WELTON ST MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND



PRIMARY ACADEMY



September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to our new school year, a very special year for us as a school. It is our 200th birthday year. We are planning lots of exciting activities which will take place through the year.

We have had a great start to the school year. Thursday morning, everyone arrived early and full of enthusiasm. There have been lots of smiles, great energy and excitement about being back at school. Children are settling well into their new classes. It is great to see our whole school family back together again after the summer break. A big welcome too to all our new families, in Foundation Stage and who have joined us in other year groups and also to staff new to our school. Miss Bates is teaching in Foundation Stage and Mrs Purdy in Year 5. Teaching assistants who have joined us this year are Mrs Soley-Harris, Mrs Dufficy and Miss Arnold.

We started our school year, in collective worship, by revisiting our logo and sharing our understanding of what it means to belong to Welton St Mary's. We talked about how we all have different hopes and dreams and how what we can do to achieve our hopes and dreams and help others to achieve theirs. We also talked about the hopes and dreams for our school and the wider world. We recognised that what unites us and brings us together are the values we hold, our school values and what we are striving to achieve in our vision. Foundation Stage had their own Collective Worship on their first day of school where we looked at our school logo and how it shows that they are part of our school.

'Together we care, learn and thrive'



Care

Learn



















As a staff we started our school year revisiting our school vision and how, together, we will be working towards achieving it over the next few years. To enable us to achieve it, we all have a part to play. A successful school requires a strong partnership with parents, children, governors and the wider community. We ask for your continued support over the year as we work to achieve our vision.

Welton St Mary's Church of England Primary Academy's vision

'As an **inclusive** Christian community, we **value each person**, seeking to release everyone's full potential as promised by Jesus Christ. We seek to provide a safe, inspiring and creative learning environment providing opportunities for all to flourish. Through challenge, support and care, we strive for excellence in all that we do; always building on the foundations of shared values with consistently high expectations **rooted in God's love**. Together we are encouraged to be agents of positive change in this world.'

Inclusive



Value each person 🐇



All to flourish



Strive for excellence 🏂



Rooted in God's love



Agents of positive change ⊘ ⊘ ⊘



'May the God of love fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit'. Romans 15:13

The first two days of term have focussed on the importance of having shared and consistent high expectations and routines and how having these in place really benefit all our school family in striving for excellence and enabling all to flourish. The children have remembered the routines and very quickly have settled back into school.

We have had a really positive and happy start to our term and are really looking forward to a great year ahead.

Best wishes

Mrs Gough

Headteacher



















Congratulations

Congratulations to Miss Fenwick who got married over the summer. Welcome back Mrs Murray.



Our Three School Rules - Be kind. Be Responsible. Be Safe.

Be Responsible:

Being responsible means acting maturely, taking ownership for our actions, honouring our commitments and taking care of everything around us.

In appreciating, organising and caring for what we have, we are preparing for our secondary careers and adulthood, setting a responsible pathway for our own futures and that of other generations to come.

To carefully consider our actions and words, and the effect they will have on others, in order to make the best choices, which will support everyone. Looking after the environment and making positive changes wherever we can.

Be Kind:

That you help without expecting anything in return, you care for others to make them feel good and share with others to make them smile.

Being kind means loving and treating others around us the same way that we would like to be treated, as well as thinking carefully about the words that we use and how these affect others.

Be Safe:

Making good choices that do not put others or us in danger.

To follow rules which have been set by our parents, carers and teachers to protect us and keep us from harm.

To reduce any hazards by being aware of our surroundings.

We also have images to help remind us about our rules:







Be kind Be responsible Be safe



















Reminder about school uniform

The uniform policy is available on our website here.

Children are expected to wear black shoes during the school day (throughout the school year). Trainers are only to be worn for PE.

Our school jumpers and cardigans have our logo on. We encourage all children to wear a jumper or cardigan that has our logo on it as it not only gives that sense of belonging to our school community but we also refer to the logo regularly. It has a special meaning to our school family. If you are needing jumpers/ cardigans with our school logo, please pop into school and stock up on our preloved uniform. Year 6 will be getting their 'leavers' hoodies before they go on their residential. These can only be worn to and from school (as they would a coat). They need a school jumper or cardigan for in school.

This year we do have a PE hoodie available. This is optional however PE kit must not be branded.

Jewellery—A wristwatch (not a Smartwatch) and small studded earrings (one in each ear) are the only permitted items of jewellery children can wear in school. Children are expected to take their earrings out for PE and not put tape over them (unless the ears are newly pierced in which case tape can be worn for the first 6 weeks). This is for their safety. Children will either need to be able to take their earrings out themselves or not wear earrings on PE days.

- Nail varnish is not allowed. Gel/acrylic nails are not to be worn. No make up and no fake eyelashes are allowed in school.
- Children are permitted to wear plain blue, black, brown, white bobbles or hair bands. Hair accessories are to be kept small and to a minimum.

Communication

Just a reminder that if you need to speak with your child's class teacher, either call or email the school office and we will pass the message on. As you can appreciate, the start of the school day is very busy for the teachers, which includes many important routines as well as most importantly welcoming the children into school and supporting them with their learning, which begins as soon as the children enter school. Emails for forwarding on, should be sent to:
enquiries@welton-st-marys.lincs.sch.uk



If you have not already received your Seesaw code for home learning, you will do shortly. Please only use Seesaw for communicating about learning, recording reading and completing learning at home. It is not a way to be passing messages to teachers. If you need to speak with teachers outside of the school day, it is through the enquiries email or by telephone.

We are always here to help and will get back to you as soon as we can. We do ask that everyone lives through our school values and that both staff and parents treat each other with respect.

Our parent code of conduct can be found <u>here</u>. Please can you share this with any person who is having contact with our school.



















One way system

We have a one way system at the beginning and end of the school day. We are excited that our school family continues to grow and there are many families on the school grounds at these busy times. Please ensure children walk with the parents / carers who are bringing and collecting them. It is great to see so many children coming to school on bikes and scooters. Children (including pre-school children) are expected to walk on our school grounds.

Children must wear a helmet if they are cycling to school.

Summer Reading Challenge

If your child took part in the Summer Reading Challenge at the library the last day to register your books is Saturday 13th September

Fruit in School Scheme for Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1

The fruit in school scheme provides all the children in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 with a piece of fruit or vegetable each day as a healthy snack. The type of fruit varies but there is a choice.



KS2 Snacks

Snacks for morning break for children in KS2 is a piece of fruit or vegetable. This is not provided by school. Please do not bring nuts, or items containing nuts, into school. Thank you for helping us keep people with allergies safe.



Birthdays

Many of our children like to recognise and celebrate their birthdays at school. We ask that children do not bring sweets into school but instead bring a book in. We will put a name plate celebrating their birthday into the book and it will go in the library for others to enjoy. This is just one way we can share our love of books with others. Not only will the books be well used in school it also encourages recycling and is a charitable gesture. It is a heart-warming way to show that the gift of books can be shared with others. As school we hope to develop a love of books and reading for all our pupils. We do not hand out sweets or cakes that have been brought into school for birthdays.



Free School Meals

If your child is entitled to Free School Meals please ensure you book these directly with Good Lookin Cookin. School do not order these.











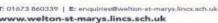












Free School Meal Application

If you think your child may be eligible for Free School Meals, please apply by using the following link: https://lcc.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/SynergyWeb/Parents/default.aspx

You will then be directed to Lincolnshire County Council Parent Portal (please see guidance below).



Welcome to the Lincolnshire County Council Parent Portal

This allows parents or carers to apply for one of the following:

Free School Meals

This online interface allows a user to create an account, add their children to the account, and then apply to one of the services listed above. Once an application has been created and submitted, it is available for the Local Authority to view. Due to the nature of the services you can apply for, it is important that you do provide the correct date of birth details for your child.

To use the Parent Portal, create an account using the "Sign In or Create an Account" link which can be found on the upper left side of this page. To return after creating an account, use the same link. When navigating the pages, please do not use your browser's back button, as your content may not be saved.

For **Free School Meals** and **2 Year-Old Childcare Funding** the Portal is open all year round for applications. If you have a Free School Meals query please email <u>Free school meals@lincolnshire.gov.uk</u>

Using a tablet or smartphone? Access the menu items including the 'Create Account' and 'Login' links using the menu in the top right hand corner.

Victorian Day

On Monday 13th October we will be having a 'Victorian Day'. The school will be transported back in time with no interactive boards and back to chalk boards!

We are asking children to either dress in full Victorian costume or in their current school uniform so we mixing past and present so the choice is yours!

This is one of the fantastic events we have planned to celebrate our bicentennial celebration in school.

Below are some ideas for costumes.

























Friday Celebration Collective Worship

Each Friday, we love celebrating achievements that have happened out of school. Please encourage your child to bring in any certificates or trophies that they have achieved from activities they take part in out of school. Please send them into school on a **Thursday**. Any that arrive on a Friday morning, will be celebrated the following week.

Medical Tracker

Medical Tracker allows us to inform parents / carers of first aid incidents and medication administration by email.

E-mail messages will be sent from **donotreply@medicaltracker.co.uk**. Please add this address to your email address books (or approved sender list) to prevent messages from being blocked by your SPAM/JUNK filters.

Our curriculum

To find out more about what your children are learning this year, please go to:

https://weltonstmarysacademy.co.uk/our-curriculum/

Second-hand uniform

We have had many donations of quality second-hand uniform – thank you so much. We are currently not taking any new donations at this time.

If you require any uniform at any time through the school year, please email enquiries@welton-st-marys.lincs.sch.uk with the item of clothing and size that you require.





'reduce, reuse, recycle'

















Meet the teacher

Next week we will be holding our meet the teacher sessions. At this meeting you will have the opportunity at the start of the academic year to find out a bit more information about your child's year group, teacher/s and the year ahead. Teachers will go through some of the year group specific routines, expectations and curriculum content. This will also be an opportunity to ask any questions that you have about the upcoming year. The days and times for these meetings are as follows:

Years 4 and 5 meetings will take place on Monday 15th September at the following times:

Year group	Time
5	4:00pm
4	4:30pm

Years 3 and 6 meetings will take place on Wednesday 17th September at the following times:

Year group	Time
6	4:00pm
3	4:30pm

Foundation Stage and Key stage 1 meetings will take place on **Thursday 18th September** at the following times:

Year group	Time
2	4:00pm
1	4:30pm
Foundation Stage	5:00pm

The sessions will take place over TEAMS and the teachers will post these TEAMS links on to Seesaw this week. Every child should have a Seesaw code to allow them to access their account. This code will last for the academic year so please do look after it. Please keep this safe. Please come and see your child's class teacher if they have not been provided with a Seesaw code.

We look forward to seeing you virtually next week!



















Attendance



We pride ourselves on high attendance at our school. Our children want to be in school and learning.

In line with Lincolnshire County Council, expected attendance levels for all children is between 95-100%. Anything below this is monitored and where necessary letters will be sent, and action taken. If you are worried about your child's attendance please get in touch with Miss Sylvester, our pastoral manager, who can look at what support may be needed.

Arrivals and Punctuality

Children are expected to **arrive at 8.50am** each morning. The gates open at 8.45am. Arriving on time for school is important as late arrivals are disruptive for the class and can be embarrassing for the child who is late. Children can also miss important information during registration including the plan for the day. **Learning starts at 9am and all children are expected to be in class and ready to begin their day by this time.** There is learning for all children from 8.50am. Those 10 minutes are vital as they are an opportunity for teachers and teaching assistants to check in with children, provide 1:1 feedback from yesterday's learning, prepare children for the day's learning, to listen to readers. Lateness is monitored and persistent lateness may result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued by Lincolnshire County Council.

Holidays and Leave of Absence

Absence will not be authorised during term time except in exceptional circumstances. It is very important that all parents and carers understand that children with unauthorised absences, including holidays, and unexplained absences over a period of 10 sessions (5 days) are at risk of receiving a Penalty Notice from Lincolnshire County Council. Each parent may receive a fine of £80, rising to £160 if you do not pay within 21 days.

Each parent will only get up to 2 fines for the same child in a 3-year period. If you get a second fine in 3 years it will be £160. If you do not pay the fine in 28 days you may be taken to court for keeping your child out of school. If your child is off school 3 or more times within the 3 years you will not be fined but may be taken to court.

Absence through illness

We understand and appreciate that children can become ill and that it is not always easy to decide whether to send them into school or keep them at home, so to help you with this decision we have devised a useful reference guide. If your child is too ill to attend school, please contact the school office or Parentmail before 9.00am with full details of your child's name, class and illness/symptoms for each day of absence. If we do not hear from you, we will ring you to find out why your child is not in school.

Medical Appointments

We request that, where possible, routine medical and dentist appointments are arranged outside school hours as these appointments will affect your child's percentage attendance. We do understand that some appointments, such as hospital consultations, are not always possible to arrange outside of school hours. We do request to see evidence of appointments so please share these with the school office before the appointment. If your appointment time allows your child to come to school for registration and then leave, this will have a positive impact on their attendance figure.





















Everyone in society has a responsibility to protect and safeguard children from abuse and neglect.

999

If you or your children are in immediate danger you should always call **999.** If it is not safe to speak use the "silent solution". Press 5 5 when prompted and this will tell us that you need us.

Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP)

If you believe that a child may be a victim of neglect, abuse or cruelty call the customer service centre: Children's safeguarding - **01522 782111** (Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm) or **01522 782333** (outside office hours)

NSPCC

Talk to the NSPCC for advice and support about a child, or to report a concern. It's free and you don't have to say who you are. Please call us on **0808 800 5000** or visit https://www.nspcc.org.uk/

Edan Lincs

Domestic abuse service supporting men, women and children. Please call 01522 510041 or email info@edanlincs.org.uk

The Samaritans

If you need someone to talk to, we are here to listen. Please call 116 123 or visit https://www.samaritans.org/

Childline

Childline is here to help anyone under the age of 19. If you need to talk to a trained counsellor about anything, please call **0800 1111**

Operation Encompass

We are an **Operation Encompass School**, part of a national scheme that runs jointly between all schools and the police. Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has experienced, any domestic abuse.

Operation Encompass will ensure that a member of the school's staff (the Designated Safeguarding Lead), is trained to allow them to liaise with the police and to use the information that has been shared, in confidence, while ensuring that the school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families, who have recently experienced a domestic abuse incident.

We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our pupils and we believe this will be extremely beneficial for all those involved. This information shared with the school is already covered in the schools' existing privacy notice. For further information in relation to how personal data in relation to yourself and your child(ren)is processed, please refer to Lincolnshire Police's privacy notice, which can be found on their website:

https://www.lincs.police.uk/resource-library/data-protection/privacy-notice/





Should I keep my

child off school?



Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics



but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek





Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit https://qrco.de/minfec.



















Vacancies

We are currently recruiting for a Senior Midday Controller and OPAL Playleader & Midday Supervisory Assistants

- Do you value the importance of lunchtimes for children?
- Are you keen to get involved and help children develop confidence and self-esteem through play?
- Do you enjoy working as a member of a team?
- Is healthy eating for children as important to you as it is to the Academy?

If so, we want you to be part of our team helping to serve and supervising the children in the dining hall and outside as we continue our OPAL journey. We are looking for enthusiastic, committed people to join our friendly team. You will play a key role in the school day offering the children someone who they can talk to, someone who listens and someone who cares. If you feel you can offer all of the above, please see the attached adverts and visit our website

Vacancies - Welton St Mary's Academy (weltonstmarysacademy.co.uk)

School Values

We would love the opportunity to celebrate your child living out our school values, at home, and in the community. This term our focus value is "Responsibility" and in collective worship, we will continue to look at how we can be bringers of hope, love, joy and peace to ourselves and to the people in our family and the world around us. If there has been an instance where your child has done something (non-academic) worth shouting about, like expressing gratitude or has helped around the house tidying up etc., please do write these on our value cards, found on the front reception desk and give it into the office. We would love to read these during collective worship to give your child a shout-out and the card will go up on our lights for everyone in school to read.

"Let your light shine before all, so that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16

Autumn Design Competition

We are happy to report that this year our pumpkin patch has been successful. We are giving children the opportunity to take home one of our school pumpkins. Our theme for the pumpkin designs is 'LOVE AND LIGHT'. Design templates will be available at the front entrance. The closing date for this competition is October 16th. Winners will be announced 17th October.





















Dates for the diary

We have planned our annual calendar so that dates can be saved. We will keep you updated, if any dates need to be changed.

23rd September - Year 6 Construction Day

24th September – School Friends AGM 6.30pm in our school hall. We are always looking for new members. Please come along and find out a bit more about what we do for the children and families through the school year.

25th September – photograph day for individuals and siblings who attend our school. (class photos are in the summer term)26th

September – Open morning for parents and carers of children starting school in September 2026 – appointment only at 10am.

Please share this date with any friends or family looking for a school place for September. You don't have to live in Welton to attend our school. Many of our pupils don't live in Welton.

26th September – Year 3 Stone Age Day

w/c 29th September - Year 5 Bikeability

30th September – Year 5 – meeting for parents about the Year 6 residential at 5:00pm on TEAMS

1st October – Year 4 Lincolnshire Day

6th **October** – Parents and carers of Foundation Stage children and any families of children who joined us this September are welcome to join us for Collective worship – 9.10am

w/c 6th October Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 Parents' evening

13th October - Victorian Day

14th **October 9.10am** - Harvest Festival – Parentmail will be sent out with further information. This is a community event. Parents and carers welcome to join us.

16th October 4pm – Year 4 – meeting for parents about the Year 4 residential. Further information to follow.

20th October - Year 6 residential

23rd October –End of term 1

3rd November – Start of term 2

w/c 3rd November - Y3 Swimming Lessons start.

6th November - Y4, 5 & 6 Author Visit—SF Said

10th November - Open afternoon for parents and carers of children starting school in September 2026. Appointment only at 2pm

11th November – Year 4, year 5 and Year 6 Opal afternoon for parents

19th November – meeting for year 1 parents about the phonics screen. Further information to follow.

24th **November** – Discovery Day—Stick Man. Transition day for September 2026 starters. Parent/carers to bring children along. Preschool children are unable to attend.

1st December –. Parents and carers are invited to join their children at 9.10am to make Christingles together – no preschool children are able to attend. Parents of children in Year 6 are then invited to stay for the School Christingle service.

w/c 1st December - Key Stage 2 parent' evening (Years 3 4 5 6)

8th **December** – Discovery Day—Nativity (9.45am start) Transition day for September 2026 starters. Parent/carers to bring children along. Preschool children are unable to attend.

9th, 10th, 11th December – Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 nativity performances (am)

12th December – Christmas Jumper/ Wear something Christmassy Day and Christmas dinner day

15th December – Carols on the Playground (PM) and wear your Christmas Jumper / wear something Christmassy day

17th December – Whole school to church for Christmas Service

19th December – Pantomime in school

19th December – End of term 2



















