

# Wittersham Church of England Primary School

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

Weekly Newsletter  
Friday 19th January 2024



As we come to the end of another week at our school, it's hard to believe how quickly time has passed. I've been impressed by the energy and accomplishments of our children this term; they have started 2024 with great energy!

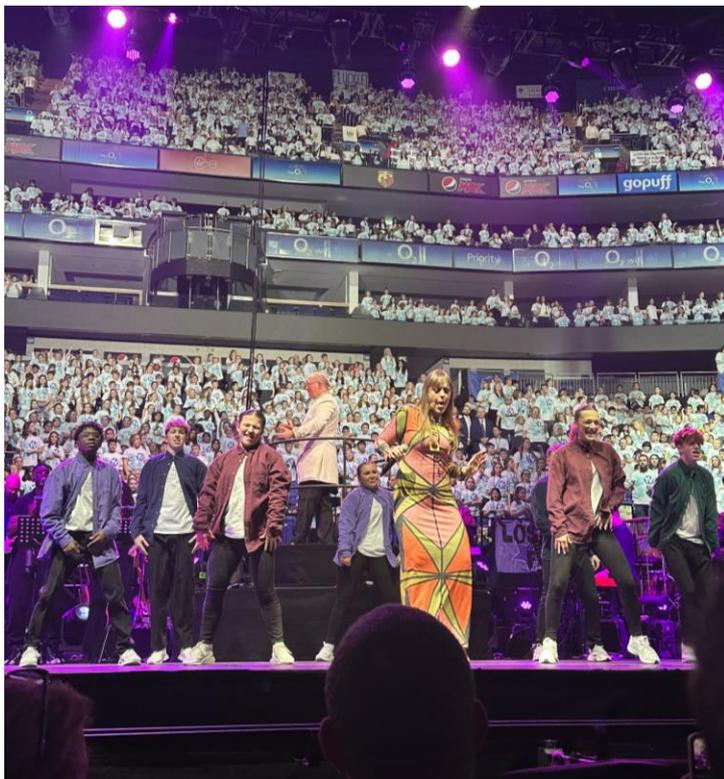
In our Celebration Worship, it was great to see children sharing their achievements, big and small. It's a reminder of the diverse talents within our school community and the collective support that makes our school a great place for us all.

Our children continue to demonstrate our Christian values – courage, compassion, and cooperation – in their daily activities. Whether it's lively discussions in class or collaborative projects, these values are embedded in our school culture.

A special mention must go to our choir for their impressive performance at the London O2 Arena. With 8,718 children performing to an audience of over 12,000 friends and family, it was quite a spectacle. Thanks to the parents and staff who supported this event, especially Mrs. Catt for her work with the choir club.

On a different note, our school salad bar is now a regular part of mealtime. It's great to see children making healthy choices and incorporating them into their daily meals.

I hope you all enjoy a well-deserved break, and here's to a great weekend ahead!



Compassion

Courage

Cooperation

## This week in Worship:

This week in worship, we delved into the Gospel message of the Good Samaritan as found in Luke 10:25-37.

Children were prompted to reflect on the question, "Who is your 'neighbor,' and 'how can embracing differences transform our lives?'"

The teaching challenged us to overcome prejudice and actively include others, ensuring that no one is left alone. This prayer emphasized the importance of remembering that everyone is worthy of belonging.

Dear God,

Help us to remember that everyone is worthy of belonging – not because we are alike, but because we are all of value. May we always do our best to include others, so no one is left alone.  
Amen.

Whole School: **95.8%**

### 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%

## Punctuality in the mornings

Over the past few weeks, we have observed an increase in the number of children arriving late to school. Punctuality is a fundamental aspect of a student's success, and we believe that fostering good habits from an early age is crucial for their academic journey.

Registration begins at 8:30 am and concludes at 8:45 am each day. We understand the challenges of busy mornings, but the impact of regularly arriving late at school on your child's education cannot be understated. Did you know that arriving just 5 minutes late every day accumulates to the equivalent of missing 3 full days of school each year?

To support you and your child in arriving on time, we would like to share some practical tips with you:

**Establish a regular routine:** Create a morning routine that your child can follow consistently. Predictability helps reduce stress and ensures a smoother start to the day.

**Prepare the night before:** Encourage your child to set out their clothes and organize their school materials before bedtime. This simple practice can save valuable time in the morning.

**Set a reasonable bedtime:** A proper night's sleep is essential for effective learning. Set a bedtime that allows your child to get enough rest, promoting better concentration and overall well-being.

If you are finding this a challenge or would like to discuss this further, please speak with Mrs Coulson, Mr Hawkins or message Mrs Sterriker-Rhodes (School FLO) at [flo@wittersham.kent.sch.uk](mailto:flo@wittersham.kent.sch.uk)

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Date	Event
Tuesday 23rd January	KS1 Water Safety Talk (Puddle Ducks)
Tuesday 23rd January	Year 3&4 Sports Hall Athletics
Wednesday 24th January	Year 5&6 Sports Hall Athletics
Wednesday 7th February	Oxney Class Cake Sale
Friday 9th February	WSA School Disco
Friday 9th February	End of Term 3
Saturday 10th February	WSA Quiz night
Monday 19th February	School INSET Day (Closed to children)
Tuesday 20th February	Start of Term 4
Tuesday 5th March	SEND/Wellbeing Coffee Morning
Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st March	Parents Consultation Evenings
Wednesday 27th March	Last Day of Term 4
Thursday 28th March	School INSET Day (School Closed to Children)
Monday 15th April	Start of Term 5

**Heart of Kent Show Choir**  
Presents  
**WINTERSONG 24**  
2nd February 7pm  
St Mildreds Church **£10**

**Songs by:** Tenterden

**Billie Eilish**  
**Tori Amos**  
**Sia**  
**Sam Ryder**  
**Celine Dion**  
**Bocelli**  
**Abba**

**Labrinth**  
**Marisha Wallace**  
**Sara Bareilles**  
**Adele**  
**Leonard Cohen**  
**Ennio Morricone**  
**Sarah McLachlan**

**Join the Hearties for an evening of magical music.**

**Licensed bar, Mulled wine & raffle.**

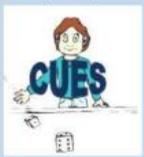
**Raising vital funds for Cancer Research uk**  
Tickets available from:  
**Webbs Ironmongers, High St, Tenterden**  
Box office. [heartofkentshowchoir.co.uk](http://heartofkentshowchoir.co.uk)

 **STLS ASHFORD INCLUSION TRAINING**

## CUES Parenting Support Group

**CUES - Coping with Uncertainty in Everyday Situations**

**What is uncertainty?**  
Not knowing the outcome of an event  
Being unsure  
Unpredictability



- Do you have a child who is on the pathway or has a diagnosis of ASC?
- Do you and/or your child find uncertainty really upsetting and stressful?
- Do you need to make lots of lists and ask lots of questions, check, avoid and over protect yourself and your child?
- Would you like to learn strategies to help your child in a supportive environment without judgement or worry?

**Where:** The John Wesley School  
**Time:** 9.00 – 12.00 (9-9:30 chat and settling)  
**January:** 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>  
**February:** 9<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>  
**March:** 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>

Please join us at **all** of the above dates to help manage uncertainty in yours and your child's everyday life.

Please contact [lizzie.wells@goldwyn.kent.sch.uk](mailto:lizzie.wells@goldwyn.kent.sch.uk) to book.

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