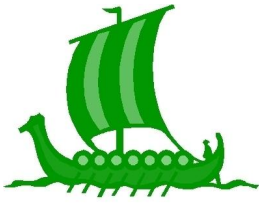


Wittersham Church of England Primary School

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



**Welcome to the
Wittersham Weekly!
Friday 21st November 2025**



Wittersham Weekly – Term 2, Week 3

What another fabulous, if rather chilly, week we have had – but the cold certainly didn't hold us back. We began on Monday with a whole-school fencing day, which the children absolutely loved. It was amazing to see every child confidently holding a sword, learning the correct stance, and following the safety rules with such maturity. The sessions were energetic, engaging and full of excitement, and it was wonderful to witness children of all ages challenging themselves and trying something completely new. A huge thank you to the WSA, whose fundraising throughout the year enables us to offer such enriching and memorable experiences for all our pupils.



We ended Monday with the most incredible sight: an astonishing 32 boxes filled to the brim with donations for families and soldiers in Ukraine. We were genuinely overwhelmed by the compassion and generosity shown by our community. Thank you to everyone who donated – I was truly speechless, which is not something that happens often, as many of you know!



Compassion

Courage

Cooperation

The parcels were filled with beautiful and thoughtful items: handmade teddies, warm hats and scarves, clothes, toys, toiletries and so much more. Every shoebox reflected the compassion, courage and cooperation of our school community, showing the very best of the Wittersham Way. These donations will make a real difference to families who need it most. A heartfelt thank you to the School Council, the WSA, and our Year 6 adults and pupils who helped to pack and prepare the boxes. Your teamwork was greatly appreciated.

On Tuesday, we held our Windmill cake sale, which was once again a great success – this time with a lovely festive feel. It is clear we have many talented bakers in our community. Thank you to everyone who donated cakes, bought cakes, and to the WSA for organising and supporting the event. The final total of £272 was a wonderful result.

On Wednesday, Mrs Scott and I visited a school just outside Canterbury to explore how they had developed their cultural curriculum, particularly their work around key festivals and celebrations from around the world. This is an area identified for development in our recent Ofsted inspection, so it was incredibly valuable to see it in practice. We were inspired by the way the school had woven significant historical events, such as the American Civil Rights Movement, into their curriculum, while also celebrating authors from a wide range of religions, ethnicities and countries. They had also thoughtfully embedded key concepts such as consent, tackling stereotypes and promoting equality throughout their teaching. We left with a wealth of ideas, and Mrs Scott will be leading this strand of our School Development Plan over the coming months and years. I am genuinely excited to see how this work will enrich and broaden the understanding of all our children.

On Thursday, Year 2 visited Godinton House to develop their grid-referencing skills and explore the beautiful grounds. Wrapped up warm, they enjoyed a fantastic day of exploring and learning. Thank you to all the adults who organised and supported this experience.

And that brings us to Friday, which ended with some very special Above and Beyond certificates in assembly, as well as another visit from Daisy the Reading Dog – always a highlight of the week.

As we head into the final week of November (can you believe it?), please do take a moment to look through the important dates below. The run-up to Christmas is always wonderfully busy, and the next few weeks are set to be full of events, celebrations and festive activities.

I would also like to remind families of the importance of regular attendance. We have seen a dip in attendance recently, and being in school every day really does make a difference to children's learning and confidence. Attendance and punctuality letters will be sent to all families next week, so please look out for these in your emails.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend. Stay warm and safe, and we will see you on Monday.

Mrs Coulson

Compassion

Courage

Cooperation

PRAYER

Whole-School Prayer

Dear Lord,

As we end this week, we thank you for your presence in all we have shared.

Thank you for the joy of our fencing day and the courage the children showed.
Thank you for the generosity behind our Ukraine boxes, bringing hope to those in need.

Thank you for the fellowship of our cake sale and the kindness within our community.

Thank you for safe travels on our visits and the inspiration gained as we learnt more about your diverse world.

As we enter the weekend, keep our school safe, warm and at peace.
Help us to rest well and return ready to live with compassion, courage and cooperation. Amen.



Attendance and Punctuality

At Wittersham Church of England Primary School, regular attendance and punctuality are vital in helping children learn well and feel secure in their daily routines.

The school gate closes at 8:45am. Children arriving after this time must sign in at the office, and this will be recorded as a late arrival. Persistent lateness affects your child's learning and also disrupts the start of the day for the whole class.

Over the coming weeks, we will be arranging meetings with families of pupils who are regularly late so that we can work together to improve punctuality. Please also look out for your attendance and punctuality letter, which will be sent to all families next week. This will be emailed to the address provided when your child joined the school.

We have recently seen our attendance drop below 94 percent for the first time this year, which is concerning. Every day in school makes a real difference.

If you are experiencing any difficulties, please get in touch. Our School Family Liaison Officer, Mrs Sterriker-Rhodes, is available to support families and help address any barriers.

By working together, we can ensure every child has the best possible start to each school day

| Windmills | Smugglers | Vikings | Oxney | Rother |
|-----------|-----------|---------|-------|--------|
| 95% | 95% | 93% | 92% | 96% |

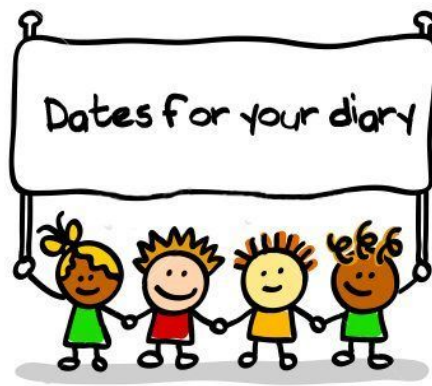
Whole school: **93.9% - this is the first time we have dipped below 94%**

Whole School Target: **96%**

Compassion

Courage

Cooperation



Upcoming Dates for Your Diary

- **Thursday 27th November** - WSA Wreath Making @7-9pm
- **W/B Monday 24th November** - Christmas Dinner choices shared with families.
- **Tuesday 2nd December** - Whole School Pantomime in school
- **Friday 5th December** - WSA Christmas Craft Event
- **Tuesday 9th December** - EYFS and KS1 Nativity @13:30 (ticket info to follow)
- **Wednesday 10th December** - EYFS and KS1 Nativity @9:30(ticket info to follow)
- **Wednesday 10th December** - EYFS and KS1 Nativity @4:30pm(ticket info to follow)
- **Thursday 11th December** - Christmas Jumper Day
- **Thursday 11th December** - WSA Christmas Movie Event
- **Friday 12th December** - Rock Steady Christmas Concert
- **Tuesday 16th December** - Whole School Christmas Lunch
- **Tuesday 16th December** - KS2 (but all are welcome) Christingle Event at the Church @5pm
- **Friday 19th December** - Final day of Term 2 - Christmas Outfits welcomed!
- **Monday 5th January 2026** - INSET Day - School closed
- **Tuesday 6th January 2026** - First Day of Term 3

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



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



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

THE 2025 PANTOMIME!
RYE PLAYERS PRESENTS...

CRAZY CHRISTMAS HAUNTED HOTEL

at the



12-14 DECEMBER

AT THE RYE THEATRE

PANTO TICKET HOTLINE

TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/RYE-PLAYERS

NODA
For every stage

KATE'S



NOW ENROLLING
LIMITED SPACES
AVAILABLE!

Swimming

Why Choose Us?

QUALIFIED, FRIENDLY
INSTRUCTOR
CERTIFIED BY STA
PROGRAMS FROM BABY TO
ADULTS
SMALL CLASSES
HEATED INDOOR POOLS

Our Programs:

BABY & TODDLER (4 WEEKS
TO 4 YEARS)
JUNIOR (PRIMARY SCHOOL
AGE)
1:1/2:1 LESSONS
INTENSIVE COURSES
DIVING AND TUMBLE TURN
CLINIC
FAMILY FUN SWIMS



www.katesswimming.co.uk