



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

Message from the Headteacher:

Welcome back! I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and New Year and are feeling ready to get back into a routine. We started the week with an INSET day, where the teachers participated in *The Great Big Small School INSET Day*. This was a great opportunity to connect with other small schools across the country, reflect on the benefits of working in a small school, and share best practices.

It has been lovely to welcome the children back on Tuesday, and they've returned to school with a fantastic attitude to learning. Equally, it's been great to see them enjoying some crisp playtimes together.

I also attended the RET Primary Headteachers meeting, where we discussed trust priorities and continued our work on the trust-wide Primary Teaching and Learning Framework. It's always lovely to catch up with the other heads and share ideas about teaching and learning.

Update from class teachers:

Owls Class

Owls Class has had a fantastic start to the new term! We've been reading and discussing the delightful story *The First Day of Winter*, which included learning how to build a snowman! The children have been observing seasonal changes and sharing what they've noticed now that winter is here. They've especially enjoyed exploring ice during outdoor play in the class garden!

In maths, we've been focusing on developing perceptual subitising skills, helping the children understand quantities without needing to count. They've also been making great progress during our group reading sessions. I hope you're enjoying sharing their reading books at home – they are doing wonderfully!

Well done, Owls Class! Keep up the amazing work, and thank you for your continued support. **Mrs Beeton & Mrs Humphries**

Parrots Class

Parrots Class has had an exciting week! We've been reading the book *Lost and Found*, and a lost penguin even arrived in our classroom! The children worked hard to create lost posters in an effort to reunite the penguin with its home. In science, we've been exploring the concept of "alive, not alive, never alive." In art, we began our printing journey, starting with printing using our hands. In geography, we've been learning about hot and cold places around the world. **Miss Clarke**

Eagles Class

Eagles have shown great enthusiasm for learning this week! In English, we started *The King Who Banned the Dark*, focusing on key vocabulary and writing direct speech. We've also continued reading *Oliver* and

the Seawigs. In Maths, we're working on multiplication and division, focusing on multi-step problems. In science, we've begun our topic on Electricity, and the children impressed me with their prior knowledge.

Mrs McNamee

Penguins Class

Penguins Class has had a busy week! In maths, we've been learning about division, covering both short division and division using factors. In English, we started reading *The Explorer* and explored how language choice can create effect. In science, we began our new topic on evolution and inheritance. In art, we learned about Syrian-born artist Kevork Mourad. **Mrs Greenway & Mrs Fraser**

Attendance:

Attendance this week is fantastic! Well done everybody!

Whole School Attendance 98.53% Congratulations to Owls & Parrots Class 100% attendance

Reminders:

- Forest School begins for year 5 group on Monday 13th January. Please ensure your child has plenty of warm clothes

Spring Term 2025	
Year 5 Group 1 Forest School	Begins Tuesday 13 th January
Parrots Class Assembly	Friday 7 th February
Spring Half Term	Monday to Friday 17 th -21 th February
World Book Day	Thursday 6 th March
Eagles Class assembly	Friday 28 th March
Easter Service	Friday 4 th April 12:30 for a 1:30 finish
Easter Holiday	Monday 7 th April to Monday 21 st April
Summer Term 2025	
Term Begins	Tuesday 22 nd April
Parents Evening	Wednesday 23 rd April 5-7pm Thursday 24 th April 3:30-5:30pm
Bank Holiday	Monday 5 th May
SAT Week	W/B Monday 12 th May
INSET DAY (No Children)	Friday 23 rd May
Summer Half Term	Monday 26 th May – Friday 30 th May
RET Trust Day (No Children)	Monday 2 nd June
Phonics Screening check	Week beginning 9 th June
Owls Class Assembly	Friday 13 th June 3pm
Sports Day	Tuesday 15 th July 10:00am
Oxford Swimming Gala Provisional Date	Thursday 19 th June
Penguins Class Residential PGL Liddington	Monday 7 th July-Wednesday 9 th July
Leavers Service	Tuesday 22 nd July 12:30
Term Ends	Tuesday 22 nd July at 1.30pm