



# Ightham Primary School Newsletter

Friday 9th February 2024

Issue 19 2023-2024

## Term Dates

Term 1 – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September to Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October  
 Term 2 – Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December  
 Term 3 – Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February  
 Term 4 – Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February to Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March  
 Term 5 – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May  
 Term 6 – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June to Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

## Staff Development Days

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024  
 Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024



Look out for our new monthly science newsletter!

## Key Dates

### Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February

First day of Term 4

Back to the Future (KS2 Music Workshop)

### Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February

Girls' Football Competition

### Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February

Y5 Viking Day

### Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February

Chris Knott (Starfish Malawi) into school

### Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February

Y3 Community Afternoon

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

Y3 visit to Kent Life

### Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March

Ightham Book Day

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you will be aware, today is the final day of Term 3. The children return to school for the start of Term 4 on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February. I always find this term more challenging than some as we have Christmas (and all the activities that entails) in the rear view mirror and we generally have very short, cold days. We have also had the added challenge of snowfall during the school day and power cuts to contend with this term that necessitated us shutting early. On a personal level, I contracted covid right at the start of the Christmas holiday, and I am only now finding my energy levels and voice returning to something like normal. I shall welcome the extended daylight hours and warmer weather that is now almost on the horizon!

Our Year 1 children enjoyed a Toys Through Time workshop in school on Monday which was run by the outreach team at Penshurst Place. My thanks to Mrs Black for organising this.

As I have previously mentioned, Mrs Black and Mr Terry are leading on our work towards the Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM) this year. I have been most impressed with their dedication towards achieving this award, ably supported by many other staff, and our children will undoubtedly benefit from all the work they are doing. Mrs Black will shortly be sending out a message to all parents to ask if any parents would like to get involved in a voluntary capacity with our science and eco work.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank those parents that volunteered their time to come into school to listen to our children read first thing in the morning. Your support and willingness to help is very much appreciated.



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### Attendance

Attendance for this week is as follows:

Acorn – 91.39%

Pine – 95.0%

Chestnut – 91.11%

Willow – 94.72%

Elm – 95.69%

Beech – 95.83%

Oak – 95.98%

### Lateness

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

Acorn – 1

Pine – 0

Chestnut – 2

Willow – 1

Elm – 1

Beech - 2

Oak - 0



Max, Sofia, Taylor, Lily-Rae, Lizzie and Holly took part in a water polo competition at Sevenoaks School on Wednesday. They played 6 games and showed fantastic skills and teamwork against some very tough teams. Many thanks to Mrs Parkinson and Mrs Standen for supporting the children.

Our Year 5 children took part in a Tourette Syndrome workshop on Tuesday afternoon. I understand, from children and staff, that this talk was highly informative. It demonstrates our commitment as a school to deliver on our key value of Tolerance. Thank you so much to River, an ex-pupil of Ightham (and now a Tourette Champion), for coming into school to deliver this workshop. My thanks also to those parents that took the time to write to the school afterwards in order to thank the school for organising it.

My thanks, as always, to our dedicated staff that do so much for the pupils and wider community at Ightham Primary School.

### Bach to the Future

Mrs Warnes, our Music Leader, has booked a Music Company to come to Ightham for all of Key Stage 2 on the first day after half term. The production is called Bach to the Future and is an hour long interactive workshop which aims to inspire students to learn a musical instrument and should encourage them to have an understanding of how valuable music is in our everyday lives. Three experienced musicians will each represent an instrument family - Colin on Brass, Lori on Strings and Graeme on Woodwind - and treat students to live demonstrations of music from film, TV and musical theatre, and a range of different styles of music from classical and jazz to popular music. The musicians play a variety of instruments and show a range of musical pieces. They will also demonstrate instruments that can be made at home.

### A25 Footpath

A number of parents and staff have raised concerns with me recently that there are an increasing number of children and parents that are not using the bridge over the A25 and are choosing to walk across the A25 instead. I strongly urge all our parents and children to utilise the footbridge as it is there for a reason. We all know that, whilst there is a speed limit of 50mph on that section of the A25, many cars routinely travel more quickly than that.

Mr Sherhod  
Head Teacher

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### Ightham PSA



Thank you for all the cake donations and cake purchases at the Valentine's cake sale this afternoon. If you haven't already done so, remember to get your team together and buy your tickets for the quiz night on 1st March [Quiz Night Ticket](#).

Have a great and restful half term.

Kind Regards,  
Joanna Crisp

## Gold Cup, Courtesy Cup and Head Teacher Certificates

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

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

**Head Teacher certificates were awarded to:**

Year R – Jude, Carina and Cece

Year 1 – Chloe and Ezra

Year 2 – Marcus and Arlo

Year 3 – Malachy, Olly and Ophelia

Year 4 – Tilly and Rupert

Year 5 – Callum, Eleri and Edward

Year 6 – Mason and Daisy

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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