



Witley C of E Infant School



Learn, love and flourish together

Newsletter no. 7 Autumn Term
Friday, 20th October 2023

Our value this half term is friendship

*Blessed are the peacemakers: God will call them his children.
Matthew 5:9*



Dear Parents/Carers

Pupils enjoyed a visit from our prickly friends this week, kindly funded by FWS.

Henry and Harry the hedgehogs joined us from St Francis Animal Welfare centre.

Year 1 created pastel portraits with Mrs Stanton and Mrs White, using art vocabulary to describe the features of their friend's artwork.

We are currently developing our art and design curriculum ready for the spring term to ensure our pupils have the opportunity to experience as many different types of medium as possible from EYFS to Year 2. Drawing is also very good for fine motor skills and strengthening those fingers!



Don't forget that it is INSET DAY on Monday 30th October. Staff will be joining colleagues at local schools to share good practice in the foundation subjects of geography, computing as well as EYFS and PSHE (Personal, Social and Economic education).

Our Rag Bag clothes collection is Friday 3rd November, so please drop off any unwanted good quality clothes in the small shed in the playground. Thank you.

Have a great half term,

Mrs Helen Szczepanski

Christmas Card Orders



Christmas card designs - details of how to order are on the information card and the order deadline is 25th October. Thank you for supporting this FWS fundraiser.

Is your child starting school in September 2024? Is your child in Year 2?

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions>

If your child was born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 you will need to apply for a school place between 30 October 2023 and 15th January 2024.

If your child is in Year 2 then you will need to apply for a place at a junior school or a primary school with a year 3 intake.

Are you a school volunteer?

Over the next few months we have scheduled some safeguarding workshops in school for those of you who volunteer, on the following dates:

Tuesday 7th November 2023 6-6.45pm

Friday 19th January 2024 9-9.45am

Thursday 29th February 2024 2.30-3.15pm



Please note that ALL volunteers will have to attend this workshop this year so we can ensure our helpers have all the information and skills they need to keep our children safe. Please contact the office to book yourself on one of the workshops.

INSET DAY at HEN HOUSE

Hen House are open on Monday, 30th October for a fun packed day of play, arts and crafts! Please see the flyer towards the end of the newsletter.

**THE HEN
HOUSE!**

Cake Raffle

Our cake raffle takes place in our Celebration Assembly.

Thank you to the Richardson family for making an amazing spooky bat carrot cake!

Well done to Lark in Year 2 who won the cake!



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

Year R: Ellie and Finley

Year 1: Ted and Samson

Year 2: Florence and Charlotta

Mrs Szczepanski's Headteacher Award in our Celebration Assembly goes to Ellie 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 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.



Happy Birthday to you



TERM DATES 2023/24

Autumn Term 2023

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

Thursday 9th November – Year 1 Multi-skills sports at Rodborough. There is no charge for this local event

Thursday 16th November – Year 2 Multi-skills sports at Rodborough. There is no charge for this local event

Tuesday 21st November – Year 1 Class Assembly. Parents/carers invited at 9.05 am in the Jubilee Hall. Please enter the hall via the staff car park

Friday 8th December – Non-uniform day in aid of FWS

Monday 11th December - EYFS Nativity Dress Rehearsal at 2.30 pm in the Jubilee Hall –
Parents/toddlers/babies welcome

Tuesday 12th December - EYFS Nativity performance at 2.30 pm in the Jubilee Hall – Parents welcome

Wednesday 13th December - KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal at 2.30 pm in the Jubilee Hall -
Parents/toddlers/babies welcome

Thursday 14th December - KS1 Nativity performance at 2.30 pm in the Jubilee Hall - Parents welcome

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 – just drop your child off at the Jubilee Hall at 4.30 pm (via the staff car park and collect from their classroom doors in the playground at 5.30 pm. Year R will use the middle door in the playground.

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.



THE HEN HOUSE!

INSET DAY COVER

8.30AM – 5PM at Witley Infant School
30th of October, 2023
£52 per child (£3 extra charge for lunch, or
bring your own packed lunch - nut free)

**An action packed day of play, arts and crafts,
games and more!**

**Open to all primary children from all schools,
registration required using link below**

Booking via <https://wollahwollah.kidsclubhq.co.uk/login>
Select – Witley Infant School: Inset Day 30.10.23

**CHILDCARE
VOUCHERS
ACCEPTED**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
care@thehen-house.com
www.thehen-house.com

'I really couldn't have asked for anymore and was so happy to know that he had a great time when he was there. He always looked forward to it. So a big thank you!'
D.T - Grayswood Parent

Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Service

If you need support, here's what to do

If you're in immediate danger:
call 999

If you are concerned about your
mental health, you can call and
talk to your GP

If you have an urgent need, call our
crisis team on 0800 915 4644 . It's open
24 hours a day – 7 days a week.

If you're not in a crisis, but still need support ...

Visit our website, www.mindworks-surrey.org – this offers a wide range of information which can help your mental health and wellbeing. We have resources such as [My Safety Plan](#) and [self-help tips](#) to help guide you through your wellbeing during challenging times. You'll find links to useful websites, recommended reading and apps, plus coping strategies to help you through difficult times.

We are partnered with Kooth, who are a digital mental health platform providing confidential support for all young people. Here you can access forums, activity centres, messaging and live counselling. You can get support when you need it, with no waiting lists or need to be referred by an adult. Visit www.kooth.com for more information.

Sometimes it might feel easier to message/ text about how you are feeling and there are many places you can do this:

- **Shout** : is a free, confidential, 24/7 text support service for anyone in the UK who is struggling to cope. To start a conversation, text the word 'SHOUT' to 85258.
- **Chat Health** : is a safe and easy way for you to speak to a qualified health professional. They provide information about services near you that can provide support. Contact them through their website www.chathealth.nhs.uk

Mindworks Surrey provide a free out-of-hours helpline if you have or think you may have ADHD or Autism. It's open every night of the year, including weekends, on 0300 222 5755 from 5pm to 11pm.

The CYP (Children & Young People) Haven is a safe space for any child or young people aged 10–18 to go where they can talk about worries and mental health in a confidential, friendly and supportive place. Scan the QR code for more information.



The Mindworks Access and Advice Team can also provide support in signposting you to more help.
Call them on 0300 222 5755.

We also work closely with young people groups such as Amplify, their contact email amplify.mindworks@sabp.nhs.uk and Surrey Youth Voice, where your voice can help us help other young people's mental health and wellbeing services across Surrey and North East Hampshire. Contact them on 01483 519 464 or user.voice@surreycc.gov.uk

Find out more at
mindworks-surrey.org





Nominations are open!

The User Voice and Participation Team is excited to share that the Surrey Youth Voice Awards will be taking place on **Friday 8 December 2023**.

The Surrey Youth Voice Awards recognise the achievements, progress and contributions of children and young people living in Surrey. An end-of-year party is held alongside the award ceremony to allow a well-deserved celebration for the nominees.

Of course, we can't host an awards ceremony without any nominations, which is where you come in! We want to encourage as many professionals as possible to nominate a child and/or young person for an award. We would like to see as many children and young people nominated as possible, especially if they have professionals working with them in their lives.

How to nominate:

Any professional, parent or carer can nominate any young person aged 5-25 who lives in Surrey, access services in Surrey and/or is a looked after child or care leaver placed outside of Surrey. It's easy to nominate. All you need to do is **click the link below and fill in the form** - we'll do the rest!

[Surrey Youth Voice Awards Nomination Form](#).

Please note; the deadline for nominations is Friday 27 October.

