

December
2023



WITHYMOOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Newsletter

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 20th December – children's Christmas dinner in school

Thursday 21st December – children's parties

Please note: children can come in Christmas clothes/party clothes

Friday 22nd December – last day of school before Christmas.

Please join us for carols on the Year 3/4 playground from 1.15pm.

Please note School closes at 2pm for children

Children can wear Christmas clothes/MUFTI and bring in non-electric toys/games if they wish.

Monday 8th January – first day of term

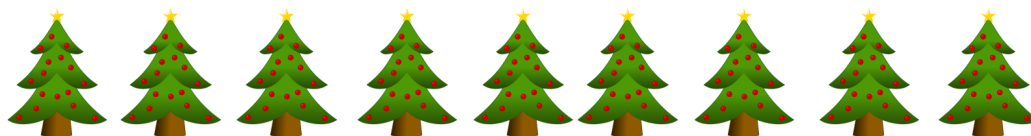
Friday 9th February - INSET - school closed to children

Monday 12th-Friday 16th February - Half term

Friday 22nd March-Last day of term– Break for Easter

Thursday 2nd May - Voting-school closed to children

Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday- school closed



Fundraising in school

Thank you so much for your support with fundraising events such as the book fair in October, charity fundraising for Poppy Day, Children in Need etc and our recent Christmas fair. The Christmas Fair was a great success and over £2500 was raised for our pupils. Events like this are so important during these current times when funding for schools is so stretched. We are so grateful to Friends of Withymoor for all their hard work and time, and to the staff who gave up their own time to run stalls.

This is what we have raised at Withymoor

Poppy Day-£187

Children in Need- £288.79

Book Fair-£221.20

School Christmas Fayre-£2500



Toys in school

There has been a recent increase in the number of toys being brought into school by children and this has led to some fall outs and upset between friends because of items being lost/swapped or being the cause of a quarrel. It is for this reason that we ask that toys are not brought into school unless it is a 'toy day' (such as on the last day of term before Christmas) or if it has been agreed with a member of staff. This includes playing cards (such as Pokemon and football cards, loom bands etc). Thank you for your help with this.



Goodbye

Mrs Buxton, one of our Teaching Assistants, has worked at Withymoor for over 20 years. Over this time, she has supported and taught many pupils and has been a fantastic friend and colleague to current and past Withymoor staff. Tracey has recently made the decision to retire from work due to ill health and we all would like to wish her the very best for the future and thank her for everything she has done for the children at our school. Everyone at Withymoor will miss Mrs Buxton.

Mr Stokes has been working on a casual basis as a part time Site Manager, opening and locking up for us. He is now moving away from the area so will no longer be working here. We would like to thank Mr Stokes for doing a good job and we wish him well for the future. Meanwhile we would like to welcome to Withymoor our new Site Manager, Mr Attwood, who has joined us recently.



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Online Safety

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

As Christmas approaches, we know our pupils will have new devices that will engage them and entertain them. But how can we be sure that they are safe? Every day we hear from different sources the dangers and online harms that face our pupils – the online world can be a scary one. We understand the challenges parents face in the ever-changing digital world. Internet Matters are there as your children grow up, supporting you through tricky conversations, digital dilemmas and setting them up safely. They offer a wealth of practical tips, from age-specific online safety checklists to comprehensive guides on setting parental controls. Internet Matters are well aware that some issues your children face online might be more complicated than others. As a parent or carer, you can learn about what your children may encounter and find guidance on seeking help when you need it. This then supports the work that we do in school. Please check out the link above.

Century Tech Online Home Learning Platform

Winter Cup Results

As part of the Winter Cup Competition run by Century Tech, children across KS2 have answered **over 15,000 questions this term!** In the last week alone, children have answered over **3600** English, maths and science questions – what superstars you all are! Well done to all the children in KS2, who have been using Century Tech to complete their homework tasks this term – keep it up!

Username or email

Password [Forgot your password?](#)

Show password

SIGN IN

Nativity Plays

Well done to all our Reception and Key Stage One children who performed so well in their Nativity plays. We are so proud of you all! By working so hard and rehearsing so well together, you have demonstrated our school values of Team Spirit, Positivity, Resilience and Friendship. Thanks too to our fantastic team of staff who worked with the children to create great shows.



Parking around school

Parking is an issue for many schools nationally. When dropping off and collecting by car, please park responsibly and avoid parking on the yellow lines/zig zags outside school or on the kerb opposite our school gate. We have had complaints recently about parking, including parking across people's drives, and have been informed by the local Council that parking wardens will be patrolling around our school. Thank you for your co-operation.



Please label clearly all clothing, water bottles and lunch boxes. We have already started to get a collection of un-named items of clothing that we have been unable to return to their owners.



We would all like to wish you a very Merry Christmas
and a peaceful and Happy New Year!
Alison Wootton, Mrs Tong and the rest of the Withymoor
team.

