



Ightham Primary School Newsletter

11th September 2026

This Week



It was wonderful to see so many children and staff dressed up for Roald Dahl Day — the costumes were brilliant and everyone rose to the occasion (even Mrs Trunchbull behaved!). Thank you to parents for supporting the day; the children enjoyed the listening to stories and completing Roald Dahl activities.

The children have started their new topics and have been keen to tell me about their learning during my classroom visits. We've already seen some excellent curiosity and effort across year groups. Please ask your child about the learning they have done in school. You will be astounded by their knowledge.

Thank you to everyone who attended our Meet the Teacher sessions. We hope you found them useful. For families who could not make it, we will share the presentation slides by email shortly.

We also have an Open Books session this month so parents can see the learning produced so far this term.

To improve home-school communication we are rolling out ClassDojo, a secure platform for messages, photos and updates between class teams and parents. ClassDojo also supports positive behaviour through individual pupil avatars and "monster points" for effort and learning. Please look out for the letter and your email invitation with instructions to join.

We're excited to host Rocksteady next Tuesday for an assembly and band workshops. Children will have the chance to join a Rocksteady band; places are limited and will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis through Rocksteady. The school is not involved with the books. Look out for the sign-up letter.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,

Ms Earl





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School Responsibilities

I am pleased to announce the following children have been given whole school responsibilities: Congratulations to all!

School Council

Year 6

Rufus, Grace, Sofia & Marlowe

Year 5

Joelle & Olivia

Year 4

Luke & Lovenna

Year 3

Felix & Maddie

Eco Council

Year 6

Joshua, Evren, Millie & Esme

Year 5

Albert & Finley

Year 4

Torben & Thea

Year 3

Jess & Charlie T

Science Ambassadors

Year 6

Lucy & Oliver

Year 5

Annabelle & Aulban

Year 4

Aelwen & Freddie H

Year 3

Grayson & Heidi



Acorn Class

We have had another fun week at school! The children are all doing so well at learning the rules and routines of school. They have shown fantastic resilience when taking part in all the new learning and routines such as carrying our trays during lunch time and playing on the big playground for the first time! We have begun phonics this week and the children have impressed us so much with their good listening skills on the carpet and how well they've used their robot arms and blending hands to read words! Mrs Parkinson took the children for a walk around our lovely woodland area on Friday afternoon. The children enjoyed exploring where we will take part in forest school each week!



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Pine Class

Year 1 have had another wonderful week as we continue to settle into our new routines. We have excitedly started Forest School and have loved exploring and learning outdoors. The rope swing was a particular highlight this week. In English, we have finished our wonderful book *The Dot* and have now moved on to *Ish*, by the same author, Peter H. Reynolds. The children have absolutely amazed me with their fabulous writing! They are composing beautiful sentences and remembering to use capital letters and full stops incredibly well. In Maths, we have been busy representing numbers using objects and recognising numbers when they are written as words. The children particularly enjoyed creating their own 'number family trees', showing the numeral, number word and pictorial representation of each number. Finally, the children looked absolutely fabulous in their costumes today for Roald Dahl Day! We have had great fun looking closely at the brilliant *The Enormous Crocodile* and creating our very own crocodiles. We hope you enjoy meeting the crocodiles they have brought home! What a fantastic week!



Chestnut Class

We have had a great week in year 2, which has been filled with lots of learning and fun! In maths, we have focused on place value, using base ten to help lay out numbers in order to understand how many tens and ones make up a number. In reading, we have read *Grandad's Island* and the children have enjoyed looking at the pictures and inferring what help the different animals gave to characters Grandad and Syd. During history we looked at sorting events into chronological order and the children created a timeline of their lives so far, before we start our Great Fire of London topic soon! Finally in science the children began our topic of Living things and their habitats, by observing different animals using different senses and thinking about where they may live. The children also had great fun on their one-off swimming afternoon and we are looking forward to starting cricket next week!

Willow Class

What a wonderful week we have had in Year 3! We have been busy creating some fantastic poetry and developing our writing skills, while continuing to build our understanding of place value in Maths. In History, we have started exploring the fascinating world of the Stone Age, and in Science we have begun learning all about rocks. We have also taken our first steps into learning French, developing some new vocabulary and phrases. To celebrate Roald Dahl Day, we got creative and made our very own birds inspired by *The Magic Finger*. It has been a fun-filled week of learning, creativity and discovery!



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Elm Class

Year 4 have had a busy week! We dived headfirst into the world of poetry by exploring how we write, perform and improve cinquain and haiku poems. In maths we have spent time looking at numbers up to 10,000, both building and partitioning. We have also started our new science and history topics where we have thought about why the Anglo-Saxons came to England as well as how we can identify living things.

On Thursday the children enjoyed starting our art topic of drawing where we did some continuous line drawings of still life. To finish this week off we have had Roald Dahl day, where I was so pleased to see the effort the children put in to their costumes as well as how much fun they all had guessing what each other were. Well done year 4 for a fabulous week!



Beech Class

This week, the children have really embraced their maths, focusing on Place Value and numbers up to 1,000,000.

'Shackleton's Journey' has produced some challenging vocabulary that the children are now using in their writing as they learn the skills for writing a formal letter of application.

The children were excited to have their first Forest School session of the academic year this week and have arrived in school today dressed in an array of fantastic Roald Dahl costume! Our focus this afternoon has been on the book 'Esio Trot'.



Oak Class

Oak Class began their reading and writing curriculum this week. In writing, pupils practised using time phrases to show chronology and relative clauses to add extra information. They also enjoyed their first science lesson, as well as music and PE with Mrs Parkinson. On Friday, as part of the school's Roald Dahl Day, the class used The Witches to explore the importance of Public Service Announcements.



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PSA

Team PSA

Events planned for this term:

7th Oct—Bags2school

9th Oct—Family quiz night details to follow

16th - Oct TT Rockstar dress up

16th— Oct Bake sale after school.

If anyone would like to know a bit more about the PSA or like to get involved in helping at events, please come and find one of us for a chat, would be great to have some new members.

Next PSA meeting 6th Oct at the George and Dragon 7.30pm

Dannie & Emma

Awards and Certificates

The **Gold Cup** was awarded to: Elijah—Y3

Head Teacher certificates were awarded to:

Acorn Class—certificates start soon!

Pine Class—Theo & Sienna

Chestnut Class—Bessie & Kai

Willow Class— Charlie M & Jess

Elm Class— Leo & Lovenna

Beech Class— Lily & Gracie

Oak Class— Alex A & Zac

Maple Ready Award was presented to
Class Year 3

Well done to all!

House Points

The House Points accumulated this term:

Mote	Chartwell	Knole	Oldbury
2	5	8	5

Well done to Knole House who had the most House Points this week .



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School Calendar

2026-2027

Term 1: 1st September-19th October

Term 2: 2nd November—18th December

Term 3: 4th January— 12th February

Term 4: 22nd February—25th March

Term 5: 12th April—28th May

Term 6: 7th June—23rd July

Inset days:

27th & 28th August

2nd November

4th January

7th June

Upcoming dates

15th September Rock Steady Workshop

16th September School Values meeting , 9:00am, school hall.

17th September Year 4 swimming starts

24th September Open Books 3:20-4:00pm

1st October KS2 Harvest Service, St Peter's Church, 9:15am

2nd October KS1 Harvest assembly, 9:00, school hall

5th October Year 6 Community Afternoon

9th October Individual and sibling photos

12th & 13th October Year 5 Mini Medics

16th October Last day of term

2nd November Inset Day

9th November Antibullying week

7th December Flu vaccinations

Attendance and Lateness We are expecting attendance of 96% or above. The attendance for this week is:

Acorn	Pine	Chestnut	Willow	Elm	Beech	Oak	Whole School	National
96.67%	99.39%	99.69%	98.62%	99.06%	98.78%	99.67%	98.99%	94.5%

Number of lates	Acorn	Pine	Chestnut	Willow	Elm	Beech	Oak	Whole School
	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2

It is important that the children attend school every day. If you unsure if your child is well enough to attend school, please look at the NHS guidance. <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>