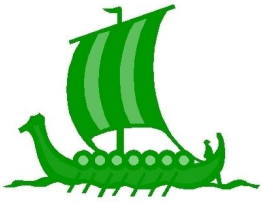


Wittersham Church of England Primary School

'On a voyage of discovery: flourishing together in God's love'



**Welcome to the
Wittersham Weekly!
Friday 28th February 2025**



Welcome Back to Term 4!

As we complete the first week back, the sun is shining, and we hope the heavy rain and grey skies are now behind us as we look forward to brighter and warmer days. It has been a busy start to the term for everyone at Wittersham, and just as we welcome the return of sunshine, we also hope for a healthier term ahead, leaving behind the colds and tummy bugs that affected so many in term three.

I would like to take a moment to say a heartfelt thank you for your kind words and well wishes following the news of my appointment as substantive headteacher. Your support means so much, and I truly appreciate the warmth of our school community. As John Collins mentioned, the selection process was incredibly rigorous and thorough—I can honestly say I was in need of a nap by 3pm that day!

As part of the process, I was asked to present on the challenges and opportunities of leading a rural school, and one of the key strengths I highlighted was the strong relationships we have with our families. The partnership between school and home is at the heart of everything we do, and I feel incredibly privileged to work with such a supportive and engaged community. It is this sense of shared commitment that makes Wittersham so special, and I look forward to continuing our journey together, building on the progress we have made and striving for even greater success for our children.

As we step into term 4, I am excited for all that lies ahead and look forward to working with you all to ensure the best possible outcomes for our children. Wishing you all a happy, healthy, and positive start to the new term.

World Book Day – Friday, 7th March 📚 ✨

We are looking forward to celebrating **World Book Day** on **Friday, 7th March** ! This is always a wonderful occasion to spark excitement for reading and bring stories to life in creative ways.

Children are welcome to come to school dressed as their **favourite book characters** , though there is no expectation to do so—our focus is on celebrating the **joy of reading** in a way that works for everyone. Throughout the day, there will be a range of engaging activities designed to **encourage storytelling, imagination, and a shared love of books** . We can't wait to see the enthusiasm and creativity this special day will bring! 🧙📖🎉

Compassion

Courage

Cooperation

Attendance

Here are the latest attendance figures for the school:

| Windmills | Oast | Smugglers | Vikings | Oxney | Rother |
|-----------|-------|-----------|---------|-------|--------|
| 95.6% | 95.7% | 95.1% | 92.9% | 95.2% | 93% |

Whole school: 94.2%

Whole School Target: 96%

At Wittersham Church of England Primary School, we are committed to supporting every child's learning and development. Regular attendance and punctuality play a vital role in ensuring children can make the most of their time in school and achieve their full potential.

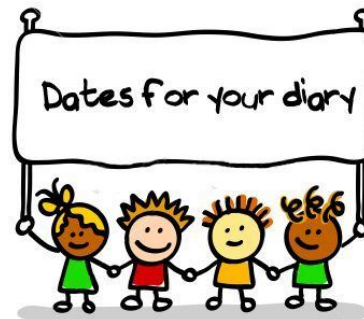
We understand that sometimes challenges can make it difficult to get to school on time or attend consistently. If you're experiencing any difficulties, please don't hesitate to reach out. Our School FLO, Mrs. Sterriker-Rhodes, is here to offer support and guidance to help overcome any barriers you may face.

Together, we can work to ensure every child has the best possible chance to thrive.



Parents' evening bookings will open next week, and we encourage all families to take this opportunity to discuss their child's progress. Please look out for the letter on Dojo, which will include full details on how to book your appointment via School Cloud.

Additionally, Mrs Sterriker-Rhodes and I will be running the Wittersham Coffee Shop again, so we warmly invite you to come along, enjoy a chat, and catch up with us. We look forward to seeing you there.



- **Tuesday 4th March** - WSA Stay and Play
- **Friday, 7th March** - Wittersham Book Day
- **Wednesday, 12th March** - Parents' Evening
- **Friday 21st March** - Red Nose Day
- **Friday, 28th March** - Rocksteady Concert
- **Thursday, 3rd April** - Last Day of Term 4
- **Friday, 4th April** - INSET Day

Compassion

Courage

Cooperation

**Term 4 Week 1 Wittersham Church of England Primary School Prayer -
this week created by Luke in Year 6.**



Dear Lord,

Thank you for this wonderful world
you have given us. please help us to
be kind, respectful and co-operative to our
peers and the wider world. please forgive
us for the things wrong and clear away
the darkness and bring light. Help us all
navigate through these tough times and achieve
our goals. Help us bring laughter and
joy in the years to come.



Luke



WSA UPDATE

WSA Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 23th March - 7.30 pm venue or online TBC

Please join us at the AGM to learn about what the WSA has achieved over the last 12 months.

If you want to be part of the new committee either as one of the officers (Chair, Treasurer or Secretary) or as a regular committee member the elections will be held at this event. If you would like to stand for one of these roles please let me know - annchairwsa@gmail.com

We will also be reviewing the constitution and considering the adoption of a new version. Details of this can be found on the Wittersham School Association Facebook Page, and a Class Dojo post will be shared with further information next week.

More details of the venue or how to join an online meeting will be circulated soon.

Ann (Chair WSA)



Free school meals

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Universal Credit - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.



Some schools in Kent manage their own Free Schools Meals application process. For more information, go to:

kent.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals



Support and guidance in the local area

LAMBING DAY

Homewood School



Young Farmers' Club

Saturday 22nd March
Homewood School Farm
TN30 6LT

- Newborn lambs
- Bottle feeding sessions
- Face painting
- Newborn goat kids
- Games
- Refreshments



Entry:
£2 adults
£1 children
Under 2's go free

Cash only

Sorry no dogs

Jumble Sale



Hythe, Lyminge
& Ashford

ageUK

Saturday 1st March
10:00 am - 2:00 pm



Age UK Hythe
Stade Street



Charity No. 1125274 Company No. 6589817

Donations needed

Good quality second hand items including clothes and shoes (ladies, men's and children's), toys, linen, bric-a-brac and accessories.



Jumble Sale
Saturday 1st March
10am – 2pm at Age UK Hythe

These can be dropped off at the following hubs

Age UK Ashford, The Joe Fagg Community Centre, Stanhope Rd, Ashford, TN23 5RF.

Age UK Hythe, Sanford House, Stade Street, Hythe, CT21 6BD.

From Monday 17th – Wednesday 26th February
from 9am - 3pm

For further details please contact

01303 269602

vc@ageukhla.org.uk

