



‘Encourage One Another and Build Each Other Up’

1 Thessalonians 5: 11

Thankfulness	Compassion	Perseverance	Forgiveness	Courage	Friendship
--------------	-------------------	--------------	-------------	---------	------------

Newsletter – Friday 20th December 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,

What a fantastic week at school! The children did fantastically well and thoroughly enjoyed performing their Christmas production to 3 sold-out audiences. Thank you so much to those who came along to support. A huge thank you also to those who came to the Christmas Service at the church this morning. It was a lovely service and a great way to wrap up the year.

The children enjoyed their Christmas Discos yesterday and thanks to their generosity, and the generosity of the audiences watching the Christmas productions, we have managed to raise a fantastic £277 for our two school charities, CHAT and the Blue Cross Pet Appeal.

A huge well done to our fantastic school cook, Bobbie, who not only managed to cook an amazing Christmas lunch for over 100 people, but also achieved another 5-star food hygiene rating from the Food Standards Agency! Bobbie works incredibly hard and the kitchen's rating underlines once again how lucky we are to have her as part of the team here at Witheridge.



It's hard to believe that this is the final Witheridge newsletter of the year, let alone that it is the last one that I will be writing. I would like to wish the whole school community a very Happy Christmas and all the best of luck for the New Year. I have thoroughly enjoyed my 3 years at Witheridge and am very grateful for all the support I have received from the whole community. In particular, I have been extremely lucky to work alongside a fantastic TEAM of staff who are all incredibly hard working and dedicated to making sure that the children have the best possible experiences in school. It is because of this that I am certain the school will continue to go from strength to strength.

With Best Wishes for the future,
Mr Holding

ParentPay Accounts

Thank you to all parents for helping the ParentPay payment system to run so successfully. We realise it is an expensive time of year, but ask if possible all remaining balances are cleared before term starts again in the New Year. Any parents with outstanding balances on Friday will be sent a note of how much is currently owing.

Text messaging system

The contract with our current text messaging system provider, Teachers2Parents expires at the end of the week. From next week we will be using ParentPay to send any necessary text messages (eg to inform of arrival times on trip days). Some parents have in the past requested for both parents/an additional contact to be added to the text messaging system. If you would like anyone that is not the main account holder on ParentPay to be receiving these text messages, please contact Mrs Eastman in the school office to set up an additional account. Thank you.

After School Clubs will start again the third week of term – week beginning Monday 20th January.

Key Dates for the Autumn Term 2019:

Friday 20th December – Last Day of Term

Monday 6th January – First day of the Spring Term

These dates are intended as a guide and you will be notified of any changes.

Community News



Christmas
AT HELE LANE METHODIST
CHURCH - BLACK DOG
CAROL SERVICE with Nativity Play
Followed by a tea
DECEMBER 22nd at 4 pm
*Children are invited to come and join in.
Dress as a Shepherd or Angel*
CHRISTMAS DAY
Service at 10.30 am
Donations received for
ST PETROCK'S homeless charity in Exeter
www.helelane.org.uk

Come and join us
Tuesday
24th of December 2019



Crib and
Christingle
at 3 pm

The Church of
St John the Baptist,
Witheridge



Followed by refreshments



Early Years and Childcare Service

Have you thought about becoming a registered Childminder?

Come along to one of our free information sessions to find out
more:

Wed 15 January 2020 – Amory Centre, South Molton (10.30am – 11.30am)

Wed 15 January 2020 – Ilfracombe Children's Centre (1.30pm – 2.30pm)

To express your interest in attending, please contact the Early Years Team:
eycs@devon.gov.uk

You've decided childminding is for you, what next?

Preparing to be a childminder course:

This 2-day course covers all the training requirements to prepare you for Ofsted registration. The course costs £50.

Course dates:

- 5th & 12th February 2020 (9.30am – 4.30pm) – Barnstaple

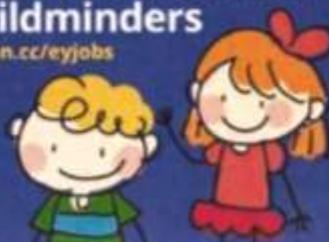
To book a place please contact the Early Years Team: eycs@devon.gov.uk. We will then be able to create a training account for you and will let you know how you can book and pay for a place on the course.

We also run this training as eLearning (£50)

**You must also attend a Paediatric First Aid course (£65) and a Safeguarding Awareness course (fully funded). Dates are available from the DEL training website. If you already hold a current Paediatric First Aid and Safeguarding Awareness certificate you do not need to undertake this training again.*

Devon needs more
childminders

devon.cc/eyjobs



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



**from all at
Witheridge CofE
Academy**

