



# SOUTH WITHAM ACADEMY NEWS

The children have begun to get into the Christmas spirit this week at South Witham Academy (yes i know it is only November, but we have to do this early!) This year, as part of the Grantham Christmas Tree festival on show at St Wulfram’s church in Grantham, you will see a South Witham Academy Tree. All of the children in school have made their own decoration for the tree. I will keep you posted on when you will be able go visit the church to see all the Christmas trees!

We have also been very busy in classrooms, I have seen lots of hard work going on all over the school, particularly in English writing lessons. We really do have some incredible writers in school.

Yesterday, I took a group of 12 children to Priory Ruskin Academy to participate in a cheerleading festival. They were absolutely amazing and produced a great routine (see pictures in this newsletter!). What made me particularly proud was a comment from one of the young leaders working with us, who described our children as “delightful and lovely to work with!.” Well done cheer squad!

Have a wonderful weekend!

*Mr Atter*



### UPCOMING DIARY DATES

Dec 4	Bikeability Y5/6	04.12.2023 - 07.12.2023
Dec 12	PANTO VISIT	12.12.2023
Dec 13	KS1 Christmas movie night	13.12.2023
Dec 15	Christmas dinner & Christmas Jumper Day	15.12.2023
Dec 18	Breakfast with Santa	18.12.2023 07:40 - 08:40
Dec 20	Christmas BookNik	20.12.2023

## Calling parents of reception 2024 children!

We are now taking bookings for school tours for our reception 2024 intake. If you know anyone with a child who turns 4 before August 31st 2023, then please pass on our website link where they can book a tour.

<https://www.south-witham.lincs.sch.uk/>



Scan this code to take you to the website

## HOUSE POINT TOTALS



BURGHLEY

**8853**

BELTON

**8391**

WOOLSTHORPE

**8688**



# Little Hedgehogs



This week in Little Hedgehogs we have been looking at the season Autumn. We have painted with conkers where the children rolled them across the tray, we painted fur cones with paint and glitter and painted leaves to then print onto the paper. Some of the children stuck leaves down on a big piece of paper to make our own tree inside. We have had lots of messy play with shaving foam and water and made tall towers.



# Woodlands



This week has flown by in Woodlands class, we have been super busy with our learning this week. In maths the rabbits and foxes are looking at lots of addition and subtraction problems they are getting super speedy at the calculations! The squirrels have been looking at numbers 4 and 5 as well of singing lots of songs to help them remember!

In literacy we have been focussing on "Whatever Next" the children have been busy sequencing the events in this story, the children are super at remembering what happens next and using the story to help them in their writing.

We also had a visit from Rev Rush who joined us in assembly to talk about Christianity and sing some hymns, the children love when he comes to visit!

To wrap up a lovely week we have been busy practicing our nativity songs – the children are amazing at remembering the words, keep up the good work!



# Badgers



This week in Badgers we have completed our letters of persuasion which have been delivered to the local shops in South Witham. Hopefully, the children will be successful in persuading the shops to decrease their supply of single-use plastic bags. The children now wish to write to local bike shops persuading them to push the sales of bike helmets to positively encourage the use of wearing a safety helmet therefore protecting more riders from head injuries. In science we have carried out electrical conductivity investigations to see which materials allow the flow of electricity to flow through them. Metals were of course the successful materials. In Geography we have started learning about the human geography of South America, including the population of each country. Ask the children to tell you which South American country has the smallest and largest population!

# Otters



This week has been a very creative week in Otter class. We helped Miss Done prepare for the Christmas Tree festival in Grantham by making decorations on Tuesday. On Wednesday, we continued our work about family life in art, by painting colours over a black and white copy of a painting - they were very effective and very beautiful!

Year 4 have started learning about area in maths this week, while Year 3 have continued to practise their addition and subtraction. In English, we are starting to write a non-chronological report, and have started looking at how paragraphs are created.



# PRIDE OF SOUTH WITHAM



Always Club

YAY!



## Readers of the Week!



Attendance Superstars!  
BADGERS with 96%



## Christmas Movie & Pizza Night!

AT THE WRAP CLUB

DEC | 1st | 2023

We would like to invite your child to our upcoming Christmas movie and pizza night on Friday, 1st December.

This event promises to be a wonderful and festive evening for all!

Due to the popularity of our last movie night, we encourage you to secure your child's place by logging in to ParentPay and make the necessary payment.

**3.15 PM - 5.30 PM**

**£7.50 PER CHILD**

If you have any queries, please see Sandra or Kirsti



BIG Happy birthday to



Finley M  
Delyla  
Paige B  
Abigail

who all celebrated their birthday recently

# CHEERLEADING

A selection of children were chosen to take part in a cheerleading event at The Priory Ruskin on Thursday this week. There were 6 other primary schools who were all taught a routine and performed it to parents at the end.

By the looks on their faces, they thoroughly enjoyed themselves.



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## Top Tips for Safer Online Shopping on

# BLACK FRIDAY AND CYBER MONDAY

Black Friday and Cyber Monday have become established as two of the year's biggest shopping events, giving consumers the opportunity to snap up a stash of stunning bargains. While this is generally good news, of course, the resultant retail frenzy can lead to people dropping their guard – especially online. In previous years, a seasonal surge in cyber-crime has seen schemes such as phishing emails and credit card scams being unleashed on unwary buyers. Our guide has some essential pointers on keeping your details – and your money – safe while you shop.

### ENSURE A SITE'S SECURE

Before inputting sensitive information (like your card details) into a website, check that the site's secure. The key thing is to look for a padlock symbol in the address bar and check that the URL begins with "https://" – the "s" indicates that the web address has been encrypted with an SSL certificate. Without that, any data entered on the site could be intercepted by criminal third parties.

### TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS

If a deal seems too good to be true, then it probably is. Be especially wary if a site offering unbelievable discounts doesn't look professional (for example, if it's covered with pop-up adverts or it looks particularly outdated) – this often serves as a red flag that the seller might not be entirely trustworthy. Minimise risk by sticking with well-known, reputable retailers instead.

### REVIEW BANK STATEMENTS

Even if you've followed all our tips, it's probably worth checking your next bank statement for any unusual transactions. Criminals know that on Black Friday and Cyber Monday, lots of people make numerous purchases online: they're hoping that any stolen money will get lost in the crowd of other transactions. If you see a payment or payee you can't identify, raise it with your bank straight away.

### BEWARE OF SUSPICIOUS EMAILS

Black Friday and Cyber Monday often bring a significant spike in phishing emails, as criminals use the events' sense of urgency as cover for stealing personal information. Even if they look legitimate, be wary of emails requiring you to do something unusual or suspicious: providing your personal details in exchange for access to last-minute deals, for example, or clicking on a link to an unfamiliar site.

### CHECK IT'S THE REAL DEAL

It's not just cybercriminals you need to be wary of. Research has shown that some online retailers increase the price of certain items in the weeks before Black Friday and Cyber Monday – enabling them to then advertise "discounts" (which, in reality, have simply restored the cost to normal levels). Use an online price comparison tool to verify whether these "reductions" truly equate to a saving.

### MINIMISE MICROTRANSACTIONS

Black Friday and Cyber Monday promotions extend to digital items as well as physical ones. Some gaming companies will offer discounts on in-app and in-game microtransactions such as loot boxes. If you're concerned about how much your child might spend on these upgrades, you can restrict their ability to make purchases (via their device's settings) or remove any linked payment methods.

### SET STURDY PASSWORDS

A strong, unique password is one of the most straightforward ways to protect yourself from cyber-crime. As most of us have multiple online shopping accounts, it can be tempting to use the same password for them all – but this puts your personal data at greater risk. You could try using a password manager to create a different, robust password for each online retailer that you visit.

### DITCH THE DEBIT CARD

Where possible, it's safest to shop online with a credit card (as opposed to a debit card) because it offers additional protection. If a purchase is made fraudulently on your credit card, there's a fair chance of your bank reimbursing you. Should criminals obtain your debit card details, however, they could empty your account in moments – and it can be difficult to recover your money.

### RESIST THE INFLUENCE

Recommendations from social media influencers are another thing to remain vigilant for on Black Friday and Cyber Monday. While many of these will be legitimate, remember that influencers are often paid to promote products – and to publicise deals that aren't quite as amazing as they might seem. Don't feel pressured into buying purely on their advice; look at everything with a critical eye.

### TAKE CARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media scammers are more active on Black Friday and Cyber Monday, as they know people are hunting for deals online. These scammers tend to concentrate on platforms such as Facebook and Instagram, posting malicious links that can compromise shoppers' personal details. Other scammers, meanwhile, falsely advertise products in an attempt to trick users out of their hard-earned cash.

### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



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