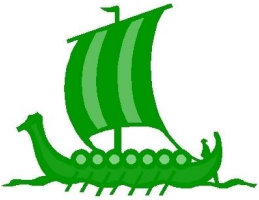


# Wittersham Church of England Primary School

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



**Welcome to the  
Wittersham Weekly!  
Friday 10th October 2025**



## Wittersham Weekly – Term 1, Week 7

Another week has flown by in a flash, and I can hardly believe we're only one week – well, four days to be precise – away from half term!

This week has been another one packed full of excitement and activity, culminating in our *Express Yourself Day* today. The outfits have been absolutely spectacular and wonderfully varied — from sparkles to Scooby-Doo, superheroes to penguins, footballers, unicorns, pyjamas and plenty of capes! It has been the most colourful day, giving both children and adults a wonderful opportunity to truly express themselves.

Today marks *World Mental Health Day*, a day that reminds us how important it is to look after our mental wellbeing. We explored this together in Worship yesterday, and the children spoke thoughtfully about the value of spaces like *The Nurture Room* in supporting positive mental health across the school — it was fantastic to hear their reflections.

This week has also been a busy one for school life: we've had school photos (including a fresh new staff photo!), a lovely Coffee and Cake drop-in hosted by Mrs Catt, Mrs Sterriker-Rhodes and members of the WSA, and our KS2 Cross Country events, where many children achieved personal bests — well done to all who took part!

We also welcomed members of the Diocese on site for a final visit before some improvement works begin next week. These will include upgrading the heating system in one area of the school and replacing several radiators in line with *green expectations* to improve efficiency and sustainability. In addition, we'll be enhancing some of the children's toilets across the school.

Forest School have been busy too, updating the display at the front of the school, and this morning our Chair of Governors, John Collins, spent time visiting every class. He focused on assessment — one of the areas identified for continued development in our recent Ofsted report — and was very impressed with the learning culture, the engagement of the children, and the quality of adult support across the school, as well as how well all of the new children and staffing teams have settled into their new classes and routines. I was immensely proud for him to see first-hand the brilliant work taking place in every classroom.

A quick reminder that next week we have an INSET day on **Friday 17th**, so the final day of Term 1 will be **Thursday 16th October**.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend — we look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday. Take care,  
Mrs Coulson

**Compassion**

**Courage**

**Cooperation**



### A Prayer for World Mental Health Day

Dear God,

Thank you for creating each of us as unique and special.  
 Help us to remember that our feelings matter,  
 and that it's okay to talk about how we feel.

When we are worried, tired, or sad,  
 help us to find calm and comfort in your presence.

Give us the courage to ask for help,  
 and the kindness to listen to others who need support.

Bless our school community with understanding hearts,  
 so that everyone feels safe, included, and cared for.

May we always remember to take care of our minds,  
 just as we take care of our bodies and our friendships.

Amen.



### Attendance and Punctuality

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

The school gate closes at 8:45am. Any child arriving after this time will need to sign in at the office, and this will be recorded as late. Being consistently late not only disrupts learning for the child but also for the class as a whole. Over the coming weeks, we will be arranging meetings with families of pupils who are persistently late to explore ways we can work together to improve punctuality.

Remember, our Breakfast Club runs from 8:00am and is a great way to ensure children arrive on time and are settled, ready for the day ahead. We do understand that challenges can sometimes make regular attendance or punctuality difficult. If you are experiencing difficulties, please don't hesitate to reach out. Our School Family Liaison Officer, Mrs Sterriker-Rhodes, is available to offer support and guidance to help overcome any barriers.

Together, we can make sure every child has the very best start to each school day.

Here are the latest attendance figures for the school:

Windmills	Smugglers	Vikings	Oxney	Rother
95.6%	96.8%	93.9%	91.4%	96.6%

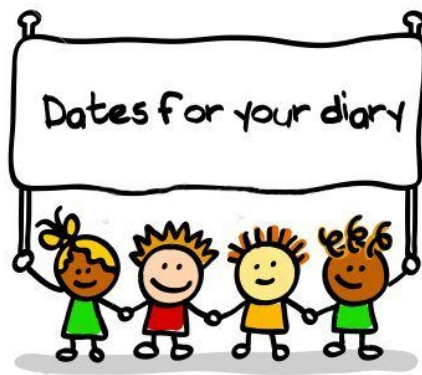
Whole school: 94.8%

Whole School Target: 96%

Compassion

Courage

Cooperation



## Upcoming Dates for Your Diary

- **Thursday 16th October** - Last day of Term 1
- **Friday 17th October** - INSET Day (School Closed for Pupils)
- **Monday 20th - Friday 31st October** - Half Term.
- **Monday 3rd November** - Start of Term 2
- **Wednesday 5th November** - Parents Evening
- **Thursday 6th November** - Forest School Oxney Sessions begin
- **Thursday 6th November** - WSA School Disco
- **Thursday 13th November** - Special Bonfire School Meal - Hot Dog/Veggie Hot Dog, wedges and baked beans.
- **Friday 14th November** - Children in Need
- **Tuesday 16th December** - Christingle Service at the Church @5pm
- **Friday 19th December** - Final day of Term 2

 *Please mark these dates in your calendars as we look forward to a busy and exciting term ahead!*

# BONFIRE BONANZA

ON: Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

Sizzling specials and  
tasty treats for Bonfire.

But remember to  
stay safe on  
November 5th

FRESH

# E-scooters – are you breaking the law?



**Can I ride my e-scooter to school or work?**

**No, it's Illegal...**

E-scooters are classed as motor vehicles and are required to be taxed and insured. It's not possible to get insurance for privately owned e-scooters, which means it's illegal to use them.

**Can I ride my e-scooter on the pavement?**

**No, it's Illegal...**

You cannot use e-scooters on public footpaths, cycle lanes or roads.

**What happens if I'm caught using my e-scooter in public spaces?**

**The scooter may be seized and as a result, destroyed.**

If stopped by an officer, you may be asked to complete a breath and drugs test. You also risk a £300 fine and six penalty points on your licence for no insurance.



**Kent  
Police**

## **Think before you buy:**

The number of electrical scooters being used on our streets has risen, as well as reports of serious injury and fatalities.

For more information and advice on the use of e-scooters visit [www.kent.police.uk/road-safety](http://www.kent.police.uk/road-safety)



# 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](https://kent.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)

