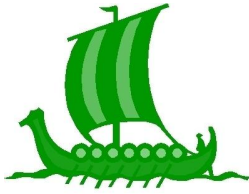


Wittersham Church of England Primary School

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



**Welcome to the
Wittersham Weekly!
Friday 13th March 2026**



Wittersham Weekly – Term 4 Week 3

Now, I know I say this every week, but my goodness me – what a busy week it has been! From the WSA Mother's Day sale, to a visit from the Rotary Club, the introduction of some brand-new fidget toys, our whole school Science Fair, the Rocksteady concert and the very first fishing session led by Mr Hawkins, I think it is safe to say we really could not have packed much more in.

You will see below some information from Mrs Catt regarding a worship she led this week, reminding us all that we are wonderfully different and unique, and that we each learn in different ways. This is something to embrace and support within our classrooms. At Wittersham we recognise that children may need different tools or approaches to help them concentrate, feel calm and access their learning successfully.

As I sit here writing this, I have music playing quietly to help me focus and get my work done, while others prefer complete silence or, in my husband's case, an audiobook. I also have a few fidgets on my desk, along with a glorious selection of very clicky pens, which I happily use throughout the working day! In the same way, in school we support children to use tools that help them learn best – whether that is a fidget, a quiet space, practical resources or a different way of recording their ideas. The aim is always the same: to ensure every child has the support they need to concentrate, engage and do their very best.

A huge thank you must go to the Rotary Club and their Chair, Venetia Saunders, who visited us on Monday and very generously donated £350 to support the purchase of new resources. These will help ensure that all of our children are able to access their learning and do their very best in everything they do.

The Rotary Club also announced the winners of our Christmas Story Competition during their visit, and we are incredibly proud of every child who took part.

Take a look at the next few pages to find out more about Mrs Catt's worship, our whole school expectations around the use of fidget tools, and highlights from our incredible Science Fair.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend and a very Happy Mother's Day to all our wonderful Mummies.

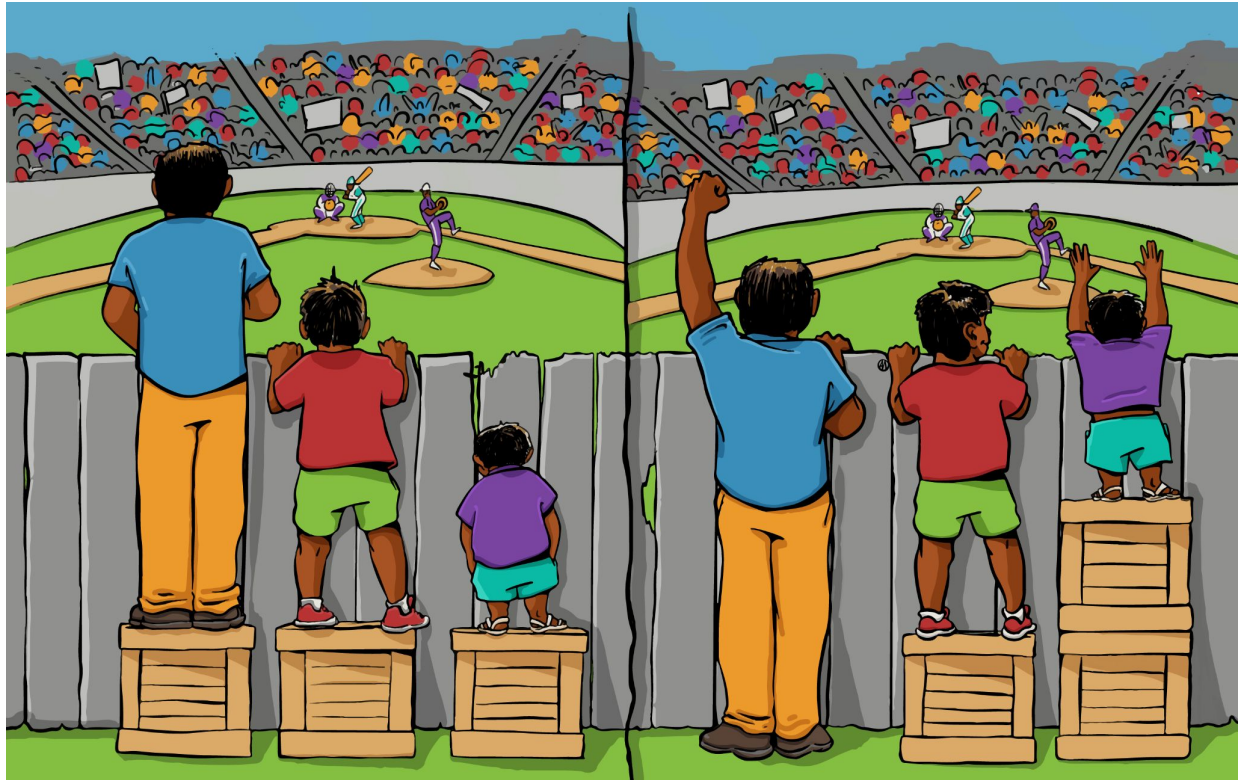


Compassion

Courage

Cooperation

In worship this week, I spoke with the children about our whole-school strategies that help support focus and engagement in the classroom. The children were shown a powerful image that highlights an important message: we are all different, and we may each need different kinds of support to achieve the same outcomes.



A key part of the discussion was the introduction of our newly anticipated fidget toys. These have been kindly funded by the Rotary Club and are now available in different areas around the school. By placing them in various spaces, children will be able to independently access them whenever they feel they may need extra support to focus.

This is an exciting opportunity for our pupils to take greater responsibility to recognise what helps them flourish in their learning environment.



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FIDGET TOOLS IN OUR CLASSROOM

Fidget tools help some students focus and learn.
Use them responsibly!

★ Our Fidget Rules ★



Use it to focus, not to play

If it becomes a toy, it will be put away.



Keep it quiet

Choose fidgets that do not make noise.



Keep it in your hands or on your desk

Do not throw, spin, or pass it around.



One fidget at a time

Too many tools can become distracting.



No sharing during lessons

Sharing can happen before or after class.



Follow the teacher's directions

Always listen if the teacher asks you to put it away.

★ Remember



If it helps you **focus**, you may use it.



If it **distracts** you or others, it goes away.

Rotary Club Christmas Story Winners

We are delighted to announce that, out of 25 participating schools, four children from Wittersham won prizes for their exceptional Christmas stories.

A huge congratulations to Elliot, Eliza, Willow and Sonny for their fantastic achievements. Their creativity and storytelling really impressed the judges.

We were also very lucky to welcome the Chair of the Rotary Club, Venetia Sanders, who kindly presented the winners with their prizes. Well done to all our talented writers!



Whole School Science Fair - March 2026.

As part of Science Week, we were delighted to host our very first Wittersham Science Fair – and what an incredible event it was! Science plays an important role across our curriculum, encouraging children to be curious, ask questions and explore the world around them. This year's theme focused on the question "Are you curious about...?" which inspired a wide range of investigations and experiments across the school.

Each class created and showcased their own scientific investigations, experiments and demonstrations in the hall, with every class hosting a table for others to explore. Throughout the afternoon, classes had allocated times to visit the hall, giving children the opportunity to try out the activities, ask questions and learn from one another's discoveries. Some children also chose to create their own experiments at home to bring in and share, adding even more variety and excitement to the fair.

Our Year 6 pupils played a key role in helping the event run smoothly, volunteering to support with organisation and helping with the clean-up throughout the afternoon. Children from each class also volunteered to stay with their class tables to explain their experiments and guide visiting classes through the activities.

The range of investigations on display was fantastic. Rother class explored electricity by asking the question: How can we power an electrical circuit without a battery? Smugglers investigated topics linked to animals including humans, asking questions such as: What happens to our teeth when we drink sugary drinks? How much sugar is in the food we eat? and How good is our sense of smell?

Compassion

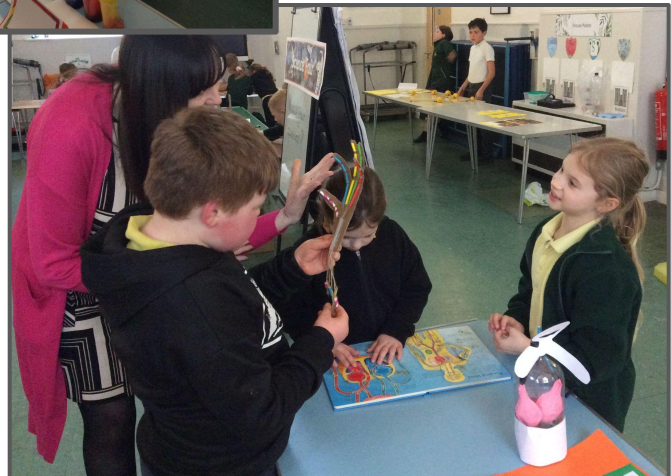
Courage

Cooperation

Vikings carried out two fascinating experiments exploring what happens when soap is added to milk with food colouring and whether raisins float in fizzy water or still water. Oxney investigated how we hear sound, demonstrating how vibrations travel and how sound is created. Windmills explored whether cornflour mixed with water behaves like a solid or a liquid and investigated which colours mix the fastest through a paper towel. These hands-on activities allowed children to see the science happening before their eyes and even test some of the ideas themselves, including touching the cornflour mixture to explore its unusual properties. There was also a table of magnets for children to explore, alongside information explaining how magnets work.

At the end of the school day, the hall was bursting with families who had come along to see the wonderful experiments and investigations on display. It was fantastic to see children confidently explaining their thinking, demonstrating their experiments and answering questions from visitors. I was truly blown away by the knowledge and confidence of the children presenting, as well as by the thoughtful and insightful questions being asked by their peers. It was a wonderful example of our school values of courage and cooperation in action.

A huge thank you must go to Mrs Haddock for organising our very first Wittersham Science Fair. It was a fantastic celebration of curiosity, exploration and learning across the whole school.



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PRAYER

Dear God,

As we celebrate Science Week, we thank you for the curiosity and wonder that help us explore the world you created. Help us to ask questions, discover new ideas and learn from one another.

Remind us that every person is unique and valuable. Help us to ensure that everyone has the resources, support and encouragement they need to grow, learn and succeed.

Guide us to show compassion, cooperation and courage as we work together, making sure that our school community is a place where everyone feels included, supported and able to flourish.

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 really positive improvement in attendance and punctuality across classes this week, with whole school attendance now standing at **93.9%**. National attendance currently stands at around **94.8%**, so we are still slightly below where we would like to be, but the improvement we have seen this week is very encouraging. Thank you to everyone for your efforts.

A quick reminder that 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 impacts your child's learning and can disrupt the start of the day for the whole class.

Please also remember that **all messages regarding absence, medical appointments, late arrival or early collection must be sent directly to the school office via the office email address**. This ensures that registers can be updated promptly and collections coordinated safely.

Missing school quickly adds up. Just one day each week across the year equals around 39 days of learning lost – nearly eight weeks of school.

If you are experiencing any difficulties with attendance, please do get in touch. Our School Family Liaison Officer, Mrs Sterriker-Rhodes, is available to support families and help address any barriers. By continuing to work together, we can ensure every child has the best possible start to each school day.

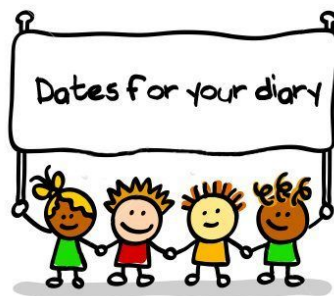
Windmills	Smugglers	Vikings	Oxney	Rother
94.2%	94.2%	93.1%	93.5%	94.7%

Whole school:
93.9%
Whole School Target: 96%

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Cooperation



Upcoming Dates for Your Diary

- **Tuesday 17th March** – Viking Class Come Dine With Me @ 11:45am
- **Wednesday 18th March** – Scootability (Year 1/2)
- **Wednesday 18th March** – Coffee, Cake and Chat
- **Thursday 19th March** – Godinton House Visit (Year 4)
- **Friday 20th March** – Red Nose Day - wear own clothes, red or odd socks. Donations can be made online <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rnd26-wittersham-church-of-england-primary-school>
- **Tuesday 24th March** – Oxney Class Come Dine With Me @ 11:45am
- **Wednesday 25th March** – Viking and Oxney Museum Trip
- **Monday 30th March** – Fire Safety Visits
- **Tuesday 31st March** – Rother Class Come Dine With Me @ 11:45am
- **Wednesday 1st April** – Year R Hearing and Vision Screening
- **Wednesday 1st April** – Whole School Easter Service @ 9:00 am (everyone welcome)
- **Wednesday 1st April** - KS2 Touch Rugby Event
- **Thursday 2nd April** - WSA Easter Egg Hunt
- **Thursday 2nd April** – Last Day of Term 4
- **Friday 3rd April** – **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 – Thursday 14th May** – Bikeability (extended dates)
- **Thursday 21st May** – Last Day of Term 5
- **Thursday 21st May** – Carmel Jane School Photos
- **Friday 22nd May** – Whole School INSET Day
- **Monday 1st June** – Whole School INSET Day
- **Tuesday 2nd June** – First Day of Term 6
- **Tuesday 2nd – Friday 5th June** – Residential Visit

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

JUNIOR BAKE OFF

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 15TH MARCH 2026



FREE GIRLS' RUGBY FESTIVAL!

AGES 7-12 YEARS (Y3-Y7)

FREE!



Saturday 21st March
10:30 - 13:00



Ashford Rugby Club
Kinneys Fields, Kinneys Lane
TN24 9QB



Fun rugby activities for girls of all abilities



Coaching and games
Contact and non-contact rugby



Led by qualified coaches



**THE WOMEN'S WORLD CUP TROPHY
WILL BE THERE FOR PLAYER PICTURES!**



ASHFORD
RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB



**England
Rugby**

SIGN UP NOW!



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.