



# Ightham Primary School Newsletter

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024



Y1 Bird Hunting around the school grounds

## Issue 7 2024-2025

### Term Dates for 2024-25

- Term 1 – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October
- Term 2 – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November to Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December
- Term 3 – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February
- Term 4 – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April
- Term 5 – Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May
- Term 6 – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June to Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

### Staff Development Days for 2024-25

- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024
- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025

## Key Dates

### Monday 21st October

Parent Consultations

### Wednesday 23rd October

Flu vaccinations

Parent Consultations

### Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October

Individual and sibling photos

PSA Cake Sale

Last Day of Autumn Term 1

### Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November

Inset Day – Pupils not in school

### Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November

Term begins – pupils return to school

Dear Parent/Carer,

More hard work going on this week!

Our children in Reception have been getting creative with fun Autumn arts and crafts as well as some learning Autumn poetry and songs. Sun catchers have also appeared in the classroom windows throughout the week. The children have really enjoyed making them and have done so well practicing their cutting skills.

As part of their science topic last week, Year 1 went on a walk around the woods to spot birds in their natural habitat. Pine class were very careful not to be loud and scare the birds away! Together, they talked about how scientists need to use their observational skills when monitoring animals in their environment, which Pine class did brilliantly.

Elm class have had a great first week studying The Raven; They have shown their creative skills in charcoal, blackout and shape poetry. The children are looking forward to sharing their performance of the poem next week in assembly. In maths our Year 4 children have continued to look at addition and subtraction, working on regrouping and exchanging across multiple places. It has been great to see the children's resilience in this area as there are a lot of moving parts to keep track of as well as retrieval of knowledge and language. In science they have conducted a physical representation of the water cycle to demonstrate its change in state, the children were amazed to see the condensation form at the top of the cup!



The children in Year 5 are doing so well in their cornet lessons which began this term.

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## Attendance

Attendance for this week is as follows:

Acorn – 99.44%

Pine – 97.22%

Chestnut – 96.35%

Willow – 98.89%

Elm – 95.28%

Beech – 98.33%

Oak – 95.76%

## Lateness

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

Acorn – 3

Pine – 2

Chestnut – 3

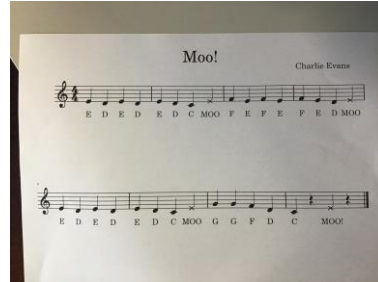
Willow – 0

Elm – 1

Beech - 2

Oak - 2

Charlie was inspired to compose his own piece of music at home, which Mr Crocker kindly transposed into a music score and the children enthusiastically played this week. Well done Charlie!!



This week, in Oak class, children discovered that poems written by two children as part of a local Eco Blitz awareness campaign had been awarded prizes. Congratulations to Alice for receiving 1<sup>st</sup> place and Molly for taking 2<sup>nd</sup>. The children had written poems around the question: Is plastic fantastic? And were awarded book vouchers that can be spent at The Sevenoaks Bookshop!

On Monday, I met with Mrs Lumley about the Smartphone Free Childhood Movement. For parents who are concerned about the negative impact that smartphones can have on their children, she shared with me that there is a smartphone free childhood group that parents can join to keep updated on the movement. There is a specific Ightham Primary Group, where updates on the movement’s progress, and any developments from the technology companies are shared. It is a place to gain/share information. For more information, please visit [www.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk](http://www.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk). If you’d like to join the group for Ightham parents, then please contact Carla Lumley on 07958 780 583.

A reminder Parents Evenings are being held on the 21<sup>st</sup> (in person) and 23<sup>rd</sup> October (online).

For those that are attending in person: If possible, please make alternative arrangements for your children to be looked after, the playground is not supervised and balls/scooters are not permitted.

For those that are meeting online:

Please check your sound/camera beforehand. Put your child’s name in the name part, consider the location where you are holding the meeting, if possible make this private. We ask that you don’t record the meeting and do consider your background – blurred is ok, but we’d rather not speak to you if it appears you are in space or on a race track – this may distract us somewhat!

All appointments are 10 minutes, so we want you to make the most of these meetings. We must keep to time so as to be fair on the people waiting. Thank-you for your understanding.

Have a lovely week.

Miss K Snow

Acting Headteacher



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Great to see so many kids at the film night last Friday. It was a fun night and the children behaved impeccably.

The donation pot towards our home clothes day today is still open so please feel free to donate via the link on Whatsapp.

Next Friday is the last day of term, don't forget to look out for the scarily delicious and spookily decorated sweet treats available after school in the playground. **All cake donations welcome!**

Please ask for gluten or dairy free options as we will have a few of them behind the counter for you.

The PSA buckets will be out to collect any Elf'ridges donations Monday and Friday drop off and pick up. – Jo PSA Chair



## Gold Cup and Head Teacher Certificates

**The Gold Cup was awarded to:** Coralie in Year 5

**Head Teacher certificates were awarded to:**

- Year R – Indie and Bee
- Year 1 – Elijah and Joseph
- Year 2 – Miles and Aelwen
- Year 3 – Louis and Penelope
- Year 4 – Harrison and Teddy
- Year 5 – Hudson and Edith
- Year 6 – Summer and Jasper

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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