

WELTON ST MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY ACADEMY



October 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of term 1, I would like to thank you for all your support. The children have settled well into the school year. Focussing on routines and expectations at the start of the year has resulted in a really calm atmosphere around school. This in turn enables high quality teaching and learning to take place – and what great learning there has been this term!

I have shown many families around our school since September. This is a privilege and, whilst I am always proud of our school and everyone in it, these are times when I feel great pride in who we are as a school. Many of the comments I receive are around the great learning behaviours in classrooms, how focussed our learners are and the passion and care visitors can see with the relationships we have in school. They also are impressed with the facilities we have and the opportunities that we can offer the children. The teaching kitchen, our library, the great outside space we have and our IT suite are always mentioned as is the well-maintained and airy classrooms where the children learn.

Our Year 6 children started the year with their residential to East Barnby. What a great way to start Year 6, developing those organisational skills, building friendships and being independent. A fantastic week of outdoor adventures was had by all. Our Year 6 children have also enjoyed a construction day at the Showground, learning many skills that cannot be taught in the classroom.

You may have seen our children learning in the village. Year 3 have undertaken some geography fieldwork and Foundation Stage have been on an autumn walk. They have looked at the different natural colours for the season and had a go at matching them.

Year 3 have also been outdoors experiencing what it was like to live in the Stone Age. They most definitely used all their senses on that day – the gutting, and cooking of, fish on an open fire was one of several new experience for many of the children.

The children have been enjoying their time in our teaching kitchen. They love learning new skills and testing them on different recipes. The joy that you see in the kitchen whilst the children are cooking is a sight to behold.

We have a love for reading at our school. Author, Hannah Gold, has visited our KS2 children. It is great to see so many of them now reading her book. We were also delighted to welcome Mrs Bell from the Parish Council to one of our collective worships where the children who entered the reading Challenge over the summer were presented their awards and a goody bag. Two lucky winners also received a book voucher each.

Wishing everyone a happy holiday.

Best wishes
Mrs Gough



Beyond the classroom

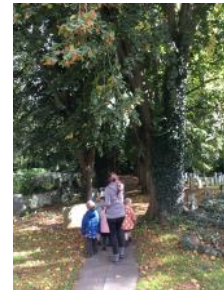
We like to give our children experiences beyond the classroom. Year 6 have attended a Construction Day where they learnt new skills and how what they learn in the classroom is used in the world of work.



Our Year 3 children enjoyed a day experiencing what life was like in the Stone Age.



Foundation Stage had an autumnal walk around the village.



Year 6 have had another amazing time at East Barnby on their residential.



Harvest Festival

On a typical autumnal day, we held our Harvest Festival. Rev. Lynne and the Collective Worship Council led the interactive service based on the story of Jesus feeding the 5000. Children from each class, brought forward their donations to the altar during a piece of reflective music.

It was lovely to hear parents and carers join in with Autumn favourite songs. Rev. Lynne talked about being thankful to everyone who helps with the harvesting of food, storing, selling and delivering to stores and also to the hands that make them. Most importantly, gratitude was given to God who blesses us with the sun and rain and the wonderful diverse seasons so that we can enjoy a variety of food during the year. Due to the overwhelming generosity of our school family, we were able to gather donations for both Welton Larder and Lincoln Foodbank this year. Thank you to all those who attended and donated. There is a regular collection box in the office for donations to the Welton Larder.



Congratulations

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Williamson on the safe arrival of their daughter.

Congratulations!

Our curriculum

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

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

KS2 Snacks

Snacks for morning break for children in KS2 is a piece of fruit or vegetable. This is not provided by school.



Leaders

What incredible leaders we have in our children. So many took up the challenge of applying to be house captains, collective worship leads and members of our school council. The votes have taken place and members have been elected. What we were so impressed with was the passion and enthusiasm that all applicants had for helping us to achieve our school vision; for being agents of positive change and making a difference either in our school, community or our world. We are really excited to be working with the children, who are representing our whole school community, to build on our successes. There were lots of great ideas from all the applications.

For our playground,....
Maybe a swing seat.

I propose a friendship bench to be placed on the playground and painted rainbow colours.

Volunteer at a care home... We can play games, read books, bake cakes, produce art and they can tell children about life growing up... this will be good interaction for the children as well as building community relationships.

Supporting everyone through the cost of living crisis. Starting with left-over fruit from KS1. I think any left-over fruit should be offered to KS2 so they have the benefit of healthy snacks and reduce waste too. I also suggest the pre-loved clothing rail is extended to include a coat-rail and a hat and glove box for winter.

I think students would maybe be interested in knowing about all the different jobs that they can do in the future.

As House Captain I want to help give all the confidence to achieve any goal.

We can lift our banner high by showing everyone away from Welton St Mary's that we're a good person showing all our school values to everyone inside and outside of school.



Outdoor Play and Learning (Opal)

In the weeks after half term our aim is that every child will have wellies and a waterproof and can be outside whatever the weather. It is good for children's mental health, resilience and happiness.

As the school improves play opportunities for your children, we will be asking for help to gather resources but for now we want the children to be able to use our outdoor space whatever the weather.

To help with this we ask that after half term, all children bring a waterproof coat to school every day and if they have a pair of wellies that they can keep in school (named) that they are brought in too. Mr Garfoot, our site manager, has been busy making welly storage.

We recognise that not everyone will have wellies or a waterproof coat. This is where we are asking that our school community comes together so that every child in school can be outside whatever the weather. From next week there will be 'welly bins' at the front of the school. If you have any old wellies or waterproof coats that your children have outgrown, we would love to have them. Let's see if we can fill the bins with wellies!

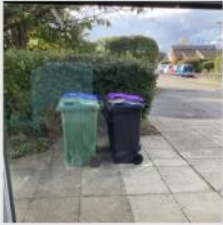


Parents and carers if you have any links with businesses who may be able to supply wellies or waterproofs or you think would help us in our mission of ensuring every child has wellies and waterproofs, please let us know.

We need your donations!

- * Any size welly will do, from foundation stage up to adult size!
- * Must be donated in pairs.
- * Everyone in school will need a pair of wellies so the more the merrier.
- * Any size waterproof coats would also be gratefully received

Starting from Monday....

Please place your wellies and waterproof coats in the bins at the front of school (they will have OPAL labels on!)



Contact Us

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

Thank you



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.



**Safeguarding
is everyone's
responsibility**

Everyone in society has a responsibility to protect and safeguard children from abuse and neglect. We would like to signpost you to services of support for you and your family.

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 [in-fo@edanlincs.org.uk](mailto: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**

At school, our safeguarding leads are Mrs Gough, Mrs Thorner and Miss Sylvester. If you want to talk about any safeguarding concerns with a member of staff, please contact school on 01673 860339 or email enquiries@welton-st-marys.lincs.sch.uk

Pastoral Team

Pastoral Team- We have some exciting news to share with you all.... the need for pastoral care in our school is ever growing so, with that, is our pastoral team! This is a new team, with new roles but we are very excited to expand this provision to meet the changing needs of our children and families. We have been very fortunate to appoint the new roles internally, with staff that know our school very well. Please understand that several of us have other roles in school, so please be mindful as we find our feet. It seems a good idea to share a who's who to help you with signposting....

Mrs Charnley- Attendance Pastoral Support Officer. (Mornings)

Completing morning registers. Supporting children with attendance related concerns. Raising awareness of good attendance in school. Providing attendance data for analysis.

Mrs Fitzgerald- Early Help Pastoral Support Officer.

Raising awareness of early help with children, families and staff. Supporting Early Help Assessments and Lead Professional for Team Around the Child.

Mrs Hilliard- Forces & Young Carers Teaching Assistant.

Promoting awareness of Young Carers and Forces within school and with our families. Supporting children through interventions in class. Facilitating Young Carers and Forces drop-in sessions.

Mrs Isherwood- ELSA/Lego Therapy Teaching Assistant.

Delivering targeted interventions on 1:1 basis or in small group sessions to promote the social, emotional and mental health of children.

Miss Sylvester- Pastoral Manager

Co-ordinating the pastoral team. Managing serious caseloads for vulnerable families at Child in Need and Child Protection. Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead. Children/Adult Mental Health First Aider.



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 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.

From the 2024 to 2025 school year, 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. 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.



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/>

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.



Driving to School

Please be respectful of residents who live close to the school when parking at the beginning and end of the day. Parents and carers are welcome to use the carpark at the village hall and walk the short distance to school to ease congestion. When parked kindly switch off car engines to reduce pollution.



Free School Meals

If your child is entitled to Free School Meals please ensure you order these directly through 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 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 Free_school_meals@lincolnshire.gov.uk

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.



Dates for your 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.

18th October –End of term 1

Tuesday 29th October – Start of term 2

4th November - Phonics screen workshop for parents of children in Year 1

6th November - Open afternoon for parents and carers of children starting school in September 2025 - appointment only at 1.45pm. Please email enquiries@welton-st-marys.lincs.sch.uk to book a space.

15th November - Giraffe class will be leading collective worship at 9.10am. Parents and carers of children in Giraffe class are welcome to join our collective worship.

22nd November - Elephant class will be leading collective worship at 9.10am. Parents and carers of children in Elephant class are welcome to join our collective worship.

W/c 25th November - Key Stage 2 Parents' evening (years 3 4 5 6)

2nd December – Christingle - Parents and carers are invited to join their children at 9.10am to make Christingles together.

6th December – Elfridges Christmas shop (more information closer to the time)

10th/11th/12th December – Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 nativity performances (am). These performances are for adults and not children younger than school age. Tickets for sale in term 2.

16th December – Carols on the Playground (pm) and wear your Christmas jumper / wear something Christmassy day

17th December – Christmas jumper / wear something Christmassy day and Christmas dinner day

18th December – whole school to church for Christmas Service

19th December – Pantomime in school

19th December – End of term 2





UK Health
Security
Agency



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

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



No

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