



# SOUTH WITHAM ACADEMY NEWS

A really busy week in school! I've been out with the year 5 children at Kingswood in Norfolk since Wednesday. The children have been amazing and had a fantastic time! As I write this, we have just started our journey home and we are all very tired (despite some really good sleeping!) Take a look at the photos later in the newsletter to see some of the activities that the children were doing. A big thank you to Miss Avery who has joined me on this residential. She has been a really good support for the children.

Elsewhere in school it has been great to hear about all the hard work that has been happening.

Have a great weekend,

*Mr Atter*



## UPCOMING DIARY DATES

**1st May** - Reception & YR6 Height & weight check

**1st May** - Author visiting Otter Class

**9th May** - Rounder at Charles Read

**13th - 16th May** - YR 6 SATs



## HOUSE POINT TOTALS



BURGHLEY

**2118**

BELTON

**1707**

WOOLSTHORPE

**1780**



# Little Hedgehogs



This week in Little Hedgehogs we have been reading Vicky the Vet. We have talked about when to take a pet to the vet, and also how we can look after our animals to keep them safe and healthy.

On Monday we celebrated Earth day and we decorated some big pictures of the Earth and on Tuesday we celebrated St Georges day where dragons came to life and the Little Hedgehogs decorated a shield.



# Woodlands



On Monday it was Earth Day 2024 so Woodlands learnt all about what this meant and had lots of conversations around climate change. We have then focused particularly on tigers and their decline in numbers as the story we have been working on is The Tiger Who Came to Tea. We talked about the impact humans have had on tigers, we worked in pairs to pretend to be a tiger, asking a human questions. We have done some writing as if we were a tiger.

We have also started to learn about King Charles and the Royal Family looking at the Royal Family tree. We have enjoyed doing a bit of a different PE, exploring some yoga poses and learning a yoga flow all about animals.

We are learning kitchen and food skills in our DT and we loved making our own salad! We chopped with two different techniques as well as tried peeling and grating.

Next week we will be making a class book on different animals, including lots of different animal facts



# Badgers

In Badger class this week, we briefly had a full class before the Year 5 children excitedly made their way off on their residential trip. On Monday, we learnt how Hitler came to power, looking at various sources to determine what kind of man he was. On Tuesday, it was the Year 5s turn to work with Mr Milner on the gears project using Knex. The children all worked hard on their independent write to continue our time travelling story which saw three children entering a tree in the woods and landing in Tudor London. The Year 6 children have been boosting their knowledge as preparation for the SATS coming up very soon. They have been looking at areas they have been finding tricky such as percentages, measuring angles and looking at different tenses such as past perfect, past and present progressive and simple past tense.

Verb form	Example	How to form it
Past progressive	I <b>was writing</b> / they <b>were writing</b>	I <b>was/ he was/ she was/ you were/ we were/ they were</b> + <b>present participle</b>
Present progressive	I <b>am writing</b> / he <b>is writing</b> / they <b>are writing</b>	I <b>am/ he is/ she is/ you are/ we are/ they are</b> + <b>present participle</b>
Past perfect	I <b>had written</b>	I <b>had/ he had/ she had/ you had/ we had/ they had</b> + <b>past participle</b>
Present perfect	I <b>have written</b> / he <b>has written</b>	I <b>have/ you have/ we have/ they have/ he has/ she has</b> + <b>past participle</b>
Past perfect progressive	I <b>had been writing</b>	I <b>had/ we had/ you had/ they had/ he had/ she had</b> + <b>been</b> + <b>present participle</b>
Present perfect progressive	I <b>have been writing</b> / he <b>has been writing</b>	I <b>have/ you have/ we have/ they have/ he has/ she has</b> + <b>been</b> + <b>present participle</b>

# Otters

This week has flown by again! We have started our science topic, all about plants. Thank you for the bottles that were sent in - we have used them to create "Root Viewers"! We planted 4 different sorts of seeds in them, and will measure how quickly the roots grow over the next few weeks. It was lovely to see the children working together in teams to create their investigation, and we look forward to lots of plants and vegetables growing! We have also started learning about Ancient Egypt, and have an amazing picture from Mr Pewsey to add to our display! As well as this, we have been looking at biographies in English, reading all about David Attenborough, Amelia Earhart, Florence Nightingale and Scott Joplin! We are also continuing our work on measuring (Y3) and decimals (Y4) in maths, and learning how to write musical notation!





# PRIDE OF SOUTH WITHAM



## Always Club

YAY!



## Readers of the week!



# Attendance Superstars

this week goes to **WOODLANDS** with 98%!!

Lincolnshire County Council are undertaking a parental survey to assess the need for childcare across Lincolnshire. This is part of a wider annual assessment of the Childcare Sufficiency in Lincolnshire, where childcare providers are also consulted. They would like to hear your views on childcare in the county.

Scan the QR code to take part in the survey



Attendance is something we celebrate each week in our Celebration Assembly on a Friday. We are required to collate and update the attendance figures for the local authority each week. Going forward we will be monitoring attendance closely to ensure that we are hitting the targets given to the school by the DFE.

## Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday to Toby who celebrated this birthday this week.



### Little Explorers

0-5 years

A sensory play session encouraging children to explore a range of messy play activities such as water, sand, crafts, gloop and play dough.

**Wednesday**  
10:00 - 11:00am

South Witham Children's Centre  
Water Lane, South Witham,  
NG33 5PH  
southwithamcc@lincolnshire.gov.uk  
01572 768876

### Moving On Up!

0-5 years

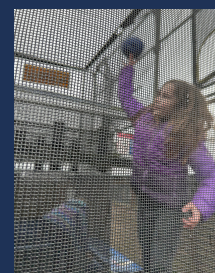
This session focuses on building children's confidence, self-esteem and resilience to prepare for the many transitions they will go through as they grow and change.

**Friday, 10:00 - 11:00am**

South Witham Children's Centre  
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# Year 5s at Kingswood





# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SHOPPING PLATFORMS

For people looking to make purchases on their phones, several shopping apps – such as Temu – allow users to buy goods at reduced prices. Others, like Vinted and Depop, let you sell items you no longer want. As internet shopping continues to grow, however, so does the risk of scammers, hackers and breaches of privacy.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### MISSING ITEMS

Users of Vinted, Depop and Temu have reported not receiving their products despite payment being taken. Users can initially contact the seller to query a missing item, and they have between two and five days (depending on the app) to tell the company what has happened. However, once the money has reached the supposed 'seller', it can be quite difficult to get back.

### SCAMMERS AND PHISHING

Scammers are always on the lookout for unsuspecting buyers or sellers. Common tactics include cancelling shipment of an item once the payment has been processed or asking to conclude the chat and payment outside of the app, where the victim is no longer protected by the buyer protection plan. This should, naturally, be avoided at all costs.

### DATA MISUSE

Apps of all kinds frequently collect our data, often asking for more information than is necessary to set up an account. Data gathered in this way is then usually sold on to third parties for marketing purposes. Lately, certain apps have been under scrutiny for using spyware to track their members' activities – but all too often, the user's consent to this practice has been hidden away in the terms and conditions.

### FAKES OR REPLICAS

It's certainly not unheard of for poor-quality products to be falsely marketed as luxury items, using misleading pictures or clever wording. These disingenuous sales are sometimes outed by suspiciously low price tags, but this isn't always the case. For children and young people especially, there's a risk that the promise of bagging a high-end item for a fraction of its usual price will outweigh any suspicions they may have.

### SLOW REFUNDS

While all apps offer a refund if the product is damaged or doesn't match the description, it can take up to a month to be compensated for this. For many people (especially during a cost-of-living crisis) that can be a long time to be without both the product you bought and the hard-earned cash you spent on it.

### MISLEADING DESCRIPTION

Some people will be able to notice when, say, a product's photo and its description don't seem to match. This isn't a reliable means of picking up on misleading marketing, however – especially not for children and young people, many of whom may not yet realise that such practices even exist. While it's illegal to advertise one thing and sell another, plenty of shady traders use clever wording and omissions to get around this.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### ALWAYS STAY ON THE APP

It's vital that users pay for any goods through the same app on which they found them, to ensure they are covered by buyer protection. This means users can access support if the item arrives damaged, isn't as described, or doesn't arrive at all – allowing them to seek compensation for the loss. Such regulations can't protect you, however, if you didn't do the deal through the app in question.

### BE WARY OF PHISHING ATTEMPTS

Scammers frequently send messages within these apps to steal personal and financial information from other users. Don't respond to these messages – and under no circumstances should you follow any links they contain. Check for spelling errors, as well as inspecting the name of the sender. Report any suspected phishing emails to the app's help centre – and notify your bank if you think your financial information has been compromised.

### CHECK REVIEWS

Take time to read the reviews and comments left by other users – not just of products, but of sellers and buyers, to ensure they're legitimate and reliable. Before buying an item online, check the reviews for comments about the product's quality, the seller's communication and the delivery time. If you're selling, check the reviews of your buyer for red flags such as frequent requests for refunds or claims of 'missing' items.

### KEEP SAFE AS A SELLER

Sellers can be exploited just as much as buyers. Some users may purchase an item, for example, then pretend it didn't arrive to secure a refund. Always take photos of the shipping label, along with a picture of you posting the item. Send the package's tracking number to the buyer and keep a copy for yourself, letting you investigate any future claims that it never arrived. When taking photos of items you're selling, ensure nothing personal is in the background.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at BCyberAware, who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety workshops and policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: [nationalcollege.com/guides/shopping-apps](http://nationalcollege.com/guides/shopping-apps)

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