



# Ightham Primary School Newsletter

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Issue 8 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



Acorn Class Pumpkin Fun!



Year 5 Community Afternoon

## Key Dates

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October

Individual and sibling photos

PSA Cake Sale

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November

Inset Day – Pupils not in school

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November

Term begins – pupils return to school

Year 5 – Mini Medics

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November

Year 2 – The Great Fire of London Day

Year 5 – Swimming starts

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November

Year 5 -Mini Medics

Dear Parents & Carers,

Ightham School has kept learning in this final week of Autumn Term 1 (even though we are all very tired in Week 8!). The highlight for me was definitely our poetry assembly where each class performed a poem. Children performed with such enthusiasm, confidence and clarity. It really was a fantastic event to end the term.

In Acorn Class, children haven't stopped talking about... pumpkins! They have completed lots of maths activities, including measuring and ordering pumpkins. They have also enjoyed playing on the pumpkin patch as well as scooping our pumpkins out to make pumpkin soup. There were also explosions when they mixed baking soda with vinegar in our cauldron pumpkins. (I wonder who had to clean up all the mess...?)

Pine Class had their last week of Forest School for a little while. In celebration of this, children lit a fire and toasted marshmallows to make smores. They tasted really yummy!

Elm Class have been finishing off the last part of addition and subtraction in their maths lessons. They have been writing fact families and answering problem solving and reasoning questions to greater understand the aspects of the calculation to look at in a written question. In Geography, they have been looking at how to use grid referencing to read maps, identifying and plotting points on a map. This will hopefully come in very handy over the next month when they go on their trip to Chart Farm. They also had a great Tag Rugby session this week, where the children showed excellent team behaviour.



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## Ightham Primary School Newsletter

### Attendance

Attendance for this week is as follows:

Acorn – 95.56%

Pine – 96.67%

Chestnut – 95.28%

Willow – 97.49%

Elm – 90.83%

Beech – 98.18%

Oak – 90.00%

### Lateness

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

Acorn – 3

Pine – 0

Chestnut – 0

Willow – 1

Elm – 0

Beech – 0

Oak – 1



In Oak class this week, they have focused their study on religious education. The key question that was explored was: *What difference does it make to believe in Ahimsa, Grace and Ummah?* They considered what the word “commitment” means and reflected on the commitments we make in our life before learning how Christians, Muslims and Ghandi displayed commitment to their beliefs. They took this further by considering how we could apply a sense of community, harmlessness and the ability to forgive to our own lives.

Beech Class took part in the first Community Afternoon of the year. It was a wonderful event with a delightful atmosphere. The children and adults they had invited all enjoyed talking and playing board games, with the occasional 'would you rather' thrown in - a very interesting discussion was had over whether you'd rather sweat sticky lemonade or have your breath smell of garlic! Thank you very much to those adults who joined us, Mrs Freeman & Mrs Webster who provided refreshments, Ms Glassock for organising and the children who were a credit to the school with their behaviour.



General Messages:

**Year 6 Parents – Secondary School Applications – DEADLINE NEXT THURSDAY**

The online application window for children enrolling into Year 7 in September 2025 **are now open. Parents must apply by Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024 at the latest.**

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/secondary-school-places> Do let us know if you require any assistance with this and we will do our best to help you with the application process.

**Ofsted – Parent View**

So many of you have taken the time to speak to me on the school gate to tell me how well your child is doing in school and how pleased you are. At some point, Ofsted will visit us and will want to hear the views of parents. Please take the time to record these here:

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

I wish you all a wonderful half term and we look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November.

Best Wishes,

Miss K Snow

Acting Headteacher

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## PSA Update

Thank you for all the cake donations towards the cake sale today and to everyone who bought a cake or two!

### *Next events*

22nd November 'Elf'ridges

6th December Santas Grotto and fair

ELFRIDGES

We will be collecting donations to 'Elf'ridges every Monday and Friday drop off and pickup. Please look out for the PSA white buckets or hand to your rep or the PSA.

Happy half term!

Team PSA



## Poppies

After the half term break, poppies will be on sale at the end of the school day. All monies raised will go to the Royal British Legion. Please bring cash with you if you'd like to buy one.

Thank you in advance for supporting this cause.

## Library Books

We are incredibly lucky at Ightham to have a dedicated library which is very well resourced and new books purchased frequently. Sadly, some of these books are going home and coming back ripped. We understand that accidents happen but would appreciate it if you could look after the books when they are at home with you! Thank-you!

## Gold Cup and Head Teacher Certificates

**The Gold Cup was awarded to:** Lily in Year 4

**The Courtesy Cup was awarded to:** Arthur in Year 4

### **Head Teacher certificates were awarded to:**

Year R – Auburn and Ophelia

Year 1 – Harry and Nia

Year 2 – Daisy and Joshua

Year 3 – Amelie and Olivia

Year 4 – Zac and Joshua

Year 5 – Poppy W and Pearl

Year 6 – Eleri and Oliver

Congratulations 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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