



Ightham Primary School Newsletter

Friday 9th September 2022

Issue 1 2022-2023

Term Dates

Term 1 – Monday 5th September to Friday 21st October

Term 2 – Monday 31st October to Friday 16th December

Term 3 – Wednesday 4th January to Friday 10th February

Term 4 - Monday 20th February to Friday 31st March

Term 5 – Monday 17th April to Friday 26th May

Term 6 – Wednesday 7th June to Friday 21st July

Staff Development Days

1st September 2022

2nd September 2022

3rd January 2023

5th June 2023

6th June 2023



Key Dates

W/B Monday 12th September

Y4 and Y5 CATs Tests (two mornings)

Thursday 6th October

KS2 Harvest Festival at St. Peters (9am)

Friday 7th October

KS1/EYFS Harvest Festival (School Hall)

Wednesday 12th October

New Entrants' Meeting for Sept 2023 (School Hall, 2pm)

Dear Parent/Carer,

A very warm welcome to the new academic year. It has been lovely speaking to many of you over the last week or so to either welcome you back to the school or to greet you for the first time at Ightham. I would like to particularly welcome our new children and families that have joined us over the summer. I hope your child settles quickly at Ightham and enjoys their time with us.

I would like to formally welcome Mrs Owlett, Mrs Snow and Miss Allen to our teaching team. I would also like to welcome Ms Whiting, who joins us as a Teaching Assistant, and Mrs Pearson, who joins us as a Midday Meals Supervisor. I am sure everyone will extend a warm welcome to them and I hope they are very happy in their new roles with us.

I am delighted to tell you that Miss Cook is celebrating the arrival of her baby daughter. Both mum and baby are doing well! In further lovely news, Mrs Dix is expecting a baby early in the new year. She plans to teach until the end of Term 2.

We held our annual 'Meet The Teacher' meetings on Wednesday afternoon which were, as usual, very well attended. I hope those of you that attended found it informative. Towards the end of last term, we ran a survey asking parents/carers whether they would prefer face-to-face or virtual parent consultations. The results, perhaps unsurprisingly, were indeterminate, with no clear majority for either. For our parent consultations this year, we shall therefore



Head Teacher: Mr D Sherhod, BSc(Hons), PGCE, NPQH
Oldbury Lane, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9DD
Tel: 01732 882405 www.ightham.kent.sch.uk



Attendance

Attendance for this week is as follows:

Pine – 100%

Chestnut – 98.75%

Willow – 100%

Elm – 99.17%

Beech – 97.14%

Oak – 96.55%

Lateness

The number of “lates” recorded this week were as follows:

Pine – 0

Chestnut – 0

Willow – 1

Elm – 0

Beech - 1

Oak - 0



offer some face-to-face consultations and some virtual consultations. There will be a set number of each type of appointment offered and these will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. Further details will be released later in the term.

Spaces in School

We currently have one space in Year 3 and one space in Year 6. Do let your friends know if they are looking for a space at an outstanding community school!

New Entrants' Tours – September 2023

Friday 18th November is now full for the New Entrants' tours. If you have a child starting school in September 2023, do follow the link below for more information about our tours and to sign up for a tour:

<https://ightham.kent.sch.uk/new-entrants-for-2023-school-tours/>

Considerate Driving

At this time of the year, I like to remind all parents/carers of the need for considerate driving and parking. This is for the benefit and safety of our whole school community.

The Governing Body requests that parents park in the Recreation Ground and walk up through the Recreation Ground to the lower entrance. The ONLY exception to this is for those with disabilities and where the family has spoken to me or the School Office. Disabilities may not be obvious.

Please take great care and drive sensibly when driving in Oldbury Lane and Spring Lane; both lanes are narrow and are used by a lot of our families to walk to and from school. Please leave home earlier rather than driving quickly around these lanes as it is dangerous for those families walking in the lanes.

May I also request that parents park carefully in the Recreation Ground. I have already received reports this week of cars being parked haphazardly and with lots of space between parked cars. This means the space is reduced for other people to safely park. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Summer Improvement Work

We have had lighting installed on the footpath leading up to the school from the Recreation Ground (inside the school). Those of you that have walked that footpath in the winter months will be aware of how necessary this lighting is. We have also had new flooring installed in the EYFS toilets and adjacent corridor. We have also had our regular maintenance work done to remove dead wood and so on to keep the ninety trees on site as safe as possible. Parents/carers might be interested to know that the cost of this combined essential work means we have spent the entirety of our school capital budget for the year which remains at just £6,200 per year.

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Ightham Parish Magazine – September

The monthly parish magazine may be accessed following the link below. There is information and photos on p14 and p15 relating to the school. Information is also contained about signing up for Amazon Smile so that the Friends of Ightham School (FOIS) benefits without any cost to you.

<https://online.fliphtml5.com/thbfa/hbzc/>

Year 6 Parents – Secondary School Applications

The online application window for children enrolling into Year 7 in September 2023 **opened on Thursday 1st September 2023 and will close at midnight on Monday 31st October 2023.** Parents in Year 6 should have received a leaflet earlier in the week about this. Please do contact the School Office if you haven't received this information.

School Uniform

We have a large amount of second hand uniform in school. Please contact the School Office – admin@ightham.kent.sch.uk – if you are interested in purchasing second hand uniform. Please be aware that we ask your child to bring a bookbag, and not a rucksack, into school.

Starfish Malawi – Give Babies Light Appeal

Starfish Malawi is running an appeal to raise funds to provide mains power to the Hope Clinic, which includes a maternity wing, in Malawi. The aim is to provide the clinic and maternity wing to have a better quality of lighting and power. You can find out more by following the link below:

<https://starfishmalawi.com/appeals>

Free School Meals

Even if you do not wish to take up Free School Meals for your child, the school still benefits financially if you successfully apply. If you think that your child may be eligible for benefits-related Free School Meals (FSM), then I strongly encourage you to apply using this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Mr D Sherhod

Head Teacher

Ightham Values

Caring
Respect
Responsibility
Tolerance
Aspiration
Honesty

Ightham Vision

Pupils should leave Ightham School with their understanding deepened, their minds enriched, and their hearts inspired, so that they love learning and embrace the challenges of the future.



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Head Teacher Certificates

Head Teacher certificates were awarded to:

Year 1 – Oliver and Gracie
Year 2 – Teddy and Malachy
Year 3 – Poppy P and Philip
Year 4 – Archie and Olivia
Year 5 – Maya and Charley
Year 6 – Dax and Freddie

Well done to all!

Pupil Achievements

Millie in Year 1 won her riding class last weekend – well done Millie!

Evie M, Esme and Flavia (Year 6) took part in “I’m running 31k in July for Great Ormond Street Hospital Children’s Charity”. They raised close to £1,000 – an amazing achievement, well done girls!



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