

Friday 3rd October 2025

Long Wittenham C.E. Primary School



Show our love through kindness, determination and curiosity; strengthening ourselves and our community

Please remember we are a nut free school

Headteacher's Message

Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival is coming up soon! We will be collecting donations for [The Didcot Foodbank](#) in the school office from Monday.

They particularly need: tins (meat, fish, veg, fruit, puddings, soup), jars (pasta sauces, jam, peanut butter, coffee), packets (pasta, rice, cereals, biscuits, treats, tea), cartons (long-life milk, juice, hot chocolate), plus toiletries, toilet rolls and laundry items. Please no alcohol, razors, medicines, or homemade preserves. Thank you for your support!

Autumn Weather

It's beginning to feel very autumnal! Please make sure your child brings a coat to school every day. It won't be long until hats and gloves are also needed.

Attendance: Every day matters – every minute counts

Whole school attendance 93.8% Congratulations Birch Class 98.7%

Coming to school every day and on time really does make a difference. Children who attend regularly (95% or more) achieve better results, feel more confident, and don't miss out on important learning. Even a few days of absence can add up and make it harder for them to keep up, so every day counts.

Teaching Assistant Vacancy

We are currently recruiting for a Teaching Assistant vacancy – if you, or anyone you know, who would be interested in the role, the job advert can be found [here](#):

Finance Assistant

Ridgeway Education Trust is seeking to appoint a Finance Assistant to join its central finance team. This is an excellent opportunity for an organised and motivated individual to contribute to the effective financial management of the Trust. Further information and details on how to apply can be found [here](#).

National Curriculum Assessments: Information for Parents

The Standards and Testing Agency has produced an information leaflet for parents explaining national curriculum assessments in primary schools. You can find the leaflet on the [GOV.UK website](#).

The Week's Learning

Acorn Class

This week in Acorn Class, we have been enjoying the story *The Monkey Puzzle*. The children loved retelling their favourite parts and sharing them with one another. In maths, we have been developing our perceptual subitising skills and exploring small quantities, noticing whether the amount has changed or if it's simply been rearranged. PE has been especially

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exciting, as the children have been pretending to be pirates! They have had great fun moving in lots of different ways — from scrubbing the decks to climbing the rigging! Please ensure your child has a pe kit in school all week, thank you.

Mrs Beeton

Birch Class

This week we have continued enjoying *The Day the Crayons Quit* and had fun writing our own letters imagining what might happen if other classroom objects quit. In science, we explored our senses of smell and sight through hands on activities. In geography, we focused on learning more about England, and in art the we created beautiful wax-relief leaf paintings. **Miss Clarke**

Pine Class

In Pine Class this week we have been learning about rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000 as well as learning about Roman Numerals. In our writing lessons we planned and wrote a job application to become a detective. We were practicing our fluency by reading aloud an extract from our class text. In art we have been studying still life and this week used paint to create a picture of oranges. In music we continue to learn the song 'This little light of mine' whilst listening to similar songs. **Mrs McNamee**

Oak Class

Oak Class have finished writing their crime reports for *The Lost Happy Endings* – hopefully the criminal will be caught soon! In geography, the children have been learning about climate zones and wrote their own weather forecasts for a zone of their choice. In maths, they have been exploring efficient calculation methods, including redistribution. In Art, the children have started creating their 2D sculptures, choosing an animal to represent their identity. **Mrs Greenway and Mrs Fraser**

Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

We are pleased to introduce the Parent Teacher Association (PTA), which includes the following members:

- Tom Smith
- Dave Jones
- David McRae-Fairbairn
- Hayley Shayler-Brown
- Aimee Hunt
- Hayley Rolstone

The PTA stands for **Parent Teacher Association**. It is made up of parents, teachers, and school staff that works to support the school and enhance the educational experience for our children.

The main purposes of a PTA are to support both children and schools by raising funds **for activities, equipment, and resources that benefit pupils**. Additionally, PTAs help to build a sense of community by fostering stronger relationships between families and the school. PTAs organise a variety of events such as school fairs, events for children, family fundraisers, while providing a valuable platform for parents to share concerns, ideas, and feedback with school leadership.

The PTA is made up of working parents, and we appreciate any help from other parents with upcoming events. Your support enables us to offer valuable experiences for our children.

Please show your commitment by joining the PTA Helpers whatsapp:

https://chat.whatsapp.com/Hif6kpUzy7VGCW4qDvd3G3?mode=ems_email_t



Long Wittenham Class & PTA WhatsApp Information

If you're not yet a member of your class WhatsApp group, make sure to join so you don't miss any important PTA updates from your Class Reps and consider joining the PTA Helpers Whatsapp to show your support for future events!

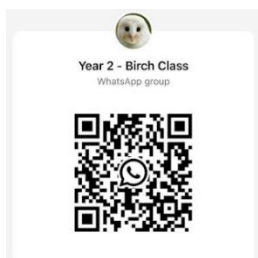
Reception:
Acorn



Year 1: Birch



Year 2: Birch



Year 3: Pine



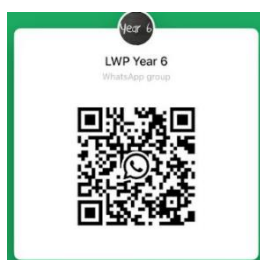
Year 4: Pine



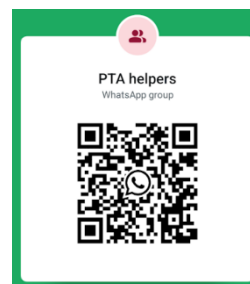
Year 5: Oak



Year 6: Oak




PTA: Helpers



The Weeks Learning







SUNDAY 5TH OCTOBER

FRIENDS AND FAMILIES

Let's celebrate

harvest;

WITH TEA & GAMES & FUN

STARTS AT 3PM AT ST MARYS CHURCH

No charge but we will be collecting Harvest gifts to be taken to the Didcot Food Banks. Tins and dried goods are best. Thank you.



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LONG WITTENHAM FIREWORKS NIGHT

SATURDAY 1ST NOVEMBER

**REFRESHMENTS | BBQ | CAKES | BONFIRE | FIREWORKS
GUY FAWKES COMPETITION**

WARD'S FIELD (BEHIND PENDON MUSEUM, OX14 4QD)

ADULTS

Early bird £8 | Regular £10

CHILDREN (4-16)

Early bird £6 | Regular £8 | Under 4 £1

FAMILY (2 Adults 2 Children)

Early bird £25 | Regular £30

Early bird ticket sales end on 10th October.
Tickets available online (QR code). Under 16s
must be accompanied by an adult.

Brought to you by LWPC with support of
Wittenham Warriors. For further information
please contact lw.fireworks.2025@gmail.com.

**GATES OPEN: 6PM
FIREWORKS: 7PM**





ST BIRINUS SCHOOL

Inspiring Excellence through Care, Courtesy and Commitment



Open Morning School Tours

9am-10:15am

Tues 23rd, Wed 24th September 2025

Tues 7th, Wed 8th October 2025

Wed 15th, Thurs 16th October 2025

Our SENDCo will present about our general SEND provision at SBS for 15 minutes at the end of the tours on **23rd September** and **7th October**.

NB - this is not an opportunity to discuss individual student needs

To book a tour, please scan QR Code or visit

www.st-birinus-school.org.uk/openevents

We kindly request one adult per family for the tours



OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 1st October 2025

5:30pm-8:00pm

Headteacher talks to take place at 6pm and 7pm

NO BOOKING NECESSARY

admissions@st-birinus.oxon.sch.uk • 01235 814444 • www.st-birinus-school.org.uk



Open Evening 2025

Thursday 25th September: 4:30pm - 7:30pm

No booking necessary

Open Mornings 2025

Monday 6th October: 9:15am

Tuesday 7th October: 9.15am & 10:15am

Wednesday 8th October: 9:15am & 10:15am

Duration: approximately 1 hour

Booking essential

We look forward to seeing you

Didcot Girls' School, Manor Crescent, Didcot, Oxon, OX11 7AJ

To book a place please scan the QR code



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Dates for your Diaries 2025-2026	
Thursday 16 th October	Harvest Festival 2:30pm in the church
Friday 10 th October	Oak Class Assembly 3pm
Friday 24 th October	Open Class – a chance to look at your child's work so far this year. 3pm-4pm in the classrooms
Wednesday 5 th November	Parents evening 3:30-5:30pm
Thursday 6 th November	Parents Evening 5-7pm
Thursday 11 th December	Christmas jumper and Christmas lunch day
Friday 12 th December	Christingle in church 4pm
Wednesday 17 th December	EYFS and KS1 Nativity 10am & 2pm
Friday 6 th February	Pine Class Assembly 3pm
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day
Tuesday 24 th March	Pine Class Performance 3:30pm & 5:30pm
Wednesday 22 nd April	Parents Evening 3:30-5:30pm
Thursday 23 rd April	Parents Evening 7-7pm
Friday 24 th April	Birch Class Assembly 3pm
Week beginning 11 th May	SATs Week
Tuesday 19 th May	Sports Day- 10am followed by picnic lunch
Week beginning 8 th June	Phonics screening check
Friday 12 th June	Acorn Class Assembly 3pm
Wednesday 15 th July	Oak Class Performance 2pm & 6pm

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