

Friday 9th January 2026

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

RET Pride

We are delighted that Rachael Warwick, former Chief Executive Officer of Ridgeway Education Trust, has been awarded the MBE in the recent honours list. This is very well-deserved recognition of the contribution Rachael has made to the education sector and in particular to the growth and success of our Trust. We are extremely proud of all she has achieved.



Introducing Jigsaw PSHE and RE

We are excited to share that this year we are adopting Jigsaw PSHE and RE as our whole-school approach to supporting children's personal development, wellbeing, and learning.

What is Jigsaw?

Jigsaw is a comprehensive programme that teaches Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education, alongside Relationships and Health Education. Its aim is to help children understand themselves and others, build positive relationships, stay healthy, and develop skills for life.

The programme is delivered in age-appropriate units across the school and includes themes such as:

- Being part of a community
- Celebrating differences
- Hopes and goals
- Healthy choices
- Relationships
- Changes and growing up

Why are we using it?

Jigsaw aligns with national curriculum expectations, safeguarding, and equality duties, and places children's wellbeing at its heart. It helps pupils to:

- Develop emotional literacy and resilience
- Build self-esteem and confidence
- Learn about healthy friendships and relationships
- Understand and manage feelings
- Prepare for life beyond primary school

The programme also makes use of mindfulness, giving children strategies to calm, focus, and reflect — skills that support both learning and mental health. Please see further details in the leaflet attached.

Telephone: 01865 407850

Email: office.3233@long-wittenham.oxon.sch.uk

Class Charters

As part of the Jigsaw PSHE programme, each class agrees to a Jigsaw Charter, which outlines how we speak and listen to one another respectfully and kindly. The Charter includes simple but powerful behaviours such as taking turns to speak, using kind and positive words, listening to each other, respecting privacy, and using names only when giving compliments or being positive (as shown on the charter poster).

We would love to encourage families to refer to the Jigsaw Charter at home, especially during shared discussions such as mealtimes, car journeys, or resolving disagreements. Using the same language and expectations helps children develop confidence, respect, and emotional regulation both in school and in family life.

Even small phrases like “*Let’s take turns to speak*” or “*We use kind words*” can make a big difference — and children love recognising routines from school!

If you’d like a printed copy of the Charter for home, please just ask — we are happy to share it.

RE Integration

Alongside PSHE, we are also using Jigsaw resources to support our RE curriculum. This helps children explore beliefs, values, and faith perspectives in a respectful and thoughtful way, promoting understanding and cultural awareness.

This Weeks Learning

Acorn Class: This week in Acorn Class, the children have been enjoying the story *The First Day of Winter* and writing a list of items needed to make a snowman using nouns and adjectives. In maths the children have been developing their perceptual subitising skills by carefully observing different arrangements of dots and explaining how many they can see. Acorn Class have also been exploring the seasonal changes from autumn to winter and have had great fun investigating ice while playing in the garden. **Mrs Beeton & Mrs Humphries**

Birch Class: This week, Birch Class have begun their new geography topic on oceans and continents. In English, they have been reading *The Secret of Black Rock* and have written warnings about the dangers of going near the rock. They have also been learning about why Shabbat is important to Jewish people and, in PSHE, thinking about shared similarities between ourselves and others. **Miss Clarke**

Pine Class: Pine Class have settled back into the new term brilliantly. We have begun lots of new units this week and they have showed great curiosity. In reading we have started a book called *Krindlekrax* by Philip Ridley. In writing we have started to study *The Tear Thief* by Carol Ann Duffy, exploring the many ways we can describe tears. We have started our new geography unit all about mountains. In science we had a very noisy lesson as our new unit is learning all about sound. Lastly in art today we focused on picture book illustrations and how we can learn a lot from just looking at the pictures before we start to use drawing as a tool for storytelling. **Mrs McNamee**

Oak Class: This week in maths, Oak Class have been learning to multiply fractions by whole numbers. In English, they have been exploring subordinating and coordinating conjunctions, as well as modal verbs, and have been using these effectively in their writing. In art, the children have begun their topic on the link between art and activism by learning about the artists Luba Lukova, Faith Ringgold and Kate DeCicco. They produced some fabulous work, capturing their learning visually. **Mrs Greenway & Mrs Fraser**

Telephone: 01865 407850

Email: office.3233@long-wittenham.oxon.sch.uk



Attendance Update

Whole school attendance: 94.51%
Congratulation Pine Class for 100% 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](#)

Early Help

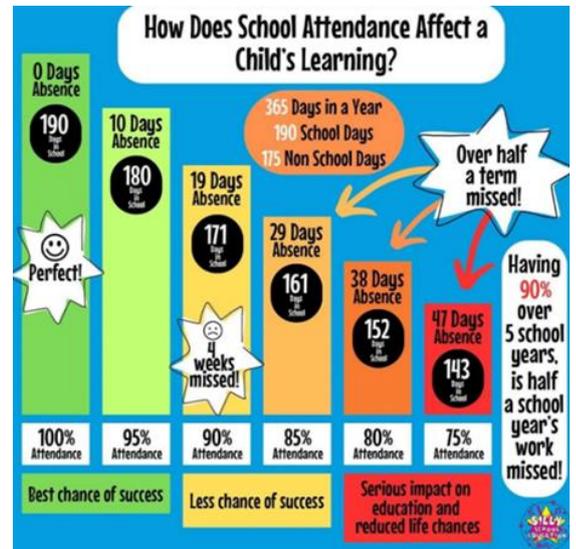
All families need support at different times, and we are open to talking about this so that we can assist you or recommend other resources that could be helpful. Early Help support is available to all families via any professional, helping to identify and address issues early. For details, see: [Early-help-guide-for-families-Sept-2023.pdf](#)

This can be a valuable resource, and we are happy to guide you in accessing it if needed.

New Guidance for Parents and Carers: Managing Children's Digital Lives

A new national guide has been published by the Children's Commissioner to support parents and carers in navigating children's online lives. *What I wish my parents or carers knew* draws directly on the voices of children and young people, offering practical insight into setting healthy, protective boundaries around technology, social media and smartphones. We encourage families to read the guide and use it to support conversations at home about online safety and wellbeing.

['What I wish my parents or carers knew...': A guide for parents and carers on managing children's digital lives | Children's Commissioner for England](#)



Dates for your Diaries 2025-2026	
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

Telephone: 01865 407850

Email: office.3233@long-wittenham.oxon.sch.uk

Wednesday 14th January, 10am-12.30pm at Pendon Museum

This is a free drop-in event, with just a small charge for drinks and cake to cover the costs. All donations from the cakes go to support a local group, so please go along and support it if you can. The café is friendly to dog walkers, but they will need to have their refreshment outside with their dog(s).

Free activity sessions

WED 14 JANUARY - 11 FEBRUARY

Cholsey Pavilion, Station Road,
OX10 9PT

3.30-4.00pm
Age 2-4 Born to Move
Story based fitness adventure, where will we go next - library, toy box. Come along and explore with us.

4.15-5pm
Age 5-12 Born to Move
Fitness session to music with tracks including dance, kick, punch, jump, yoga and even games.

SCAN ME



FREE

For more information and to book, visit southandvale.gov.uk/termtimeactivities or scan the QR code

 /ActiveCommunitiesSouthandVale



OXFORDSHIRE WE ARE WITH YOU FORUM

JOIN OUR SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY!

We aim to walk with you on your Parent/Carer journey
A warm, parent session for anyone caring for a child or young
adult (up to age 25) facing mental health challenges.

Connect • Share • Learn Join us online or in person for relaxed,
insightful sessions led by:

- Parent Peer Support Workers
- Social Prescribers
- CAMHS Mental Health Professionals

Explore topics around mental health and neurodiversity in a
safe, welcoming space.

★ Plus: Special Guest Events Hear from professionals and
services across the field! and getting out in nature.



**TO REGISTER FOLLOW
THE LINK OR QR :**



WWW.OXFORDHEALTH.NHS.UK/CAMHS/INVOLVEMENT/OXON/WHY/

Operation Encompass is a national scheme that operates jointly between schools and all police forces.

“ Children who live in homes where there is domestic abuse, or who experience domestic abuse in their own teenage relationships, can be negatively impacted by this experience. ”

“ Children who experience domestic abuse are recognised as victims of domestic abuse in their own right¹. ”

“ We have ensured that a member of our staff, (Designated Safeguarding Lead) known as a Key Adult, has been trained about Operation Encompass procedures. This allows us to use the information that has been confidentially shared with us by the police, to understand how a child may be impacted by domestic abuse and to then offer support to the child/ren in our care. ”

“ Operation Encompass means that our school will be told, prior to the start of the next school day, when police have attended an incident of domestic abuse where there is a child or young person who attends our school who is related to any of those involved in the incident. ”

“ This information means that we can understand a child's behaviour and support that child in whatever way they may need or want. ”

“ We are keen to offer the very best support possible to all our pupils and we believe that being part of Operation Encompass helps us to do this. ”

¹ Domestic Abuse Act 2021

www.operationencompass.org