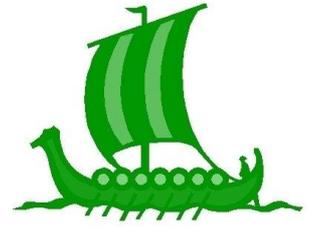


Wittersham Church of England Primary School

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



Newsletter Friday 15th March 2024



I hope this newsletter finds you well and that you have been enjoying the recent signs of spring. It has been another busy week here at Wittersham!

Across the school, I have seen a display of talent and dedication. I am particularly proud of our Vikings-inspired poems, which have been published and showcased for all to enjoy. Well done to all the students involved!

On Tuesday this week we hosted professionals from Nurture UK who have chosen our school and our specific nurture provision as a case study to support other schools across the county. Throughout the day, they engaged in productive discussions with our staff, children, and parents. It was encouraging to see how our community's vision for nurture at Wittersham aligns so well with our school values and to share the good work happening across the school to nurture and empower children in their time with us.

Next week, we have our consultation evenings, and I cannot stress enough how valuable these events are for everyone involved. It is an opportunity for parents to engage with their child's teachers, discuss progress, and gain insights into their learning journey. I look forward to seeing many of you over these two evenings.

This term, our school council has been hard at work, surveying new menu choices with children from across the school. After careful consideration, we have agreed on an exciting new menu that will be implemented from Term 5. We are eager to share this with you next week. Additionally, a survey for parents to provide input on adaptations to the menu, specifically regarding jacket potatoes and baguettes can be found later in this newsletter. Your valuable input in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Now, let's take a moment to celebrate some wonderful news. I am excited to inform parents that Mrs. Spencer is expecting a baby in September! I am sure you will join me in congratulating her on this fantastic news. Rest assured, Mrs. Spencer will be with us until the end of the academic year, ensuring a smooth transition for our students.

Have a great weekend!

Whole School: **94.4%**

Attendance

Target: **96%**

Class	Windmills	Oast	Smugglers	Vikings	Oxney	Rother
Attendance	94.7%	93.7%	94.1%	94.6%	94.3%	94.7%

Compassion

Courage

Cooperation

This Week In Worship - Compassion

This week in worship, we have centred our focus on the value of compassion and how it is demonstrated through stories from the gospel. One story that particularly inspired us is the parable of the 5 loaves and 2 fish. This story showcases compassion as Jesus takes a small amount of food and multiplies it to feed thousands of people, showing his care and concern for their well-being.



As we reflect on this parable, we are reminded of the profound impact compassion can have on others. It encourages us to think about how we can show compassion in our daily lives, both within the school community and beyond. By reaching out to others, sharing our resources, and offering support, we can make a positive difference in the lives of those around us.

"And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over" (Mark 6:42-43)

We believe that this lesson aligns perfectly with our Wittersham Way, which emphasises the importance of showing love for our school and all those in it, whilst also respecting ourselves and others. By practising compassion, we can create a nurturing and inclusive environment where everyone feels valued and supported.

Easter Service

Our Easter Service will take place in St John the Baptist's Church on Wednesday 27th March at 2:30pm.

We hope you can join us.



COMPASSION:

WE SHOW LOVE FOR OUR SCHOOL
AND ALL THOSE IN IT



COMPASSION:

WE RESPECT OURSELVES
AND OTHERS



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**COMIC
RELIEF**

Today Wittersham turned red! A huge thank you to everyone who took part in supporting comic relief by wearing something red to school today.

As a school we raised £111 in support of the comic relief appeal.

Thank you!

Parent Consultations

There is still time to book your appointment!

The timings for these appointments are as follows:

Wed 20th March from: 2pm for Oxney and Viking
3.30pm for Windmill, Smugglers, Oast and Rother
Bookings are to 5.30pm for all classes.

Thur 21st March from: 2pm for Oxney and Viking
3.30pm Windmill, Smugglers, Oast and Rother
Bookings are to 7.00pm for all classes.

To book your appointment, please visit
<https://wittershamcep.schoolcloud.co.uk>

PARENT GOVERNOR VOTES

Could we remind parents who wish to vote that returned slips need to be sent in as detailed below:

- Ballot papers should be returned in a sealed, inner, unmarked envelope
- The sealed, unmarked envelope should then be placed in a second, outer envelope
 - The second, outer envelope should clearly be marked with:
 - 'Parent Governor Election'
 - the name and address of the voter
 - the name(s) of the voter's child(ren)
 - the voter's signature across the seal

Failure to submit your ballot (voting) paper in this way, may result in your vote not being counted.

Many thanks

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Social Media and Chat Rooms

At school, we are seeing an increasing number of children facing issues with interactions and discussions via social media and chat room channels such as Tik Tok, Roblox and Whatsapp. Whilst **we do not recommend children of this age group accessing these platforms**, below are a number of tips to support parents in ensuring your child is safe and acts appropriately when talking with friends online.

Open Communication: Maintain open and honest communication with your child about their online activities. Encourage them to share any concerns or issues they may encounter while using social media.

Set Privacy Settings: Help your child understand the importance of privacy settings. Teach them how to adjust their privacy settings to limit who can see their posts and personal information.

Friend and Follower Management: Encourage your child to be selective in accepting friend or follower requests. Teach them to only connect with people they know and trust in real life.

Regular Monitoring: Regularly check your child's social media accounts and monitor their interactions. This can help you identify any potential risks or inappropriate behaviour.

Educate about Strangers: Teach your child about the dangers of interacting with strangers online. Emphasise the importance of not sharing personal information or meeting someone they've only met online.

Discuss Cyberbullying: Talk to your child about cyberbullying and its consequences. Encourage them to report any instances of bullying they witness or experience and assure them that you are there to support them.

Be Aware of Trends and Challenges: Stay informed about the latest social media trends and challenges that may potentially harm your child's well-being. Discuss the potential risks and encourage them to think critically before participating.

Encourage Responsible Posting: Teach your child about responsible posting and the potential impact their words and actions can have on others. Remind them to think before they post and to be respectful of others' feelings and privacy.

Monitor Time Spent Online: Set limits on the amount of time your child spends on social media platforms. Encourage them to engage in offline activities and maintain a healthy balance between their online and offline lives.

Be a Positive Role Model: Lead by example and demonstrate responsible online behaviour. Show your child how to use social media in a positive and respectful manner.

Remember, monitoring your child's social media interactions is essential, but it should be done in a supportive and non-invasive manner. Building trust and maintaining open communication will help ensure their safety and well-being in the online world.

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The Church of England in
Tenterden, Reithor and Oxney
Anglican Diocese of Dover, Kent, Canterbury, & Maidstone
South-Eastern Area: Tenterden, Reithor

Easter Fun & Crafts

St. Mildred's Church Hall, Tenterden,
Good Friday, 29th March

Drop-in between 1.30pm and 3.30pm to create
a bag full of Easter crafts and goodies!



Make Chocolate
Nest Cakes



Create Your Own
Easter Garden



Decoration
Making



Colour and Write
Easter Cards



Hot Cross Buns
Available



Make Easter
Baskets

And More!

£2 per child

Refreshments available.

All children must be supervised
by their grown-up(s).

Icons made by kizko, amandine and freck from www.flaticon.com

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RockSteady Concert

The children in our RockSteady bands have been working hard on a range of new songs and are looking forward to sharing these with their parents and the school on **Friday 22nd March at 2:30pm.**

We look forward to seeing you there!

If you would like your child to take part in future concerts, there are still spaces on a range of instruments. Further information can be found here:

[Click this link..](#)



Locks and Switches

Mrs Catt would love to create a new resource for our Windmill's outside space similar to this one below.



If you have any spare, bolts, locks, plugs/plug sockets, handles, switches etc and you could donate them to Windmills, we would be very grateful.

Thank you!

Vikings Class Cake Sale

♥ Easter Theme ♥

♥ TUESDAY 26th March ♥

🧁 Please send children in with their donations of cakes in the morning & drop off in the staff room. 🧁

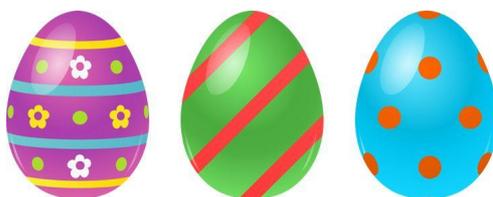
💰 Children should bring their money in named envelopes. Each class will all have an opportunity to purchase some cakes to bring home. Cakes start from as little as 50p and large whole cakes can be purchased at just £5. 💰

Thank you for all your continued support!

WSA Easter Egg Hunt

Monday 25th
March

Further details coming soon!



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<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Monday 18th March	Kent Music Roadshow Performance
Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st March	Parents Consultation Evenings
Thursday 21st March	Oast and Oxney Forest School Sessions
Monday 25th March	WSA Easter Egg Hunt
Tuesday 26th March	Vikings Class Cake Sale
Wednesday 27th March – 2:30pm	Easter Service in the Church
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



School Menu Updates

A NEW SUMMER MENU!



We are excited to announce that, following some hard work from our school councillors, we are set to introduce a new school menu from Term 5! This will become our new 'Summer Menu' and run through Terms 5, 6 and 1. New dishes include: Macaroni Cheese, Spaghetti Carbonara, Meatballs and Smoothies! We will share the winning new menu with parents next week.

Over the past few weeks, children across the school have been voting for their favourite menu from a range of different options. We would also like to gain parental input on the '3rd option' available to children daily. Alongside a daily 'hot' meat and vegetarian option, children currently have the choice of either a jacket potato or a baguette. From this survey, we would like to gain parental opinions on this to see if changing to a daily pasta option or adapting some of our existing choices would be well received.

Link to our new menu survey: <https://forms.gle/rZXt62NUhCcziCVVA>

We will then analyse these results and adapt our new menu accordingly.

Thank you for your input.

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