



This week

I can hardly believe we are already halfway through the academic year! It has been wonderful to end the term on such a positive note with our celebration assembly. Many children were recognised for their achievements, receiving awards and certificates, including those from our Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS) challenges. Well done to all!

It was lovely to see the children dressed in red today, bringing a bright and cheerful end to the term. The children made some amazing Valentine's cakes, and it was very hard to choose a winner. Congratulations to Maddie (Year 2) for her delicious chocolate brownies, which took the top prize. A big thank you to the PSA for organising this wonderful Valentine's celebration.

Following on from our Number Day celebration last week, we are delighted to share that the final total raised for the NSPCC was £217.20. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this important cause.

We are also excited to introduce the Forest School Badge of Recognition, which celebrates children who fully immerse themselves in the Forest School experience. Each term, one badge will be awarded per class to a child who has demonstrated enthusiasm and commitment during Forest School sessions. Later in the year, children in Acorn Class will also begin receiving badges as they gain more experience.

This term's Forest School Badge recipients are:

- Arlo (Year 3)
- Oliver (Year 6)

This week, we marked Safer Internet Day, focusing on the theme of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Our children explored how AI can support and enhance learning, as well as the potential disadvantages and safety considerations when using AI technology. It was encouraging to see such thoughtful discussions and awareness around digital safety.

We wish you all a restful and enjoyable half term break and look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday, 23rd February.

Best wishes,

Ms Earl

13th February 2026

Acorn Class

We have had a fantastic end to your space topic this week! One of our challenges has been to make a 3D model using our own ideas, which we have completed by making our own aliens using air dry clay! The children have practised writing their Harder to Read and Spell words through writing Valentines Day cards to family members, we have been very impressed with how independent they were at writing these tricky words!

Pine Class

The children have enjoyed our poetry writing this week. We have been inspired by nature and have loved writing poems following a structure all about what we find at the beach. In maths we have been looking at doubles and near doubles whilst in Science we have been looking at the features of birds. The children worked in pairs to complete beautiful posters that showed the features of birds, as well as the names of different birds that they knew. We had our last cricket session with Mr Marsh too this week. The children have been working so hard at their cricket skills and have had so much fun playing lots of short games too.



Willow Class

The highlight of year 3's week was their trip to the Historic Dockyard in Chatham, where they had the opportunity to go on a Royal navy Submarine, make their own rope, experiment with model boat design and construction and visit the longest brick built building in Europe. They also concluded their maths learning on length and perimeter by pacing out the measurements of No 3 Slip – one of the largest buildings there. Back in the class room year 3 have been finishing off their learning on Islam by looking at Ramadan and Eid and have drafted, edited and published reports on Sevenoaks.

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Chestnut Class

In Year 2 we completed decorating our pencil pots this week and we were able to take them home. The children really enjoyed the sequence of learning about stable structures, designing their pot, making it and then decorating it. We completed our history topic about the great explorer Scott and are looking forward to finding out more about hot and cold places in geography next term. Additionally this week, we spent some time finding out about our Class Pioneer Lionel Lukin, who designed an unsinkable lifeboat. In English we wrote our formal invitations, there are some great imaginary parties planned! Maths was a continuation of our multiplication and division topic. What a great end to the term!

Elm Class

Elm Class completed their stories from another culture and enjoyed sharing them with each other. In DT, we have designed and made Egyptian collars and decorated them using cross-stitch, running stitch and appliqué. We were said to say goodbye to the Sevenoaks history students who planned and delivered a lesson all about Roman villas inspired by the 'Villa Maximus' made by Max.

Beech Class

This week, the children in Beech class have started their new writing unit on Biographies, which is linked to our science topic on Space. The work in maths has been on division and everyone has focused on using the mathematical vocabulary of 'dividend, divisor and quotient' to explain their reasoning. History provoked a thoughtful discussion in considering how dark the 'Dark Ages' really were, and the children enjoyed justifying their opinions. Reading has been a highlight, as we came to the end of our CUSP text, 'Boy in the Tower' - it kept us on the edge of our seats to the very end and was enjoyed by everyone.

Oak Class

This week, in Oak class, we explored how propaganda helped maintain morale on the home front in History, and in Maths we continued building confidence with equivalent fractions, decimals and percentages. On Tuesday, the class also learned about using AI safely and responsibly.



Awards and Certificates

The Gold Cup was awarded to:
 Nevie in Year 5
 Courtesy Cup—Crystal in Year 6
 Endeavour Award—Oliver in Year 6
 Head Teacher certificates were awarded to:
 Acorn Class—Navy and Archie
 Pine Class—Teddy
 Chestnut Class—Arthur and Cece
 Willow Class—Alba and Yasmine
 Elm Class—Olivia and Marcus
 Beech Class—Evren and Teddy
 Oak Class—Rupert and Harper
 Maple Ready Award was presented to
 Chestnut Class .
 Well done to all!

School Calendar

Term 1: 1st September – 17th October
Term 2: 27th October - 19th December
Term 3: 5th January – 13th February
Term 4: 23rd February – 2nd April
Term 5: 20th April – 22nd May
Term 6: 1st June – 21st July

Inset Days:

1st September 2025
 2nd September 2025
 3rd November 2025
 19th December 2025
 1st June 2026



Halstead Players Panto

To purchase tickets click the following link:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/sevenoaks/halstead-village-hall/dick-whittington/e-zkxaae>

[zkxaae](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/sevenoaks/halstead-village-hall/dick-whittington/e-zkxaae)

House Points

The House Points accumulated this term:

Mote	Chartwell	Knole	Oldbury
13	20	20	10

The joint winners this week were Chartwell na Knole. The overall winners for the term are Chartwell and Knole who will have own clothes day on Friday 27th February. Well done!



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PSA

It was lovely to see 2 new faces at the PSA meeting last night, many thanks for Coming.

Could you give up a couple of hours, once a month to come to PSA meetings? We meet roughly 8 times a year to discuss fundraising ideas and spending.

If you would like to come to a meeting and see if it floats your boat then please email chair@ightham-psa.com or just turn up!

Upcoming events

25th Feb - Bags2school

11th March - PSA Meeting (George&Dragon Ightham 7.30pm)

TBC Film night

TBC Mothers Day Gallery

Easter holiday Sponsored Read/Activity

11th July Ightham Summer Fair

Have a great half term. ATB, Team PSA

Upcoming dates

23rd February Term starts

25th February Year 4 Roman Day

26th February Year 3 swimming starts

26th February Year 4 Ightham Mote Partnership gardening afternoon

3rd March Year 5 Viking Day

6th March Ightham Book Day

10th March Community afternoon hosted by Year 1

20th March Year 1 class trip

23rd and 24th March Parent Consultations

24th March Year 5 Ightham Mote Partnership gardening afternoon

Attendance and Lateness We are expecting attendance of 96% or above. The attendance for this week is:

Acorn	Pine	Chestnut	Willow	Elm	Beech	Oak	Whole School	National
97.78%	93.89%	96.84%	98.61%	97.78%	96.6%	94.44%	96.56%	95.3%

Number of lates	Acorn	Pine	Chestnut	Willow	Elm	Beech	Oak	Whole
	2	2	0	1	1	2	2	10

It is important that the children attend school every day. If you unsure if your child is well enough to attend school, please look at the NHS guidance. <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>