



Ightham Primary School Newsletter

20th March 2026

This Week

I'd like to begin with a delightful update on our ducklings. They have now joined other ducklings that hatched around the same time on the farm. Currently, they are thriving in a purpose-built brooding shed, complete with a large heat plate to keep them warm and cosy. They have special drinkers and a large feeder, ensuring they have constant access to everything they need. Most of the day, they enjoy zooming around the brooding shed and basking in the sunshine. They will remain there for a few more weeks until they are strong and large enough to be safely introduced to the grass paddocks, where they will enjoy the lovely outdoor environment.



Last weekend was an exciting and busy time for some of our Ightham children. Several pupils, who receive tennis training at Ightham Tennis Club, represented the school in a double tournament held at Sevenoaks School. Our players included Mimi & Millie, Aelwen & Elisa, Marcus & Arlo, Freddie & Ezra, and Jack & Albert. We are thrilled to share that Marcus and Arlo won the boys' tournament—a fantastic achievement given the high level of competition. All teams performed brilliantly and should be very proud of their efforts.



Additionally, a group of boys—Ellis, Arthur, Hudson, Oliver, Tripp, Philip, and Enzo—represented the school at the Sevenoaks Football Tournament. They played with great skill and determination against strong opponents, and we are incredibly proud of their sportsmanship and teamwork.

Finally, a gentle reminder to get involved with the Readathon. It's a wonderful opportunity to enjoy reading and support our school community.

Acorn Class

This week we have finished learning about the story of The Three Little Pigs. The children have been fantastic at using their own imaginations to innovate the story to create their own! An example has included, 'The Three Little Snakes and the Big Bad Gingerbread Man' amongst others! The children then wrote a sentence or two about their stories - we are very proud of the risk taking and resilience we have seen! In maths we have learnt about 3D shapes. We have learnt to name and describe the shapes and enjoyed hunting for real life examples around the school.

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Pine Class

We have been busy writing all our fabulous stories this week. The children have blown us away with their fabulous choice of adjectives and sequencing of a story with a clear beginning, middle and end. In Maths we have been developing our skills using a number line to 50. You may have seen all our chalk marks on the playground as we explored drawing our own. We were very lucky with the weather in forest school this week. Some of us chose to make stick men which we eagerly brought back to the classroom. The highlight of the week for Pine Class has been our trip to London today. We have gone on an adventure to the capital to visit the Florence Nightingale museum and then to the Sea Life centre. This trip is to enhance the learning we have been doing this term in History and Science. We are so excited to share photos with you next week in the newsletter.

Chestnut Class

In Year 2, this week, we brought our story telling to life by acting out a story of Jack and Jill on the playground. The children really got into character and showed great creativity. The activity will support the writing of a narrative next week. In maths we linked our learning to the ducklings exploring the mass of objects including exploring grams and kilograms. The children showed their phenomenal learning this week when carrying out assessments in reading and maths. Geography and art combined, with the making of stained glass pictures of maps, and comparing similarities and differences between England and Kenya. In science the children are physically exploring the effects of exercise on their bodies.

Willow Class

Year 3 have had another busy and positive week of learning across the curriculum. In English, pupils have been practising the key skills needed for instructional writing, exploring how clear presentation and 'bossy' language (aka imperative verbs) guide the reader. In maths, we have continued our work on mass, developing our understanding of grams and kilograms. In music we began to learn a short piece of music using the notes we have mastered so far on the recorder, whilst in Geography, we became human water particles to discover how the water cycle works! Finally, in DT the children have started carefully transferring their bookmark drawn design onto fabric using cross and running stitch. The children have also worked incredibly hard during their assessments this week and should feel very proud of the effort they have shown. We also enjoyed another fantastic swimming lesson where it has been a joy to watch the develop their water skills.



Elm Class

Elm class have had an extremely busy week completing LOTS of assessment. However, we have had fun as well! In computing we have been creating polygons using 'Logo'. Some of us managed to program some very complicated shapes.

In Geography, we have been researching capital cities in Europe, and created fact sheets with our findings. In science we added switches in to our circuits that we had designed ourselves. We are using this knowledge of circuits as we design torches in DT!

Beech Class

This week, Beech class have been busy writing diary entries in the role of Neil Armstrong, when he landed on the moon.

In maths, we have been comparing and ordering decimal numbers.

Forest School is a highlight of the week, for the children. Mrs Gibbins reported back to me this week about how amazing the children are during Forest School. She is so impressed with how they challenge themselves, work together and how much they get out of Forest School - this is so lovely to hear!

Oak Class

Oak Class have had a busy and exciting week of learning. The children have been developing their computing skills by exploring spreadsheets and learning how to organise and interpret data. They also enjoyed an energetic cricket session with Mr Marshall, building their confidence and teamwork. In science, the class created a fair test linked to electricity and carried out repeated measurements to ensure accurate results.

Additionally, in RE, Oak Class have been thinking deeply about the concept of resurrection and exploring what it means to Christians.



Awards and Certificates

The Gold Cup was awarded to:

Isla in Year 5

Head Teacher certificates were awarded to:

Acorn Class—Edie and Henry

Pine Class—Indie and Alexei

Chestnut Class—Romey and Arthur H

Willow Class—Poppy and Lovenna

Elm Class—Annabelle and Brooke

Beech Class—Malachy and Gabriel

Oak Class—Willow and Arthur

Maple Ready Award was presented to Oak Class.

Congratulations to all!

FOIS AGM

Friends of Ightham Primary School (FOIS) will be holding their AGM on **Thursday 26th March at 5pm at the George & Dragon**. We would welcome you to join us and find out about the positive impact that FOIS has on supporting the school. We look forward to seeing you there.

PSA

Thank you so much to Greenacres Garden Centre who supported us last week by supplying the plants for our Mother's Day plant sale, which raised just shy of £200 for the School. Thank you to everyone who bought a plant or 2!

Upcoming events

27th March - Film night - please book your tickets

Easter holiday - Sponsored Read/Activity (sponsorship form attached)

26th April - London Marathon (donation link attached)

TBC - Break the Rules day

TBC - School Disco

3rd June - Bags2school

11th July - Ightham Summer Fair

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@ighthamrsa.com or just turn up!

Team PSA

House Points

The House Points accumulated this term:

Mote	Chartwell	Knole	Oldbury
9	15	9	7

The winner this week was Chartwell

Well done!



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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

Upcoming dates

23rd March Parent Consultations, 3:40—6:30

24th March Parent Consultations, 3:40—6:30

24th March Year R Hearing and Vision screening

25th March Year 5 Ightham Mote Partnership gardening afternoon

30th March Choir Spring Concert

2nd April KS2 Easter Service, 9:15am

2nd April Easter Egg hunt

2nd April Last day of term

20th April Start of term

23rd April Year 6 swimming starts

23rd April Year 2 Ightham Mote Partnership gardening afternoon

4th May Bank Holiday

5th May Year 4 Community 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
96.55%	95.56%	98.31%	98.33%	97.85%	96.08%	99%	97.4%	95.3%

Number of lates	Acorn	Pine	Chestnut	Willow	Elm	Beech	Oak	Whole School
	1	1	0	0	1	0	3	6

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/>