



Witley C of E Infant School



Learn, love and flourish together

Newsletter no. 5 Autumn Term
Friday, 6th October 2023



Our value this half term is Friendship

'Encourage and help each other'
1 Thessalonians 5

Dear Parents/Carers

I had the pleasure of showing a number families around our school this week as part of our Admission 2024 tours. I am always extremely proud of our children when I visit each class to see their learning. Year R were sitting on the carpet learning the sound 'r' and they continue to amaze me with how well they have settled into the routines of school, growing in confidence and independence. We have several more tours planned so please contact the office if you have a child due to start school next autumn.

Last week Susan Costa, SIAMS Lead from the Diocese of Guildford, visited and commented on the wonderful grounds we have here, tucked away like a green oasis. Since the beginning of term we have been so lucky to be able to enjoy the outdoor spaces every day. Year 2 have made the most of the outdoors with their topic of weather in geography. I've heard they're making clouds and Year 1 are learning all about the rainforests of South America!

This week Surrey CC came to complete their safety checks on the trim trail and the equipment on the hill. Sadly, some of the trim trail failed inspection and had to be removed but the remaining equipment is safe to use. The trim trail has been in place a number of years now so we have started the process of costing up to replace. This will be an expensive installation because the artificial matting will probably need to be replaced at the same time. The rope wall on the Hill also failed, but fortunately this will be repaired before half term.

Once again thank you for your support with the Macmillan Coffee Morning, we raised over £300. We didn't include a photo of Beatrice last week, our Macmillan doll, kindly made and donated by Cameron's Grandma. Well done Florence for guessing her name. Here she is! She even had sandwiches hidden in her bag!



A date for your diary!

All year groups will perform an assembly in the hall for parents/carers this academic year, kicking off with Year 1 on Tuesday, 21st November at 9 am. All parents/carers welcome. Please enter via the staff car park.

Photographer in school

On Tuesday, 10th October we have our photographer in school to take individual photos. We will take photos of siblings in school, however, if you have a pre-school child or toddler and would like a family photograph then please come to the Jubilee Hall via the staff carpark at 8.35 am.



Sadly, we have had more reports of near misses in the playground with scooters and bikes despite reminders. Unfortunately we are going to have to stop children from riding their scooters and bikes in the playground.

I will remind the children during assemblies. I'm sorry to have to take this action but we certainly don't want anyone injured.

Little Wandle at Home

Little Wandle is our phonics scheme. Amazon are selling resources and below are Little Wandle at Home First Phonics Flashcards and Little Wandle at Home More Phonics Phase 3 for Reception. Year 1 recap Phase 3 and move to Phase 5. Ask your class teacher which ones your child would benefit from.



Next Friday, 13th EYFS will have the opportunity to come to school in their pyjamas (optional of course!) and stay in them ALL DAY! Children then have the chance to have some breakfast at school. Normal arrival time, just don't forget your pyjamas! Some children may want to have breakfast at home and then have an additional slice of toast or croissant in class.

Oh and it's the DISCO next Friday!

STOP PRESS! Sleepy Story Time in school will return in the new year – Monday, 8th January. Drop children off at 4.30 pm and return to collect them at 5.30 pm. Save the date!

Have a super weekend
Mrs Helen Szczepanski

Cake Raffle

Our cake raffle takes place on Tuesday in our Celebration Assembly.

Thank you to the Westhead family for making a wonderfully creative flower chocolate cake.

Well done to Dilys, in Year 2 who I'm sure has eaten it already!



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

Year R: William and Dylan

Year 1: Aiden and Fiona

Year 2: Lark and Vinny

Mrs Szczepanski's Headteacher Award in our Celebration Assembly goes to Roman in Year R



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 next Monday. Collection will be towards Friday, 3rd November.

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

Makaton Challenge Here at Witley we regularly learn Makaton signs. Can you sign your name?



Need some advice on online safety and digital life? Parent Zone sits at the heart of digital family life: the struggles, the magical moments, the times when things seem complicated or confusing.



Parent Zone is a social enterprise – offering free services and resources to parents, families and professionals who work with them.

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/digital-family-life>



Action for all education settings: Support children and young people to take part in The Big Ambition survey

The Children's Commissioner for England has recently launched 'The Big Ambition' to hear directly from children, young people, and parents across the country.

This is an opportunity to hear from all children, in every part of the country and in every setting. The survey will be used to encourage policymakers to think about children and young people's needs, to ensure children's voices are reflected in the decisions that will affect them in years to come.

Education settings play a critical role in enabling us to hear from as many children and young people as possible. That is why we are encouraging all settings in England to take part and let their pupils have their say on what is important to them!

To find out more head to [The Big Ambition page](#). To take part in The Big Ambition survey visit: www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition.

NHS

102,000 children starting school in England are at risk of catching measles

Check your child is up to date with their MMR vaccinations

NHS

9 out of 10 unvaccinated children can catch measles if someone in their class has it

Check your child is up to date with their MMR vaccinations

TERM DATES 2023/24

Autumn Term 2023

Tuesday 10th October – Individual/sibling photographs inc. toddlers and babies first thing

Thursday 12th October - Parent Tours for Admissions 2024, please book via the school office:

Tour no. 3 09.05 – 09.45 am

Tour no. 4 10.00 – 10.35 am

Friday 13th October – EYFS Breakfast! Come to school in your pyjamas!

Friday 13th October – FWS Autumn Disco – straight after school in The Jubilee Hall – details here:

<https://forms.gle/wX5Dr1YRpmnVsWs2A>

Monday, 16th October -- Harvest Festival in the Jubilee Hall at 2.15 pm – all parents invited followed by Open Classroom until 3.30pm

Wednesday 18th October – Hedgehog visit, all classes in the afternoon

Thursday 19th October – Year 2 NSPCC Assembly Speak Out Stay Safe

Autumn half term – 23 October to 27 October 2023



INSET No. 2 – Monday, 30th October

Wednesday 1st November – Parent/carers consultations from 3.30 pm – 6.00 pm

Thursday 2nd November - Parent/carers consultations from 4.00 pm – 7.30 pm

Tuesday 21st November – Year 1 Class Assembly. Parents/carers invited

Last day of term - 15 December 2023 – early finish 1.05 pm. PLEASE NOTE EARLIER FINISH

Spring Term 2024

School starts – Tuesday, 2nd January 2024

Monday, 8th Sleepy Story Time returns for all year groups 4.30 – 5.30 pm (details to follow)

INSET DAY No.3 – Friday, 9th February

February half term - 12 February to 16 February

Last day of term – Thursday 28th March – early finish 1.05 pm. PLEASE NOTE EARLIER FINISH.

Summer Term 2024

INSET DAY No. 4 - Monday 15th April

School starts – Tuesday, 16th April

INSET DAY No.5 - Friday, 24th May

Summer half term - 27 May to 31 May 2024

Last day of term – Tuesday, 23rd July – early finish 1.05 pm. PLEASE NOTE EARLIER FINISH.



HALF TERM 2023 TENNIS CAMP

**ORGANISED BY PF TENNIS ACADEMY
PERFORMANCE TENNIS DIRECTOR
JORGE MIGUEL MARTIN MUNOZ**

**MONDAY 23 OCTOBER - FRIDAY 27 OCTOBER
MONDAY 30 OCTOBER - FRIDAY 3 NOVEMBER**

**FULL DAY 9.00AM - 3.00PM /
HALF DAY 9.00AM - 1.00PM**

**FREE EARLY DROP OFF AVAILABLE FROM 8.30AM
FREE LATE PICK UP AVAILABLE UNTIL 3.30PM**

**OPEN TO CHILDREN
3 YEARS OLD - 16 YEARS OLD**

If you would like your child/children to attend please complete
the form on pages 2-3 and return via email to:
jmartin@priorsfieldschool.com

Please contact Jorge with any questions/queries
e: jmartin@priorsfieldschool.com

PRIOR'S FIELD
The place to achieve



Elstead Village Tennis Club

***October half term Tennis Camps
23rd - 27th October
5th day free if you sign up for the whole week!***

Time	Level / Age	Camp Option	Cost per day	Cost per week
09:00-10:00	3-5 years	1 x Early Years	£8	£32
10:00-13:00	MINI Tennis (Red, Orange, Green) (5 - 10 yrs)	1 x Half Day	£24	£96
10:00-13:00	JUNIOR Tennis (10 - 16 yrs)	1 x Half Day	£24	£96
10:00-15:00	MINI Tennis (Red, Orange, Green) (5 - 10 yrs)	1 x Full day	£40	£160
10:00-15:00	JUNIOR Tennis (10 - 16 yrs)	1 x Full Day	£40	£160

***For more information or to book, contact Doug
Mobile: 07557404523
Email: HeadCoach@ElsteadTennis.co.uk***

***Elstead Village Tennis Club
Gala Lane, Milford Road,
Elstead GU8 6FG***

***elsteadtennis.co.uk
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