



Ightham Primary School Newsletter

25th September 2026



This Week

We have had another eventful week at Ightham and I am very proud of how our children have represented the school. On Monday a Year 5 & 6 Tag Rugby team competed against other Sevenoaks schools and finished second overall. They drew one match, lost one and won four with a brilliant display of skill, teamwork and sportsmanship from every player. Yesterday another Year 5 & 6 team took part in the Pioneer Academy Cross Country event. The course was tough, but the children showed real resilience and determination; well done to all who ran.

Thank you to the families who came in to look at children's books this week. It has been a pleasure to see so many of you celebrating the learning that has taken place in these first few weeks of term. Seeing pupils' work always gives a lovely insight into classroom life and is something children and parents enjoy. Parent consultations will take place at the end of term and will be a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress and next steps in more detail. We will send booking information and available times nearer the date.

The children are working hard rehearsing for our Harvest celebrations. We look forward to welcoming you to the KS1 service in the school hall on Thursday and the KS2 service at St Peter's Church on Friday. These events are always a highlight and a wonderful moment to celebrate as a community.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes, Ms Earl



Acorn Class

This week our focus book has been 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen. The children have really enjoyed completing the different challenges linked to the story, including using the skill of cutting and sticking to collage their own mud, bears and snow storms, retelling the story using positional language and building their own bear cave using our den equipment outside! The children all showed fantastic resilience when drawing their own story maps for the story and retold the main events using lovely vocabulary! In maths we have learnt to compare groups through counting how many objects are in each group and saying which group had 'more' and 'fewer'. The children were all great at this, please do ask them to 'wow' you with this at home!



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Pine Class

Pine Class have had a wonderfully busy week as we prepare for our Harvest Assembly. The children have been practising their songs and learning their lines with great enthusiasm — please do keep practising with them at home so they can perform loud and clearly on the day. In Maths, we have been working on counting back and finding one less, using practical activities to help deepen understanding. In English, we have begun our new book *Beegu* by Alexis Deacon; the children have loved getting to know the character and have already produced some fabulous sentences inspired by the story. We have also been exploring how trees change throughout the seasons, noticing the colours, shapes and patterns that make each season special. It has been a joyful week of learning and creativity in Pine Class.

Chestnut Class

We have been super busy in year 2 this week!

As mathematicians, we have been using number lines to estimate where numbers belong, this has led to us looking at greater and less than facts.

We have continued to explore the use of expanded noun phrases and adverbs to bolster our character description skills.

During science, we looked at how we would discover answers to scientific questions and in geography we learnt about the difference between human and physical geographical features. We then took a trip round our local area on google earth to spot any examples.

With Mr Marshall, the bats came out and we practiced playing cricket shots along the floor. Defiantly some future Joe Roots in the making!

Finally, we have been polishing up our harvest performance.

Willow Class

This week in Year 3, we have begun writing our wonderful descriptive stories, using the first person to bring our mysterious settings to life. In Science, we continued exploring how rocks are formed and enjoyed examining the fascinating rocks some of the children brought in from home. We have also started reading *Pebble in My Pocket*, which links brilliantly with our learning about rocks and takes us on the incredible journey of a pebble through time!





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Elm Class

Well done Year 4 for another fantastic week! We have been busy this week writing our persuasive online safety campaigns in English and have enjoyed learning about rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000 in maths. On Wednesday afternoon we took to the school garden on an

'invertebrate hunt' to see what creatures we could find and talk about why we think they might make their homes there. The children really enjoyed doing some learning out in the sunshine and being able to make their own observations as scientists.



Beech Class

This week the children have been busy writing their formal letters of application to Shackleton – they have worked hard and should be very proud of the writing they have produced! In Science on Monday, we made predictions and tested the solubility of different substances in water. Much excitement was had with an egg in a glass of saturated salt water – causing it to float at different levels! 'Gloop' was also made with cornflour and water. In computing this week, the children began using '2Quiz' to create interactive questions on the theme of 'sea world'. Beforehand, they needed to consider and discuss what makes a good quiz.

Oak Class

From the centre of the Earth to stepping into someone else's shoes!

It's been a busy week in Year 6. We've begun revising calculation methods in maths, explored Frida Kahlo's distinctive portrait style, and investigated the layers that make up our planet. In English, we've used empathy and inference to write autobiographically as fictional or real-life characters. We've also brought our electricity topic to a close with our final science lesson.



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PSA NEWSLETTER

Supporting our school, our children, our community

Together we make a difference!

UPCOMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY 7TH OCTOBER

Bags2School®



Bring your filled bags to the car park before school drop off. ❤️

FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER

FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT

6.30pm
Ightham Village Hall

£10 adults £5 child
Tickets at shopighthamspa.com

FRIDAY 16TH OCTOBER

TT ROCKSTARS DRESS UP DAY!



£1 to take part

Dress as a rock star and help raise funds for our school!

FRIDAY 16TH OCTOBER

SPOOKY CAKE SALE



After school

Cake donations welcome in the morning!



DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE MONTHLY GIVING

If you cannot attend any events, you can still support the PSA through our monthly giving.

Every little bit helps! ❤️

Registered Charity Number 280076 Friends • Fundraising • Fun Together we make a difference! ❤️

Awards and Certificates

The **Gold Cup** was awarded to:

No Gold Cup winner this week

Head Teacher certificates

were awarded to:

Acorn Class—Lincoln & Zohan

Pine Class— Phoebe & Rohan

Chestnut Class— Elsie & Indie

Willow Class— Arthur & Cece

Elm Class— Alba & Jack

Beech Class— Brooke & Raphael

Oak Class— Malachy & Marlowe

Maple Ready Award was presented to **Willow Class**.

Well done to all!

House Points

The House Points accumulated this term:

Mote	Chartwell	Knole	Oldbury
7	8	16	9

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

1st October KS1 Harvest assembly, 9:00, school hall (please note change of date)

2nd October KS2 Harvest Service, St Peter's Church, 9:15am (please note change of date)

5th October Year 6 Community Afternoon

9th October Individual and sibling photos

12th & 13th October Year 5 Mini Medics

12th October Parent Consultations

14th October Parent Consultations

16th October TTRS Day

16th October Last day of term

2nd November Inset Day

16th November Antibullying week

16th November Art 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
97.56%	99.35%	98.66%	98.72%	98.22%	95.61%	96.31%	96.31%	94.5%

Number of lates	Acorn	Pine	Chestnut	Willow	Elm	Beech	Oak	Whole
	1	1	3	0	0	0	1	6

It is important that the children attend school every day. If you are 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/>