

## Newsletter – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,

Spring term has absolutely flown by and it's hard to believe that it's Easter already. We have thoroughly enjoyed our topic, 'Whizz, Bang, Pop!' this term and are now really looking forward to Summer term, when our new topic will be 'On Safari' - a letter regarding next term's Big Event will be coming home alongside this newsletter so if you haven't already seen it, please check your child's bag!

We celebrated Easter with a special Easter Service at the church on Monday. We reflected on our value for this half term, which has been forgiveness, and looked at the importance of some of the symbols, signs and traditions surrounding the Easter story. A big thank you to the parents and carers who came along to watch and take part.



You should have received your child's half termly report card yesterday, which will provide with a snapshot of your child's behaviours and learning in class. As always, if you have any questions arising from the report cards, please do not hesitate to make contact with your child's class teacher. Alongside your child's report card you should also have received a letter inviting you to take part in a parent survey - we would really appreciate your views on the work we do as a school so if you do have 5 minutes to spare, the survey can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/6YCLJ2J>.

Our after school Performance Club has been running since Christmas and, on Monday, they put on their first school performance for parents and carers – a musical play called 'Three Trees'. This play told the story of Jesus' life from the perspective of three different trees who played an important role in his life. It helped us to focus on the reason why Easter is so important, as well as providing an opportunity for our pupils to show off their fantastic performing skills! A big thank you to everyone who came to watch and a massive well done to our performers.

Class 1 and the pre-school enjoyed a very exciting trip to Exmouth beach yesterday as part of their topic this half term which has been 'Oh we do like to be beside the seaside'. The children had an interesting tour around the RNLI lifeboat station, enjoyed watching the kite boarders in the sea and had a lovely time building in the sand. There was even time for a delicious and well earned ice-cream! All the children behaved impeccably well and we are very proud of them.



The Pre-School children have been doing lots of thinking and discussions about Easter and the children have liked making an Easter card for their family. They all had a lovely shared session with class 1 making Easter crowns/bonnets for the Easter fayre this Saturday.



Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and restful Easter break.

Best Wishes,  
Mr Holding

### Exmoor Challenge

Last Saturday we had our last Exmoor Challenge practise walk! We were so lucky with the beautiful weather and all the children really enjoyed it.



Thank you so much to all the staff who helped out on all our practise walks.



Well done to all the children who participated in the Exmoor Challenge practises – your lovely manners and fantastic attitude meant that we had four wonderful walks. Miss Ratcliffe



### Cooking Club

Cooking Club has been very busy this half term preparing and cooking nutritional meals, learning some new cooking techniques including baking, oven and hob cooking and tasting new foods. Every member of the cooking club has worked really well as a team and they have produced and learnt about some wonderful food from around the world and we have had a lot of fun along the way. We have made our own healthy pizza bases with homemade tomato sauce topped with lots of lovely fresh toppings and herbs, a chilli con carne which was taste tested by Mr Holding, Easter biscuits which were beautifully decorated using lots of different techniques and decorations and we have had lots of food fun with games and pancake games on Shrove Tuesday.



## Gardening Club News

It's been a bit of a busy time over the past few weeks despite the weather. We managed to get out and tidy up the raised beds. The pupils have been busy doing their fair share of weeding and digging over in preparation for the coming months.

Bean poles have been erected in one of our beds and the strawberry bed given a complete overhaul. As part of the "Grow your own Potatoes" scheme we have seen our seed potatoes burst through in their grow bags and for our inside, "under the soil" project, we now can clearly see the roots growing.



This week, our last before the break, we made early sowings of spinach, carrots, radish, peas and parsnip. We have also sown sunflower seeds and placed them inside to all going well transplant outside in May.

As a reward for all their hard efforts the pupils then cooked marshmallows on the open fire. Consumed between chocolate digestive biscuits. Well how else!



Lego Club has had a fantastic half term and it has been lovely to have a new group of Class 2 children join our club. We have had lots of challenges including a disaster challenge where the children had to build rafts to escape from pirates, making a "Help" sign out of Lego to signal to a plane, and build a house strong enough to withstand a hurricane! Our big challenge was our annual Egg challenge where the children had to build a mode of transport to carry a real egg which then had to go through some rigorous tests to make sure the egg was kept safe and didn't crack. All of the designs were amazing and for the first time ever we had no cracked eggs. The designs and tests were overseen by some judges from Class 4 in a "blind judging" and they gave points on design, building skills and overall egg safety. The winners from the two groups were Matthew and Tristan who won the Golden Egg Award - Well Done!





**Celebration Assembly  
Well Done  
For receiving a  
Certificate of Achievement**



<b>Work</b>	
<p>Class 1 – Faith &amp; Ebony for showing fantastic inquisitiveness about punctuation          Class 2 – Jayden for his fantastic fractions work this week          Class 3 – Kirsty for her attitude to learning and her letter she wrote in English          Class 4 – Willow &amp; Casey – Fantastic effort and application in Maths</p>	
<b>Extra</b>	
<p>On Saturday Twyford Spartans Under 9s played three matches at Sampford Peverell, Finley scored a hat trick in one match and Henry scored from the halfway line in another. Zak and Max both did really well in their first appearances for Twyford, Well done boys – COYS!</p> <p>Time tables – Owen, Penny, Amelia &amp; Henley</p>	
<b>Golden Spoon</b>	
Endeavour	
<b>Contribution</b>	
All children who performed at the Pupil Concert for showing courage and perseverance	
<b>40 Merits</b>	
Class 3 – Kirsty	
<b>60 Merits</b>	
Class 3 – Holly	
<b>Discovery 26</b>	<b>Endeavour 31</b>
<b>Enterprise 8</b>	<b>Voyager 21</b>

**Second Hand Uniform**

We are looking at setting up a regular second hand uniform sale for parents. With this in mind we are looking for donations of any Witheridge School/Pre-School Uniform that are no longer required. It may be your son or daughter have grown out of their current uniform or switching to the summer uniform. Please can you hand any items to Mrs Eastman in the school office.



### Key Dates for the Spring Term 2019:

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April – **LAST DAY OF TERM**

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April – Witheridge PTFA Easter Egg Hunt and craft Fayre 2pm @ the School

**Witheridge Easter Holiday Club will be opening**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April & Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April 8.30am – 5.30pm**

**Booking forms available from the School Office or Pre-School.**

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April – **FIRST DAY OF THE SUMMER TERM**

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April – Longleat School Trip Year 2 to 6 – Letter coming home tonight

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April – Pre-School Easter Egg Hunt 2.30pm – Parents welcome to attend

**These dates are intended as a guide and you will be notified of any changes.**

### Witheridge PTFA News

#### The Easter Egg Hunt is this Saturday - 2pm to 4pm

Thank you to everyone who has returned Easter egg entry forms, raffle prizes and tombola pots – You're all super stars! We cannot run our events without your help and support.

We can't wait to see all the Easter Bonnets and vehicles for the Easter Egg Race!

To any star cake bakers – we are looking for donations of cakes too for the day 😊

Fashion Show Tickets came home earlier this week – We would love it if you can sell your two tickets on behalf of the PTFA, but if you can't please don't worry just pop them back in the box in the Reception area or to Lisa in the Pre-School.

Many thanks for all your continued support  
Witheridge PTFA

### Online Safety

#### Tips Limiting Screen Time

- Set a good example with your own device use
- Have discussions about the risks that children may face
- Agree an appropriate length of time they can use their device
- Get the **whole family** to unplug and create "screen free" zones
- Make screen time active and together find apps, sites and games that will help children explore their passions.

# Saturday 6th April Easter Egg Hunt & Craft Fayre

at  
**Witheridge CofE Academy**  
2pm to 4pm

Free Entry - Easter Egg Hunt £1.50

Children's craft table

Tombola

Raffle

Refreshments

All proceeds to  
**Witheridge PTFA**

Charity Reg. No.  
1079365



Holiday Club for 2 - 11 year olds

Based In the Pre-School Building @ The Hive

Open 8.00am - 5.30pm

Tuesday 9th to Friday 12th  
and  
Tuesday 16th  
to Thursday 18th April

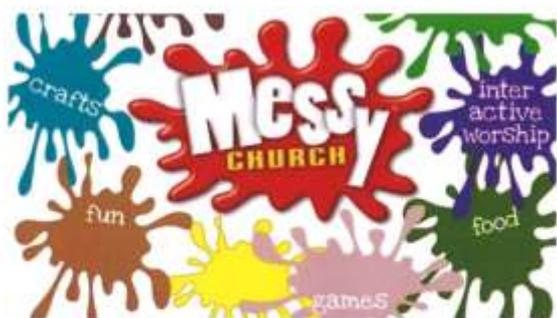
£4.00 per hour (Minimum 3 hours booking required)  
Siblings - discount available



Booking forms available from  
the school office or the Pre-School  
or visit our web site  
[www.witheridgeacademy.co.uk/witheridge](http://www.witheridgeacademy.co.uk/witheridge)

For further information please contact  
the school office on 01889 860528 or  
email [admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk)

## Community News



Saturday 6th April 2019  
Come and celebrate Lent and Easter  
with us.

11am - 1pm  
St John the Baptist Church,  
Witheridge.

We would encourage parents to stay  
and take part.

For more details and to book your  
place, please contact Denise Reed  
01884 860445 or  
[roff.denise@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:roff.denise@yahoo.co.uk)



I'm contacting you to let you know about an event we are running at Rock and Rapid Adventures this Easter school holidays that might be of interest to your pupils.

**On Good Friday (19th April), we are hosting an exciting Easter egg hunt at our centre in South Molton. These sessions will be a fun way of getting kids active and learning valuable skills such as teamwork, outdoor safety and the basics of climbing.**

Open to children aged 4 and upwards, there will be four sessions of 1.5 hours, where children will enjoy the adventure of our low ropes, indoor abseil tower and rock climbing wall, collecting a ticket for each challenge. When they've completed all three challenges, they will be able to exchange their tickets for a free Easter egg!

**The sessions will run at 10:00, 12:00, 14:00 and 16:00, and will cost £15 per child. Parents can visit <https://rockandrapid.activitycloud.co.uk> or call 01769 309002 to book a place.**

We are located at:  
Rock and Rapid Adventure Centre  
Hacche Mill  
South Molton,  
Devon  
EX36 3NA