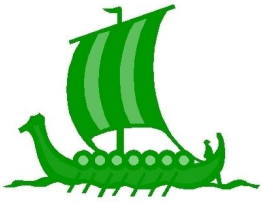


Wittersham Church of England Primary School

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



**Welcome to the
Wittersham Weekly!
Friday 29th November**



As I write to you all, Nativity rehearsals are in full swing, and I can hardly believe that December will begin on Sunday! If, like me, you are putting up your Christmas tree this weekend, I wish you peace, patience, and a little bit of luck as you untangle those fairy lights!

This week has been a wonderful blend of excitement, reflection, and progress at Wittersham Church of England Primary School. The highlight for many of our children was undoubtedly the pantomime, which filled the school with laughter and joy. Events like this are so important for creating lasting happy memories, and we're incredibly grateful to the Wittersham School Association (WSA) for funding this special experience. It was heartwarming to see the children fully immersed in the fun and magic of live performance.

We also welcomed one of our school governors to observe our fire drill this week. Regular drills like this ensure that our procedures are effective and that everyone in our school community knows exactly what to do in an emergency. The governor's visit provided reassurance that we're maintaining the highest standards for the safety of our children and staff.

In addition, we were honored to receive a visit from Nurture UK. They were keen to see how we are continuing to build on our Nurture Accreditation, integrating nurturing principles into every aspect of school life. From supporting emotional well-being to fostering a sense of belonging, it was rewarding to see how deeply these values have become part of who we are as a school.

As we step into the season of Advent, our reflections have turned to its profound meaning. Advent is a time of preparation, waiting, and anticipation as we look forward to celebrating Jesus' birth. It's also a time to pause and focus on themes of hope, peace, joy, and love. Over the coming weeks, we'll be exploring these values with the children, linking them to our school values of courage, cooperation, and compassion.

Wishing you all a peaceful and joyful weekend as we begin this season of hope and expectation.

Compassion

Courage

Cooperation



Class Dojo Update

We are so grateful for the partnership between home and school, and Class Dojo is a fantastic platform for keeping us all connected. However, to support staff well-being, we kindly ask that messages sent after 6:00 p.m. are not expected to receive a response until the following school day.

If you have an urgent matter, please contact the school office directly. For non-urgent messages, feel free to send them through Class Dojo, and they will be reviewed and addressed the next day.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support in fostering a healthy work-life balance for our staff.

Attendance

Here are the latest attendance figures for the school:

Windmills	Oast	Smugglers	Vikings	Oxney	Rother
98.5%	97.4%	98.1%	92.4%	95.8%	93.3%

Whole school: 95.6%

Whole School Target: 96%

A gentle reminder that the school gates close promptly at 8:45am.

We kindly ask that all children arrive at school before this time.

Any arrivals after 8:45am will be marked as late.

We're delighted to see attendance steadily improving—well done to you all for making such a great effort! A special shout-out goes to everyone who is arriving at school on time, ready to start their day before the gates close. Punctuality sets such a positive tone for the day and helps children settle quickly into their learning.

Our new signing-in system has also been a valuable addition, enabling us to better track and support families who may be struggling with lateness. We're here to help, so please don't hesitate to reach out if you need support with getting to school on time. Let's keep up this fantastic momentum—every day in school makes a difference!

Compassion

Courage

Cooperation

Term 2 Week 4 Wittersham School Prayer

Advent Prayer

Dear Lord,

As we journey through this season of Advent, help us to prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Jesus.

Teach us to wait patiently, with hope and joy, as we reflect on the promise of Your love and light in our lives.

Guide us to show courage in our actions, cooperation in our community, and compassion to those in need during this sacred time.

May we be reminded of the true meaning of Christmas and share its message of peace and goodwill with all those around us.

In Jesus' name, we pray.
Amen.



Reminder: Safety After School

Please do not use the trim trail after school, and kindly ensure that children and siblings stay off the field. This is important to keep everyone safe at the end of the day.

Thank You for your cooperation.

Compassion

Courage

Cooperation



- Friday 6th December - **WSA Christmas Event after school**
- Tuesday 10th December - **EYFS and KS1 Nativity@1:30pm**
- Wednesday 11th December - **EYFS and KS1 Nativity@9:30am and 5pm.**
- Thursday 12th December - **Christmas Jumper Day**
- Thursday 12th December - **Christmas Lunch Day**
- Tuesday 17th December - **KS2 Christingle and Carol Concert @5pm.**
- Thursday 19th December - **Christmas Service for the whole school @2:15pm.**
- Friday 20th December - **End of Term 2**
- Monday 6th January 2025 - **Start of Term 3**



Dear Parents and Carers

A fabulous time was had yesterday evening at the wreath making workshop. Thanks to Bettina Leech and Gemma Lovejoy for guiding us all through the creative process. Thank you also to Bettina for all the time spent preparing all the materials and foliage in advance to make it so easy on the night. We set up like a well-oiled machine because of all her preparation. I was also able to join in the creative process this year thanks to the Caroline Pinks (and Jessica) and Stefania Graziola who kept us all topped up with refreshments. The event has raised approximately £600 for the WSA.

Thank you all for your wonderful donations this morning as part of the non-uniform day today. These will make a fabulous tombola and a small raffle on Friday evening so please do bring some loose change next week when you drop off or pick up the children next week. There will also be mulled wine, hot chocolate and cakes on sale too.

The Christmas Gift Shop – Elfridges will be open for the children to buy a gift for a loved one next Friday afternoon. All gifts are £3.50. For those who wish to buy more than one gift we will stay open at pick up and stock allowing we will open in the evening too.

News on the final cake sale of 2024 coming soon too.

Have a good weekend.

Ann (Chair WSA)

Christmas
MOVIE NIGHT

DECEMBER **6** FROM 5PM UNTIL 7PM

WITTERSHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

£5 per child which includes a drink, snacks & a gift!
Payment can be made via Scopay or by bringing cash to the school office
Parents can stay & enjoy a drink, have a slice of cake and play the tombola while the children watch their film.



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





THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE LARDER

**FREE Grocery, household and
hygiene products for all local
families with children under 11
years old**

EVERY TUESDAY EVENING

5.15PM-6.15PM

**EC30, Recreation Ground Road,
Tenterden, TN30 6HT.**

Email beth.rice@themildredtrust.org for info



**IF WE CAN HELP JUST TURN UP, BRING A BAG
AND CHOOSE WHAT YOU NEED!**

Charity No:1097210



Hythe, Lyminge
& Ashford

CHRISTMAS FAIR

JOIN US FOR DECORATIONS, CRAFTS, MUSIC,
DELICIOUS TREATS AND LOTS MORE!

SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER
10AM - 2PM

AGE UK HYTHE
SANFORD HOUSE
STADE STREET
HYTHE
CT21 6BD



The Church of England in
Tenterden, Rother and Oxney
Appledore - Ebony - Newenden - Rolvenden - St Michael's
Smallhythe - Stone - Tenterden - Wittersham



Christmas Fun & Crafts

St. Mildred's Church, Tenterden,
Saturday 21st December
10am - 12pm

Drop in to create a bag full of
Christmas crafts and goodies!

£2 per child

Refreshments included

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





Homewood
School Farm's



Christmas on the Farm

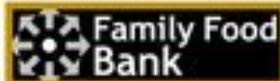
Wednesday 11th December
4-6pm



Meet the animals ✦ Santa's grotto
Tombola ✦ Carol Singing ✦ Games

Free Entry





The Family Food Bank

CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2024

SPARKLE & SHINE

Christmas can be an expensive time for everybody but for those already on a tight budget, the added expenses of increased winter fuel bills, and the pressure to buy Christmas presents, can plunge many people into crisis, leading them to make difficult choices.

How you can help...

From the **4th November until 16th December 2024** we are asking you to **'SPARKLE & SHINE'**

to sing out loud and donate to our Christmas appeal!

The food listed is very important to us, as these products are key to making our food boxes.

If you are planning to donate advent calendars please can these be delivered by the 22nd November so we can give these out for the 1st December.

Once you have finished collecting, all the key information to make your donation can be found on our website: www.familyfoodbank.org/christmas-2024

To find out your nearest distribution centre, you can also get in touch by calling [01233 500477](tel:01233500477) or emailing familyfoodbank@children-families.org.

To find out more please follow us on [Facebook!](#)

This year please take the decision to donate and together we can make this Christmas a time to remember for all the right reasons!

Donate with
JustGiving

The Family Food Bank is part of Children & Families Charity Group.

Registered Charity No: 1115459

Donate with
JustGiving

Please click on the Logos



Please click on the Logos



Please Like & Follow Us On Facebook—Search 'Family Food Bank'



The Family Food Bank

CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2024

SPARKLE & SHINE

The Collection List

4 x TINS OF MEAT (CURRY, CHILLI, MEATBALLS)	4 x TINS OF VEG (POTATOES, PEAS, CARROTS)	2 x LUCKY DIPS (BISCUITS, XMAS CHOCOLATE, MINCE PIES, XMAS PUDDINGS, HYGIENE PRODUCTS)
1 x RICE (500g)	1 x PASTA (500g)	1 x CEREALS (500g)
1 x TEA/COFFEE	2 x TINNED FISH	2 x TINS OF TOMATOES
4 x TINS OF SOUP	1x UHT MILK	1 x JAR OF COOKING SAUCE
4 x TINS OF BAKED BEANS/ SPAGHETTI	1 x PRESERVES (JAM, MARMITE)	4 x TINS OF DESSERTS (CUSTARD, FRUIT, RICE PUDDING)

PLEASE PLACE YOUR ITEMS IN A BAG / BOX AND DELIVER TO OUR WAREHOUSE OR VIA A DISTRIBUTION CENTRE PARTNER. MORE INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND BY VISITING:

www.familyfoodbank.org/christmas-2024

If you don't have time to collect food, have you thought about giving?

A donation of £20.00 would enable us to help feed a family this Christmas!

Please use the Just Giving Link or visit our website to find out more:

www.familyfoodbank.org/christmas-2024



Please click the image to be more like Mr. Poppy, and get in the festive spirit.

Donate with
JustGiving

Please click on the Logos



The Family Food Bank is part of Children & Families Charity Group.

Registered Charity No: 1115459



Please Like & Follow Us On Facebook—Search 'Family Food Bank'

Donate with
JustGiving

Please click on the Logos

