

# Wittersham Church of England Primary School

*'On a voyage of discovery: learning and growing together in the light of God'*

## Weekly Newsletter Friday 5th January 2024



Welcome back! Wishing you all a very Happy New Year! I hope that the year has started positively for you despite the rather dreary weather! We have had a super start to 2024 here in school and are excited about all our plans for the rest of this academic year.

This week, the children have settled quickly and produced some great learning. I always enjoy seeing the excitement and intrigue as they learn about their new topics, class texts and areas of focus for the term.

I have been lucky enough to see some of this in action this week in a range of different maths lessons: Windmills have been exploring the properties of shapes and using these to create some wonderful pieces of artwork, Smugglers have been building on their knowledge of number bonds to support them when subtracting from multiples of ten, Vikings have been securing their knowledge of arrays in multiples of 4 and 6, whilst in Rother, children have been applying their understanding of multiplication to multiply fractions – it has certainly been a busy week!

It was great to see our Forest School sessions get back underway this today. During the workshops, children were developing their techniques in campfires, identifying plants and wildlife whilst also hunting for minibeasts and spiders. They had a great time despite the mud and rain.

Although it is one of our shorter school terms, we still have much to look forward to with our choir due to visit the O2 for their Young Voices performance, a range of upcoming sports events, further forest school sessions, a WSA disco and a cake sale to fit in alongside all the exciting learning and opportunities children in their classes.

As this is the first newsletter of 2024, I have included a few general reminders throughout. Please do ask if you have any further questions around these.

Have a great weekend.

Whole School: **95.5%**

### Attendance

Whole School Target: **96%**

Class	Windmills	Oast	Smugglers	Vikings	Oxney	Rother
Attendance	<b>96.7%</b>	94.5%	<b>96.3%</b>	95.6%	95.3%	95.4%

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Courage

Cooperation

## This week in Worship:

In this week's worship, our focus centered on the practical aspects of unity, referencing Ephesians 4:3: *"Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."*

How can we apply these principles of unity in our daily lives?

Take a moment to discuss and find practical ways to promote harmony and understanding within your family.

As we move forward together, let's turn these reflections into actions to further develop our unified and cohesive school community.

Dear Creator,

This week, we seek unity inspired by Ephesians 4:3. Grant us strength to embrace diversity, cultivate empathy, and create an inclusive environment. Guide our actions towards a harmonious school community. As families reflect, may our homes echo the unity we strive for.

Amen.

## September 2024 Admissions Deadline



The admissions deadline for children starting school in September 2024 is fast approaching.

Please submit all applications by  
**Monday, 15th January 2024.**

To apply, visit Kent Primary School Admissions online at  
<https://kent.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/Synergy/Admissions.aspx>

Ensure a smooth transition for your child – apply on time!

## Coats

As the wet weather settles in, a quick reminder to ensure your child has an appropriate coat for school. A warm, weather-appropriate coat is essential for their comfort and well-being during the colder months.

### **What's Appropriate:**

A warm coat suitable for current weather conditions.

Consider weatherproof and waterproof options for wet and snowy days.

### **How You Can Help:**

Check your child's coat to make sure it's weather-appropriate.

Ensure your child's coat is clearly named.

If you need assistance, please reach out to us.

Thank you for ensuring your child is ready for winter at school.

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## Lunchbox Choices

As we kick off the new school year, a friendly reminder about the importance of healthy lunchbox choices. We kindly ask that you refrain from including chocolates and sugary drinks in your child's lunchbox. While these treats may provide a momentary burst of energy, they can lead to a subsequent energy crash, affecting concentration and focus on the classroom.

### Benefits:

**Improved Focus:** Nutrient-rich foods enhance concentration.

**Steady Energy:** Balanced meals prevent energy crashes.

**Overall Well-Being:** A healthy diet supports physical and mental health.

### We're Here to Help:

Struggling with lunch ideas? Reach out for tips and support. Let's create a nourishing environment together!

Thank you for your commitment to our students' well-being.



## WSA Update

Dear Parents and Carers



Happy New Year! I hope you all had a lovely time over the Christmas holiday despite the rather wet weather.

The good news is that the WSA School Environment Enrichment Fund now is now nearly at our £25,000 target with just under £3,000 to go. This is truly amazing and all down to the wonderful support of you all.

The first event of the year will be the AGM (date to be confirmed). Whilst many of the committee are happy to continue there will be vacancies and now is the time to prepare for the future. It would be great to have someone shadow the role of Chair and Treasurer. I will be stepping down in January 2025 so it would be great to have someone shadow the role to take over the next year.

The start of February is busy with Oxney Cake Sale on the 7th Feb and then on Friday 9th February we will be running a school disco, kindly sponsored by Cranbrook Fishmongers and Hell4Leather Cricket. Look out for further information on both in future newsletters, on the WSA Facebook page and via flyers in the book bags.

The long-awaited Quiz Night with Mr Hawkins as quizmaster is then on Saturday 10th February in Wittersham Village Hall. More news on how to book etc coming very soon. If the last one is anything to go by it will be a great night.

Finally thank you for all your Christmas Card etc purchases from Cauliflower Cards, this raised £234 for the WSA.

As always if anyone has any questions or ideas, please contact me on [annchairwsa@gmail.com](mailto:annchairwsa@gmail.com)

Ann (Chair WSA)

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## School Shoes

As we settle into the school year, we'd like to take a moment to address a crucial aspect of our students' attire – their footwear. While we appreciate everyone's efforts in ensuring our students come to school well-prepared, we've noticed an increase in the use of black sports trainers as everyday school shoes.

Please be reminded that black sports trainers are not considered appropriate school footwear. It's essential for students to wear shoes that provide proper support and are in line with our school dress code.

### Why Proper School Shoes Matter:

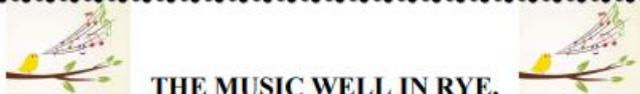
**Support and Comfort:** Appropriate school shoes are designed to provide the support and comfort needed for a full day of learning and activities.

**Safety:** School shoes are chosen with safety in mind, reducing the risk of slips, trips, and falls during school hours.

Your cooperation in this matter ensures a safe and comfortable learning environment for all our students. Thank you for your attention to this important aspect of our school uniform policy.

Thank you

Click [here](#) for our school uniform policy.



THE MUSIC WELL IN RYE,  
IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE:



**SING**

**A FREE SINGING CLUB for children and students.**

at the RYE CREATIVE CENTRE,  
NEW ROAD, RYE  
on MONDAYS, 4-5pm, term-time.

OPEN to all Children and Students in Years R – Y11,  
attending local schools in the Rye area and beyond.



*This is an exciting musical opportunity for children and young people, and is fun, friendly and fully inclusive.*



Singing Teacher is Mrs. Marian Ham,  
a local music and piano teacher,  
and a semi-retired Primary School Head Teacher.

For a joining form and more information, please email Marian on [dmham128@btinternet.com](mailto:dmham128@btinternet.com)

This opportunity is currently supported financially by *The Fairlight Arts Trust* and *The Music Well CIC*, thereby enabling attendance at the club to be **FREE** for all children and students this year. Donations to The Music Well are always appreciated, as funding for the wonderful work of The Music Well is through grants and donations. Enjoy a look at the website: [www.themusicwell.org.uk](http://www.themusicwell.org.uk)

**QUIZ NIGHT**

WEDNESDAY 24TH JANUARY 2024

DOORS OPEN AT 7:00PM  
QUIZ STARTS AT 7:30PM

Age UK Ashford, Farrow Court,  
Stanhope Road, Ashford, TN23 5RF

£6.00 per person

Put your knowledge to the test and join for an evening full of fun and questions! Everyone is welcome. Teams of 6 (maximum). You are welcome to bring your own food and drink, however refreshments are available to purchase on the night.



Booking is essential,  
please contact us on

01303 269502

[admin@ageukhla.org.uk](mailto:admin@ageukhla.org.uk)

Charity no. 222519  
Company no. 1609817

Hythe, Lymington & Ashford  
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<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Tuesday 2nd January	Term 3 begins
Week beginning Monday 8th January	Clubs resume this week
Friday 12th January	Oast and Oxney Forest School sessions
Wednesday 17th January	Young Voices Concert – Choir Club performing at the O2
Friday 19th January	Smugglers, Windmills and Rother Forest School sessions
Wednesday 7th February	Oxney Class Cake Sale
Friday 9th February	End of Term 3
Monday 19th February	School INSET Day (Closed to children)
Tuesday 20th February	Start of Term 4



**JUNIOR CRICKET NEEDS YOU!**  
TENTERDEN CRICKET CLUB

GIRLS & BOYS OF ALL ABILITIES WELCOME  
AGES 5-16

**INDOOR SESSIONS START 28 JANUARY**  
HOMWOOD SCHOOL @9AM  
**8 SESSIONS FOR £40**

ECB QUALIFIED COACHES with county & international experience  
Competitive teams of under 9's, under 11's, under 12's and under 16's.

**OUTDOOR SESSIONS START 28 APRIL**  
TENTERDEN CRICKET CLUB  
**16 SESSIONS FOR £50**  
Get all 24 sessions for £80 when paid in advance.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
Club Co-ordinator and Club Safeguarding Officer Nik Le Marechal  
**07593 040485 or niklem72@yahoo.co.uk**

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**Save the Date!**

**WSA Disco**

**Friday 9th February**

**School Hall**

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