



Witchampton CofE First School News

January 2025 Newsletter

Dear Parent and Carers,

Welcome to the Witchampton CofE First School Newsletter that will be sent out fortnightly on a Friday. Here you will receive important upcoming dates and updates and news from our school staff and children.

We have some wonderful upcoming trips for all our classes and we are confident that the children will find their trips fascinating as it brings our classroom lessons to life and allows the children to engage with their term topics in a meaningful way.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Friends of Witchampton for their relentless fundraising for the children of our school - it really does make a difference and enhances the opportunities we are able to offer our children and other families in our local community.

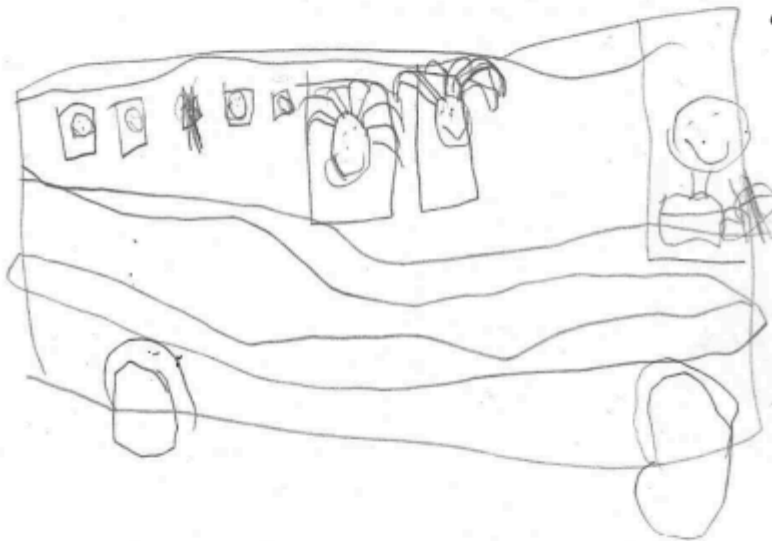
We are always on the lookout for volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering in our school, please contact the office. We may be a small school but our Big Heart continues to shine through.

Warm wishes,

Witchampton First School Staff and Children

Drawing Club 8.01.25 This Bus if for us
Code..It is a bus.

What a fantastic
drawing



It is a bus ✓
a
Art



Thursday 30th January at 20:00

Behaviour Book Club for families

A free session on supporting children's behaviour at home, open to all parents, carers, families and educators.

To book your spot on any of our sessions, please visit the events page on our website here:

<https://www.whentheadultschange.com/events>

I've mentioned previously that as two schools we have worked on ensuring staff have clarity for our behaviour guidance, procedures and systems. This takes time to get right, enabling all staff to respond in a consistent manner, and I thank you for your patience. Following our final INSET on this, I am now in a position to be able to share a summary of this with you. The complete document is available on the website.

Our behaviour guidance, rewards and consequences are all based around positive relationships and respect. We are continuing to work and understand Relational Practice and there will be events that will be shared with you throughout the year such as the webinar information in this newsletter.

This has been shared with the children and is constantly modelled and enforced, as I'm sure you appreciate behaviours can take some time and perseverance to change.

As always, if you have any queries or concerns, please contact your class teacher, in the first instance.

A message from our Safeguarding Officer, Kelly Overhill:

I am sharing some concerning information regarding potential child grooming activities occurring within the online gaming platform, Roblox. Please note that the majority of Roblox users are under the age of 13.

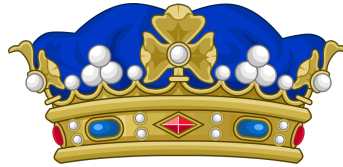
We have had two cases of potential grooming by an older male's within a group chat on Roblox, due to parents' vigilance; these incidents have been highlighted with one being reported to the police. This highlights a concerning trend of these individuals using Roblox to initiate contact with young people.

A significant concern is that these individuals often try to transition the conversation to other platforms like Snapchat, where they then instruct children on how to hide their chats and further conceal their interactions, this has been the case for one of the students involved.

Roblox is a gaming platform where players can create and publish their own games. The platform can be a great educational tool to help teach children new skills like coding. However, there are also some risks. Roblox allows players to build and publish their own games. This means that other users could build games that contain adult or inappropriate themes that children might see. Players can use the communication features of Roblox to talk to one other while they are playing. This means that there is a risk of cyberbullying or unwanted contact.

* **Please find attached** a What Parents & Educators Need to Know about Roblox guide from national college, which provides valuable information on the platform's risks and safety features.

Our Latest Crown Award Winners



**Year 1:
Max Criben White**

Showing courage and a willingness to learn and being very proud and excited about his learning. Kindness towards others

**Year 2:
Olive Vowles**

Showing her Witchampton Ways. Always trying her best and challenging herself. Showing respect to everyone at school and her enjoyment for her learning.

**Year R:
Austin GP**

For making tremendous progress since September and for always trying his hardest. Austin is an excellent friend to everyone in the class and polite and caring too.

**Year 3:
Archie Pollock**

Always looking for ways to challenge himself in his learning. Being a role model to all. Always showing his Witchampton ways.

**Year 4:
Jack Forshaw**

Always looking for a way to help others. Will help anyone in school and lives a life of love always. Showing determination in his learning.

Important dates for this term:

Family Dates - Spring Term 2025

<u>Date</u>	<u>Activity</u>
06.01.25	Inset - Staff Training Day no children in school
08.01.25	Outdoor Explorers for Hedgehogs and Year 1 starts
10.01.25	Open Day for prospective parents
15.01.25	Football Club starts
15.01.25	Deadline for New School Starters and middle school applications
17.01.25	Crown Celebration Ceremony (by personal invite)
03.02.25	Hedgehogs Bournemouth Aviation Trip
11.02.25	Safer Internet Day
14.02.25	Last Day before half term
14.02.25	Celebration of learning 2.45 p.m - 3.15 p.m - parents welcome to come into school to see their children's learning.
24.02.25	Inset - Staff Training Day no children in school
25.02.25	Children return to school
28.02.25	Foxes Marwell Zoo Trip
06.03.25	World Book Day
10.03.25	Badgers Liberty's Owl, Raptor & Reptile Centre Trip
14.03.25	Crown Celebration Ceremony (by personal invite)
21.03.25	Red Nose Day- more details to follow
04.04.25	Last Day before half term
04.04.25	Easter Bonnet Parade - 9.30 a.m parents welcome Easter Service - 1.30 p.m parents welcome
22.04.25	Inset - Staff Training Day no children in school

Co.MaD
Colehill Music and Drama

Presents

Tales *from* *the* Woods

Proceeds towards:

Julia's House 

Dorset & Wiltshire Children's Hospices

COLEHILL VILLAGE HALL BH21 2LR

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 14TH 7.30

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 15TH 2.30 & 7.30

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 16TH 2.30

TICKETS: ADULTS - £7 CHILD - £5

FROM:

www.ticketsource.co.uk/comad

Co.MaD (Colehill Music and Drama) is a not-for-profit amateur dramatic society

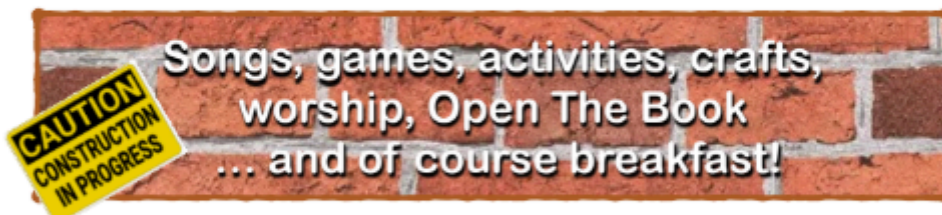
Holtwood Methodist Church & Wimborne Village Churches
in conjunction with St James School



Breakfast Church

**Saturday 8th February
at 9.00am**

in the School Hall at St James School,
Gaunts Common



FUN & FAITH FOR ALL THE FAMILY!

For more details contact Rev. Nick Wood:
nick@nickthevic.co.uk



Find out more:

dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/winter-in-dorset

Winter in Dorset

Get ready for...

Festive sessions and events such as sports, arts and crafts, cooking, live shows and much more.

Lots of exciting experiences to enjoy with friends and family.

Tasty meals at activities and tips for how you can eat well from home.

'Tis the season for fun, food and festivities!
With high quality, accessible and affordable holiday activities for children in Dorset



All Winter in Dorset activities are free for children who are eligible for benefit based free school meals.

Register for your Winter in Dorset passcode by visiting:

dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/winter-in-dorset

Contact us ☎ 01305 221157 or

winterindorset@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Paragon Football Coaching

Witchampton First After-School Football

YEAR 1 - YEAR 4 (BADGERS- FOXES)

Sessions focus on learning the basics of football in a safe and fun environment!

Every Wednesday 3:15pm - 4:15pm



£6 A SESSION (PAID PER TERM)

Contact Matt on details below:

✉ info@paragonfootballcoaching.co.uk

☎ 07455691658

@paragonfootballcoaching

NHS Pharmacy First Service

Did you know that the NHS Pharmacy First Service enables children and adults to get convenient access to healthcare advice and treatment where appropriate, for seven common conditions without the potential delay of having to wait for a GP appointment? Accessing the service may mean that it can help children feel better and back to school as quickly as possible, as well as supporting parents/carers to also get better if they are unwell with one of the conditions covered under the service.

There is no need to make an appointment; parents or carers can pop into their local Boots pharmacy with their child and ask for help under the service.

Support for the following conditions can be accessed under the service, free of charge (unless NHS prescription charges apply):

<u>Common condition</u>	<u>Patient eligibility</u>
Earache	1 to 17 years
Impetigo	1 year and over
Infected insect bites and stings	1 year and over
Sore throats	5 years and over
Sinusitis	12 years and over
Uncomplicated urinary tract	Women 16 to 64 years
Shingles	18 years and over

***NHS Pharmacy First Service: In pharmacies in England only. Subject to availability. Treatment is subject to suitability assessment. Normal NHS prescription charge rules apply.**



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.

Attendance Really Matters

Regular school attendance is important for a child's achievement, wellbeing, and development. Students with higher attendance rates are more likely to learn more and perform better in exams. I understand that this time of year it can be tricky for attendance with the usual bugs, coughs and colds. However, I would just like to remind you that, wherever possible, if children are feeling well within themselves, they should be in school and holidays during term time cannot be authorised.

Hot dinners

Please remember to sign up for hot school dinners in plenty of time for the new term. The cut off for ordering is always midnight on Monday the week before the meals are required. If you experience any problems, please contact Forerunner in the first instance on 01202 434555 or meals@hotmealsonwheels.com

School Uniform

All items can be ordered from School Trends by following this link <https://www.schooltrends.co.uk>. Uniforms can also be obtained from chain stores and supermarkets. All the children are encouraged to take pride in and look after their school uniform

Safeguarding and Online Safety

Mrs Staddon is the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Mrs Greaves 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

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.