



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

November 2014 Newsletter

Start of Term 2!

November sees the start of term 2, and with it, much new learning. The children and staff have come back from the October break very refreshed, and the new term has started in a very positive and focused way.

Bring Your Family to School Sessions

In the coming weeks, we will be offering parents the chance to come and observe a lesson 'in action'. The purpose of this is to enable you to see an example of the way in which your child is taught, and to give you opportunity to ask any questions you may have regarding the structure and delivery of lessons. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis and are limited to manageable amounts per classroom. Further details will be sent regarding session times and booking instructions.

Staffing News

Mrs Warriner who works with Mrs Rocks in our Reception class is expecting her second child! Our congratulations go to her and we look forward to meeting the next addition to the Warriner family in due course!

Challenge Week

The week beginning 20th October saw our annual 'Challenge Week'. The children threw themselves into the challenges as always and certainly enjoyed the range of tasks on offer to them. Our thanks go to Miss Patmore and Mrs Jolly for organising this week for the children.

Open Morning for 2015 Reception Intake

We are hosting two open mornings between 9 and 11am on **Tuesday 11th and Thursday 13th November** for parents of children due to start Reception in September 2015. All welcome!

Dads, Lads and Lasses

Thank you to all who attended our recent Dads, Lads and Lasses event. As always, the session provided much fun and laughter. Our appreciation and thanks to all who supported this event.

Building Work

As you can see, work has very much started on the new extension to the academy. Although disruptive now, we are trying to keep positive and focus on the completion date next June! The extension itself will include 4 classrooms, a changing room, office and toilets. It will also include an immersive technology area which will enable us to project videos and images across three very large screens, helping pupils to become immersed in the subject matter being studied.

We have included a plan of the new extension for your information.

New Venture

We are delighted to announce that following a recent selection process, Witham St Hughs Education Trust has been selected by the Department for Education to be the operator for a new academy due to open in Hykeham at the start of September 2016. The new academy will provide 210 primary school places for the new Manor Farm estate in North Hykeham, initially opening with 30 Reception children in September 2016, and adding a new class of children each subsequent September. We are excited by the educational prospects this provides for the pupils of Witham St Hughs and Manor Farm in terms of joint projects across both sites, and look forward to developing more concrete ideas in the fullness of time.

Supporting Action for Young Carers

Thank you to all who contributed to our bucket collection at the end of the KS2 Summer Productions. In total £257.33 was raised. This money will be formally presented to the Action for Young Carers charity this week.

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 LINC'S 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.

Children in Need

To support this year's Children in Need appeal, we are holding a non-uniform day this Friday. We are asking for a £1 donation which will be given to the charity. The theme this year is 'Super Heroes', and children are invited to dress as super heroes should they wish to do so, but their usual non-uniform attire is equally fine!

Academy Car Park

Following several concerns raised by parents regarding safety in the academy car park at drop off and pick up times, the Governing Body has taken the decision to install controlled access to the car park using security barriers. It is hoped that this will help improve safety for all who access the academy site.

Parents' Forum

The government recently introduced a new curriculum for schools in England. One of the areas the government is keen to promote through the new curriculum is that pupils have an understanding of life in modern and traditional Britain.

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

What are the important features of 'modern' and 'traditional' Britain that you feel the children need to be aware of?

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

Autism Support Group

Due to Application of Learning sessions, the December meeting will be held on 11th December at 2.30pm.

QR Codes / Web-links

Year 5/6 Experience Day – Building a Tudor House!



<http://vimeo.com/111188616>

The password will be sent by text later today. **Please note: passwords are case sensitive.** You can view the link by entering the web address into the internet, or by scanning the code above

using the scanner option on your phone / tablet computer. In both cases, you will need to enter the password. We hope you enjoy the clip!

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 Reception Classes are learning about people who help us. They have enjoyed a visit from our local PCSO, learning how she helps to keep Witham St. Hughs a safe place to live. This week they will be engaging in their first "Experience Day", where they will be coming to school dressed as someone who helps us. Lots of fun learning is planned for the day, including cooking, hairdressing and First Aid. We hope that this will prove to be an exciting and motivating day of learning!

Y1: Miss Sellers

In Year 1 we have been continuing our circus theme. We have been learning about waterproof and non-waterproof materials in science. We have enjoyed carrying out different experiments to test which materials would make a good circus tent. Within PSHE sessions we have talked about what we would like our classroom environment to look, feel, sound and smell like. We all agreed on the class code of conduct and how to behave within our classroom. We have had a fantastic start to term 2 and Miss Sellers has been very impressed with us!

Y1/2: Mrs Sirdifield

Year 1 and 2 have returned to school following the half term break well and truly ready to learn! Our learning has continued to link to the circus theme. We have explored different materials and helped the ringmaster to work out which material would be best to fix the hole in his circus tent! In Numeracy sessions, we have learnt different methods to help us to add and subtract. We have also learnt about shapes.

Y1/2: Miss McDonald

This term we have continued to learn about the Circus. We have been excited to explore materials in Science and even made our own sock puppet! When Rev. Andy Jackson Parr visited, the children showed great respect for and understanding of Remembrance Day. Later in the term we will be exploring optical illusions and making our own circus magic tricks in Design Technology. The children have shown good determination in football and continue to

impress Mrs Shaw with their developing ball control skills each week.

Y3

We have had an excellent start to Year 3 this term with everyone very focussed on their learning. We have been exploring non-chronological reports in literacy and have really enjoyed creating our own reports making sure to include all of the important features. In our topic learning we are very excited to be visiting a real chocolate factory this term! We cannot wait to hear all about how chocolate is made, make some for ourselves and maybe even try a few samples!

Y4

Year 4 have had so much fun learning about how to develop their drawing and sketching skills in the style of Quentin Blake. They have watched real video tutorials of Quentin Blake himself taking them through the step by step process of producing a character sketch. The children have then learnt to apply their learning of watercolours from earlier on in the term to paint their sketches. Year 4 have also enjoyed learning about human teeth. They are now able to identify and name each tooth type and describe their functions. Year 4 particularly enjoyed researching animal teeth and how their diet is related to the type of teeth they have. Year 4 really enjoyed their visit to the Chocolate Factory which enabled them to understand how chocolate is made.

Y5

In Year 5 we have been working very hard to make sure our work is presented beautifully. In Literacy we have been writing persuasively, in maths we have been learning a new method of division and in our topic lessons we have learned lots about Tudor explorers and Tudor buildings. We have even built a life size Tudor house as a part of our experience day.

Y6

Everyone in Year 6 enjoyed Challenge Week. Our favourite activities were the climbing wall and our dancing session! As part of our topic work, we have made Tudor Roses from felt and we have been researching Tudor explorers. In English sessions, we have been writing argument texts. In recent maths lessons we have been developing our understanding of fractions and percentages. This week we have started working with Lincoln City Football club and Cargills on 'The Global Food Challenge'. This is a six week project, focusing on healthy eating and fitness.

Reminders

Autumn Weather

Please ensure your child has a warm, waterproof coat in school each day for them to use as necessary. This is particularly important for Reception children who spend an increased amount of time outdoors. Thank you.

Healthy Snack

Children are welcome to bring a healthy snack for mid-morning break. Suitable items are fruit, vegetables and dry cereal / cereal bars. Our Healthy Tuck Shop sells items each day at 20p.

Drinks in School

Children are welcome to bring bottle of water to school to drink throughout the school day. A separate drink is required for lunchtime. Drinking water is available at break times during the school day for all pupils.

Children's Centre

November Timetable attached.

Yours sincerely

Neil Spencelayh,
Headteacher

Dates for the Diary

November

- 10th Y3 Chocolate Factory Visit
- 11th Open Morning for Prospective 2015 Reception Parents
- 13th Open Morning for Prospective 2015 Reception Parents
- 13th Y5/6 Visit to Wollaton Hall

December

- 1st PTFA Christmas Fair 4-6pm
- 4th Application of Learning Session, 2.30pm
- 5th Application of Learning Session, 2.30pm
- 8th YR-Y2 Evening Production
- 9th YR-Y2 Afternoon Production
- 10th YR-Y2 Evening Production
- 15th Christmas Dinner!
- 16th Y3,4 Christmas Party
- 17th Reception Christmas Party
- 17th Y1,2 Christmas Party
- 18th Y5,6 Christmas Party
- 18th Y3-6 Carols, 1-2pm
- 18th End of Term: Children Leave at 2pm

January

- 6th Children Return to School