

Wittersham Church of England Primary School

'On a voyage of discovery: flourishing together in God's love'



Weekly Newsletter Monday 26th June 2023



Welcome back to another week. I hope you have all managed to make the most of the fantastic weather over the weekend. Last week, it was great to see our children out and about in our outside space and surrounding area. We are very lucky with the grounds and environment which surround us

On Tuesday, Smugglers and Windmills ventured off to Bedgebury Pinetum in connection with their learning on plants and habitats. During the trip, they took part in a variety of different workshops which explored wellbeing, woodland artwork and the role of Forest Rangers. On Wednesday, Oxney class made the most of the local footpaths and visited Hope Farm, as part of their learning on the history and changes in farming. The children gained a wealth of knowledge from a range of different local farmers and were even fed with some local produce! A HUGE thank you to Mr and Mrs Lovejoy and Mrs Tait for making such an effort to welcome and inform our children on such an important aspect of our community. Rother also had a busy week: welcoming visitors from Tenterden museum in to share artefacts from WWII, before later completing their cycling proficiency courses.

Last week saw our forest school sessions recommence for Term 6. Vikings and Smugglers created beautiful journey sticks; demonstrating their whittling and knot making skills. This week it will be the turn of Oxney and Smugglers (Year 2).

This week, many of our Year 6 children are visiting their new secondary schools. We wish them all the best for this and look forward to holding our own transition sessions for our children later in the term.

Attendance

Whole school: 94.3%

Target: 95%

| Year Group | Attendance % |
|------------|--------------|
| EYFS | 93.9% |
| Yr 1 | 92.9% |
| Yr 2 | 95.4% |
| Yr 3 | 94.9% |
| Yr 4 | 94.7% |
| Yr 5 | 93.5% |
| Yr 6 | 94.6% |



This week in worship...

This week in worship, we will explore the word of the first Christians to consider how Jesus sets the example of resilience to us.

From the pages of the Bible, we know that Paul went through a huge number of trials! He was beaten... shipwrecked three times... spent a night and a day in the sea... was in danger multiple times... had sleepless nights... been hungry and thirsty... cold with not enough clothes... worried for the new churches.

I wonder what enabled Paul to keep getting back up again even when everything appeared to be against him..



Respect

Kindness

Self-Worth/Perseverance

Forgiveness

Love

WSA Non uniform day

**Non-uniform
day!**

A date for your diaries!

On Friday 30th June, we will be hosting a non-uniform day to support the WSA Summer Fayre on the 15th July.

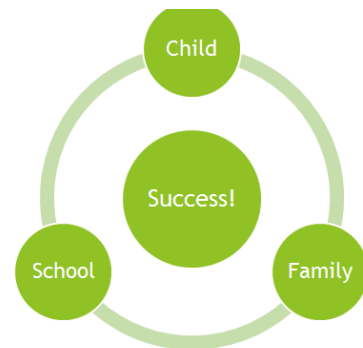
We would like children to attend school in their own clothes, whilst bringing with them a donation of sweets etc for prizes for some of the games.

Thank you for your continued support

Learn Together Sessions

A huge thank you to all who were able to join us for our learn together sessions last week. It was fantastic to see so many of our parents learning alongside our children and sharing their successes.

We hope to run sessions similar to this again next year.



Kent Test (11+) Registration

Kent Test (11+) Registration for the Kent Test for children due to start secondary school in September 2024 opened on Thursday 1 June 2023 and will close at midnight on Monday 3 July 2023.

You can register for your child to sit this by following this link:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/kent-test#tab-1>

Please can we ask that you let Mrs Penn know if you have registered your child as soon as possible.



Sports Day

This year our school sports day will be held on Wednesday 12th July.

This will run in a similar format to previous years, parents will be welcome to join us.

We will be sending out additional information at the start of next term.



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Breakfast and After School Club



Wrap around care update

Since September we have been looking at ways to expand our wrap around care and extra-curricular offer to our children and families.

Alongside the additional after school clubs, which have proven very popular, we are also keen to provide further provision in extending the school day.

The initial proposal for this would be the following:

Breakfast Club: 7:45-8:30

After School Club:
Early Half Session: 3:05-4:15pm
Half Session: 4:15-5:30pm
Full Session: 3:05-5:30pm

To facilitate this, we would be partnering with Premier Education, who run a number of similar provisions at local primary schools.

Prior to confirming this, we will need to gauge the interest and demand of our community to ensure it is viable and tailored accordingly to the needs of our families.

Please can I ask that you complete the following parent survey by 30th June:

<https://forms.gle/2NK3pdxFMS9NSowm7>

If we receive enough responses, we hope to be able to start this offer to our children and families from September 23.

If you have any questions, please let us know.

School Closure due to NEU Strike Action:

As you may be aware, the NEU have announced two days of further strike action on Wednesday 5th July and Friday 7th July.

Throughout the week we have considered the impact of the strikes carefully and have taken the difficult decision to partially close the school to all pupils other than those of key workers and vulnerable children on Wednesday 5th July and Friday 7th July.

The decision to close on the 5th July will impact our planned Sports Day. Sports Day will now be held on Wednesday 12th July, with children also taking part in a remote inter-house competition on Wednesday 5th (further details on this will be shared via class dojo next week). We are sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused.

If you require your child to attend the school on these days, please complete the following form by Friday 30th June: <https://forms.gle/yDfHZzASr9G9hLAU8>

As always, thank you for your continued support and understanding. If you have any further questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks

Mr Hawkins

Wittersham School Association
Glitz and Glamour

DINNER DANCE



SATURDAY 7th OCTOBER

AT LONDON BEACH RESORT

3 COURSE MEAL

LIVE DJ

£45 per ticket

Scan the QR code to book your place



★
Arrival: 7pm
Meal 7:30pm
Carriages 11:45pm

Raffle and games on the night (cash only)

★
For more information:
annchairwsa@gmail.com

★
Wittersham School Association Registered
Charity No. 1059824

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Event</u> |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Monday 26th – Friday 30th June | Homewood Transition Week |
| Friday 30th June | WSA Non-School Uniform Day |
| Friday 30th June | Windmills and Smugglers (Year 1 only) Forest School session |
| Wednesday 5th July | School Partially Closed due to Strike Action |
| Friday 7th July | School Partially Closed due to Strike Action |
| Friday 7th July | Rother and Oxney Forest School session |
| Thursday 13th July | Rother Pool Party |
| Friday 14th July | Rocksteady Music Festival |
| Tuesday 18th July | Rother Leaver's Performance |
| Thursday 20th July 9:15am | Rother Leaver's Assembly in Church |
| Thursday 20th July | Last Day of Term 6 |

Further WSA Events for your diaries!

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Saturday 15th July 12-4pm | WSA Summer Fayre |
| Saturday 7th October 7pm | WSA Charity Dinner Dance |

Online Safety Podcast

You may recall that, earlier this year, our Year 6 children created a set of Online Safety Podcasts to inform other children of the risks of being online and how to effectively manage these. These were then entered into a competition, along with other entries from schools across the county.

We are excited to announce that one of the pieces produced by our children has been selected as a finalist due to 'their message on online harms and healthy relationships being so powerful.' You can listen to the podcast here: <https://youtu.be/kRzG4wU2L7k>

These have now been put out to an online public vote, which will open on Thursday 29th June and close on Thursday 6th July.

The poll will take place at <https://collaboratedigital.com/polls/kent-primary-schools-online-harms-media-challenge/>

There are some fantastic finalists, and I am sure you will join me in congratulating our children on their achievement. Why not have a listen this weekend and cast your vote, I know who I am voting for!