

# 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 13th February 2026



## Wittersham Weekly – Term 3 Week 6

The end of another term is upon us and what a rather soggy one it has been. Even the beautiful blue skies we woke up to on Thursday morning were quickly overtaken by cloud and rain, making for a very wet – but still wonderful – Forest School session yesterday.

This afternoon we have our very exciting Valentine's discos and the children look absolutely fabulous in their frocks, outfits and smart suits. There is such a buzz around the school and I have no doubt the discos will be a joyful event for everyone. A huge thank you to the WSA for coordinating these opportunities for our children – we are so grateful for the time and energy that goes into making these events so special.

One of the highlights of this week has been our Chinese New Year themed meal. Our amazing kitchen team prepared a truly delicious feast for 115 children and it was a lovely opportunity for us to begin exploring Chinese culture together. Chinese New Year marks the beginning of the lunar new year and is a celebration of family, renewal and wishing good fortune for the year ahead. This year is the Year of the Horse, symbolising energy, determination and strength – qualities we certainly see in our own school community.

We even shared a special Wittersham fortune:

**“May you ride forward with courage, work together with cooperation, and always show compassion to those around you.”**

We enjoyed music during our Chinese lunch as well, helping to create a wonderful atmosphere and preparing us for our upcoming Chinese workshop next term.



**Compassion**



**Courage**



**Cooperation**

Huge congratulations to our school football team who represented us at Furley Park on Tuesday. It was not a win for us on this occasion, but they demonstrated tremendous resilience and cooperation throughout. We are incredibly proud of the way they represented our school – it is always an honour to wear the Wittersham badge.

Tuesday was also Safer Internet Day. This is such an important national event as it encourages us all to think carefully about how we behave online, how we keep ourselves safe and how we show respect to others in digital spaces. Please can I gently remind everyone that images should never be shared without the consent of those involved, particularly within group chats. Thank you for being mindful of this moving forward.

In worship today, we took time as a whole school to reflect on compassion. This felt especially fitting alongside our Chinese New Year learning, as the festival is rooted in kindness, renewal and showing care for others. The start of a new year offers a chance to reset and begin again. As we move into the break, I encourage us all to carry that same spirit forward – treating those around us with the compassion, cooperation and courage that we would hope to receive ourselves.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable half term. The past six weeks have certainly been full, and I have no doubt that Term 4 will continue in the same action-packed way, beginning with Young Voices at the O2 on Monday 23rd – how exciting.

A reminder that everyone returns to school on Monday 23rd February, and we look forward to welcoming the children back refreshed and ready for the new term ahead.

Take care,  
Mrs Coulson



**Compassion**

**Courage**

**Cooperation**

# PRAYER

Dear God,

As we reach the end of this busy term, we pause to say thank you. Thank you for the learning we have shared, the friendships we have grown, and the many small moments of kindness we have seen each day in our school.

As Valentine's Day reminds us of love, help us to remember that love is shown not just in words, but in our actions — through compassion, cooperation and courage towards one another.

Help us to rest well over the break, to enjoy time with those we care about, and to return refreshed and ready to learn again.

May our school always be a place where everyone feels valued, safe and loved. 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.

Firstly, thank you to families. We have seen a clear improvement in punctuality across the school and many of you are working hard to ensure children arrive on time each day. This really helps create a calm and purposeful start to the morning.

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

**It is also important to remember the impact of absence. Missing just one day each week adds up to around 39 days of learning lost across the year — nearly eight weeks of school. Even one day every fortnight results in around 20 days missed.**

**We have recently seen our overall attendance drop below 94 percent for the first time this year, which is a concern. Every day in school makes a real difference to children's progress, confidence and sense of belonging.**

If you are experiencing any difficulties, please do 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.

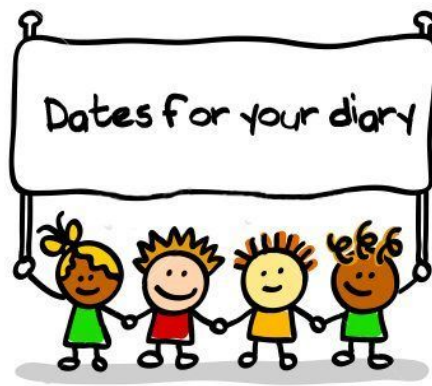
Windmills	Smugglers	Vikings	Oxney	Rother
92.7%	94.2%	92.9%	93% (on the up!)	94.5%

**Whole school: 93.4%**  
**Whole School Target: 96%**

Compassion

Courage

Cooperation



## Upcoming Dates for Your Diary

- **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
- **Wednesday 4th March** - Parents Evening
- **Friday 6th March (DATE CHANGE)** - World Book Day 2026. All children are welcome to dress up as a book character on this day.
- **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

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

# JUNIOR BAKE OFF

[WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK](http://WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK)

AGED BETWEEN 9-15 AND WANT TO GIVE  
YOUR BAKING SKILLS A GO?

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!



LAST CHANCE TO APPLY 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026



# RYE CRICKET CLUB

## START PLAYING CRICKET



### SPRING CRICKET SESSIONS 2026

RYE SPORTS CENTRE

Thursday 5<sup>TH</sup> March for 8 Weeks

**SOFT BALL** 6.00 – 7.00 pm School Years 2 -6

Cost is £30 (£20)\* Only need PE Kit.

**HARD BALL** 7.00PM -8.00PM SCHOOL YEARS 4-9

Cost is £40 (£30)\*

With Fully Qualified ECB Coaches

FOR NEW ATTENDEES THE FIRST 2 WEEKS ARE FREE\*

These Sessions are Supported by

THE TED BAKER TRUST

Contact Martin Blincow to sign up.

Mobile: 07535482006    blincsfamily@aol.com

[www.ryecc.play-cricket.com](http://www.ryecc.play-cricket.com)

What Our Parents say.....

“His experience at Rye CC this year has improved his general self-confidence”

“Many thanks again for all your time and efforts with these youngsters. We are deeply grateful.

# Discovery Day

For pupils in years 5, 6, 7 & 8



ASHFORD SCHOOL  
Inspiring Minds

## Saturday 28 February 2026

Our Discovery Day gives pupils the chance to dive into the excitement of the CCF and to try a fantastic range of sports.



### CCF and Sport Discovery Day

**09.00 – 09.30:** Arrival and parent tea with the Headmaster

**09.30 – 11.00:** CCF

**11.00 – 11.30:** Break

**11.30 – 13.00:** Sports



Ashford Senior School  
East Hill, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8PB



Reserve your place at:  
[www.ashfordschool.co.uk/discovery-day](http://www.ashfordschool.co.uk/discovery-day)



# SUPER LEAGUE

## BASKETBALL

# PLAYOFF FINALS

SUNDAY 17 MAY 2026

O2 ARENA • LONDON

**Subject - Super League Basketball Playoff Finals, Sunday 17 May 2026 | O2 Arena, London**

We're pleased to share access to **specialty discounted tickets (50% off)** for the upcoming **Super League Basketball Playoff Finals**.

The Finals will see the two top teams from the Men's and Women's Super League Basketball battle it out to become the last teams standing in the 2025/2026 season, earning the ultimate bragging rights, and waltzing off into the summer with the Playoff title to show for their efforts.

With both the women's and men's Playoff Finals taking place in a spectacular double bill, a capacity crowd of over 16,000 is expected to, once again, pack out the O2 and witness some of the best ballers in the country do battle, as well as enjoying first-class entertainment from some of the biggest artists in the world.

You can find out more on the event, including our promotional video, by visiting <https://www.superleaguebasketballm.co.uk/2026playoffs/>

### **Ticket Offer & Booking**

Our school has secured tickets for just **£10 per person** — a saving of at least 50% (normal prices: £28 Adult/ £20 Child).

Book your tickets here:

<https://www.britishbasketballshop.com/products/2026playoffprimary>

Simply click **"Add to Cart"** and adjust the quantity as needed. Tickets will be dispatched directly by Super League Basketball.

JOIN US FOR

# *Pancake Day*

*& enjoy free pancakes,  
refreshments & activities for kids*



**17 | FEBRUARY | 1.00 - 3.00 PM**

**WITH CHURCH ON THE WEALD AT**

Former Methodist Church Building, High Street, Tenterden TN30 6JS



[www.churchontheweald.com](http://www.churchontheweald.com)  
email: [info@churchontheweald.com](mailto:info@churchontheweald.com)