

Thursday 21st May 2026

Long Wittenham C.E. Primary School



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

As we reach the end of another busy and rewarding term, I would like to thank all of our children, staff and families for their continued support. The final weeks of term have been filled with many memorable moments, and it has been lovely to celebrate the children's achievements together as a school community.

One of the highlights was undoubtedly Sports Day. Thank you to all of the parents and families who embraced the spirit of the event and supported the last-minute change of venue. Although we had less space available on the school field, the change allowed the day to go ahead despite the uncertain forecast and, thankfully, the rain stayed away for us to enjoy a fantastic morning together.

The children showed fantastic teamwork and support for one another throughout the day. It was especially lovely to see the older pupils helping and supporting the younger children, with our values of kindness and determination shining through in every event. The children approached each challenge with enthusiasm, resilience and great sportsmanship, making us all incredibly proud.

We were also pleased to welcome Long Wittenham Pre-school to join us for the morning. It was lovely to have the pre-school children involved and to see the wider school community coming together to enjoy the event.

In today's Celebration Assembly, I gave the children the opportunity to nominate each other for our values awards, recognising those who had demonstrated kindness, determination and curiosity. It was great to hear the thoughtful reasons behind their nominations, and it was clear to see the positive impact of our renewed focus on living out our school values in recent weeks.

I wish you all a wonderful half term break and look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 2nd June.

Miss Clarke

This Week's Learning

Acorn Class:

This week in Acorn Class, the children have been enjoying poems from the book *All Aboard the London Bus*. They have been using these poems as inspiration to create their own poem about the sights and sounds they might see in London. In Maths, the focus has been on ordinality and understanding how numbers to 10 relate to one another. Through practical activities and games, the children have been developing their reasoning skills by exploring which numbers are more or less. They especially enjoyed playing Snakes and Ladders to support their learning!

Mrs Beeton & Mrs Humphries

Telephone: 01865 407850

Email: office@long-wittenham.school

Birch Class:

This week, we have enjoyed reading the book *The Dragon Machine* and using it as inspiration to design our own dragon machines. The children used adjectives to describe their creations and worked hard to make their writing exciting for the reader. In Maths, we have been learning about position and direction, including using the language left, right, clockwise and anticlockwise. In Science, we have been learning about botanists and finding out more about plants and how they grow. In RE, we have been thinking about what stories from the Bible can teach us about kindness.

Miss Clarke

Pine Class:

Pine Class have had another busy and productive week! In Maths, we have started our new topic on money. The children have been learning to recognise pounds and pence, understand their values, and practise converting between them. In Writing, we have been exploring a new text, *The Magic of Sleep*, which is an engaging information book all about why sleep is important. Using this as our inspiration, the children planned and created their own informative booklets titled *The Magic of Food*. In Geography, we completed our unit on South America. To consolidate their learning, the children worked collaboratively in pairs to research and create posters about the twelve South American countries. In PSHE, we focused on kindness and positive relationships. The children created 'kindness streamers', writing thoughtful and encouraging messages about one another. In Art, we explored working with clay by creating detailed bird nests, the children enjoyed moulding and shaping the clay. Finally, in Science, we revisited our learning on plants with a quiz and carried out several hands-on investigations. These included exploring how water travels through plants using celery and food dye, observing what seeds need to grow, and beginning an ongoing experiment with cress.

Mrs McNamee

Oak Class:

Year 6 had a brilliant time at Junior Citizens today, taking part in a range of practical activities designed to help them stay safe in different situations. The children worked through eight different scenarios, learning how to respond in an emergency and how to prevent situations from becoming unsafe. They particularly enjoyed making practice 999 calls and demonstrated great maturity and teamwork throughout the day.

Mrs Greenway and Mr Smith

Attendance Update

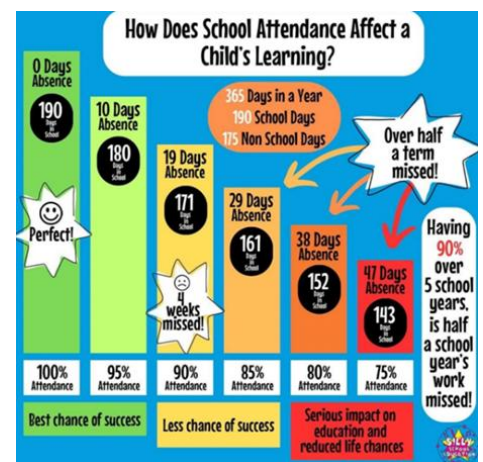
Whole school attendance: 95.6%

Congratulations Pine Class 98.86% attendance.

If you are not sure if your child is well enough to come to school please check the following guidance: [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)

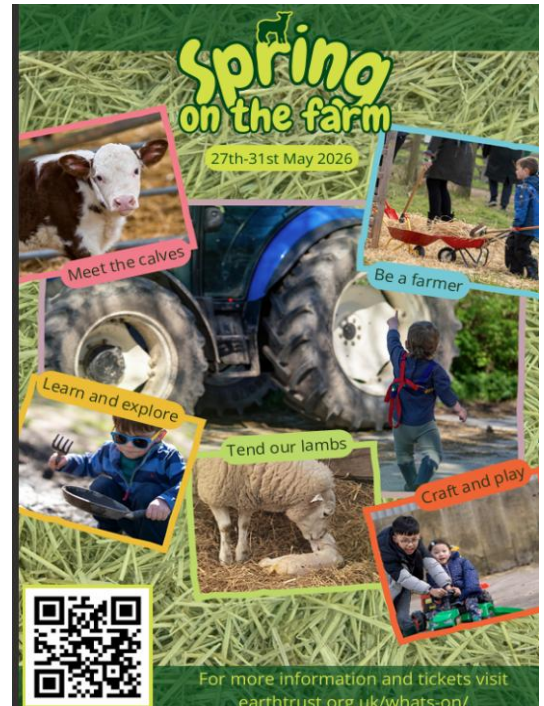
Oxfordshire SEND Local Offer

Parents and carers can find comprehensive information about support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) through the **Oxfordshire SEND Local Offer**. It brings together guidance, services, and resources for ages 0–25, including help with identifying needs, accessing support, and understanding Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). Visit the Local Offer to explore what's available and how to access support: [Oxfordshire SEND local offer | Oxfordshire County Council](#)



This May half term, Earth Trust invites families to Spring on the Farm, a hands-on Springtime adventure for curious young nature explorers. Step into the role of the farmer and help with real jobs on the farm – filling water buckets, topping up hay for the cows, and feeding the sheep. Meet the calves and lambs already thriving on the farm and discover what it takes to care for animals at this busy time of year! Explore the fields and gardens to uncover the minibeasts and wildlife that flourish here, thanks to the nature-friendly way we farm around the Wittenham Clumps.

Spring on the Farm is designed especially for families with children aged 2-8, and makes for a relaxed and joyful alternative to busy holiday attractions. Please click here to learn more about the event.



Your pre-school needs you!

Would you like to be more involved in Pre-School?
Have you considered becoming a Trustee?

We are a committee-run, not-for-profit charity organisation, and can only operate with the support of our Trustees!

Anyone can become a Trustee, and the commitment level can vary depending on how much time you are able to give – let us know if you or someone you know might be interested.

Thank you.

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Email: office@long-wittenham.school

Dates for your Diaries 2025-2026	
	Start of Summer Term Bright Sparks Science After School Club (every Monday, 13 th April-18 th May) Forest School for Acorn & Birch Class (every Monday, 13 th April-18 th May)
Wednesday 15 th April	Elite After School Football Club (every Wednesday, 15 th April-15 th July)
Friday 22 nd May	INSET DAY – no pupils
Monday 25 th May to Friday 29 th May	Half Term Break
Monday 1 st June	INSET DAY – no pupils
Wednesday 3 rd June	Oak Class – Harwell Campus
Week beginning 8 th June	Phonics screening check
Thursday 11 th June	Acorn & Birch Classes – Earth Trust
Wednesday 17 th June	Oak Class – Little Mermaid & Jr
Friday 19 th June	Acorn Class Assembly 3:00pm
Monday 22 nd June	Aureus Rising Y7 SEN Transition Day
Tuesday 30 th June	iRock Concert 2:30pm
Thursday 2 nd July	Rising year 7 transition day at Wallingford
Tuesday 7 th July and Wednesday 8 th July	Rising year 7 transition days at St Birinus, Didcot Girls' and Aureus
Friday 10 th July	Celebration Assembly
Wednesday 15 th July	Oak Class Performance 2pm & 6pm
Friday 17 th July	Year 6 Leavers' church service End of term – break up at 1:30pm