

Wittersham Church of England Primary School

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

Weekly Newsletter Friday 2nd February 2024



It is hard to believe we are approaching the last week of term already. It has been such a busy term, and this week has been no different. On Tuesday, our fantastic Forest School team worked hard to create a marvellous bat hide. This will provide a safe and comfortable habitat for our furry friends, allowing our students to observe and learn about these creatures in their natural environment.

Elsewhere, inspired by this week's class worship, we have also embarked on an initiative to plant 50 trees around our school grounds. This project not only enhances the beauty of our surroundings but also instils in our children a sense of responsibility towards the environment. We look forward to sharing the progress of this venture with all our families.

Today, Reverend Jeanette visited our school to speak to and answer questions from our Oxney and Vikings classes regarding their RE learning. It was a wonderful opportunity for our children to deepen their understanding of Incarnation in meaningful discussions with Reverend Jeanette.

Rother have produced some incredible pieces of writing inspired by the famous "Highwayman" poem. The creativity and thoughtfulness they have shown in their vocabulary choices and use of punctuation are fantastic! Well done Rother!

Today, it was great to see so many children receiving the Values Awards for their courage. It is particularly inspiring to see how they have approached new challenges in their learning with such determination and bravery. Well done to all!

Looking ahead to next week, we have three exciting events to look forward to. Firstly, on Wednesday Oxney will host their WSA cake sale with a Valentines these. Then, on Friday, is our School Disco. Please ensure that payment and permission slips are brought in by Monday, 5th February. We are certain that it will be an evening filled with joy and laughter for our children.

Lastly, our WSA quiz is on Saturday, 10th February at the village hall. This promises to be a fun-filled evening of friendly competition and community spirit. We hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Thank o

Have a good weekend

Whole School: **95.2%**

Attendance

Whole School Target: **96%**

Class	Windmills	Oast	Smugglers	Vikings	Oxney	Rother
Attendance	96.6%	93.7%	94.9%	95.6%	95.5%	94.6%

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Courage

Cooperation

This week in Worship:

This week's worship focused on forgiveness and repentance using Zacchaeus' story in **Luke 19:1-10**. The central message emphasised not just apologising for mistakes but actively working to make amends, as demonstrated by Zacchaeus. We reflected on personal reactions to surprises, recognizing that apologies alone are insufficient, requiring tangible efforts to repair damage.

The global perspective, drawn from **Psalm 89:11**, helped us to discuss positive choices to better the world. Our week concluded with a reflection on the three-step process of acknowledging mistakes, apologising, and actively making amends. **Proverbs 17:9** highlighted the importance of forgiveness in fostering friendships. Each worship closed with quotes on forgiveness and a prayer for guidance in building a more peaceful world.

We discussed the global goals and thought about how we could contribute to these aims in making the world a better place.



Creator God, who made our beautiful world, forgive us for the times we cause it harm; for the times when our way of life affects our neighbours.

Inspire us to care for the environment; to help rebuild lives and communities; to share in the griefs and anxieties, joys and hopes of all your people, so that all your creation may flourish. AMEN

Trees

In line with our discussions in collective worship this week, our school council have considered ways in which we can contribute to making the world a better place. As a result, we have planted 50 trees in our school grounds. We look forward to these further enhancing our environment and contributing to supporting wildlife we share it with.



We also have a further 50 trees, with the necessary supports and guards, which we would like to share with our community and families.

Trees can be collected from the school gate at pick up and drop off from Tuesday 6th February.

If you have any further questions, please do let us know. We look forward to this supporting our children to contribute to caring for our world in a way which links to our school values and ethos.

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Lunchtime Football

Following discussions with the school council, from Term 4, children will be able to play football at lunchtimes on Tuesdays and Thursday lunchtimes.

The school council have decided that, to play football at lunchtimes, children will need to sign an agreement to show they have understood the rules and expectations. These are:

- *Football is for everyone. All should be made to feel welcome and invited to play.*
- *In football we are supportive and encouraging to each other; including those on other teams.*
- *The referee/adult in charge has the final decision, which all players will follow and respect.*
- *All players will wear shin pads at all times.*
- *Players will play fairly with no poor tackles or unnecessary contact.*
- *At the end, all players will shake hands.*
- *Games will finish before the end of lunchtime whistle to allow all players to tidy away and shake hands.*

Children are invited to bring in their own shin pads on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We will also have a supply in school for children to use.

Children should NOT bring in football boots with studs or blades/.

We look forward to seeing the children enjoy this change brought about by our School Council. If you have any questions, please do ask.



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We are thrilled to share exciting news with you! Our Breakfast Club will be back up and running starting Tuesday, February 20th, catering to all age groups. The club will run from 7:45 am to 8:30 am, providing a great start to the day for our children.

To secure your child's place, simply click on the following link: www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/courses/448/ and book directly with Premiere Education. The cost is only £5 per session, ensuring excellent value for money.

We understand that financial concerns can sometimes pose challenges for families, and we want to assure you that the school is here to support in any way we can. If you would like your child to attend the Breakfast Club but have concerns about the additional cost, please do not hesitate to let us know. We are committed to making this opportunity accessible to all.

We look forward to seeing children access this from next term.

Don't Forget:
Oxney Cake Sale
Wednesday 7th
February.



WSA Update



Dear Parents and Carers

It is a busy week next week so thank you in advance for your support. Oxney Class Cake sale is on Wednesday 7th – the flyers will be coming home soon with the allergen forms. Homemade and shop bought cakes all welcome, just no nuts or peanuts.

Term ends with the disco on Friday. The helpers are looking forward to seeing the children have fun. Thank you to Cranbrook Fishmongers and Hell4Leather Cricket for providing sponsorship for the event.

On Saturday 10th Feb we have the Quiz Night. Tables at the quiz night are filling but there are still spaces available. Even if you cannot make it, please share the details with your friends and family so they can come along.

If you can, please try and join us for the AGM on Tuesday 20th February 1.45 – 3pm. We really do need someone to take over the role of Treasurer and there are spaces for committee members. If you want to know more about what this role entails, please get in touch.

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

Ann (Chair WSA)

Can you help?

Following our summer of renovations across the school. We are now seeking to begin renovating some of our classrooms and shared spaces.

If you are or know of a painter and decorator who would be willing to support us with this, please do get in touch either on the gate or via the school office.

Thank you



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

Songs by:

Billie Eilish

Tori Amos

Sia

Sam Ryder

Celine Dion

Bocelli

Abba

Join the Hearties for an evening of magical music



Labrinth

Marisha Wallace

Sara Bareilles

Adele

Leonard Cohen

Ennio Morricone

Sarah McLachlan

Raising vital funds for Cancer Research uk

Tickets available from:
Webbs Ironmongers, High St, Tenterden
Box office. heartofkentshowchoir.co.uk

Forest School Area

Our children, along with Helen from Righteous oaks and Mr D Hawkins have been working tirelessly to repurpose and enhance our forest school area. It is really beginning to take shape!

We are now ready to place a canopy in the area, providing much needed shelter from the elements, all year round.

To do this we are seeking the support of someone in our community with a post driver to secure the struts around our canopy. If you can help, please contact us in the office.

Thank you



Quiz NIGHT

TEAMS OF 8 MAX
£5 PER PERSON
BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS/SNACKS
PRIZE FOR WINNING TEAM AND RAFFLE

10TH FEB

IN AID OF WITTERSHAM SCHOOL ASSOCIATION- CHARITY NUMBER 1059624

7PM FOR 7.30 START
WITTERSHAM VILLAGE HALL
ALL WELCOME

TO SECURE YOUR PLACE- CONTACT
KAREN 07825959402
OR
RACHAEL 07989517814

Wellbeing and SEND Coffee Morning

We would like to invite you all to a Wellbeing and SEND Coffee (and lots of cake) morning which will take place on Tuesday 5th March between 9:00 am and 11:00 am.

The purpose of this coffee morning will be to chat about any Well-being or SEND concerns or questions you may have in a relaxed and informal environment. It will also be a great chance for us all to meet and eat some cake! Being a parent of a child with Special Educational Needs or disability can be challenging at times but you are not alone and support is available. You can also raise any questions in readiness for the Parents Evening meetings that will take place later in the term.

Please note that your child does not have to be on the SEND register to attend this session and you may have some questions regarding your child's development or behaviour that we can discuss together.

As well as myself, our school ELSA, FLO, and Nurture Lead will also be attending the event and we would love you to join us for a cup of tea, coffee, juice, or cake on March 5th.

If you would like to come along, just pop into school between 9 am and 11 am and please do not worry if you cannot attend this session as there will be many more to follow.

We look forward to seeing you all at the SEND and Wellbeing Coffee morning in March!

Mrs Coulson 😊

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
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 20th February	WSA AGM 1:45-3pm
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



AFTER SCHOOL FOOTBALL CLUB FOR YRS 1, 2 AND 3
£5.50 A WEEK

Start Thursday 22nd February

This is a great opportunity to get the kids involved with football whilst under the supervision of a qualified coach. With the emphasis on having fun, learning skills, team building & playing the game.

To sign up and secure your child's place
www.boomactive.co.uk and follow
 Wittersham School, Football



Term Date Reminder



A reminder that Term 4 begins on Tuesday 20th February and ends on Wednesday 27th March.

SCAN ME



Scan this code for our school website

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