

Monday 19th October 2026

Long Wittenham C.E. Primary School



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

This week in Assembly, we began learning about the protected characteristics and why they are important in helping to create a fair and inclusive society. We explored how these characteristics are often part of what makes each of us unique and special. As a school community, we reflected on the fact that although we are all different, we are all equally important and we all belong. Using the analogy of a jigsaw puzzle, we considered how every individual is a valuable piece of our school community. Just as a puzzle would not be complete if pieces were missing, our school is strongest when everyone feels included, respected and valued for who they are. The children showed great thoughtfulness as they celebrated the similarities and differences between themselves and others, recognising that our diversity helps make our school the vibrant and welcoming place it is.



We are all different.
We are all valued.
We all belong.

Oak Class Assembly

It was lovely to end last week with Oak Class Assembly. The children spoke confidently about the fantastic writing they have produced inspired by *Into the Forest*, showcasing both their creativity and growing confidence as writers. They also presented their impressive self-portraits, explaining how they had developed their drawing skills and used a range of mixed-media techniques to create detailed and expressive artwork.

One of the highlights of the assembly was seeing the children take on the role of teachers themselves. They confidently invited volunteers from the audience to help demonstrate the life cycle of a bird, engaging everyone in their learning and showcasing excellent leadership, communication and presentation skills.

It was a wonderful celebration of the breadth of learning that takes place in Oak Class and an opportunity for the children to showcase their knowledge, creativity and confidence. We were incredibly proud of how well they represented themselves and our school.

Important Dates

We are looking forward to welcoming prospective families to our wonderful school on **Wednesday 21st October at 9:30am**. If you know of any families with children due to start school in **September 2027**, please help us spread the word and encourage them to come along and see what our school has to offer.

Also on **Wednesday 21st October**, I am looking forward to welcoming **Reception (Acorn Class)** and **Year 1 (Birch Class)** parents to a **Phonics Information Session**. During this session, we will explain how we teach phonics and early reading, share the approaches we use to develop confident readers, and outline how we prepare children for the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check. We hope this will provide parents with a helpful insight into our phonics programme and ways they can support reading at home.

Miss Clarke

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Attendance

As we approach the end of the half term, it is wonderful to see so many children attending school regularly and making the most of every opportunity. Excellent attendance helps children build confidence, maintain friendships and make strong progress in their learning. Thank you for your continued support in helping us give every child the very best chance to succeed.

Whole School Attendance

Whole school attendance last week was **96.5%**

Congratulations to **Oak Class**, who achieved **100% attendance**.

LONG WITTENHAM C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL
KINDNESS - DETERMINATION - CURIOSITY

**Reception 2027
Open Events**

Open Morning
Wednesday 21st October
at 9.30am

- ✓ Meet our dedicated team
- ✓ Hear about our school vision and values
- ✓ See our school in action
- ✓ Ask any questions

Stay and Play
Friday 13th November at 2.00pm

Spend some time in our Reception Classroom and experience some of the exciting activities our youngest learners enjoy every day.

Contact the School office to book your place. **01865 407850**
office@long-wittenham.school

Long Wittenham Church of England Primary School
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Visit us:
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Important Dates		
Event	Date and time	Who should attend
2026		
Rising Reception Open Morning	Wednesday 21 st October 9.30am	Parents with children starting in September 2027
Phonics Information Meeting	Wednesday 21 st October 6.00pm	Reception and Y1 Parents
Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church	Thursday 22 nd October 2.30pm	Whole School Community
PTA Autumn Disco	Friday 23 rd October 4.30pm – 6.00pm	Children from all year groups
Parents Evening	Tuesday 3 rd November Wednesday 4 th November	Parents and children
School Photographer	Thursday 5 th November	Pupils – in school
Rising Reception Stay and Play	Friday 13 th November 2.00pm	Parents with children starting in September 2027
Children in Need	Friday 13 th November	Whole School
Celebration Assembly	Friday 13 th November 3.00pm	Whole School Community
Celebration Assembly	Friday 27 th November 3.00pm	Whole School Community
Christingle Service at St Mary's Church	Wednesday 9 th December 4.00pm	Whole School Community
Acorn and Birch Class Nativity	Wednesday 16 th December 10.00am and 2.00pm	Acorn and Birch families
End of term	Friday 18 th December 1.30 finish	
2027		
Pine Class Assembly	Friday 5 th February 3.00pm	Whole School Community
Birch Class Assembly	Friday 23 rd April 3.00pm	Whole School Community
Acorn Class Assembly	Friday 11 th June 3.00pm	Whole School Community