



## Ightham Primary School Newsletter

16th January 2026

### **This week**

What a fabulous week it has been here at Ightham Primary School! Our children have been enthusiastically engaged in a wide range of exciting learning activities across all classes. In Acorn Class, the children have been busy writing informative planet booklets and experimenting with painting planets using various techniques to add texture. Their joy was infectious as they embraced outdoor learning, even in the rain – a truly memorable experience for both children and adults! In Science, the children in Pine Class have been discovering different parts of the human body. In English, they have enjoyed reading Peter Rabbit and have been practising writing in the past tense using the ‘-ed’ suffix. In Chestnut Class, it has been a fabulous week exploring history with a timeline of Captain Scott’s journey to Antarctica. Science lessons involved planting activities, while in Design Technology, the children have been building towers. In Maths, they completed their topic on money, and in English, they have been working on non-chronological reports. The highlight was swimming, where the children demonstrated great enthusiasm and skill – we are very proud!

The great learning has continued in Key Stage 2. In Willow Class, the children have been crafting sea creature adventure stories, focusing on using expanded noun phrases to enrich their writing. In Maths, they have explored flexible partitioning, and in RE, they have been learning the story of Muhammad. In Elm Class, Science lessons have been hands-on as children investigate states of matter and melting points of common materials, learning to use thermometers and working collaboratively in small groups. In English, they continue to write news reports. In Beech Class, Music has been a highlight as the children began a unit singing South African songs a cappella, which they have thoroughly enjoyed. In English, they have planned cultural stories written in the third person, while in Maths, they have been converting improper and mixed fractions. In Oak Class, the children have explored the language and features of explanatory texts, practising present perfect tense and passive voice in preparation for their own writing. They have also started a new Maths topic on decimals. A special visit from magistrate Alvin Shaw provided fascinating insights into the law and his role, leaving a lasting impression on the children, who asked thoughtful and engaging questions.

Thank you for your continued support in making Ightham Primary a vibrant and inspiring place for our children to learn and grow. Best wishes, Ms Earl



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## Awards and Certificates

The Gold Cup was awarded to:

Mimi in Year 4

Head Teacher certificates were awarded to:

Acorn Class— Iris and Mats

Pine Class—Kiki and Leo

Chestnut Class—CeCe and Romey

Willow Class—Maddox and Torben

Elm Class—Millie-Lou and Robin

Beech Class—Ophelia and Theo

Oak Class—Matilda and Hudson

Maple Ready Award was presented to Beech Class.

Congratulations 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

## London Marathon Fundraising

Hi all, I'm running the London Marathon for Ightham School PSA and would absolutely love everyone's support. I've only just set up the donation page. I'll drop the link below if you can't donate please share to everyone as I need to raise £2000 by April.

I'm doing this for all the children. Also, if you see me out running with boys in the pram please beep and wave Axel will love it.

<https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/donation/london-marathon-donations>

Mrs Ashby

## House Points

The House Points accumulated this term:

Mote	Chartwell	Knole	Oldbury
4	8	6	2

The House Points have reset. The winning House this week was Chartwell. Chartwell enjoyed having own clothes today. I wonder which house will be the winner this term?



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## PSA

We are urgently looking to recruit parents/carers from KS1 to ensure each year group has a voice and also provide continuity.

Could you give up an hour or 2, once a month to join the PSA? We meet about 8 times a year to plan PSA events.

If you would like to come to a meeting and see if it floats your boat then please email [chair@ighthampta.com](mailto:chair@ighthampta.com) or just turn up!

Dates for the diary

29th Jan - PSA AGM (School Hall 2pm)

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

13th Feb - Wear Red for Valentines & Cake sale

25th Feb - Bags2school

ATB

Team PSA

## Upcoming dates

**20th January** Community afternoon hosted by Year 3

**2nd - 6th February** National Storytelling Week

**10th February** Safer Internet Day

**13th February** Last day of term

**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

**23rd and 24th March** Parent Consultations

**24th March** Year 5 Ightham Mote Partnership

**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%	97.87%	96.84%	98.89%	98.33%	94.44%	95.56%	97.09%	95.3%

Number of lates	Acorn	Pine	Chestnut	Willow	Elm	Beech	Oak	Whole
	3	2	0	1	0	1	2	9

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/>