



Witchampton CofE First School News

February 2025 Newsletter

Dear Families,

Happy Friday!

It was wonderful to see so many families join us at the celebration of learning this afternoon. The children had a great time showing visitors, staff and families what they have been learning.

Thank you for supporting the 'Friends of Witchampton' PTA in their 'Love & Friendship 'Bake Sale and 2nd hand uniform Sale - these contributions allow us as a school to offer extra enrichment opportunities and fun, educational trips for the children.

Here is a reminder about informative upcoming Dumpton talks: For more information and to book a space please follow the link below

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.

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

Below please find some helpful links of fun ideas for February half-term break:

<https://www.totalguidetodorset.com/families/half-term-in-dorset/>

<https://www.resortdorset.com/features/193/Half-term+Fun+in+Dorset/>

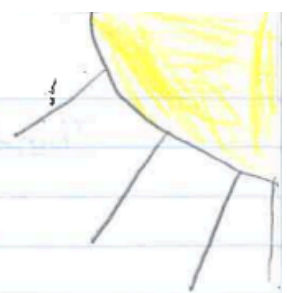
<https://www.dayoutwiththekids.co.uk/things-to-do/february-half-term>

We wish families a happy and safe break and are looking forward to welcoming children back into school on Tuesday 25th Feb.

Kind regards,

Witchampton First School Staff and Children

Wednesday 15th January 2024



A Rainforest is a giant dream.

A Rainforest is a giant dream,
There are thousands of animals all around,
Every day more are found.
Hear the Jaguar roar,
And the snake hiss on the forest floor.

A Rainforest is a giant dream,
It's the biggest forest you have ever seen,
You can even find the coco bean.
Drip goes the lion roars,
And roar goes the lion because he is in real pain.

A Rainforest is a giant dream,
If you ever make a large camp,
Never carelessly drop a lamp,
Or there will make a massive fire,
That would spread across the empire.



Hedgehogs Class School Trip to Bournemouth Aviation Museum

What a fantastic day Hedgehogs Class had on our recent school trip to the Bournemouth Aviation Museum! We piled into a comfortable minibus, buzzing with excitement as we set off on our little adventure.

Upon arrival, we were greeted by an impressive array of aircraft that spanned the history of aviation. From vintage aeroplanes to a towering double-decker bus, there was so much to see! One of the highlights was getting up close to a helicopter, which left us all in awe. While we didn't take to the skies, we had the chance to explore the planes up close.

We hopped into the cockpits of some very small aircraft, where we could pretend to fly using the joystick. The numerous buttons and switches fascinated us, turning each cockpit visit into a mini pilot experience. On the larger planes, we managed to role-play as passengers, imagining embarking on a thrilling journey above the clouds.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Mrs Jenkinson for organising this brilliant trip, and to Mrs Lloyd and Mrs Blenden for their support throughout the day. We also owe a special thanks to Geoff, who expertly drove our minibus. All in all, it was an unforgettable day filled with fun and learning!



Eco Club's Adventure with Birds!

Eco Club took part in the RSPB Big Schools Birdwatch, and it was fantastic! Thanks to the wonderful folks at Birds of Poole Harbour, we got to use some brilliant binoculars that made spotting our feathered friends even more exciting. Eco club had written to them at the start of this term wondering if they could borrow some binoculars for the day and they replied DONATING 6 pairs to us to keep! We are so pleased and grateful.

Mrs Lloyd was our guide, showing us how to use the binoculars properly and to help us identify the different species we saw. We saw 11 different species in all, showing us what an important habitat and environment Witchampton First School is for biodiversity.

We recorded

Jackdaw
Collared Dove
Wood Pigeon
Robin
Great Tit
Greenfinch
Chaffinch
House Sparrow
Blackbird
Magpie
Crow

It was great fun and really good to be part of a citizen science project that helps scientists monitor the health and population of British birds.

Spending time outdoors, connecting with nature, and learning about our local wildlife is really important to us at Witchampton First School.

We can't wait to plan our next Eco adventure. Thanks to everyone involved for making the RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch such a success! 🦉🌳✨



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
14.02.25	PTA Bake Sale & 2nd Hand Uniform Sale
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

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



Pancake Race

Around the Minster

(inside if wet)

11.00am

Register from 10.15am

Shrove Tuesday

4th March 2025



**Bring your own pan
and pancake!**

**Races for Adults,
Under 18s, Toddlers
and Wheelchairs.**

All with Prizes



**Refreshments available in
St. Georges Chapel in the Minster**

Please find the full Ofsted report for Allenbourn attached

Allenbourn Middle School

OFSTED

Inspection

Report published

Outstanding - Personal Development
Outstanding - Behaviour and Attitudes

Our latest Ofsted report has just been published.

Inspectors report that pupils at Allenbourn Middle School have "exceptionally positive attitudes towards their learning".

The school is judged to be "outstanding" for personal development and for behaviour and attitudes making it one of the strongest Middle Schools regionally and nationally.

"Allenbourn Middle School is ambitious for pupils to achieve highly and develop their individual character".

Last few places available for September 2025
Contact the school office to arrange your tour now





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.