Autumn Term Friday, 6th November 2026 Newsletter no. 8

Our value this half term is respect



Witley C of E Infant School



Learn, love and flourish together

"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it." Proverbs 22:6

Dear Everyone



This week our children have been learning about Remembrance Day.

Children in Early Years have helped create a wreath which we will lay at the base of our village war memorial. Year 2 have produced some wonderful individual pieces of work using different media such as watercolour, pencil, oil pastel and collage.



We will be displaying some of the Year 2 artwork at All Saints Church this weekend when Alfie and Charlotte will join me on Sunday to lay our Witley School wreath.

The artwork will remain in the Church next week so please pop along and have a look at their creations.







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

Year R – Bertie and Sofia

Year 1 – Ted and Rosalie

Year 2 – Sienna and Annabelle



Headteacher award

Year R - Zira Year 1 - Myela Year 2 – Felix D

News from Revd Amy at All Saints Church

All Saints Church will be offering termly events for children and their families to build upon the existing relationships they have through Messy Church, Sing Hosanna, Choir Club and school services.

This term they are inviting families to come along to a Winter Family Get Together on Sunday 22nd November, 3.30pm to 5pm.

They will have a fire-pit in the churchyard for gathering around and toasting marshmallows.

There will be hotdogs to eat, some winter crafts and lots of opportunity to chat.



Our value of respect



This term we have a new value, respect, and we will be talking to our children about what this means.

Respect means treating others how we would like others to treat us.

Respect is also about treating other people's belongings and property in the same way. A gentle reminder for everyone about respectful parking and we have recently had some concern raised about Witley School children running in other people's gardens near The Chandler School.

We will be reminding children to respect other people's property as we talk about the value over the coming weeks. Thank you.

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check summer 2027

The **statutory** Year 1 Phonics Screening Check will take place week beginning Monday, 14th June 2027. You will find attached to your parent email this week the Phonics Screening Check Information booklet for parents. If you have any questions regarding phonics and reading please speak with your child's class teacher. Year 2 retakes will also take place during this time.

Christmas Performances

Please check our calendar towards the end of the newsletter for our Christmas performances. We hold a dress rehearsal for younger siblings to attend.

Friendship and anti-bullying week beginning Monday, 16th November

BE LOVELY and UNDERSTANDING to EVERYONE WEEK!

We are asking children to wear something blue on Friday, 20th November to celebrate our '**Be Lovely and Understanding to Everyone** week!



We will be talking to the children about healthy friendships and why it is so important to be kind to one another, focusing on our new value of 'respect'. Examples of what you could wear:



Football top (but not whole kit please)
Hairband
Blue socks
Blue trousers/skirt

Please ensure you only wear one blue item!

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Szczepanski and all the staff

Cake Raffle

Thank you to the Griffiths family for this week's yummy cake!

Congratulations to Nina in Penguins who won.



Allergies: Please note some cakes are shop bought and some are homemade and therefore, we cannot guarantee that they are nut free. Please contact FWS if you would like a list of ingredients.

Raising money for **The Friends of Witley School** couldn't be easier. Head to https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/ or scan the QR code.



Are you a school volunteer?

As part of our safeguarding policy all school volunteers are required to have DBS (enhanced) clearance and attend one of our in-house safeguarding training workshops. We ask volunteers to attend our workshop every two years.

We have two workshops over the next few months, so please contact the office to book yourself in.

Tuesday, 10th November 9.00 – 9.45 am

Thursday, 21st January 2.30 – 3.15 pm

Attendance

We are receiving an increasing number of requests for absences and whilst we understand how important many of these are for families, the majority will result in an unauthorised absence. We look at each request on an individual basis and assess each application considering factors, including the context and reason for the request.

If parents/carers 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.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

DAY	DATE	ACADEMIC YEAR 2026 - 27
AUTUMN TERM 2026		
SUN	08.11	Remembrance Sunday at All Saints Church – 10.15 am
Mon - Fri	16- 20.11	Spare change week – bring in your spare coins to raise funds for FWS.
Fri	20.11	Wear something BLUE day for Friendship week
Fri	27.11	Non-uniform day for FWS Christmas Fair
Fri	04.12	Non-uniform day for FWS Christmas Fair
SAT	05.12	Messy Church at All Saints 3.30 – 5.30 pm
SUN	06.12	FWS CHRISTMAS FAIR
Tues	08.12	KS1 Christmas Nativity performance at 9.15 am. DRESS REHEARSAL for families with pre-school children/babies.
Tues	08.12	KS1 Christmas Nativity performance at 2.30 pm in the Jubilee Hall – parents welcome
Thurs	10.12	Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children – voluntary donations
Fri	11.12	Early Years Christmas Nativity performance at 9.15 am. DRESS REHEARSAL for families with pre-school children/babies.
Fri	11.12	Early Years Christmas Nativity performance at 2.30 pm in the Jubilee Hall – parents welcome
Mon	14.12	Christmas Service at All Saints Church – families welcome at 9.10 am
Fri	18.12	Last day of term – early finish at 1.05 pm
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS – Mon 21 Dec 2026 – Fri 01 Jan 2027		
SPRING TERM 2027		
Mon	04.01.27	Welcome back all year groups
Tues	26.01.27	Year 1 trip to Winchester Science Centre – details have been sent. Please provide consent on Arbor.

Fri	12.02	INSET Day no 3 SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
HALF TERM – Mon, 15 Feb to Fri, 19 Feb 2027		
Mon	01.03	Year R trip to Haslemere Museum – *details to follow*
Fri	19.03	Red Nose Day, wear something red in exchange for a small donation.
Thurs	25.03	Last day of term – early finish at 1.05 pm
EASTER HOLIDAYS – Fri 26 March – Fri 09 April 2027		
SUMMER TERM 2027		
Mon	12.04	INSET DAY no 4 SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
Tues	13.04	Welcome back all year groups
Tues	13.04	Year 2 trip to The City Museum in Winchester – *details to follow*
BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 03 May – SCHOOL CLOSED		
Fri	28.05	INSET Day no 5 SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
HALF TERM – Mon 31 May to Fri 04 June 2027		
Tues	13.07	Year 1 trip to Chichester Harbour – *details to follow*
Thurs	15.07	Dolphins Class trip to Tuesley Farm – all day – *details to follow*
Tues	20.07	Year 2 trip to Sayers Croft – *details to follow*
Fri	23.07	SPORTS MORNING – approx. 9 – 10 am Families welcome
Weds	28.07	Last day of term - early finish at 1.05 pm




WHAT'S ON
Jingle & Glaze
A relaxed evening of pottery painting, mulled wine and nibbles, perfect for friends, date night or trying something new.
12th November 7pm-9pm
Pottery Painting
Get festive with pottery painting, creating a seasonal piece for your home or a thoughtful handmade Christmas gift.
21st November & 5th December
Late Night Xmas Shopping
Enjoy 10% off everything as you discover the latest festive gifts in our Emporium.
25th November, 3rd & 10th December
5.30pm-9pm
To find out more go to www.grayshottpottery.com


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FRIENDS OF WITLEY SCHOOL
FWS
Wreath Making
TUESDAY 24TH NOVEMBER
FROM 7.30PM
£35 per person
Includes welcome drinks and festive nibbles.
Get into the holiday spirit with an evening of creativity, laughter, and festive fun!
Join the FWS for a cozy Christmas wreath-making evening, the perfect way to kick off the season.
We'll provide all the greenery, ribbons, and decorations you need to craft a beautiful wreath for your home.
No experience needed, just bring your holiday cheer!
Enjoy mince pies, mulled wine, and great company while supporting our school community.
Spaces are limited so book early to avoid disappointment