



‘Encourage One Another and Build Each Other Up’

1 Thessalonians 5: 11

Thankfulness	Compassion	Perseverance	Forgiveness	Courage	Friendship
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Newsletter – Friday 10th July 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

We have experienced another busy week both at school and in our Home Learning. Thank you to those of you who continue to participate in our Zoom chats and share your learning with us via email, it is a joy to see and hear what you have been up to. Please note, next week will be the last Zoom chat for all classes, so please do try and join if you are still learning from home, we would love to see you before the summer holidays start on the 23rd.

As some of you will be aware, Mrs Waters will be leaving us at the end of this school year. This is because herself and her family are moving to Wales to start another exciting chapter. I would like to take this opportunity of behalf of the entire school community to wish the entire Waters family the very best of luck and love for the future, and a reminder that the door is always open for a visit. Mrs Waters, we will miss your smile, your glitter and your continued dedication to Christmas cheer! We hope to invite Mrs Waters back to Witheridge once the Social Distancing restrictions are lifted to give all the children an opportunity to say goodbye properly. If you would like to send a goodbye message to Mrs Waters, please email admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk.



Pre-School

I have some very exciting news to share with you regarding the Pre-School building - from September; Class 1 will be in the Pre-School building! This is to enable the children in Pre-School and Reception to spend more time interacting with each other; to support the Reception children with their transition and also to allow all the children in the Foundation Stage Unit to spend time with each other. In order to provide enough space for all children in the Foundation Stage Unit (FSU) there is some building work which will need to take place during the Summer Holidays, so that we are able to re-open to the FSU children in September.

Breakfast and After School Club

From September, there will be some changes to Breakfast and After School Club. Breakfast Club will continue to run from 8:00, but will take place in the School Hall. Children attending Breakfast Club should come in through the main school entrance. After School Club will now take place in The Hut (Class 1 building) and will run until 5:30pm. Children are to be collected directly from The Hut. From September, Breakfast Club and After School Club will be £4 per hour. This will include cereals, toast and milk in the mornings at Breakfast Club and a light tea in the afternoons at After School Club. Please note, Pre-School children will continue to be charged at their hourly rate.

COVID-19 Guidance for September

I am currently working on a Risk Assessment for September, to ensure that we can welcome all children back to school safely. Currently, many of the measures we have in place will continue in September - we will have 4 Bubbles which will not interact with each other. Therefore, unless the guidance changes, it is unlikely that we will be able to have Collective Worship together in the hall or spend lunch and play times together. We are thinking about ways to 'see' each other as a whole school community - this will likely to be via Zoom or Microsoft TEAMS. Once I have a clearer picture of how school will look in September, I will send home more information via a separate letter.

Transition

Usually at this time of year, the children would spend some time with their new class teacher. We would like to offer the opportunity to the children in Years 2,3,4 and 5 to come in to school over the last 3 days of the school term (20th, 21st and 22nd July) in order to have some face to face time with their new teacher. So that this can happen, we will not be able to accommodate Year 6 for the last 3 days. Therefore, the last day of term for Year 6 will be **Friday 17th July**. We would like to invite the Year 6 children to a special picnic and water fight on Friday 17th July. More information about this will be discussed with the children. Children in Year 6 who are already identified as being Key Worker or Vulnerable children will be able to stay in school for the last 3 days, but would be in a different Bubble.

- Year 2, we would like to offer you 2 opportunities to spend some time with Mr Manning on **Monday 20th July** and **Tuesday 21st July**.
- Year 3, as you have worked with Mr Manning already, we would like to offer you one day - **Wednesday 22nd July**.
- Year 4, we would like to offer you 2 opportunities to spend some time with Mrs Nott on **Monday 20th July** and **Tuesday 21st July**,
- Year 5, as you have worked with Mrs Nott already, we would like to offer you one day - **Wednesday 22nd July**.

The purpose of these days is to offer the children an opportunity to have some face to face time with their new class teacher to help them prepare for a return to school in September.

If your child is in Year 2,3,4 or 5 and you would like to send them in for the specified days, please contact the school on 01884 860518 by **Monday 13th July**. Please be aware, that we are only able to have 15 children per Bubble. Therefore, we may not be able to accommodate all Year 2 and Year 4 children on one day. We will tell you which day/days you have been allocated by Wednesday 15th July.

Children who are already attending school (Key Worker and Vulnerable children and children in Nursery, Reception and Year 1) are able to continue to attend as normal.

For children in Pre-School, we would like to arrange a Zoom transition meeting which will take place on **Tuesday 14th July**. More information about this is in a letter which will be sent home alongside this newsletter.

Reports

Every year, all parents and carers receive a comprehensive report about their child's progress and achievements throughout the year. Although the children have spent a significant amount of this school year learning from home, we will still be sending home a report which will report on children's progress over the first two terms. We usually ask the children to contribute to their report in the 'Child's Comments' section. This year is no different; we are inviting children to add their comments to their reports, either in school or via email. If your child would like to contribute to their report, please complete the attached proforma and return to school by **Wednesday 15th July**. Children who are learning in school will be given the opportunity to contribute in school time.

All the best,

Miss Ratcliffe



Flu Vaccination

Your child is due to be in Reception to Year 6 from September 2020 and they are therefore eligible for a Free Nasal Childhood Flu Vaccination.

It is anticipated that this will be delivered in schools between October 2020 to December 2020; this will be administered adhering to all up to date Infection Control, PPE and social distancing guidance at the time.

Flu vaccination is one of the most effective interventions we have to reduce pressure on the health and social care system which is going to be more important than ever this year. For this reason, it is essential we deliver the vaccine to as many children as possible to prevent the spread of infection to those most at risk in society.

In light of the above we are expecting demand to be high and therefore we urge you to follow the below link to consent to your child's vaccination now. Even if you do not want your child to receive this vaccination, please complete the consent form stating "no" consent. You will also find answers to your FAQ's on this link.

<https://schoolimms.virgincare.co.uk/flu/2020/devon>

If you have any difficulties with completing the consent form please contact the Immunisation Team on our Single Point of Access (SPA).

Tel: 0300 247 0082 Email: vcl.immunisations@nhs.net

Primary times Devon & Plymouth

We have distributed Primary Times Devon to your families for a number of years now, the aim being to provide details of all the fun, exciting and educational events going on locally during the summer holidays. This year, things being as they are, we are unable to do so. Instead for the summer we would like to offer parents links to virtual things to do and learning for children.

The contributors will all be from the local community and economy. The idea being to offer a regular update and refreshed information throughout the summer as and when we receive it.

All we would ask please is that you load the link below for our first E-Newsletter:

<https://mailchi.mp/e6fba174f4c0/sign-up-to-the-primary-times-devon-newsletter>

Please stay safe and keep well.

With Kind Regards

The Primary Times Team



Free School Meals

You may already be aware that the government announced last week that the Free School Meal supermarket vouchers will continue to be awarded to eligible children during the summer holidays. These vouchers are £15 per week per eligible child, and parents can choose from a range of supermarkets. We are aware that some parents may be facing a change in financial circumstances due to Covid-19. Devon County Council are still processing applications for free school meals – please visit <https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-meals> to see if your child would be eligible.

Instrumental Lessons

Although Mr Rogo has not been able to continue his instrumental lessons in school, he has been holding online virtual lessons in piano and guitar during lockdown. Mr Rogo does still have some spaces free – if you are interested in these lessons for your child, please contact Alex on 07565951786 or alexrogo@hotmail.co.uk



We are really looking forward to our next Zoom chats with you all!

Class 2 – Tuesday 2.30pm
Class 3 – Thursday 2.30pm
Class 4 – Wednesday 3pm

Preschool – Jayne and Lisa are going to chat to you individually or in small groups on Zoom this week, so they will be in touch to organise those.

Remember we have our special class email addresses!
We are missing you all lots and it really cheers us up when we get to see all your home learning, pictures and videos.
Please keep sending them to us at these addresses:

- Preschool (Jayne) preschool@witheridge.devon.sch.uk
- Class 1 (Mrs North) class1@witheridge.devon.sch.uk
- Class 2 (Miss Ratcliffe) class2@witheridge.devon.sch.uk
- Class 3 (Mr Manning) class3@witheridge.devon.sch.uk
- Class 4 (Mrs Nott) class4@witheridge.devon.sch.uk



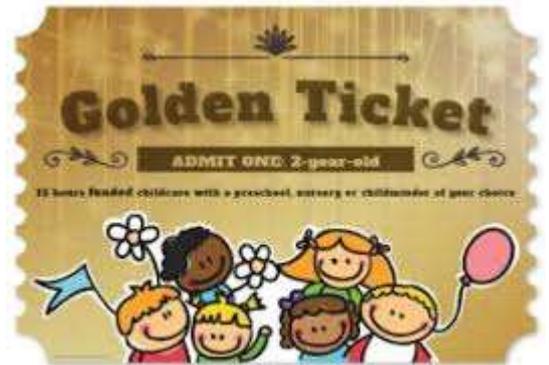
Witheridge CofE Blog

Don't forget Witheridge has its very own Blog, check out the new update from Adam ☺ <https://witheridge.edublogs.org/>

Early Years Funding

If you find that your personal circumstances have changed and you are in receipt of certain benefits now you can [check whether you are eligible](#) check whether you are eligible for a funded two-year old place. If your child will be attending a school nursery you can check whether they can have a free school meal too.

Some parents will have received purple tickets which act as an invite to check eligibility. If you receive a golden ticket please advise us immediately as this entitles you to 15 hours of free 2 year old funding. Parents who will not meet the minimum income threshold (16 hours per week at National Minimum/Living Wage) due to lower earnings as a direct result of coronavirus (COVID-19) will be treated as meeting that test during the outbreak. This will apply only to parents who need to apply for, or reconfirm with HMRC, their 30 hours and Tax-Free Childcare place during the outbreak this year.



We encourage all eligible parents to continue to apply for, and reconfirm, their 30 hours and Tax-Free Childcare entitlement. Anyone that thinks they will qualify from 1st September needs to apply and get their code to admin@witheridge.devon.sch.uk before the end of July please.

We will accommodate the hours you wish your child to attend and be as flexible as possible for the rest of the term.

In September the funding rates are changing slightly and we will be increasing our charges for non-funded hours to bring this in line. Additional hours for 2 Year olds will be £5.00 per hour and additional hours for 3 Year olds will be £4.20 per hour. School lunches will continue to be £1.80 per lunch

School Dinner Menu week commencing 13th July 2020

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main	Sausage Roll	Hot Dog in a roll	Roast Pork and Apple sauce	Cheese and Tomato Pizza	Fish cakes
Sides	Pasta, Beans or Veg	Wedges, beans or veg	Roast Potatoes, Mash Potatoes, Seasonal Veg & Gravy	Pasta or Wedges & Spaghetti Hoops	Golden Fries or pasta, Seasonal Vegetables or Baked Beans

KS2 children - Please let Mrs Eastman know of the morning if you wish to have a cooked meal ☺

Community News

Get free food and vitamin vouchers from the Healthy Start Programme

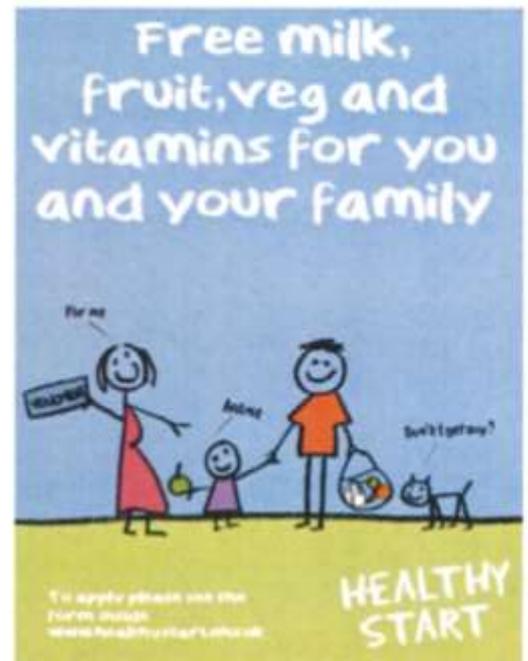
Healthy Start is a programme to help families with young children get **free food vouchers** to spend on milk, plain fresh and frozen fruit and vegetables and infant formula milk. You can also get **free vitamins** for under 4's (vit A, C and D) and vitamins if you are pregnant (folic acid and vit C & D). Because we're indoors a lot of the time at the moment, we might not be getting enough vitamin D from sunshine so a vitamin D supplement will help.

If you have children under 4 or are pregnant, **and** you or your family receive qualifying benefits you may be eligible - you can quickly find out [here](#).

Applying is easy, you can print off an [application form](#) from the Healthy Start website and post it to the Healthy Start office.

Once you are **registered**, food vouchers are posted to you every 4 weeks and vitamin coupons every 8 weeks.

To make things easier at the moment, vitamins are currently being posted to families – please ask your midwife or Children's Centre for more information, or text your health visitor on 07520 631721.



Devon
County Council

Devon Family Advice Line



Exeter Community Initiatives has launched a new phone advice line for parents and carers across Devon from Monday 1 June. The number for the new service is 01392 949059 and it will be manned from 10 – 2pm Monday to Friday. People will be able to leave a message outside of these hours, or when the operators are all busy.

It will offer advice on a specific issue around their children and their family relationships, including any communication issues or conflict they are having with their partners or co-parents of their children. It is not meant to be a replacement for more targeted work, but just a way to offer people a place to be heard and a few tips on how to deal with a particular situation or to signpost them to an organisation which may be able to help them.