



# Witchampton CofE First School News

October 2020 Newsletter

*Live a Life of Love just as Jesus loved us,' Ephesians 5:2*

Dear Parent/Carers,

It has been wonderful to have all the children back at school this term and I would like to thank everyone at school and at home for working together to follow school procedures to ensure that we can operate safely. These are strange and uncertain times and I have really appreciated the warmth and support of the whole school community as we develop a different way of working.

Although we are having to do things slightly differently we have still managed to pack lots of exciting things into the last few weeks. The children have settled well into their new classes and we are very proud of their progress and achievements, which we are now able to share with you on Class Dojo and Tapestry.

Hedgehogs have settled into school life superbly and they are already very much part of our Witchampton family. Foxes have been thoroughly enjoying their topic on Romans and really got into the spirit of being a Roman with a visit from a 'Roman Expert'. Badgers have thoroughly enjoyed their topic about pets, a highlight being a trip to see Mrs Brown's chickens and we all enjoyed a visit from DEED who helped us to learn more about multicultural Britain.

Christmas celebrations will be a little different this year but we are determined to make this a special time at Witchampton. There are lots of events planned after half term and Christmas officially starts at Witchampton with our Decoration afternoon on 30<sup>th</sup> November!!

If you would like to speak to me about any matter, please contact the school office to make an appointment. My door is always open.

We look forward to seeing you all on **Tuesday 3rd November** after a well earned half term rest!

Wishing you all a happy and healthy half term break.

Mrs Jo Hancock

Headteacher



### **Start of the Day and End of the Day procedures**

The children have all been coming into school independently at the beginning of the day brilliantly. This has not only reduced the number of adults on site while we try to maintain our social distance but it has also really helped them become more independent and we can make a prompt start to the day. Thank you to everyone for your cooperation - very few children have been late this term!

**After half term we are requesting that all adults entering the school site wear a face mask if they cannot keep a 2m distance from other families.** We would also like to remind you to exit the school site quickly after collection and ensure that siblings stay next to their adults while waiting.

If you need to visit the school office please ensure that only one adult is in the reception area at any time. Unfortunately, our waiting area is too small to accommodate more than one adult safely.

We really appreciate your support in helping us all to keep safe!

### **School Council, Eco Champs, Worship Team, Playleaders and House Captains**

School Council, Eco Champ, Worship Team, Playleaders and House Captains have now been elected for the Autumn term and the representatives for each are as follows:

	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Year 4</b>
School Council	Ava & Harry	Joshua & Nico	Ethan & Harrison	Betsy & Chloe
Eco Champ	Harley	Brody	Kit & George	Mikey & Lily
Worship Team	Andor	Sebastian	Lexi	Elijah
Playleaders				Chloe, Elijah, Evan & Jake

### **House Captains**

<b>Blue</b>	<b>Red</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Yellow</b>
Jamie & Isaac	Chloe & Betsy	Riley & Jake	Evan

We have also supported the Wimborne Food Bank with the food donations you all contributed at our Harvest Festival. The Food Bank were overwhelmed with your generosity.



## Christmas Box Appeal 2020

Everyone loves to receive a present at Christmas. But for many vulnerable children and families in Southeast Europe Christmas serves as a reminder of the isolation and poverty.

By supporting FSCI's Christmas box appeal you can help to spread joy to thousands of people, fight poverty and prevent modern slavery.

Your child has received a leaflet about making a Christmas Box. Last year we had fantastic support for this worthwhile cause it would be great to achieve this again in 2020.

Please can boxes be in school by **Monday 16th November** ready for collection by FSCI on Wednesday 18th November. Thank you



## Snacks Reminder!

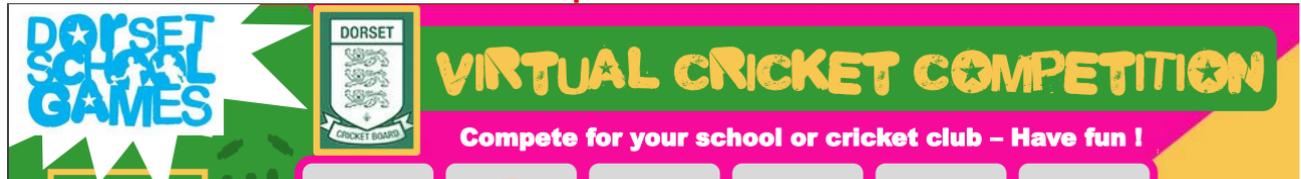
A fruit or vegetable snack is provided for all children in Hedgehogs and Badgers. If your child is in Foxes or brings their own snack to school please ensure it is a healthy fruit or vegetable snack. We ask children who bring a snack to school to place their snack in the snack box in their classroom. Please ensure their snack is named or placed in a named snack box.

## Toys

We have noticed a lot of children are bringing toys into school. It is particularly important at the moment that toys stay at home. Please ensure that these are not brought into school unless you have a prior arrangement with your class teacher.



## SPORTS NEWS - Virtual Cricket Competition



The children have been thoroughly engaged in our cricket lessons and after school cricket club with Rob Newton, Performance Community Coach for The Dorset Cricket Board. Not only have they been developing concentration, focus, hand-eye coordination, batting and fielding skills, they have been showing respect, fair play and perseverance.

This half term holiday, we invite you all to take part in a Virtual Cricket Competition from the Dorset School Games. Click on this link:

<https://www.pedssa.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Virtual-Cricket.pdf> where you will be taken to an interactive PDF. On here, you can click on each of the 5 tasks for a short explanatory video, with scores explained. Have a go at performing, and perhaps improving, your skills then click on the link at the bottom to enter your scores. Please complete by **Monday 9th November**. Good luck!

Behind the scenes, the Dorset Cricket Board is in liaison with Witchampton Cricket Club about opening up opportunities for Junior members in the new year if there is enough interest and support. Watch this space for more details!

After half term, Badgers and Foxes will be having football lessons in PE with coaches from AFC Bournemouth Community Sports Trust alongside their class teacher. This will be on Monday afternoons from 9th November.

Please see the new P.E. Kit timetable for after half term

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reception	P.E Kit	Forest School clothes	Uniform	Uniform	Uniform
Year One	P.E Kit	Forest School clothes	Uniform	Uniform	Uniform
Year Two	P.E Kit	P.E Kit	Uniform	Uniform	Uniform
Year Three	P.E Kit	Uniform	Uniform	P.E Kit	Uniform
Year Four	P.E Kit	Uniform	Uniform	P.E Kit	Uniform



## **Important Reminders:**

### **Coats!**

As we head into winter and the weather starts to deteriorate, please can you ensure that children wear/bring their coats to school. It may seem lovely weather when you leave your home, but quite often by break time, it's a very different situation.

### **P.E. Kit**

We are noticing a few children are not wearing the correct PE kit so here is a reminder. Please also remember to name everything so any lost items can be quickly returned to their rightful owner!

- Crew neck white t-shirt
- Navy shorts or navy skirts.
- White socks (Tights must not be worn for PE)
- Dark colour jogging bottoms or tracksuit for the winter
- Plimsolls for indoor P.E. and dance (gymnastics is done in bare feet for safety)
- Trainers for outdoor games (as they are safer on wet surfaces)

Families who are entitled to free school meals may be able to get a school uniform grant. Information can be obtained from Dorset County Council or from the school office.

#### **Important Contacts**

These are the contacts for these important areas:

Designated Safeguard Lead – Mrs Hancock  
Deputy Safeguarding Lead - Mrs Jenkinson and Mrs Saberton  
Inclusion Leader – Mrs Hancock