



Ightham Primary School Newsletter

Friday 20th January 2023



Reading time in Oak Class.

Issue 17 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

3rd January 2023

5th June 2023

6th June 2023

Key Dates

Wednesday 1st February

Chris Knott (Starfish Malawi) into school

Friday 3rd February

Football Tournament at Kemsing

Tuesday 7th February

Safer Internet Day

Thursday 9th February

Y4 Community Afternoon

Friday 10th February

Last day of Term 3

Monday 20th February

First day of Term 4

Wednesday 1st March

Music Hub Concert – Sevenoaks School

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am sure, like me, you are hoping for warmer weather in the not-too-distant future! I have been pleased to note that, finally, South East Water appeared to be addressing the water leaks in Oldbury Lane in the latter half of this week. This has been raised repeatedly in recent weeks as an issue by the office team to the relevant authorities.

We have been notified that Spring Lane will be closed to traffic for the next three weeks due to planned works. Breakfast Club will therefore convene in the Recreation Ground car park for this duration of time. **Please do not drive up Oldbury Lane for drop-off or collection time unless you have a permit from the school to do so.** Permits are only given in exceptional circumstances such as disability. Please note this does not apply to After School Club collection at 5.45-6.00pm.

Alvin Shaw, the local magistrate that visited Year 6 last week, wrote to the School following his visit to say the following: "Once again, the school can be extremely proud of their Year 6 pupils. Their attention, interest, interaction and questions were superb. I am confident they learnt a tremendous amount about the British justice system and the teachers will be able to refer back to the topics we covered to remind the pupils of the potential consequences of their actions during the rest of the school year."

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Attendance

Attendance for this week is as follows:

Acorn – 96.67%

Pine – 98.61%

Chestnut – 96.39%

Willow – 97.5%

Elm – 99.44%

Beech – 94.72%

Oak – 94.54%

Lateness

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

Acorn – 0

Pine – 3

Chestnut – 2

Willow – 0

Elm – 1

Beech - 2

Oak - 0



You will have seen the news, this week, about national strike action being taken by the biggest teaching union, the NEU, on 1st February and on subsequent dates. On a turnout of around 53% nationally, over 90% of teachers voted to strike. Having discussed this outcome with staff, at this point I do think Ightham will be open to all pupils on 1st February. I shall, of course, further update you on this in the newsletter next Friday.

Sixteen children went to Young Voices at the O2 yesterday evening. My thanks to Ms Glassock and Mrs Warnes for accompanying the children. I shall include more information about this in the newsletter next week.

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>

Absence Form

New government guidance to schools further tightens up expectations around attendance. From the beginning of Term 3, you will be required to complete an eform if your child will be absent for any reason other than illness. All requests for a 'Leave of Absence' from school that involves missing part, or all, of the school day, must be authorised in advance by the Head Teacher. You are requested to give a minimum of two weeks' notice wherever possible. Leave of absence includes, but is not limited to: medical/dental appointments, holidays, requests to leave school early. We encourage medical/dental appointments to be booked out of school hours wherever possible. Leave in term time will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. Please note that it is for schools to determine whether or not a leave of absence is authorised and the Head Teacher's decision is final. A link to the form is below, and is also available under 'Posts' on the school website Home Page:

<https://forms.office.com/r/02EDAVF6Wq>

Mr Sherhod
Head Teacher

Ightham PSA



****PSA Events****

Dates for your diary:

10th February- Home clothes day

3rd March - Bags4School

10th March - Film night

31st March - Break the rules day

7th May – King's Coronation Party on the Rec

3rd November - Fireworks

We are looking for helpers specifically for the King's Coronation and fireworks night - If you think you could help, please contact Chair@ighthamrsa.com

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Gold Cup and Head Teacher Certificates

The Gold Cup was awarded to: Elena in Year 4

Head Teacher certificates were awarded to:

Year R – Hannah and Daisy

Year 1 – Robin and Florence

Year 2 – Joshua and Ophelia

Year 3 – Lily and Coralie

Year 4 – Archie and Jackson

Year 5 – Olly

Year 6 – Arthur, Freddie and Flavia

Well done to all!

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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