

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 4th September 2026

TERM 1 • WEEK 2

Welcome Back to a Brand-New Year!

Welcome back to a brand-new academic year and a brand-new term at Wittersham!

It has been so wonderful to welcome everyone back to school this week and, in particular, to meet our new Reception children and families. A very warm welcome to you all! We have also welcomed several new families across the school and it is always so lovely to see our Wittersham community continue to grow.

We are incredibly excited about the year ahead and all the adventures we will take together. There is so much to look forward to!

As we begin the year, please remember that we are always here to support and help. Class Dojo and email are great ways to contact us if you have a question or need to share something with us. Staff will respond to messages between 8am and 6pm, and you will also find us on the playground at the end of the school day if you would prefer a quick chat.

A little reminder that any absence must be reported directly to the school office by telephone or email by 9am. Please do not report absence through Class Dojo, as these messages may not be seen in time.

I also need to briefly mention attendance as we start our new academic year. Attendance continues to be a key priority nationally and all schools have attendance targets to work towards, informed by DfE and KCC guidance and attendance data. We completely understand that children become unwell and there will, of course, be times when they need to be at home. However, when children are well enough to attend school, we really do encourage them to be here. Every school day matters and regular attendance makes such a difference to children's learning, friendships and sense of belonging.

I also want to be completely transparent from the beginning of the year that term-time holidays cannot be authorised. I appreciate, as a parent myself, the value that family holidays and time together can bring. However, as Headteacher, I am required to follow the national and local guidance regarding leave during term time. I would much rather be clear about this from the outset, as we work best together when expectations are open and honest.

Compassion

Courage

Cooperation

Finally, please do come along to our Vision and Values Evening on Wednesday 23rd September at 5pm in the school hall. All teaching staff, our SENCO and our FLO will be in attendance. It will be a lovely opportunity to hear more about our journey as a school this year, what we are working towards and, most importantly, how we can continue to work together to give our children the very best opportunities to succeed. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions, meet members of the team and find out more about what the year ahead will look like for your child.

We would love to see as many of you there as possible!

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend and a fantastic year ahead. I have a feeling it might just be our best one yet!

See you all on Monday!

Mrs Coulson



Compassion

Courage

Cooperation

Our Wittersham Team

Who's who at school?

A quick guide for parents



Mrs Stella Coulson
Headteacher



Mrs Lynsey Scott
Assistant Headteacher

OUR CLASS TEACHERS



**Windmill
Class**

Mrs Sharron
Haddock
Class Teacher



**Smugglers
Class**

Miss Emily
Perrian
Class Teacher



**Vikings
Class**

Mrs Robinson
Weller
Class Teacher



**Oxney
Class**

Miss Jessica
Larter
Class Teacher



**Rother
Class**

Mrs Lynsey Scott
Class Teacher
(Monday and Tuesday)

Mrs Hannah Spencer
Class Teacher
(Wednesday,
Thursday and Friday)

OUR LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT TEAM



Mrs
Michaela
Beaney



Ms
Sarah
Bailey



Mrs
Julie
Channon



Mrs
Joanne
Cole



Mrs
Lucy
Cotton



Mrs
Amy
Ely



Mrs
Jessica
Lingfield



Mrs
Kate
Robertson



Ms
Sheryl
Woolhouse



OFFICE TEAM

Mrs Caroline Penn
Office Manager

Mrs Lynda Crabtree
School Business Manager



SENCO

Mrs Carly Catt
SENCO
(3 days)



FLO

Mrs Claire
Sterriker-Rhodes
Family Liaison
Officer (FLO)



CATERING TEAM

Mrs Louisa Packham
Catering Manager
Mrs Jeanette Hilding
Catering Assistant
Mrs Maggie Foster
Midday Leader



FOREST SCHOOL

Mrs Helen De Georgio
Forest School Leader
(Thursday)

Mrs Maggie Foster
Forest School Assistant



SITE AND SPORTS

Mr Dean Hawkins
Site Manager and Sports Leader

We're all here to help your child learn,
grow and thrive!



WITTERSHAM



Dates for Your Diary



Keep up to date with what's happening
at Wittersham!



- **Wednesday 23rd September - Visions and Values Evening**
- **Friday 16th October** - Last Day of Term 1
- **Monday 2nd November** - Whole School Inset Day - no children in school
- **Tuesday 3rd November** - Start of Term 2
- **Friday 18th December** - Last Day of Term 2

FREE SCHOOL MEALS IMPORTANT UPDATE



Could your child be eligible?

Recent changes mean more families may now qualify for Free School Meals — even if you haven't been eligible before.

WHY APPLY?



Free, healthy school meals every day



Saves money on food costs



Extra funding for the school to support your child
(Pupil Premium)



Even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, it is **still important** to apply so the school can receive extra funding.

WHAT'S CHANGED?



More families may now qualify



Eligibility is based on household income



If your circumstances have changed, please check again



Or contact the school office if you would like a hard copy of an application form for the school to then process on your behalf.

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE IF YOU RECEIVE:

- Universal Credit
(within income thresholds)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related ESA (Employment and Support Allowance)
- Child Tax Credit
(low income, not receiving Working Tax Credit)

HOW TO APPLY

Applying is quick and easy online:



Visit the Kent County Council website to apply:

www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals



DON'T MISS OUT – APPLY TODAY!

You could be entitled to support that could benefit your child and our school.



WINGS & WHEELS WEEKEND 2026

| 12TH & 13TH SEPTEMBER | 10AM TO 4PM |
RAF MANSTON HISTORY MUSEUM CT12 5DF



Climb in the Cockpits



CHARITY NUMBER: 11799482



BOOK HERE



Fire Engine Rides



Tank Rides



Loads of Vehicles



Museum Entry

OPTIONAL PRE-BOOKING AVAILABLE

USUAL MUSEUM ADMISSION PRICES APPLY | RIDE ADMISSION SEPARATE

info@rafmanston.co.uk

www.rafmanston.co.uk



What Three Words - [remarried.mornings.pave](https://www.what3words.com/remarried.mornings.pave)



Refreshments available

Subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances including, but not limited to, weather conditions, mechanical breakdowns and shortage of volunteers and/or exhibitors.