



## Newsletter 26.01.2024

*'Live a Life of Love Just as Jesus Loved Us' Ephesians 5*

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I can't believe how quickly this term is flying past and the children are really loving this term's learning experiences. Badgers enjoyed learning all about Jamaica this week and made delicious Jamaican hard dough which I know lots of the grown ups enjoyed tasting too. They were also very lucky to meet Mrs Blanden's mum who is from Jamaica and her brother. The children asked some great questions, listened beautifully to a traditional Jamaican story and enjoyed joining in with a Jamaican song accompanied by ukulele. Thank you to Mrs Blanden and her family! Badgers are now very much looking forward to meeting the Bugfest Team and their larger than life minibeasts next week.

Foxes have their bikeability level one on Monday with Rob Doyle. Please bring bikes (and helmets) to the white gate and the children will wheel them around to the bike park where someone will take them up to the playground (if you are able to volunteer with the transportation to the playground that would be great!). The Foxes will need p.e kit and a warm coat on Monday. .

I hope you have a lovely weekend!

With warmest wishes

*J Hancock*

Mrs Hancock

## Worship Focus

This half term in worship we will be exploring bible stories which demonstrate our school values and underpin our school bible verse 'Live a life of love, just as Jesus loved us'.

This week we focussed on 'Jesus calms the storm': Matthew 8, Mark 4, Luke 8 .  
Next week our story will be Jesus feeding the 5000. This story can be found in Matthew 14: 13-21. If you would like to share this story at home you watch this video here:  
<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=S6rj9cAJrWE>.



## Bedtime Story Evening

Please see the attached invitation to our annual bedtime story evening on 6th February. Please let Mrs Taylor know or email the school office:  
[office@witchamptonfirstschool.org](mailto:office@witchamptonfirstschool.org) if you can come. We would love to see you!

## Attendance

Thank you for your support in ensuring your child's attendance at school and being on time every day. We know that this is the time of year when children are prone to illness but we really appreciate your commitment to keeping your children at school when they are well enough and **NOT** taking holidays in school time. Please take a moment to see our Initio Learning Trust attendance page [here](#) which provides practical and supportive advice to families. The Government also provides guidance to help make those difficult decisions of when they should be off school and when they shouldn't. Please use this [NHS site](#) to see the full guidance.

Our current attendance percentage is:

This week:

Hedgehogs: 100%

Year 1: 99%

Year 2: 99.2%

Year 3: 98.1%

Year 4: 98.5%

Whole school: 99%

Thank you and keep on going!

## Safeguarding and Online Safety

**Mrs Hancock is the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Miss Hancock is the Deputy**

### **Designated Safeguarding Lead in School.**

If you have any serious concerns about a child, particularly if you think they may be suffering or at risk of suffering harm, please share this information promptly with the Designated Safeguarding Lead Team. If you have a concern about a child outside of school hours please contact the following Local Authority out of hours services: Dorset ChAD - 01305 228866 Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) - 01202 738256 We are an Operation Encompass school. To find out more, please follow the link [here](#)

The NSPCC provides online safety advice for parents and for children. Please click [here](#) for more information.

### **Data Protection**

We are committed to protecting the privacy and security of personal information. Our Privacy Notice for parents and pupils can be found in the [Policies and Documents](#) area of our website. This privacy notice describes how we collect and use personal information about pupils, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), section 537A of the Education Act 1996 and section 83 of the Children Act 1989.

### **W/C 29th January**

**Monday 29th January** - Outdoor Explorers for Hedgehogs and Year 1  
Foxes Bikeability

**Tuesday 30th January** - Piano, guitar and ukulele lessons with Mr Longcakes

**Wednesday 24th January** - Football Club

**Thursday 1st January** - Singing Lessons and piano with Mrs Hawker

**Friday 2nd January** - Badgers Bugfest