

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 23rd January 2026**



Wittersham Weekly – Term 3 Week 3

As I said to many of you on the gate this morning, I genuinely cannot remember a time when we haven't had rain! Thankfully, today gave us a chilly and windy break from it, and we were very glad to be able to get the children outside for both breaktime and lunchtime.

The dry weather also meant we were able to enjoy the Bodiam House treat for earning the most house points across Terms 1 and 2. This special event was coordinated by our School Council as part of their learning about democracy, one of our core British values. The councillors suggested a range of possible activities, used a voting system to decide on the final choice and then shared this with their classes during their weekly class council meetings.

It was a wonderful opportunity for them to lead and truly step into their roles. Pupil leadership and pupil voice are key elements in the ongoing development of our school. This week, I shared our School Improvement Plan with the School Council and asked them to identify an area they would like to help shape further across the school. They were very keen to take a lead with our restorative approaches and are particularly interested in learning how they can help support others at breaktimes and lunchtimes. They are also using class council time to decide how to spend the money raised from the recent WSA cake sale, working alongside our fantastic WSA members to further support and enhance key areas of the school.

The members of Bodiam made the very most of their extended free time. Trikes were out, football was played, skipping ropes were well used and dancing was a key feature. Although it was rather chilly, there were lots of smiles and rosy cheeks by the end!

Although the field is extremely muddy at the moment, we are still very keen to use it as much as possible as the benefits of outdoor play are huge. This does, however, mean very muddy clothes. Please do feel free to send your child in with a spare set of clothes so they can change after lunch if needed. We apologise in advance to your washing machines!

You may also have noticed our brand new outside lights, which were installed this week. With the increased attendance at Wraparound Care and the darker evenings, this was an area we were keen to improve. We worked with the Diocese to install sensor lighting to ensure that the path and car park are appropriately lit. We have also had new heaters installed in the Oast, our Wraparound Care space, to make sure it remains warm and cosy throughout the day.

Compassion

Courage

Cooperation

We really do appreciate your support with all of this. These everyday moments of outdoor play, pupil leadership and shared experiences are a big part of what makes life at Wittersham so special for the children. Next week, we will be marking whole-school Anti-Bullying Week, with children taking part in activities and discussions to help them understand how to be kind, respectful and supportive members of our community.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend. Stay safe and dry.

Take care,
Mrs Coulson



A gentle reminder to all families to please park safely and considerately when dropping off and collecting your children from school.

We have noticed an increase in cars being left idling while waiting for the gates to open. Not only does this have a negative impact on the environment, but it also affects the air quality around the school entrance where many children and families are gathered.

If you arrive early, we kindly ask that you switch off your engine while you wait. Small actions like this make a big difference to both the safety of our children and the care of our environment.

Thank you for your support in helping to keep our school community safe and mindful of those around us.

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PRAYER

Dear God,

Thank you for puddles, muddy fields and the chance to run, play and laugh outside, even when the weather is wet and windy. Help us to enjoy these moments together and to remember that a little mud can mean a lot of fun.

Thank you for the children who help to lead our school, who share their ideas, make kind choices and look after others. Help them to be brave, fair and thoughtful as they use their voices to make our school a happy place for everyone.

Help us all to be patient when our clothes get messy and grateful for the time we spend learning and playing together.

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
93%	94.6%	93.1%	92.6%	94.6%

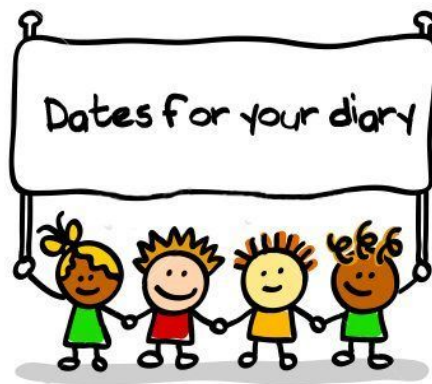
Whole school: **93.5%**(we are on the up! Keep it going)

Whole School Target: **96%**

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Upcoming Dates for Your Diary

- **Monday 26th - 30th January** - Wittersham Anti-Bullying Week
- **Tuesday 27th January** - Year 5 and 6 Multi-Skills Event
- **Thursday 29th January** - Godinton House Trip for Year 3
- **Wednesday 4th February** - WSA Vikings Cake Sale
- **Tuesday 11th February** - Safer Internet Day
- **Friday 13th February** - WSA Valentines Disco
- **Friday 13th February** - Last day of Term 3
- **Monday 23rd February** - First day of Term 4
- **Monday 23rd February** - Young Voices Concert @ The O2
- **Thursday 26th February** - Author visit for KS2
- **Tuesday 3rd March** - Windmill Class Come Dine with Me @11:45am
- **Thursday 5th March** - World Book Day 2026
- **Friday 6th March** - WSA Quiz Night
- **Tuesday 10th March** - Smuggler Class Come Dine with Me @11:45am
- **Tuesday 17th March** - Viking Class Come Dine with Me @11:45am
- **Tuesday 24th March** - Oxney Class Come Dine with Me @11:45am
- **Tuesday 31st March** - Rother Class Come Dine with Me @11:45am
- **Wednesday 1st April** - Whole School Easter Service (everyone is welcome) @9:00am
- **Thursday 2nd April** - Last Day of Term 4
- **Friday 3rd - Sunday 19th April** - Spring Break
- **Monday 20th April** - First day of Term 5
- **Monday 11th - Thursday 14th May** - Year 6 KS2 SATs Week
- **Monday 11th, 12th and 13th May** - Year 5 Bikeability Training

WE NEED YOU!

HAVE YOU HAD A CHRISTMAS SORT OUT?

Do you have any spare...



JUMPERS



JOGGERS



T-SHIRTS



LEGGINGS



Please **DO NOT** send them to the charity shop or clothes bank!

ANY SPARES YOU MAY HAVE
**PLEASE BRING THEM
INTO SCHOOL!**



This will benefit any child who may get muddy or dirty in the school day! *Thank you!*