.

Y3

Year 3 have been very busy this term! We started our term as evacuees at the World War Two sleepover and experience day where we learnt all about life as an evacuee. We enjoyed playing traditional playground games, writing and posting letters home and baking biscuits using rationed ingredients. Years 3 and 4 were also lucky enough to have a visit from the mobile museum. The truck was fantastic and we loved seeing all the amazing artefacts. Sports week has

seen Year 3 trying out lots of new activities such as handball and rock climbing on our trip to The Showroom. We all tried our best on sports day and enjoyed cheering on our classmates!

Y4

This term Year 4 have thoroughly enjoyed learning more about World War Two. The highlight, for many, has been the World War Two Sleepover and Experience Day. The children fully immersed themselves into the experience. We have also been extremely lucky to have the WW2 Mobile Museum in school for a second experience day. This was a fantastic experience as surround sound, lighting and smoke machines were used to recreate the Blitz. The children also had the opportunity to try on authentic WW2 clothing and hold bombs, bullets and guns from the time. You can see the pictures from this day on the WW2 Mobile Museum Website: <http://www.mobileww2museum.co.uk>.

Y5

It has been a busy end to the term for Year 5, we are currently working hard in rehearsals to make our summer play a roaring success! In Literacy, we have been learning and writing about stories from other cultures. In Numeracy, we have investigated ratio and proportion as well learning about area and perimeter in compound shapes. We have designed and built our own toy fairground rides using electric circuits and a range of tools which we have all really enjoyed doing!

Y6

Our last few weeks at Witham St Hughs Academy have been really busy. We have been out on visits to our new secondary schools. We have enjoyed kayaking in Sports Week. The PCSOs have visited us to talk about personal safety and we have also been on a Year 6 Safety Day at Waddington Training Centre. Last week we went to North Kesteven School to perform a song that we have written. In school we have enjoyed designing and making fairground rides.

Jewellery in School

We have recently reviewed our policy regarding jewellery in school. The policy is as follows:

Children are permitted to wear a watch and one charity wrist-band. They may also wear stud earrings providing they are able to remove them for PE sessions.

We kindly ask that if you are planning for your child to get their ears pierced at any point, that consideration is given to this being done at the

start of the summer holidays so that there is sufficient healing time prior to children restarting school. They will then be able to participate fully in their PE lessons. Thank you for your help with this.

KS2 Production

Tickets are currently available for our end of term production – ‘Aladdin Trouble’! The show is developing well and will be a really good way to end this academic year – we hope you are able to attend and that you enjoy the show!

Reminders

Meet Your New Class

On Thursday 17th July, the children will spend some time with the teachers they will be working with in September. At the end of the day, we would like to invite parents to informally ‘drop in’ to meet their child’s new teacher. All welcome.

Warm Weather

As the warm weather continues, please make sure children come to school with sun-cream applied and that they have sun-hats to hand! Thank you.

End of Term Arrangements

Children break up at **2pm on Wednesday 23rd July and return to school on Thursday 4th September.**

Children’s Centre

July Timetable attached.

Yours sincerely

Neil Spencelayh,
Headteacher

Dates for the Diary

July

- 7th Y5&6 Visit to Magna
- 9th Application of Learning: Y3-6, 2.30pm
- 10th Application of Learning: YR-2, 2.30pm
- 12th PTFA Summer Fair 11am – 2pm
- 14th KS2 Summer Production, 6.30pm
- 15th KS2 Summer Production, 6.30pm
- 17th Meet Your New Teacher – parents welcome, 3.30pm
- 23rd Y6 Leavers Assembly for Parents of Y6 Pupils, 1.10pm – further details to follow
- 23rd Children Break Up - **2pm Finish**

September

- 4th Children Return to School