

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!
Thursday 21st May 2026**



Wittersham Weekly – Term 5 Week 5

The final week of Term 5 has passed in a flash and it honestly feels as though we were only just welcoming everybody back after the Easter break! As tomorrow, Friday 22nd May, and Monday 1st June are both INSET days, this will be the final Wittersham Weekly of the term.

Although it has been a slightly shorter week, it has certainly been another very busy one here at Wittersham. One of the highlights of the week was undoubtedly the lifesaver training completed by five members of staff in preparation for the reopening of our school pool in Term 6. You may remember that last year we trained four members of support staff to become fully qualified swimming teachers and, this year, we have built further upon this by training additional staff in the STA National Rescue Standard Pool Safety Award (NaRS) qualification.

After a full day of classroom-based training, five staff members bravely entered the pool on Wednesday afternoon to complete the practical element of the course — and I am incredibly proud to share that they all passed with flying colours. These qualifications are incredibly important as they ensure that swimming at Wittersham remains a safe, well-supervised and high-quality experience for all children. It also demonstrates the commitment of our staff team, who continually go above and beyond for every member of our school community. A huge thank you must also go to Miss Robinson, who has worked tirelessly behind the scenes coordinating everything ready for the first swimming sessions after half term.

This week also saw us complete our first whole-school lockdown drill. I have to say how incredibly sensible and calm the children were throughout the process. They listened carefully to adult instructions and responded maturely at every stage. During Wednesday's staff development meeting, we reflected carefully on the drill and discussed a number of amendments and refinements needed to further strengthen the procedure moving forward. We will also be discussing this further during this evening's Governors' Meeting as we continue to ensure our procedures remain robust and fit for purpose.

You may hear schools nationally discussing "Martyn's Law" over the coming years. This is new legislation being introduced across the country to strengthen preparedness and protective security procedures in public places and educational settings following the Manchester Arena attack in 2017. Whilst these conversations can understandably feel unsettling, please be reassured that all work undertaken at Wittersham is approached calmly, sensitively and always with the children's wellbeing at the centre of our thinking.

On Wednesday, I also finalised our whole-school Climate Action Plan. This is now a Department for Education expectation for all schools and forms part of the government's wider sustainability and environmental strategy towards 2030. The plan focuses on how schools can reduce environmental impact and become increasingly sustainable across areas such as energy usage, waste reduction, food sourcing, biodiversity and travel to school.

Compassion

Courage

Cooperation

At Wittersham, we are particularly excited to continue developing pupil understanding of sustainability and environmental responsibility through meaningful, practical experiences woven throughout school life. We look forward to sharing more about this as we move into Term 6.

You may also have seen my post earlier this week regarding our upcoming Wittersham Careers Week, which will take place from Monday 6th July to Thursday 9th July. I am incredibly excited about this opportunity for our children. At Wittersham, we believe careers education forms a really important part of children's personal development and helps broaden horizons, raise aspirations and develop curiosity about the wider world around them. It also helps children begin making meaningful links between their learning in school and future opportunities beyond the classroom.

We would absolutely love to hear from any parents, carers or family members who may be willing to come into school during the week to talk to the children about their career, role or profession. No career is off limits — every role has value and something inspiring to share with our children. Whether you work in healthcare, construction, retail, farming, emergency services, hospitality, the creative arts, transport, technology, business or any other field, we would be delighted to hear from you. If you would like to be involved, please email the school office by Friday 5th June so that we can begin coordinating and constructing a timetable for the week.

Class photographs also took place today and it was another reminder of just how quickly this academic year is moving along. I honestly cannot believe that this will be the final whole-class photograph for our Year 6 pupils. They have such exciting months ahead of them — residential, transition visits to their new secondary schools, Sports Day, the much-loved "Chase the Train" race and, of course, their end-of-year performance. SATs may now be behind them, but the final weeks of their primary school journey will undoubtedly be filled with memories, laughter and celebration.

As we move into half term, I would like to wish all of our families a wonderfully restful and sunny break. We look forward to welcoming everybody back on Tuesday 2nd June.

A few important reminders for the first day back:

- Residential children should arrive at school by 7:45am.
- Windmills and Smugglers will also be heading off on their school trip that day.
- Due to children missing Picnic Monday because INSET day, we will instead be offering a school picnic lunch on Tuesday 2nd June.

Take care, enjoy the sunshine and thank you, as always, for your continued support of our wonderful school community.

Mrs Coulson



Compassion



Courage



Cooperation



PRAYER

Dear God,

As we come to the end of another busy and joyful term, we thank You for the many opportunities, experiences and memories we have shared together as a school family.

Thank You for the courage shown by our children, the compassion shown by our staff and families, and the cooperation that continues to strengthen our Wittersham community each and every day.

As we move into half term, we pray that all members of our school community are able to rest, recharge and enjoy special time together in the sunshine. Keep everybody safe over the break and help us return refreshed, ready for the exciting opportunities and adventures that Term 6 will bring.

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.

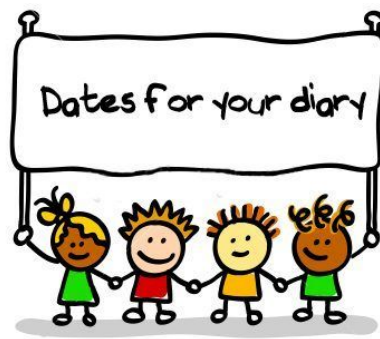
Windmills	Smugglers	Vikings	Oxney	Rother
94.2%	94.3%	92.8%	94.2%	93.8%

Whole school:
93.9%
Whole School
Target: 96%

Compassion

Courage

Cooperation



Upcoming Dates for Your Diary

- **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
- **Wednesday 10th June** - Mobile Library Visit
- **Thursday 11th June** - Rother Forest School Begins
- **Friday 12th June** - WSA Non-Uniform Day
- **Wednesday 17th June** - Vikings Experience Day @Tenterden Church
- **Thursday 18th June** - Year 6 Meal with Parents (info to follow)
- **Friday 19th June** - Kent County Cricket Trip (Years 5 and 6 only)
- **Friday 26th June** - WSA Summer Festival
- **Monday 29th June - 3rd July** - Year 6 Transition Week
- **Monday 6th - Thursday 9th July** - Whole School Careers Week
- **Friday 10th July** - Whole School Sports Day and Parent Picnic
- **Tuesday 14th July** - Whole School Summer Concert @2pm
- **Thursday 16th July** - Year 6 Production @6pm
- **Friday 17th July** - Rocksteady Concert
- **Thursday 23rd July** - Last Day of Term 6 and the academic year

WITTERSHAM SPORTS CLUB PRESENTS

Wittersham

PICNIC

CHARITY EVENT

Sunday 24th May from 2PM



BBQ & BAR

GAMES & FUN

TEAS & CAKES

In Support of Local Charities

Bring Your Picnic & Join the Fun!

BATTING FOR HUXLEY

10 year old Huxley is part of our All Stars and Dynamos kids cricket family and is currently fighting cancer.

Become one of Huxley's Heroes and join us for an evening of fun to raise money for life saving treatment.

FRIDAY 29TH MAY FROM 5PM

STONE-IN-OXNEY CRICKET CLUB ♦ TN30 7JL ♦ GAMES
FAMILY CRICKET ♦ BBQ ♦ BAR ♦ RAFFLE ♦ MUSIC

 gofundme



Everyone welcome bring
your family & friends!

Your support truly
makes a difference.



BATTING FOR HUXLEY RAFFLE PRIZES

EASTWELL MANOR CHAMPAGNE AFTERNOON TEA FOR 4
EUROSTAR TICKETS PAINTBALLING TICKETS FOR 10 PEOPLE
NIGHT IN A SHEPHERD'S HUT RUMBLE WRESTLING TICKETS
HELL4LEATHER KIDS CRICKET BAT PADEL LESSON
WORLD OF WATER BREAKFAST FOR 2 KIDS GOLF LESSON
WEEKEND FAMILY TICKET FOR TRACTORFEST 2026
KENT CRICKET TICKETS ESTÉE LAUDER GIFT SET
VOUCHERS FROM GENEROUS FRIENDS AT:
HAIR AT FIFTEEN THE FERRY INN THE SALON ST MICHAELS
THE OLD POST OFFICE CAFÉ CHLOE'S CAKES & BAKES
RIGHTEOUS OAKS FOREST SCHOOL LYDD GOLF CLUB
PLURENDEN MANOR FARM BALFOUR SALON NO.1
KNIGHTINGALES FISHING HWS PHYSIOTHERAPY
JUMP KENT MR CRICKET HOCKEY BEAUTY ROOMS
ROCKITS SENSORY THE DUKE'S HEAD THE SALON RYE

£10 FOR 5 TICKETS



Appledore

TURKEYS



STOCKISTS OPEN DAY

TOGETHER WITH OUR STAFF AND FAMILY

Handle this year's Christmas turkeys at 6 days old

Complimentary barbeque and refreshments will be provided

Bring along your family and staff. Our big farm machinery will also be on display

Tours to see how we produce our award winning turkeys by Andrew, Clive and Jack



SUNDAY JUNE 7TH - 10AM TO 3PM

PRIORY FARM, APPLIEDORE, ASHFORD, TN26 2DR

RSVP to andrewwreathall@outlook.com or 07775 692472, please include number of attendees for catering purposes by Friday 22nd May



THE FUN WITTERSHAM DOG SHOW

**SATURDAY 23RD MAY
11AM - 2.30PM**

£3 ENTRY PER CLASS /
£20 FOR 8 CLASSES

**STOCKS FARM
WITTERSHAM
TENTERDEN
KENT TN30 7ET**

ROSETTES & RAFFLE TO BE WON.
REFRESHMENTS & PARKING

CLASSES

YOUNG HANDLER • MOST HANDSOME DOG
WAGGIEST TAIL • BEST PUPPY 3 MTHS - 1YR
BEST RESCUE • BEST GOLDEN OLDIE
JUDGES CHOICE TO TAKE HOME • FANCY DRESS
PRETTIEST BITCH • BEST 6 LEGS

BEST IN SHOW ; CHAMPION & RESERVE CHAMPION

'HAVE A GO AGILITY' AGAINST THE CLOCK

FASTEST RECALL



IN AID OF (FRIENDS OF) WITTERSHAM CHURCH
CONTACT: WITTERSHAMDOGSHOW2026@GMAIL.COM

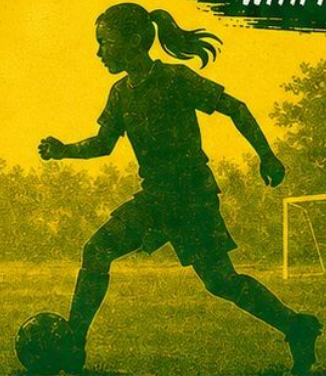
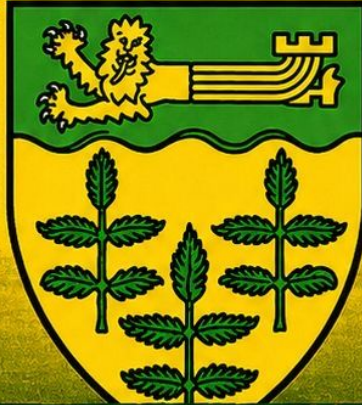
ASHFORD DISTRICT SCHOOLS FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

PLAYERS WANTED!

REGISTER TO TRIAL

BE PART OF
SOMETHING
SPECIAL

REPRESENT
YOUR DISTRICT
WITH PRIDE



TRIALS FOR NEXT SEASON'S REPRESENTATIVE SQUADS



OPEN TO ALL PLAYERS
who attend an
Ashford school



CURRENT SCHOOL YEARS 3-9



BOYS & GIRLS WELCOME



DEVELOP YOUR GAME
Represent your district
and achieve your best!



TO REGISTER:

Please complete the online form displayed on our Facebook page or email us.

DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE!

BE PART OF OUR FUTURE. WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU!



REACH OUT VIA EMAIL:
ashforddistrictfootball@gmail.com



OR FIND US ON
FACEBOOK OR X (TWITTER)
SEARCH: ASHFORD DISTRICT SCHOOLS FA



YOUR TIME. THEIR FUTURE. OUR COMMUNITY.

FEEL THE THRILL OF SPEED AT OUR RC RACE & DISPLAY!
WATCH HIGH-PERFORMANCE RADIO-CONTROLLED
VEHICLES IN ACTION, ENJOY STUNNING DISPLAYS, AND
EVEN BRING YOUR OWN RC TO JOIN THE FUN.
A GREAT WEEKEND OUT FOR ALL AGES!



RAF
MANSTON
HISTORY
MUSEUM

RC RACE AND DISPLAY



10AM-4PM

ADULTS: £3

CHILDREN: £1.50

EVENT ENTRANCE ONLY



OPTIONAL ONLINE
BOOKING AVAILABLE

30TH & 31ST MAY 2026

ANY QUESTIONS EMAIL [INFO@RAFMANSTON.CO.UK](mailto:info@rafmanston.co.uk)

SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, WEATHER
CONDITIONS, MECHANICAL BREAKDOWNS AND SHORTAGE OF VOLUNTEERS AND/OR EXHIBITORS



LITTLE SILVER
COUNTRY HOTEL



**KIDS
EAT
FREE**

**KIDS EAT FREE AT
LITTLE SILVER**

**MONDAY TO
FRIDAY
3PM-5:30PM**

**SATURDAY
12-5PM**

**One children's
meal free from
our children's
menu for every
adult main
purchased**

**BOOK NOW VIA OUR WEBSITE :
LITTLESILVERCOUNTRYHOTEL.CO.UK OR
CALL US ON 01580 443005**

Enter our **FREE** family competition



Enter at Prize Draws
on our home page -
good luck!



A great activity for the holidays!

We're a Mum and two daughters team
creating educational, history based fun
Kent Quiz Trails!

They liven up a healthy
family walk!

FREE TO ENTER!



WHAT'S ON?
IN KENT.COM

WIN

Download
the WOK
app here!



WHAT'S ON?
IN KENT.COM



We've teamed up with
What's On In Kent to give away a
'Best of Kent Explorer Adventure Pack'!

Top Prize: One lucky winner will win a wicker picnic hamper with plates, cutlery and glasses, one each of the Quiz Trail short stories books, 5 Quiz Trails of your choice and lots of sweet treats!

Three runner-up winners will each win 3 Quiz Trails of your choice!

Enter on our website
www.QuizTrail.co.uk

*Closing date 31st May 2026 at 11:59pm. Free to enter - no purchase necessary.



Download the app
to discover
hundreds of
activities and
events going on
in Kent!

Special offers too!

www.QuizTrail.co.uk

Quote Discount
Code
DISCOUNT10
at our checkout



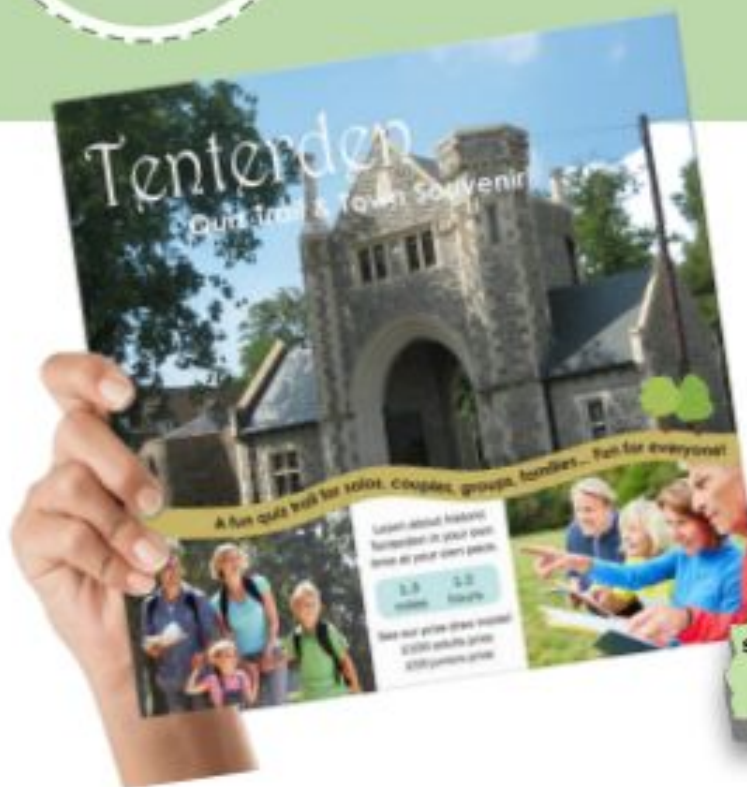
Let the adventure begin with

We're a Mum and two daughters team creating educational, history based fun Kent Quiz Trails!



LOW - COST!

Clues for adults PLUS clues for juniors which are **made for 5 to 11 year olds!**



Quiz Trail
Reviews • Excellent



A fun low-cost, healthy activity that entertains all!

Quiz Trails are written for adults and packed with local history. As well as adult leisure reading, Quiz Trails are a fabulous activity for adults and children to do together - **with a set of fun clues for each.**

You can take as long as you like to complete the trail, making it the perfect activity for a relaxed trip out.

At just £5.99 a copy for a group to share, Quiz Trails are the perfect way to spend time outdoors in the fresh air with loved ones - *great to do with grandparents too!* ALL trails are accessible.

www.QuizTrail.co.uk

Quote Discount Code
DISCOUNT10
at our checkout

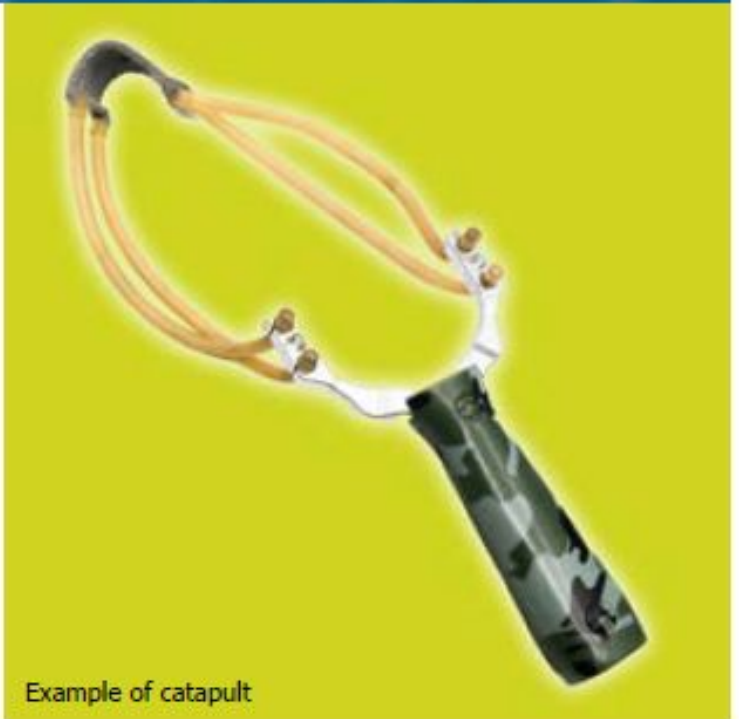


Quiz Trails are an 'Approved Activity' for
The Children's University

Catapults – Know the law

Catapults can be classed as offensive weapons.

If you **carry one in public** without a reasonable excuse, you could face up to **four years in prison**.



Example of catapult

If you use it to **threaten** or **injure someone**, or **damage property**, the penalties could be even higher.

Is it worth it?

Remember – A criminal record can change your life.

- You may not be offered a college or university place.
- Getting a job will be more difficult.
- It can even prevent you from travelling to some countries.



**Kent
Police**

Report a non-urgent crime online www.kent.police.uk/report

Talk to us on LiveChat – available 24/7 www.kent.police.uk/contact

In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger call 999

If you have a hearing or speech impairment, use our textphone service **18000**.

Or text us on 999 if you've pre-registered with the emergency SMS service.

www.kent.police.uk 