



Witheridge Church of England Primary Academy

Fore Street, Witheridge, EX16 8AH Tel: 01884 860518

admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk



‘Encourage One Another and Build Each Other Up’

1 Thessalonians 5: 11

Thankfulness	Compassion	Perseverance	Forgiveness	Friendship	Courage
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Newsletter – Friday 21st March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you've had a fantastic week!

For us, this week has been all about the **KS2 Proms**, and what a spectacular event it was! On Thursday, children from **Class 3 and Class 4** attended the **TEAM Proms**, and I couldn't be more proud of their incredible performances.

- **Class 4** delivered a fantastic rendition of *L-O-V-E* by Nat King Cole.
- **Class 3** impressed us with their performance of *Chariots of Fire*, showcasing a variety of instruments.
- We were also treated to a special performance of *Rise* by the talented **Witheridge Band**.
- To top it off, KS2 choir members joined voices with other children across TEAM for a wonderful selection of songs on stage.

It was truly inspiring to see such a display of talent across the Trust, and particularly to watch our **Witheridge Academy** children shine on stage. **A huge WELL DONE** to every single child who performed—you made us incredibly proud!



Looking ahead, we have more exciting events next week, including a **TEAM Orienteering event** and EYFS/KS1 Theatre trip.

Wishing you all a wonderful and restful weekend!

Best wishes,

Miss Ratcliffe

Head of School

Life, Love and Learning to the Full



Building Community
 Building Futures
 Building Learning Power
 Building Self Esteem



Please do not bring your mobile phone to school



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow
Every Day Counts!

Weekly Attendance

Nursery 1	100%
Nursery 2	93%
Reception	96%
Year 1	97%
Year 2	98%
Year 3	96%
Year 4	95%
Year 5	97%
Year 6	97%

Reminders:

- If your child is poorly, please report their absence to the school office on 01884 860205 by 9.20am.
- All medical appointments are to be advised in advance to the school office.
- Any other absences must be applied for via an absence request form.



Attendance Update

It's great to see everyone working so hard to achieve or beating our **96.5%** target.

We can only do this if we all work together!

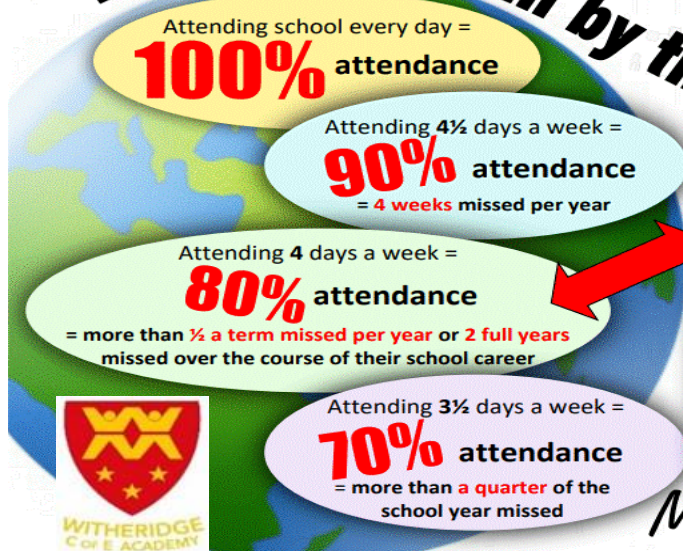
Our attendance for the week is **96.3%**

Our attendance for the year to date is **95.5%**

Together Each achieves More!



The world is run by those who turn up



An average attendance of **80%** or less across a child's school career adds up to missing a whole **2 years** from school.

Being late for school reduces learning time

If your child is **5 minutes** late every day - they will miss **3 days** of learning each year

If your child is **15 minutes** late every day - they will miss **2 weeks** of learning each year

Make every minute count





**Celebration Assembly
Well Done
For receiving a
Certificate of Achievement**



Class Award

Nursery – Darcy for settling well in the FSU. Being very confident, kind and friendly.
Reception – Jayden-Lee for a fantastic week of learning.
Class 1 – Bethan for careful thinking in assessments and trying your best in all you do.
Class 2 – Noah for his perseverance in all curriculum areas.
Class 3 – Hunter for excellent rhythm keeping in the proms performance.
Class 4 – Graeson for setting a wonderful example as head play leader.

Writer of the Week:

Reception – Dylan – For superb concentration enabling him to write his sentence independently.

Contribution Award:

Exmoor Challenge Walkers – For representing our school perfectly on our walk with Petroc College.
Paige & Ebony – For doing the lost property uniform **EVERY** Friday.

Orienteering Champions:

Y6: Graeson, Zack, Ebony & Liberty Y5: Betsy & Alfie
Y4: Freddie & Jacob Y3: Sam & Hazel
Y2: Ronnie & Freddie

Reaching 10 on the Nursery Caterpillar

Bella & Ocean 😊

20 Merits Award:

Reception – Bille & Jayden-Lee

40 Merits Award:

Reception – Phoebe, Toby & Dylan
Class 1 – Bethan
Class 2 – Iris

House Points

Discovery 24

Endeavour 27

Enterprise 21

Voyager 20

Find us on:

Website: <https://www.teamacademytrust.com/witheridge>

Facebook: @Witheridge CofE Academy

Email: admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk

Witheridge Blog: <https://witheridge.edublogs.org/>

TEAM MAT have job vacancies, for more information & how to apply please visit our website <https://www.teamacademytrust.com/vacancies>

Key Dates for the Spring Term 2025

Monday 24 th March	Class 3 (KS2) swimming Class 1 PE Class 4 New Group - Forest School Teacher Led Club – Choir
Tuesday 25 th March	Year 5 Mini Police with PC Matt Young Rocksteady Teacher Led Club – SAT's Club, Times Table & Small World & Role Play
Wednesday 26 th March	Class 3 – Buckfast Abbey Trip EYFS/KS1 Theatre trip Class 4 PE Music Tuition with Mr Rogo Stay and Play Toddler Group Session in FSU at 13:45 Teacher Led Club – Gardening Club
Thursday 27 th March	WHOLE CLASS 2 PE (Morning) Reception Class PE Reception Class Group 1 Forest School Drum Tuition with Steve Godfrey Teacher Led Club - Board Games
Friday 28 th March	Farm School Class 3 Group 1 Class 2 Group 1 Forest School Stay and Play Toddler Group Session in the School Hall at 9am Teacher Led Club – Homework Club PTFA Mother's Day Gift coming home this evening

Dates for your diary:

Spring Term 2

Monday 31st March	Class 3 Swimming
Tuesday 1 st April	Parent SEND information drop in session with Kate - What is an EHCP
Wednesday 2 nd April	Rocksteady Concert at 2.30 in School Hall
Thursday 3 rd	Toddler Group
Friday 4 th April	Mr Rogo – Music Concert
Monday 7th April - 18th April	Drum Lessons
Monday 21st April	Church Easter Service
Friday 25th April	Easter Holidays
Sunday 27 th April	Bank Holiday Monday
Thursday 1 st May	Farm School Class 3 Group 2
Saturday 3rd May	Exmoor Challenge walk – Landkey – Swimbridge
Monday 5th May -	Y6 Residential Parents Meeting
Tuesday 6th May	Exmoor Challenge Day 2025
Wednesday 7th May -	Bank Holiday Monday
Friday 9th May	Church Coffee Morning
Monday 12th May - 15th May	School Council Meeting
Sunday 18th May - 23rd May	Whole Class photos
	Farm School Class 3 Group 3
	Year 6 SATs Week
	Year 6 Residential to Adventure Bude

Monday 26th May - 30th May	May half Term
Monday 2nd June	Non Pupil Day
Friday 13 th June	Football Tournament @ South Molton
Wednesday 18 th June	New Reception Starters' Evening for Parent/Carers
Thursday 19 th June	DT Day at Blundells for Class 4
Friday 20 th June	FSU Sports Day
Wednesday 25 th June	Wildside Information Evening for Parents/Guardians
Wednesday 2 nd July	Sports Day
Tuesday 8 th July	Whole School Transition Day
Thursday 17 th July	Wildside Residential for Class 3
Tuesday 22 nd July	Last Day of Summer Term
Wednesday 23 rd July	Non Pupil Day

These dates are intended as a guide and you will be notified of any changes.

Team Meal Menu – Spring Term 2025	
Week 2 - W/B 24th March 2025	
Monday	<p>Macaroni Cheese V – Tomato Pasta Bake Peas, Broccoli & Garlic Bread Pancake Monday (various fruit toppings)</p>
Tuesday	<p>Beef Pasta Bolognese V – Quorn Pasta Bolognese Peas & Carrots Peach Melba & Ice Cream</p>
Wednesday	<p>Roast of the Day (Pork) V - Vegetarian Roast Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Veg & Gravy Fruit Salad & Strawberry Swirl Sauce</p>
Thursday	<p>Sausage & Bacon V - Quorn Sausages Hash Browns, Beans, Peas, Tomatoes & Mushrooms Chocolate Sponge & Chocolate Custard</p>
Friday	<p>Salmon or Cod Fish Cakes V – Cheese Omelette Golden Fries, Baked Beans & Seasonal Veg Chocolate Cracknel</p>

Also available every day:
Jacket potato with Tuna, Cheese or Beans
Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit

Cost of School lunches:

Nursery – £1.95 per meal.
Reception & KS1 children –
Universal Infant Free School Meals,
KS2 children £2.55 per meal.

Payment to be made via The Arbor App



A gentle reminder that we are a **NUT FREE SCHOOL** and we have a number of students, staff and visitors with serious nut allergies. With this in mind, could we politely ask that **NO** products containing nuts be sent into school.

If you have any questions in relation to this, please contact the School Office.

Thank you for your consideration and for safeguarding our students.



FSU NEWS

Tadpoles in The FSU

With the arrival of Spring and having enjoyed the story of The Very Hungry Caterpillar on World Book Day earlier this month, the children in The FSU have been learning about lifecycles. Our Reception Class visit to Essebeare farm last week provided a fantastic opportunity to gather some frogspawn. Unfortunately, Farmer's Olly's concerns about the health of the eggs was confirmed by Monday morning, however we are extremely thankful to Hazel and Wren for sharing their healthy tadpoles with the children in The FSU and enabling them to enjoy seeing first-hand how these tiny creatures are growing and changing. The children have been observing the tadpoles with fascination and are eagerly awaiting the next stages of their development as they continue their journey to becoming frogs. This has been a fantastic opportunity to learn about nature in a real and meaningful way, and we cannot wait to share more updates soon! Our grateful thanks to The Payne family.



Mr Wiggans Forest School News...

This week we have continued to investigate ants and learn about their colonies.

Our own ant farm is developing, and the worker ants are busy storing the food of seeds and apple in one of the chambers. We are just hoping for the queen ant will lay eggs soon.

The pupils have learnt about the parts of an ant and participated in some finger painting to produce their own ant picture.

We were amazed to find out that ants can carry up to 50 times their body weight and some ants live to 15 years old.



Essebeare Farm School

As part of our topic 'Old MacDonald Had a Farm', Reception class enjoyed an exciting and informative visit to Essebeare Farm last week. The trip provided a fantastic opportunity for the children to see farming in action and learn first-hand about the hard work that goes into producing food. One of the highlights of the visit was learning about the tractor. The children not only saw this impressive machine up close but also had the chance to operate the baler themselves before watching in awe as Farmer Olly filled the cow shed with fresh hay, ensuring the cows had plenty to eat.

The children learned about the process of beef production and enjoyed watching the sheepdog being rewarded with a cow's bone. Once back at school, this sparked plenty of interesting questions and discussions about the different roles animals play on a working farm.

The visit also included a walk through the farm's orchard, where the children learned about the different types of trees and the fruits they produce. A walk to find the sheep involved an impromptu and unexpected lesson on how to be a sheepdog! Thank you to Farmer Olly for a fantastic morning of learning.





Team Trust Vacancies

Apply now direct with



If you're interested in joining our team we currently have multiple vacancies across the TEAM Trust.

Please click on the link below to find out more...

<https://www.teamacademytrust.com/vacancies> or <https://mynewterm.com>



NEW

Breakfast Club - Playworker

Beaford Primary



TAs a Breakfast Club Play Worker, you will be responsible for ensuring children have a positive, safe, and enjoyable experience in the morning before school. You will provide care and support, organise fun activities, and ensure children are ready for the school day ahead. In-service training will be provided where appropriate.

1.1 SEND Teaching Assistant

Pilton Bluecoat Academy



The appointed person will work in close partnership with the relevant class teachers and will help to support a pupil to engage with their learning. In-service training will be provided where appropriate.



PTFA

Parents
Teachers
Friends
Association

It's the bingo on Saturday!
Many great prizes up for grabs including a cash flyer!

We are still looking for a few bottles for prizes and raffle prizes. If you can spare a bottle or raffle prize, please bring on the night.

Don't forget that we have a tuck shop there for soft drinks, hot drinks and snacks (but bring your own alcoholic drinks.)

Thanks in advance
Mrs Seymour

JOIN US FOR



BINGO NIGHT

SATURDAY 22ND MARCH


**WITHERIDGE PARISH HALL
(EX16 8AG)**

Doors open 6.45 Eyes down 7.30

**GREAT PRIZES TO BE WON INCLUDING
ROAST DINNERS AND BREAKFASTS!**

Cash only
Raffle and Tuck shop including coffee, tea,
and soft drinks.

Raising money for Witheridge C of E Academy P.T.F.A.
Charity No: 1079365



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WITHERIDGE C OF E
ACADEMY PTFA

March 25th
7pm
Location TBC

PTFA MEET UP

EVERYONE WELCOME

Come along to our PTFA meet up to find out details for our next fundraising events.

New ideas and suggestions are always welcome.

Witheridgeptfa@gmail.com

Please come and join us for a chat about our future fundraising events.

It would be great to hear some ideas or suggestions from you all.

Everyone is welcome you do not have to be part of the PTFA to attend.

Location will be confirmed ASAP

Thanks in Advance!

The Witheridge PTFA 😊

Musical Event



The Church of St John the Baptist,
Witheridge

Friday 28th of March 2025 at 7.30pm
Refreshments available from 7pm

Lynmouth Shanty Crew



Come along and enjoy the entertaining mix of "Songs of the Sea" from Lynmouth Shanty Crew just back from appearing in Krakow, Poland. 

Tickets £10 under 16's free.
Pay on the door cash or card
Any profits to church funds

ROMAR SPORTS

EASTER FOOTBALL HOLIDAY CLUB



Join us for a fun filled Easter of football, games, competitions & prizes
Girls & Boys / All abilities
Ages 5 - 15 years / 9am - 4pm

7 hours of fun for £30 per day

TARKA LEISURE CENTRE 4G

Barnstaple, North Devon EX31 2AP

Full timetable available on our website
For more info email e: info@romarsports.com



JOIN US FOR EASTER BINGO

MESHAW COMMUNITY HUB

FRIDAY 11TH APRIL 2025

DOORS OPEN 7PM

FOR EYES DOWN AT 7.30PM

MEAT AND EASTER EGG PRIZES

RAFFLE

(Donations of raffle prizes welcome)

Raising funds for Meshaw Community Hub

Welcome Wildlife

* Make hedgehog highways in walls and fences

* Build a log pile

* Ditch pesticides

* Raise netting off the ground

* Leave out dishes of water

* Make ponds safe for wildlife

* Do an organised (or impromptu!) litter pick

* Build or resite bonfires just before burning

* Create a wild corner

* Check for wildlife before mowing or strimming



 **Easter Theatre Workshops**

 **THE LION KING**

Tuesday 8th April
10am-3pm
5-8 years
Musical Theatre





£25 per child or two for £40!

Book quickly to secure your place!

Venue:
St Peter's Church Hall,
5 Hill Top,
Fremington,
Earnstaple,
EX31 3EL



 **Easter Theatre Workshops**

 **SHREK THE MUSICAL**

Monday 7th April
10am-5pm
8-16 years
Musical Theatre






£35 per child or two for £60!

Book quickly to secure your place!

Venue:
St Peter's Church Hall,
5 Hill Top,
Fremington,
Earnstaple,
EX31 3EL



 **Easter Theatre Workshops**

 **THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL**

Monday 14th April
10am-5pm
8-16 years
Musical Theatre






£35 per child or two for £60!

Book quickly to secure your place!

Venue:
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To book your child's place, visit our Facebook page at
Aspire Performing Arts
or
Email aspireperformingarts@gmail.com

