



Witham St Hughs Academy

'Education For Lifelong Learning'

Muntjac Way, Witham St Hughs, Lincoln, LN6 9WF, Tel: 01522 869590, Fax: 01522 869651
E-mail: enquiries@withamsthughs.org Website www.witham-st-hughs.co.uk

March 2014 Newsletter

Home-Learning Projects

As in previous years, children in years Reception to Year 5 will be set a home-learning project prior to the Easter break. This will be in place of the usual home-learning that comes home each week.

We hope that by varying the style of home-learning, this provides an interesting alternative which is enjoyable for those children and adults wishing to engage with it. As always, any support you are able to give is very much appreciated. YR to Y2 will receive their project brief on 2nd April, and Y3-5 on 31st March. The hand in date for all projects is Wednesday 30th April and we kindly ask that projects are brought to school on this date. Project feedback will be sent home on Friday 2nd May.

Parent Consultation Evening

Our Parents' Evenings will be held next week. The purpose of these meetings is to allow staff to update you on the progress your child is making at the half way point of the academic year, and for you to ask any questions you may have regarding the progress of your child. We hope you find the meetings useful and look forward to seeing you next week!

Sport Relief

We will be supporting Sport Relief here in the academy on Friday 21st March. Children are invited to pay £1 to come to school wearing a sports kit of their choice. All money raised will be donated to Sport Relief. We thank you in advance for your support.

Singing Lessons

Starting after Easter, our keyboard teacher, Mrs Duckering, will be offering singing lessons in school. Sessions will be in groups of 2 pupils at a cost of £5 for a 30 minute session. For further information, please contact the main office. Thank you.

Bikeability

Cycling safety sessions will be running for Year 5 pupils on 27th and 28th March. As in previous years, children will be taught how to ride their bikes safely on roads before being taken into the village.

Before School

We have noticed an increasing number of children arriving on to the school site well before the doors open at 8.50am, with some children unsupervised from 8.20am. We kindly ask for your support in not allowing your children to arrive at school prior to the gates being unlocked at 8.40am. Thank you.

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

The children in Reception have enjoyed taking part in the "Robin Hood" Experience Day. They and the staff dressed up in costumes relevant to the time and took part in archery, den building and team raiding activities. It was lots of fun and the children had the opportunity to learn in a fun and exciting manner.

Y1

We have continued to extend our knowledge of different types of transport. In geography we explored different ways of travelling and looked at how transport is used in a range of locations. During history, we used iPads to research bikes, cars and planes of the past. Next week we will be producing a class art project by printing transport designs. We are continuing to make good progress in hockey and will soon be applying our new skills to match situations.

Y2

This half term, Year Two are learning all about transport! We have researched the history of lots of different types of transport including boats, cars, aeroplanes and bicycles. We have used the knowledge we have developed to design and make our own aeroplanes and boats, thinking carefully about the design features. We have also developed our printing skills by printing a large whole-class piece of artwork linking to the topic of transport.

Y3

In Year 3 we have really enjoyed learning about nonsense poems, riddles and limericks. We have



written some fantastic ones of our own, they are very funny! Over this term our Taiko skills have been improving and we are beginning to compose our own patterns to perform on the Taiko drums. We are enjoying our topic of Ancient Egypt and had a fantastic time on our trip to The Collection. We learnt all about the story of Osiris and had great fun dressing up in the costumes to act out the story. We also loved taking part in the big dig and unearthing some artefacts to put into our own museum.

Y4

In Year 4 we have been learning all about Ancient Egyptian artefacts such as the scarab beetle! We researched to find out the significance of the scarab beetle and discovered that they were used as good luck charms and stamps. They were also a popular design on many ancient amulets. We found out that the colours of the scarab beetle symbolised various aspects of the Egyptian landscape. We then created our own scarab beetles out of clay and painted them with acrylic paints! Year 4 also enjoyed visiting The Collection. We took part in an archaeological dig, made amulets, learnt ancient myths through drama and costume, walked around the museum and painted our own hieroglyphics! We found it really interesting!

Y5

This month we have finished writing biographies and have started to learn about different forms of persuasive writing. We are currently writing persuasive letters and designing leaflets. In Numeracy, we have developed our understanding of pie charts, Venn diagrams and have moved on to learning about fractions, decimals and percentages. In Science, we have started to investigate sound and have learnt how our ears work. During ICT sessions we have enjoyed learning how to create our own code to programme games using the software Scratch and Kodu. We have continued to learn about the Victorian era and created some excellent William Morris wallpaper samples.

Y6

In Year 6 we are still enjoying our topic on the Victorians and we have recently been learning about Victorian working children. In our Literacy work, we have been writing biographies and revising our grammatical knowledge. In art, we have enjoyed experimenting with different printing techniques. In our science lessons we have just started learning about sound. Our ICT focus has been on developing our programming skills using 'Scratch'. In Arts Week, we had a trip to one of the local secondary schools to

watch their performance of 'Hairspray'. We have also been developing our links with our international partner school in France.

PTFA Update

The PTFA will be providing refreshments at the Parent Consultation Evenings next week. They will also be running an Easter quiz with details announced in the near future!

Parents' Forum

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

To what extent do you think children should be made aware of stranger-danger?

Please email any thoughts through to enquiries@withamsthughs.org Thank you!

Children's Centre

Please find the March timetable attached.

The next Dad's Group will be held on Saturday 22nd March from 10am - 12pm. Bacon butties from 10 – 11am, followed by activities from 11am – 12pm. All male carers and their children welcome!

Yours sincerely

Neil Spencelayh,
Headteacher

Dates for the Diary

March

13th Y5/6 Visit to Southwell Workhouse
18th Parent Consultation Evening 4 – 7pm
19th Parent Consultation Evening 4 – 7pm
21st Sport Relief Day
25th Application of Learning – KS1 (Details to Follow)
26th Application of Learning – KS2 (Details to Follow)
27th Dads, Lads & Lasses, 5 – 7pm
27th Y5 Bikeability
28th Y5 Bikeability
28th Y1/2 Visit to Hull transport Museum

April

2nd PTFA Meeting at 6pm – All Welcome!
4th End of Term. Children Leave at 2pm
22nd Children Return to School