

Wittersham Church of England Primary School

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

Weekly Newsletter Friday 12th January 2024



I hope you have all had a good week. The weather may have turned chilly, but it's impressive to see the resilience of students in Oast and Oxney classes as they embrace the cold during their Forest School sessions; developing their whittling and fire making skills.

This week, I have been impressed with the excellent writing skills of children across the school. From creative stories to persuasive letters, the talent displayed by our young writers has been fantastic! The progress many have made in their presentation and letter formation has been wonderful to see. All you can do to further support this at home is greatly appreciated.

In further celebration, children in Vikings, Oxney and Rother took part in a Boys vs Girls TT Rockstars battle this week. A huge well done to all who took part; Miss Robinson was amazed that nearly 20,000 correct answers were submitted! On Friday we announced the Boys as this week's winners! Congratulations to them. At the same time, we have been taking part in a further TT Rockstars competition as part of 'East Sussex Rocks'. Of the 35 schools taking part we are currently 5th and closing in on third and fourth places. This contest closes on Wednesday. I wonder if we can make it into the top three by then?

Lastly, a gentle reminder about the importance of punctuality. We have noticed that an increasing number of families are arriving after the gate has closed at 8:45am. Arriving on time ensures that every child can maximize their learning opportunities from the beginning of the day. It sets a positive tone for the day, facilitating a smooth transition into the exciting activities and lessons ahead. If you are having any challenges or issues with ensuring you arrive in time for registration (8:30-8:45am) please do reach out.

Thank you for your ongoing cooperation in supporting your child's journey with us.

Have a great weekend.

Whole School: **95.5%**

Attendance

Whole School Target: **96%**

| Class | Windmills | Oast | Smugglers | Vikings | Oxney | Rother |
|------------|--------------|-------|-----------|--------------|-------|--------|
| Attendance | 97.9% | 95.8% | 95.6% | 97.3% | 95.6% | 94.9% |

Compassion

Courage

Cooperation

This week in Worship:

Our focus was on the Gospels, emphasizing their teachings about walking circumspectly in life, as guided by Jesus. We explored the art of handling trick questions, drawing inspiration from Mark 12:13-17.

As Jesus wisely stated, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

I wonder what we do if someone tries to catch us out or make us look foolish or bad? I wonder how we can try and answer calmly and wisely?

Dear Lord,

Guide us in walking circumspectly at school. Grant wisdom, humility, and courage. May our words and actions reflect your love. Bless our studies and interactions with integrity. In Jesus' name, we pray.

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!

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Young Voices

We are looking forward to our choir participating in this years' Young Voices concert at the O2 arena. On Wednesday 17th January .

The children have been busy learning a selection of songs including a Matilda medley, River Deep Mountain High and a Moana mashup!

This is a spectacular event with a choir of over 6,000 children performing to a capacity crowd at the O2. I am sure you will join me in wishing them the best of luck!



Cooperation



As part of our ongoing commitment to fostering strong relationships between our school and our students' families, I am pleased to introduce our School Family Liaison Officer (FLO). This is a new role within our Inclusion and Wellbeing Team here at Wittersham.

We are excited to announce Mrs Sterriker-Rhodes as our new school FLO; combining her current responsibilities in Vikings class. As a FLO, Mrs Sterriker Rhodes focus will be on strengthening communication and collaboration between home and school in order to obtain a positive and nurturing educational environment for our children. She is also able to signpost you to appropriate agencies, including Homestart and health providers to further support you at home and your child/children here at school.

If you have any further questions or feel as though you would benefit from a conversation, please feel free to contact Mrs Sterriker-Rhodes at flo@wittersham.kent.sch.uk I know she is looking forward to working with families and building a successful and positive relationship.



WSA Update



Dear Parents and Carers

As you will have seen via dojo, the WSA AGM is Thursday 25th January at 1.45 -3pm in the school hall. We would love to see as many there as possible there to help shape the future of the WSA. We particularly need someone to join the committee who would be interested in taking on the role of treasurer. Looking forward to 2025 there will also be the need to identify a new Chairperson so if there was someone who would be interested in joining as Vice Chair this year that would be fantastic. Having someone to shadow the role would make the transition much smoother. At the AGM we will also be proposing an update to the constitution and to adopt one developed by Parentkind. A copy this will be available to you all in advance of the AGM.

This week you have had the letters re the Quiz on the 10th February. Please do reserve a table as room is limited and last time it was very popular and great fun.

You will also soon have letters re the School Disco on the 9th February. We hope lots of the children will come along for the fun.

That week will be a rather busy one as there is also the Oxney Cake Sale on the 7th February. More details on that soon.

As always if anyone has any questions or ideas, please contact me on annchairwsa@gmail.com

Ann (Chair WSA)

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Explore MORE in 2024 FREE Prize Draw!

With spring ahead of us, now is the perfect time to start on plans for wonderful days out in 2024!

You've got to be in it to win it!

FIRST PRIZE: £50 Quiz Trail voucher to spend anywhere on our website. You can order Quiz Trails, books and gifts!

SECOND PRIZE: FIVE Quiz Trails of your choice!

THIRD PRIZE: THREE Quiz Trails of your choice!

Easy to enter: Simply visit our website to find the missing name and enter our FREE prize draw!

www.quiztrail.co.uk

Once you have the answer go to "Explore more in 2024 Competition" at the top of our home page – simple!



Quiz Trails are an 'Approved Activity' for the Kent Children's University™!

Quiz Trails are low-cost entertainment for ALL ages. Only £5.99 for the whole family to enjoy an adventure together. Mums, Dads, Grandma's, Granddad's, Aunties, Uncles and all care-givers can share one copy.

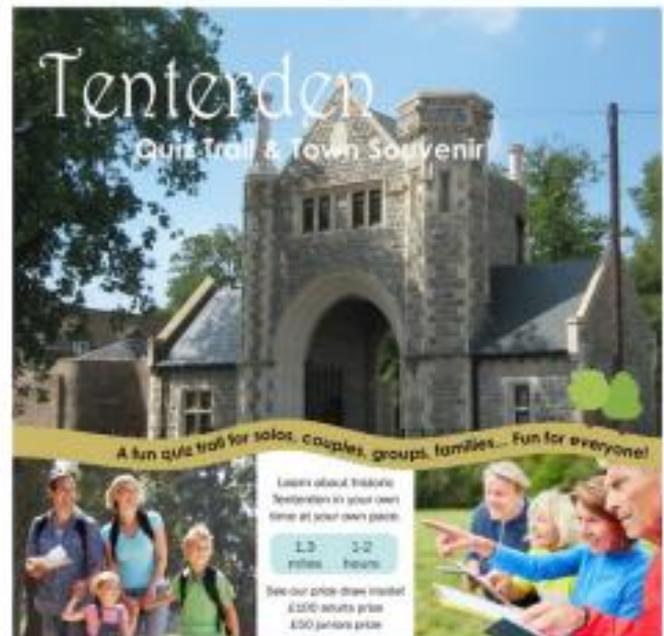


Explore MORE in 2024! FREE PRIZE DRAW - Enter Now!

1st Prize: £50 voucher to spend on our website - choose from Quiz Trails, books and gifts!

To enter ... Simply find the name of our NEW East Sussex Quiz Trail on our website & enter your answer at www.QuizTrail.co.uk

*Closes Wednesday 31st January 2024



Quiz Trails ...

A healthy walk ... educational ...
low-cost ... out in the fresh air ...
discovering fascinating history ...
for all ages ... fun!

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Event</u> |
|------------------------|--|
| 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 |

Your Trash Might Be Our Treasure!

Did you know that playtime is about 20% of every child's day at school? That's 1.4 years of every child's life while they are at primary school.

Playing outdoors in rich play environments is one of the best ways for children to develop social skills, build resilience, make more friends, be more creative and care more about the planet. Right now, this is more important than ever. As you are aware, we have been encouraging the children to be adventurous and creative with their play for a few years and we are now in need of some new bits and pieces! If you are able to donate any of these, please do contact one of us...

Suitcases (any size and type), guttering, cable drums, plastic crates, bins or boxes (any size) noodles (the type you use in the swimming pool!), buckets (any size), nets and ropes, road signs and cones, kitchen pots, pans, baking trays, worktables, wooden spoons, chopping boards, pegs (to help to set up dens), tubes of various sizes and various materials, storage bins, sand pit toys and tools, dressing up clothes and accessories, small world toys (dinosaurs, lego, duplo, cars, etc), large cardboard tubes plastic piping tubes / PVC tubes, tarps or even large empty spools (used for wire, chain, rope). They will not go to waste!



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