

Wittersham Church of England Primary School

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



Weekly Newsletter Monday 12th September 2022



Welcome to this year's edition of our weekly newsletter. We hope this continues to be a source of information for our families and keep you up to date with all the fantastic learning going on in school.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first week at Wittersham. It has been wonderful getting to know the children through spending time with them in classes and at lunch. There has been great to see the fantastic learning going on already: Rother have been developing speeches and letters in order to present themselves as our new school leaders, Oxney have been exploring relationships in Cosmic, by Frank Cottrell-Boyce, Vikings have been re-enacting the story of Noah whilst also reviewing their knowledge of place value, Smugglers have been learning about the Creation story in R.E and Windmills have been learning more about each other and our school. We were so pleased to welcome new members to our school last week and are sure that they are going to enjoy great success and make wonderful memories through their journeys with us.

Of course last week also brought us the sad news of the death of Queen Elizabeth II. This week we will continue to support our children with this, whilst also celebrating the contributions of her significant reign and explore the changes which will take place following the proclamation of King Charles III.

I hope you have a good week. If you have any questions regarding any of the information or events in this newsletter, then please do not hesitate to contact me via dojo, on the gate or an email to the school office.

Attendance

Here are the latest attendance figures for the school:

EYFS	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
98.4%	100%	100%	99%	97.6%	100%	95.8%

Whole school: 98.7%

Whole School Target: 96%

Please remember that every session in school really makes a difference to children. Drop off is from 8:30-8:45am and collection is from 3:05pm on the school playground.



We express our deepest sympathies for the passing of HM Queen Elizabeth II. Her dedication to the UK, other realms & territories is unparalleled & we thank her for her service. Our school will observe the mourning period whilst continuing to serve our pupils, families and staff.

Respect

Kindness

Self-Worth/Perseverance

Forgiveness

Love

Meet the TEACHER

A reminder that our 'Meet the teacher evening' will be on Wednesday 14th September from 3:20 – 4:00pm.

We hope this will be an opportunity for you to meet your child's class teacher, whilst also exploring the environment they will be learning in this year.

There will also be the chance to meet with Mr Hawkins. He would like to invite parents to a short presentation in the school hall at 3:50pm on Wednesday 14th September. For those who are unable to make it, there will be a repeat of Mr Hawkins' message at a coffee morning on Thursday 15th September from 9:00-9:30am.

ROOTS TO FOOD

Active Education in Health & Wellbeing

On Monday the 17th of October we will be joined by Roots to Food.

They will help us kick start our celebration of Black History Month.

During the session each class will work alongside a professional chef in sessions to design and prepare a jambalaya.

All children will have the opportunity to use a range of cooking equipment, to taste their food and to learn more about different cultures and foods.



We would like to invite parents to our Harvest service, which will be held on Wednesday 21st September 2022 at 9am in the church. The service will be led by our Year 6 children and supported by the rest of the school.

Our Harvest Service is a chance for us to say thank you to God for the beauty in the world around us, whilst also showing solidarity with those who may not be as fortunate as ourselves. This week, classes are busy preparing songs, artwork and poems to share with our community. If you are able to join us, we look forward to seeing you there.

In addition, from Tuesday morning, we will also begin collecting food donations. This year, we plan to use donations to create food parcels for our local community and surrounding villages.

Suitable donations include:

- tinned food (vegetables, fruit, meat, fish)
- spreads (butter, jam, honey etc.)
- long-life milk, juice and drinks
- dried pasta
- cooking sauces
- condiments
- tea and coffee
- rice
- cereal
- toiletries

We do of course appreciate that this is a very challenging time for many of us and it may be difficult for families to donate, however if you are able to do so, any donations will be greatly received. In order to ease the pressure on our families, we will be collecting goods throughout the month of September



On the 29th of September 2022 we will be joined by Rock Steady.

This will be a great opportunity for our children to experience what life is like as part of a rock band. Children will have the chance to play drums, base, guitar, keyboard and to sing vocals.

As well as running workshops for each class, rock steady will hold a whole school assembly to showcase the ways in which children can further develop their musical interests.

This will then lead to a regular 'Rock Steady' club, which will take place in school on a Friday afternoon. Further details on this will follow nearer the time.



This week children in Vikings and Rother will engage in sessions supported by Venture Camps. This is a local sports company who provide a range of sports to schools as well as holiday camps.

In their regular PE slots, children will take part in handball and archery sessions. We hope this will be a chance for children to build upon the fantastic PE learning they have been undertaking in their lessons with Mr Hawkins.



We currently have a position in school for a new Midday Leader. We would be ideally searching for an applicant who is available Monday – Friday from 11:45am – 1:15pm, however there may be possibility to accommodate part time positions. If you or someone you know is interested in supporting our children at lunchtimes then please contact Mrs Penn in the school office for further information.



It has been great to see so many of you taking photos over the last week to remember your child's first day of school, or first day of this academic year. These memories are priceless and incredibly important for us as parents.

Please could we remind you that if taking a photo of your child that you should try to ensure that no other children, other than your own or those which you have parental permission, are in the photo. If you take a photo of your child and another child is in that image, please do not upload this to any social media platform.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Wednesday 14 th September 3:20-4:00pm	Meet the Teacher Afternoon
Thursday 15 th September 9-9:30am	Coffee and Conversation with Mr Hawkins
Monday 19 th September	Bank Holiday – School is Closed
Wednesday 21 st September	Harvest Festival in the Church
Tuesday 27 th September 8:45-9:15	Key Stage 1 Parents Phonics Workshop (details to follow)
Thursday 29 th September	Rock Steady Workshop
Monday 17 th October	Roots to Food Cooking Workshop
Friday 21 st October	Last Day of Term



Our School Vision:

We strive to ensure that everyone within our community develops a love of learning and feels nurtured, valued and empowered.

Our inclusive learning environment enables all to flourish and become the very best that God intended. Wittersham's Christian Values weave throughout our rich curriculum, creating a foundation of support following Jesus' example of love.



Dear Parents and Carers

The WSA are excited to start fundraising this year and are already beginning to make plans. The £3000 from the Summer Fayre is a great incentive for all our efforts moving forward.

Updates on the WSA activities can be found on our Facebook Page – Wittersham School Association News.

If you are interested in joining the WSA or have ideas for future fundraising then please do contact me or any of the other committee members - AnnChairWSA@gmail.com

Thank you for all your continued support.

Ann (WSA Chair).