

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 18th September 2026

TERM 1 • WEEK 4

We have enjoyed another fantastic and very busy week here at Wittersham, with a mixture of showers and sunshine. As I write this newsletter, we are enjoying some wonderful afternoon sunshine after I had the pleasure of supporting the Smugglers' swimming session. The children were incredible, and it was so lovely to see just how far they have come since joining us.

We are extremely lucky to have this wonderful provision available at Wittersham, and I would like to thank everyone who helps to make it possible – from the WSA's invaluable support to all our families who send in their swimming contributions and ensure that their children have their swimming hats each week. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

You may have spotted our beautifully sparkling swimming pool on our new social media channels this week, thanks to Mr Hawkins and his dedicated pool maintenance! If you do not already follow us, please visit our Facebook and Instagram pages to see more of the exciting learning and opportunities taking place across our school.

I am thrilled to share some exciting news: Mrs Catt has successfully completed her SENCO qualification! This rigorous 18-month programme, which she began when she took on the role of SENCO, involved extensive study of statutory SEND responsibilities, inclusive teaching, early identification, effective provision and working collaboratively with families and external professionals. It also required Mrs Catt to apply her learning strategically within our school to strengthen support and improve outcomes for children with additional needs. We were delighted to discover last week that she had successfully passed and are incredibly proud of her achievement.

At Wittersham, we are passionate about providing both our children and staff with exciting opportunities to develop academically, professionally and emotionally. We are incredibly proud of Mrs Catt and all the dedication she has shown throughout the course – very well done! Several other members of staff are also completing National Professional Qualifications this academic year and next. Many of these are demanding 18-month programmes requiring considerable commitment alongside their roles in school, so I am sure there will be more wonderful news to celebrate as the year progresses.

Compassion

Courage

Cooperation

I am also delighted to announce our new House Captains, who were chosen through the House Captain elections last week:

Bodiam - Percy

Leeds - Stan

Hever - Elliot

Scotney - Winnie

Congratulations to these pupils, who showed great courage by putting themselves forward for this important role. I am sure they will be fantastic representatives for their houses and wonderful role models for the rest of the school.

We are really looking forward to welcoming you to our Vision & Values Evening next Wednesday, 23 September, from 5.00pm until 6.00pm.

We will begin in the school hall, where we will introduce our staff team and share our whole-school vision, values and priorities for the year ahead. From 5.30pm, you will visit your child's classroom to meet the adults working with them and learn more about class routines, home learning, PE days, the curriculum, assessments, trips and experiences.

The evening is primarily for adults, but children may sit outside the classrooms in the pod areas if childcare is not possible. Class presentations will also be shared on ClassDojo afterwards for families with more than one child.

We would love to see as many of you there as possible for this valuable opportunity to come together and learn more about the exciting year ahead.

As the weather begins to become wetter, please ensure that every child has a named pair of wellies in school. We want the children to be able to make full use of every part of our wonderful school grounds throughout the year. Please could you also make sure that every item of clothing is clearly named so that any misplaced belongings can be returned to their owners.

Wishing you all a fabulous weekend. I look forward to seeing everyone again on Monday.

Take care, Mrs Coulson



WITTERSHAM
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL
Courage | Compassion | Cooperation

Attendance Matters

Be here. Belong. Achieve.



Better learning and progress
Being in school helps children build knowledge and skills.



Stronger friendships
Regular attendance helps children stay connected and be part of our school community.



More opportunities
Being in school means children can take part in all the exciting experiences we offer.



Greater confidence
Routine and consistency help children feel safe, happy and ready to learn.



Happier and healthier
Good attendance supports children's wellbeing, both now and in the future.



Every day counts

Good attendance today builds brighter tomorrows. | SAFE | HAPPY | RESPECTED | READY | SUCCESSFUL

Compassion

Courage

Cooperation



Courage



Compassion



Cooperation

A
nurturing
place to
belong



Reception Places for September 2027

Come and discover Wittersham

A GOOD SCHOOL

OFSTED 2025

*"A warm, ambitious and inclusive school
where children are known, valued and
encouraged to flourish."*

At Wittersham, we combine the care and community
of a small village school with high expectations for
every child. Our children benefit from nurturing
relationships, rich learning experiences, extensive
outdoor space and an inclusive approach that helps
every child to belong, achieve and thrive.



School Tours

Come and see our school in action!

Tours are led by our Headteacher with the
opportunity to visit the school, look around
classrooms, ask questions and meet the
Family Liaison Officer (FLO) and SENCO.

	Thursday 24th September	morning
	Tuesday 29th September	morning
	Thursday 1st October	from 1.30pm
	Wednesday 14th October	morning
	Wednesday 11th November	from 1.00pm



Applications Open

Applications for transfer to primary
school for reception year in
September 2027 will open on
Friday 6 November 2026
and close on

Friday 15 January 2027.



To book a school tour

Please contact the school office:

 **01797 270329**

 **office@wittersham.kent.sch.uk**



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WITTERSHAM



Dates for Your Diary



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



- **Wednesday 23rd September - Visions and Values Evening**
- **Thursday 24th September** - Reception Tours for 2027 (please contact the office to book)
- **Monday 28th September** - WSA Stay and Play 3:15pm - 4pm
- **Tuesday 29th September** - Harvest Service @2pm - all families
- **Wednesday 30th September** - Flu Immunisation
- **Wednesday 30th September** - Smuggler and Vikings visit to the mobile library
- **Thursday 1st October** - Reception Tours for 2027 (please contact the office to book)
- **Wednesday 7th October** - Rother Godinton House Trip
- **Thursday 8th October** - Individual School Photos
- **Wednesday 14th October** - Reception Tours for 2027 (please contact the office to book)
- **Wednesday 14th October** - Mobile Library Oxney and Rother
- **Wednesday 14th October** - WSA Rother Cake Sale
- **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
- **Wednesday 4th November** - Parents Evening 2pm - 8pm
- **Wednesday 11th November** - Reception Tours for 2027 (please contact the office to book)
- **Friday 13th November** - Children in Need Day - more info to follow.
- **Thursday 10th December** - Christmas Jumper Day
- **Friday 11th December** - Christmas Rocksteady Concert
- **Tuesday 15th December** - Christingle Service @5pm @St Johns Church
- **Wednesday 16th December** - WSA Cake Sale
- **Friday 18th December** - Whole School Pantomime Trip
- **Friday 18th December** - Last Day of Term 2
- **Wednesday 25th November** - Vikings Godington House Trip
- **Monday 4th January** - Whole School Inset Day - no children in school
- **Tuesday 5th January** - Start of Term 3

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.



RYE CRICKET CLUB

START PLAYING CRICKET



AUTUMN CRICKET SESSIONS 2026

RYE LEISURE CENTRE

FRIDAY OCTOBER 9TH FOR 8 WEEKS

4-5 PM SOFTBALL SESSIONS 5 – 10 Years

Cost £30

5-6 PM HARDBALL SESSIONS 9 Years and Up

COST £50

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

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."



KATE'S

Swimming

Helping your child build confidence in the water for life.

What We Offer

- ✓ Babies - from birth to 2 years
- ✓ Toddlers - from 2-4 years
- ✓ Children's - 4 years+
- ✓ Private 1:1 Lessons - All Ages
- ✓ Holiday Intensive Courses - 4 years+

Swimming Pools

- 📍 Staplecross, East Sussex



So impressed with how my daughter has developed in just attending 4 days of the summer intensive course. She went from holding her nose and not being confident putting her head under water to swimming under water.

-Trust Pilot Review

Book Now!

www.katesswimming.co.uk

