

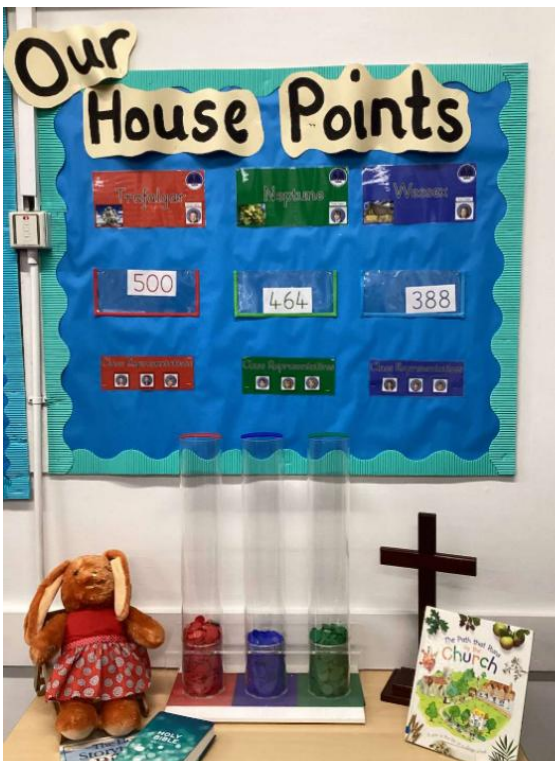
Friday 9th October 2026

Long Wittenham C.E. Primary School



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

This week, our collective worship has focused on the theme of **leadership** and what it means to be a leader of others. Together, we explored the qualities that make an effective leader and concluded that leadership is not limited to specific roles; instead, every member of our school community has the opportunity to demonstrate leadership through their actions each day. The children identified that leaders at Long Wittenham **include, encourage and inspire others**, and we discussed what these qualities look like in practice, from supporting friends in the classroom and on the playground to setting a positive example through our behaviour and attitudes.



As part of this learning, we reflected on how our developing leadership strands link directly to our vision of **strengthening ourselves and our community**. We also explored the meaning of the word *empathy* and considered why understanding and valuing the feelings and perspectives of others is such an important leadership quality. The children shared thoughtful examples of how empathy helps us build positive relationships, make fair decisions and support those around us.

Our School Council has certainly got off to a flying start this year and is already demonstrating these leadership qualities in action. Determined to make a positive difference both within and beyond our school community, council members decided at their first meeting that each house should work towards supporting a charity during the year. Demonstrating democracy in action, the whole school took part in a vote to decide which charities would be supported. Our House Captains have continued to show excellent leadership by planning and leading an assembly to help pupils decide how we can begin supporting our chosen charities. It has been wonderful to see the enthusiasm, commitment and sense of responsibility shown by our School Council, and we look forward to

seeing the positive impact they will have throughout the year.

Miss Clarke

Telephone: 01865 407850

Email: office@long-wittenham.school

Attendance

Every day in school counts. Regular attendance supports children's learning, friendships, confidence and wellbeing, and we appreciate the efforts families make to ensure children attend school whenever they are able to do so.

We also recognise that parents sometimes need advice and support regarding their child's health and wellbeing. The School Nursing Service is available to provide guidance on a range of topics, including physical health, emotional wellbeing, sleep, healthy lifestyles and other concerns that may affect children and families. Early support and advice can often help address issues before they become bigger challenges.

When your child is unwell and you are unsure whether they should attend school, the NHS provides helpful guidance through its '*Is my child too ill for school?*' resource, which outlines when children should stay at home and when they can return to school.

ParentLine **0-4 years** **Text: 07312263081**

ParentLine **5-11 years** **Text: 07312263227**

NHS advice: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Whole School Attendance

Whole school attendance has returned to the levels we are aiming, standing at 97% for the last two weeks. Congratulations to **Oak Class**, who achieved **100% attendance**.

This Week's Learning

Acorn Class:

This week in Acorn Class, the children have enjoyed reading Clothesline Clues to the jobs people do and What jobs could you do? They have had some fantastic discussions about the careers they might like to pursue when they grow up and have enjoyed sharing their ideas with their friends. In Maths, the children have been continuing to develop their subitising skills, focusing on perceptual subitising, where they instantly recognise the number of objects in a group without needing to count them. As part of RE lessons, the Acorns have been exploring the importance of positive role models within the Christian faith, including learning about the story of Moses and the qualities that made him a leader. The children have also been learning about the importance of good dental hygiene. They have been discussing how to keep their teeth healthy and practising the correct way to brush their teeth to help develop lifelong healthy habits.

Mrs Beeton & Mrs Humphries

Birch Class:

In Birch class this week, we have been pushing ourselves. Year 2s have been getting to grips with number bonds within 10 (1+9, 2+8, etc.), while year ones have begun to grapple with parts and wholes, the conceptual gateway to addition and subtraction. In English, we have been writing sentences based on a walk through nature, inspired by our book Goodbye Summer, Hello Autumn. We continue to press on in our study of plants in science, and we successfully scouted out our local area in a village walk for Geography.

Mr Bruno

Pine Class:

Pine Class have been writing up their villain fact-files this week. They have been very determined throughout the whole process, from planning and drafting to editing and publishing, and their effort has really paid off, as their fact-files look brilliant. In maths, we have been adding and subtracting across 100. In geography, we learned about how rivers are affected by humans. In science, we investigated magnetic, non-magnetic and repellent materials. In French, we wrote postcards that included questions and answers. In RE, we learned about Sewa and discussed what acts of selfless service we would like to take part in.

Mrs McNamee

Telephone: 01865 407850

Email: office@long-wittenham.school

Oak Class:

This week, we have been planning and beginning to write our own narrative inspired by Into the Forest, focusing on developing suspense, characterisation and descriptive language. In Maths, we have been exploring negative numbers and learning how to compare, order and calculate with them. In RE, we have investigated different artistic and religious representations of the Holy Trinity, considering how Christians express their beliefs. In Science, we have been comparing the life cycles of mammals and birds, identifying similarities and differences in how these animals grow and develop.

Mrs Greenway and Miss Clarke

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
High Street, Long Wittenham, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 4QJ

Visit us:
www.long-wittenham.school



ChatHealth

Parentline 5-11 years

School Health Nursing messaging service for parents and carers of children aged 5-11 years attending state schools or home educated in **Oxfordshire**

Text **School Health Nurses** for advice on issues such as:

- Diet & Healthy Lifestyles
- Toileting
- Sleep
- Bullying
- Support with behaviours
- General & Emotional Health

Text your local School Health Nurses:

07312 263 227

9am - 5pm, Monday to Friday (exc Bank holidays)

Or scan the QR code to start a chat:





We aim to reply to you within one working day and you should get an immediate message back to confirm we have received your text. Texts will only be sent between 9am and 5pm, Monday-Friday excluding bank holidays. If you need help before you hear back from us contact your GP, request walk in centre or A&E. Our text number does not receive video calls or MMS picture messages. Your messages are stored and can be seen by other health care staff who follow the same confidentiality rules.

We support messaging from UK mobile numbers only (which does not include messages sent from landlines, international mobile numbers and some 'number masking' mobile apps). We might inform other relevant professionals if we were concerned about your safety, but we would usually speak to you first. To prevent the health professional from sending messages to you, text STOP to our number. Messages are charged at your usual rates.

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Important Dates		
Event	Date and time	Who should attend
2026		
Oak Class Assembly	Friday 16 th October 3.00pm	Whole School Community
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
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