

Dear Parent and Carers,

Happy Friday!

Witchampton First School was visited by Councillor Jeff Hart, Mayor of Wimborne. He spoke to us about how he became Mayor and the two charities he is working closely to support, Planet Wimborne and Friends of Victoria Hospital.



Witchampton First School will be having a non-uniform day to raise money for these two charities on Friday 14th February.

Children's Mental Health Week will take place from 3 to 9 February 2025, with the theme of Know yourself, grow yourself. This annual event was set up by children's mental health charity Place2Be and shines a spotlight on the importance of children and young people's mental health. For more information: <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

We were visited by MYTIME Young Carers this week - “At MYTIME we recognise and celebrate the incredible young people who do so much to support those that they care for.” For more information: <https://www.mytimeyoungcarers.org/>



Safer Internet Day is the UK’s biggest celebration of online safety held on the 11th February 2025. Each year we cover an online issue or theme that speaks about the things young people are seeing and experiencing online. Created in consultation with young people across the UK, this year Safer Internet Day will be focusing on the issue of scams online and for young people, how to protect themselves and others, as well as what support is available to them.

Thank you to those that have come forward offering up their time, this is a friendly reminder that 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.

School council meetings in Wimborne are regular events where young people from local schools discuss issues that affect their community. The meetings provide a platform for young people to have their voices heard and to make decisions that impact their school and the town.

We are always honoured that pupil representatives from Witchampton First School have been invited to attend the Wimborne Minster School Council Meeting at the Town Hall in Wimborne on Tuesday 4 February 2025.

We have recently been developing links and working closely on curriculum development with colleagues at Dumpton school. They have asked us to share the following link which are free talks that anyone in the Colehill community can attend if they would find it useful.

For more information and to book a space please follow the link below

Dumpton Talks: <https://www.dumpton.com/dumpton-talks>

We do hope that some of these talks may be helpful to some of our families.

Warm wishes,

Witchampton First School Staff and Children

Wednesday 15th January 2025

If you're not from the rainforest

If you're not from the rainforest,

You don't know the habitats,

You can't know the habitats.

Water droplets fall down from the sky making a splash,

All the animals find shelter from the rain.

If you're not from the rainforest,

You don't know the trees,

You can't know the trees.

A sloth climbs down from the trees,

A lion roars loudly.

If you're not from the rainforest,

You don't know the animals,

You can't know the animals.

The people in the rainforest crunch the wet leaves,

The wind rattles the leaves on the trees.

Pupil Voice Spring Term

Well done to all the children who showed their courage and applied for Eco Team, School Council and Worship team for the Spring term. Children will be able to apply again for these roles in the Summer Term. The children below have been selected for the roles for the Spring term:

Year groups	Eco Team	School Council	Worship Team
Hedgehogs	Emma	-----	Anine
Year 1	Albert	Lauren Bea	Ollie
Year 2	Theo	Safina Ralphie	Ted
Year 3	Elsie	Elise Megan	Stanley
Year 4	Iola	Eva Jack	Caspian

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.
14.02.25	Wimborne Town Mayor Non-Uniform Day
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
01.04.25	Easter Experience - only children during school day
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

We still have some Football Spaces Available:

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

ENERGY SAVING ADAPTATIONS

FOR DORSET'S HOMES

- = SAVING ENERGY
- = SAVING MONEY
- = WARMER HOMES
- = HEALTHIER PEOPLE
- = IMPROVED WELLBEING
- = STRONGER COMMUNITIES
- = A BETTER DORSET
- = SAVING THE PLANET



Who can we help?

Dorset Council residents in low-income households or receiving benefits, who are struggling with utility costs and the cost of living.

Are there extra criteria?

Our focus is helping households with individuals who are particularly at risk because of vulnerabilities including being young, elderly, disabled, unwell, pregnant or a carer.

How will client's needs be assessed?

By using the referral form along with your knowledge of your client and energy saving techniques. We need to ensure that we are:

- helping people who cannot make these changes themselves either because of financial or physical limitations.
- only giving items that the client will use and that meets an identified need within the home.

How to make a referral...

- Use the referral form via the QR code (or link provided).
- Have a conversation with your client while completing the form.
- Discuss what changes they feel would impact their home that would save money and keep people warm.
- Submit the referral.
- VCD will be in touch with either the referrer or client as indicated.

What items are we offering?

- Energy saving lightbulbs
- Radiator foil
- Blankets
- Electric blankets
- Electric throw
- Oversized hoodie
- Hot water bottle
- Thermal drink flask
- Clothes ailer
- Air fryer
- Microwave
- Oil-filled heater

The project will end when stocks run out. Items will no longer be on the referral form when they are out of stock.



CONTACT US

volunteer@volunteeringdorset.org.uk
or call 01305 269214





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.