



# Witley C of E Infant School

Newsletter no. 16 – Spring Term

Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Learn, love and flourish together

Our value this term is joy



Target attendance for the Year 95%

This year's attendance is 95.3%

*Kind words are like honey, sweet to the soul and healthy for the body  
Proverbs 16:24*

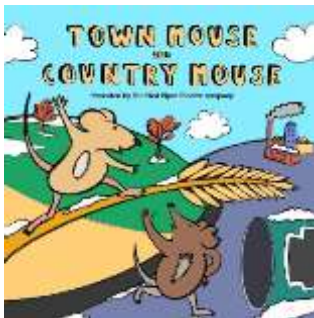
Dear Parents/Carers

## Road Safety Magic Show

On the last day of term FWS treated our children to a Road Safety Magic Show complete with Marvin the meerkat, who helped them understand the importance of wearing a helmet when cycling!



## Pied Piper Theatre



The Pied Piper Theatre Group will be visiting Witley on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> January with their production of The Town Mouse and The Country Mouse. Why not visit the website below so you can talk about the upcoming performance?

All the children will be completing a piece of work after they've watched the production and we'll be sharing their learning with you.

<https://piedpipertheatre.co.uk/>

## Reading at Home

Evidence shows that the more you read with children the more success they will have at school. A little every day goes a long way to achieving this.

Ever wondered why your child has so many books in their book bag?

Each child at Witley can choose as many sharing books as they want from the classroom. These books are for you to read together and don't worry if your child wants to read the same book again and again – that's normal. They will also have a library book and a reading spine book.

In the book bag you'll also find their Little Wandle decodable reading book. This is the one they have been focussing on in class with their teacher and should be able to read independently to you using decoding (match letters to sounds), reading with expression (prosody), and explain the meaning of new words.



## How do I get started?

If you're not feeling confident about reading aloud don't worry – there's no wrong way to enjoy a story together. But if you'd like some tips, here are a few to help you out.

- Cuddle up together. Your child could hold the book themselves and turn the pages, too!
- Take a book out and about with you – why not see if you can spot real-life things that remind you of the stories?
- Try being one of the characters, making silly voices and actions. Your little one will love it!
- Reading is for anytime, anywhere. On the bus, at the park – books are great for quick entertainment.
- You don't have to read a book cover to cover, you can just dip in and out.
- Just have fun! There's no right or wrong way to share a story – do what works for you and your child.

## Governor News

I am pleased to announce that Mrs Sarah Willgoose, our EYFS Teacher, will be joining our Governing Body from this month as Staff Governor. Just a reminder that we currently have two Parent Governor vacancies on our board. Details of how you can apply were sent out in a separate email before Christmas.

## Year 2 invited to the new Junior Choir Club

Further on in the newsletter you'll see some information about the new junior choir club starting at All Saints Church at the end of January. Don't miss out!

## Parent Consultations in February

Dates for our spring parent consultations:

Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> 3.30 – 6 pm

Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup> 3.50 – 7.20 pm

Invitations to book appointments will be available towards the end of January 2025.

## Little Saints every Friday at All Saints Church

Finally, a reminder that All Saints Church runs a free toddler group every Friday. All ages welcome, 8:45 – 10.30 am every Friday of the year, including all holidays. Come along for a rest, a chat and a cuppa.

## Unwanted gifts for our Year 2 class sale

Every year Puffins have a sale outside their classroom to help them learn about money. Can you help by donating any unwanted Christmas gifts? Money raised will go towards a local charity. Donations to the office or Puffins classroom please.

Many of you have said how helpful the newsletter calendar is so we have decided to continue to add dates in the newsletter as well as online on our website.

Happy New Year 2025!

Mrs Helen Szczepanski

## Cake Raffle

Thank you to the Aneja family for the delicious cake!

Congratulations to Zoe and Aidan who won!

Allergies: Please note some cakes are shop bought and some are homemade and therefore we cannot guarantee that they are nut free.



Well done to the following children who are in our Gold Book this week!

Year R – Felix, Aidan and Henry

Year 1 – Zoe and Percy

Year 2 – Matilda, Oran and Arlo



On Tuesday, in our Celebration Assembly, each class received the Headteacher's certificate for contributions to our assemblies as well as good listening.

On Monday we talked about the Epiphany when the Wise Men visited Jesus for the first time. We reflected on the joy that the birth of Jesus had brought to so many people, which is why we focus on joy as our value for this half term.

## The Rag Bag Scheme

Do you have any good quality clothes to donate? We raised over £250 last year. Please drop them off in the small playground shed from Monday. We will arrange a collection in February.



**Rag Bag can only accept the following items:**

- Good quality wearable men's, ladies & children's clothing
- Paired shoes (tied together)
- Handbags
- Belts

**PLEASE DO NOT PUT SCHOOL UNIFORM IN THE BAGS. Thank you**

### Safeguarding is everyone's business

**Our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) are:**

Helen Szczepanski – Headteacher – Lead DSL

Becky Latham – School Business Manager – Deputy DSL

Phillipa Allison – SENCo - Deputy DSL

Sarah Dutton – Home School Link Worker – Deputy DSL

If you have any concerns about a child, please report to one of the DSL's as soon as possible the same day.

# ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Dear Parents/Carers

**We have received several requests for time off school for holidays. Sadly under the new guidelines introduced in the summer these absences will be unauthorised and you may be liable to a penalty notice incurring a fine. Please read the information below, so you are fully aware of the guidance.**

Just to remind parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), then the following will apply:

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, **per parent/carer per child**, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, **per parent/carer per child**, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, **per parent/carer per child**, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.



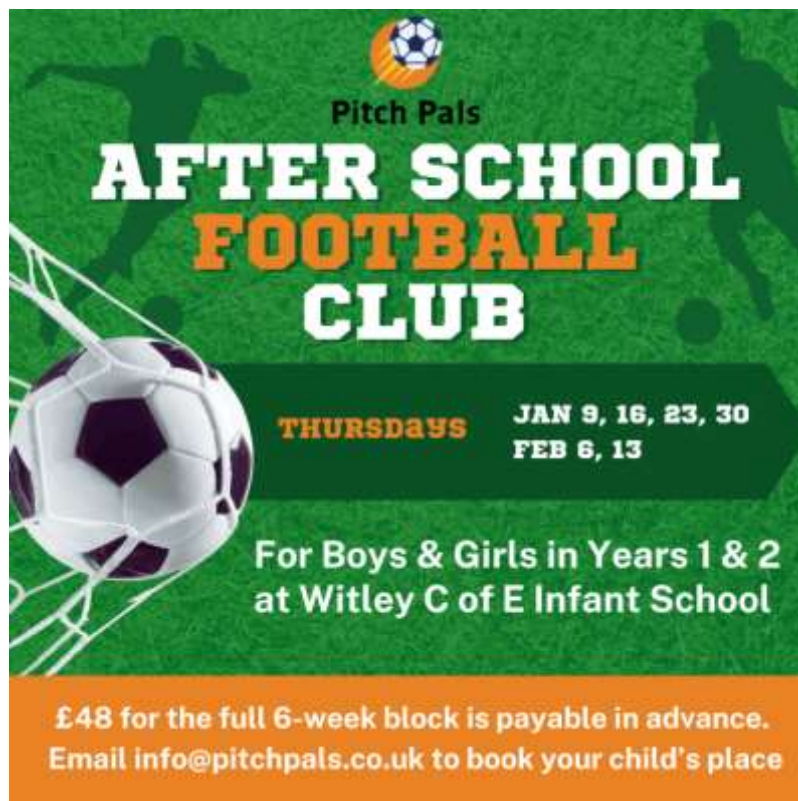
**DO YOU LIKE SINGING?  
ARE YOU IN YEAR 2, 3, 4 OR 5?**

JOIN US FOR GAMES, ACTIVITIES, LEARNING MUSIC, SINGING SONGS


**JUNIOR CHOIR CLUB  
FRIDAY 31ST JANUARY  
ALL SAINTS CHURCH, WITLEY  
3:30PM-4:45PM**

*To sign up please  
email:  
office@allsaintswitley.org.uk  
with child's name  
and school Year*

*Text  
ART*



The poster features a green background with silhouettes of soccer players and a soccer ball. A soccer ball is shown in the bottom left corner, partially overlapping a goal net. The text is centered and uses a mix of white and orange colors.

  
**Pitch Pals**  
**AFTER SCHOOL  
FOOTBALL  
CLUB**

**THURSDAYS**    **JAN 9, 16, 23, 30  
FEB 6, 13**

**For Boys & Girls in Years 1 & 2  
at Witley C of E Infant School**

**£48 for the full 6-week block is payable in advance.  
Email [info@pitchpals.co.uk](mailto:info@pitchpals.co.uk) to book your child's place**

## SCHOOL CALENDAR - [Witley C of E Infant School](#)

Please check our 'new calendar' on our website for all school events.

DAY	DATE	ACADEMIC YEAR 2024 -25
Tues	11.02	Safer Internet Day
Thurs	13.02	3.15 pm LAST DAY OF TERM
<b>Fri</b>	<b>14.02</b>	<b>INSET Day no. 4</b>
Tues	21.01	Pied Piper Production – The Town Mouse and The Country Mouse  Thank you FWS for paying for this event for all of the children!
		<b>FEBRUARY HALF TERM</b> 17 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2025
Mon	24.02	First day of term
Tues	25.02	Parent Consultations 3.30 – 6.00 pm
Weds	26.02	Parent Consultations 3.50 – 7.20 pm
Thurs	06.03	World Book Day – Extreme reading competition and WBD costume day!
Tues	11.03	Rodborough School Multiskills morning – Year 1  There is no charge for this event. Children will travel by coach to Rodborough
Weds	12.03	Rodborough School Multiskills morning – Year 2  There is no charge for this event. Children will travel by coach to Rodborough
Fri	04.04	1.05 pm LAST DAY OF TERM. PLEASE NOTE EARLIER FINISH  Sublime Science Workshop – all year groups during the morning
		<b>EASTER HOLIDAYS</b>
Tues	22.04	First Day of term
<b>Mon</b>	<b>05.05</b>	<b>BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED</b>

Sat	10.05	WITSTOCK 2025 – Chichester Hall
Fri	23.05	INSET Day no. 5
		<b>MAY HALF TERM HOLIDAY</b> 26 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
Mon	02.06	First day of term
Mon	09.06	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check (all week)
Tues	22.07	1.05 pm LAST DAY OF TERM. PLEASE NOTE EARLIER FINISH

## ***TRAIN TO TEACH* in Godalming schools with Winchester University and the GLP**



**Join our hour-long webinar to learn all about starting your teaching career, training in local schools, with an outstanding PGCE provider.**

The Godalming Learning Partnership has partnered with Winchester University and its *outstanding* PGCE programme for the last 7 years and maintained a 100% pass rate. Many of our graduates work in GLP schools and are already reaching middle and senior leadership positions. Our school-led model combines practical, hands-on, real world experience with cutting edge academic study to set trainees up to succeed so that our children make excellent progress in their learning. Our philosophy ensures trainees are supported and encouraged to become resilient and reflective teachers who manage their workload effectively and understand the importance of good mental and emotional well-being in themselves and in their pupils.

We are running an information webinar on **Wednesday 15 January 2025 at 7.00pm** for anyone interested in finding out more about our distinctive teacher training programme which starts in September 2025.

Register on Eventbrite for this online event using the QR code or link below:



[Train to Teach with the GLP](#)

For more info in the meantime, see our [GET Teaching](#) website and our *GET Teaching* information evening flier.

We look forward to meeting you.





# Waverley Family Centre

Where?: Milford School,  
Church Road, Godalming GU8 5JA  
When?: Wednesdays, 9.15-11.15am,  
15th, 22nd and 29th January  
and 5th February



## 4 week Parenting Puzzle workshops

- Four fun, informal and nurturing sessions covering giving praise, child-led play, time out to calm down and nurturing ourselves.
- Ideas to try when family life becomes stressful.
- ways of celebrating your success.

"I liked having a space just for me."

"I really enjoyed having a safe place to share stories and get support."

For more information scan the QR code, call: 01483 417157 or email [lisa.audain@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:lisa.audain@barnardos.org.uk)



Waverley Family Centre, Green Lane, Binscombe, Godalming, Surrey, GU7 3TB and Upper Hale Road, Farnham GU9 0LR

# BARNARDOS

Changing childhoods.  
Changing lives.

# HOLIDAY CAMPS 2025

WE ARE **EXCITED** TO ANNOUNCE THAT BOOKING HAS OPENED FOR OUR 2025 HOLIDAY CAMPS!

IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR HIGH QUALITY, FLEXIBLE CHILDCARE FOR YOUR 4+ YEAR OLD, SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW!

**17TH-21ST FEBRUARY**  
ST JAMES PRIMARY

**7TH-17TH APRIL**  
ST JAMES PRIMARY

**27TH-30TH MAY**  
ST JAMES PRIMARY

**4TH-29TH AUGUST**  
ST MARY'S INFANTS

\*CHILD UNDER 4? CHECK OUT OUR EARLY YEARS SUMMER CAMP INSTEAD...

**8.30-5.30PM\***  
LUNCH ADD-ON AVAILABLE

£40.00 per day or,  
£80.00 for 2 days  
£100.00 for 3 days  
£120.00 for 4 days  
£140.00 for 5 days

*Did you know we accept  
Childcare Vouchers and Tax  
Free Childcare payments?*



Registration and booking  
essential.  
Places are limited.

Email [care@thehen-house.com](mailto:care@thehen-house.com) for more information

\*8am-6pm available for only £6 extra



THE HEN  
HOUSE

[Witley C of E Infant School](#)



## ANXIETY TOOLKIT FOR PARENTS AND CARERS WEBINAR

SATURDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2025, 10AM- 12 MIDDAY

LEARN PRACTICAL TIPS AND STRATEGIES TO HELP PARENTS AND CARERS SUPPORT THEIR CHILDREN THROUGH ANXIETY IN THIS ONLINE EVENT!

Are you feeling overwhelmed by your child's anxiety? Join us for this online event where Your Space Therapies will provide you with practical tools and strategies to help you support your child. Emma Connor, Child Psychotherapist will share valuable, easy to implement strategies to navigate through challenging situations and promote your child's well-being. Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn and connect with other parents and carers facing similar experiences. Register now and equip yourself with the **tools** to better understand and manage anxiety in your child.

**Price: £27.80**

For more information and booking please scan the QR code:

