



Ightham Primary School Newsletter

Friday 6th September 2024

Issue 1 2024-2025

Term Dates for 2024-25

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

Staff Development Days for 2024-25

Monday 2nd September 2024
 Tuesday 3rd September 2024
 Monday 4th November 2024
 Friday 20th December 2024
 Monday 2nd June 2025



Welcome back!

Key Dates

W/B 9th September

Y4 and Y5 CATs Tests

12th September

Kent Test

Thursday 3rd October

KS2 Harvest Festival at St. Peter's Church

Monday 21st October

Parent Consultations

Wednesday 23rd October

Parent Consultations

Dear Parents & Carers,

And so the new academic year begins! I hope you all had an enjoyable Summer break and are ready for the busyness that is the Autumn Term! I would like to particularly welcome our new children and families that have joined us this term. I very much hope your child settles quickly at Ightham and enjoys their time with us.

I would like to share my thanks for providing me with such a kind welcome to Ightham Primary School. So many of you and your lovely children have taken the time to greet me, wish me luck in my first few days and enquire as to how my day has been. This is very much appreciated and has immediately put me at ease. This week I have been in and out of classes and on the playground trying to meet all of the children. What I've encountered are polite, articulate, kind children who ask a lot of questions and are keen to share information about themselves. I'm looking forward to having more of these conversations and finding out more about your children.

I would like to formally welcome Mr White to our teaching team. I am delighted he has chosen to continue his career at Ightham. I am sure everyone will extend a warm welcome to him. Mr White joins us with a wealth of experience and I am confident that he will guide Year 6 to achieve brilliance in their final year here.



Head Teacher: Mr D Sherhod, BSc(Hons), PGCE, NPQH
 Oldbury Lane, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 9DD
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Attendance

Attendance for this week is as follows:

Pine – 99.4%

Chestnut – 98.67%

Willow – 98.67%

Elm – 100%

Beech – 99.33%

Oak – 99.33%

Lateness

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

Acorn – 0

Pine – 0

Chestnut – 1

Willow – 0

Elm – 1

Beech - 0

Oak - 0



We held our annual ‘Meet The Teacher’ meetings on Wednesday afternoon which were, as usual, very well attended. Our first formal parent consultations of the academic year will be held in October. As with last year, we shall 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.

All year groups have been 'Learning to Learn' as is tradition at Ightham in the first few days at school. They have also been voting for their eco councillors, school councillors and science ambassadors as well as voting for House Captains. Staff have also been deliberating on who the School Ambassadors are. Roles will be announced in our Celebration Assembly later on this afternoon and I will formally share the successful applicants with you in the next newsletter. I was lucky enough to hear some application speeches in Year 3 earlier this week, if their speeches are anything to go by it is a very high standard. All children should be commended for putting themselves forward and taking part.

Good luck to those Year 6 children that are taking part in the Kent Test on Thursday. Whatever the outcome, I know you will do your very best and we are very proud of you.

Lastly, I wanted to share that my door is always open and any feedback is always welcome. Please feel free to share your thoughts with me in the playground before or after school, or, if you have a more specific concern, to request a private meeting. I'm very happy to be taking on the Interim headship here at Ightham. I look forward to getting to know you all much better and to working with you to make your children's education a first class one.

Miss K Snow
Interim Head Teacher



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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.

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>

Year 6 Parents – Secondary School Applications

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

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/secondary-school-places>



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