



Ightham Primary School Newsletter

23rd January 2026

This week

Although the weather has not been kind to us this week, there has been a great deal of exciting learning taking place in our classrooms. On Tuesday, we were fortunate to welcome the Open the Book team, who delivered an engaging and interactive assembly about Solomon. The children truly enjoy these performances, and we are grateful to the team for their time and support.

In our ongoing commitment to safety, speed signs have now been installed on Oldbury Lane, reducing the speed limit to 20mph. We hope this will help keep all our children safe on their journeys to and from school.

We would also like to let you know that we currently have a space available in Year 2 and three spaces in Year 5. If you know any families with children in these year groups who would like to join our Ightham community, please encourage them to get in touch.

Finally, it was wonderful to experience the vibrant atmosphere at the Year 3 Community Afternoon. Everyone involved commented on how much they enjoyed the event and praised the children's politeness and enthusiasm. I am very proud of all our Year 3 pupils. Thank you for your continued support. Best wishes, Ms Earl



Acorn Class

This week we have continued to learn about the planets in our solar system. We finished writing our books about each planet, the children really impressed us with their sentence writing. We explored gravity through dropping balls of different weights into flour and sand to make craters - we loved seeing the different size craters this made! In maths, we have learnt about weight and capacity, the children have enjoyed comparing the weights of objects both inside and outside the classroom.

Chestnut Class

It has been very exciting in Year 2 this week as we have welcomed Mrs. Mangan back. We wrote the first draft of our non-chronological reports about polar bears; we have learnt so many facts. In maths, we began our topic on multiplication and enjoyed using the manipulatives to support our learning. Making a netball post out of straws was challenging this week, as we further explored stable structures and in history we wrote about what we know of Scott's last journey. Our plants are beginning to grow and we are remembering to water them!

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Pine Class

In Year 1 we have enjoyed looking at our senses in Science. We all enjoyed our experiment where we had to taste, smell and touch different things to put our senses to the test.

Elm Class

In Elm class, we have enjoyed completing our 'Rousseau' inspired paintings.

We had a wonderful History lesson with the students from Sevenoaks school exploring Crime and Punishment in Roman times. We published our newspaper reports and they are on display in the classroom.

Beech Class

This week, Beech class continue to enjoy reading our CUSP book, 'Boy in the Tower' by Polly Ho-Yen. The children are fully immersed in the story and have enjoyed discussing how the author uses various techniques, such as a 'cliff hanger', at the end of each chapter to make us want to read on. In maths, the children are learning to add and subtract fractions from mixed numbers. In English, the children have continued to write their stories set in the Amazon rainforest, which they will publish next week. Music has been a highlight this week, with the children learning to sing 'acapella' for our South African song 'Shosholosa'.

Willow Class

We have had a busy week. In History we were looking at secondary sources of artefacts and buildings to see what they could tell us about life in Ancient Greece. In RE, we are exploring why prayer is so important to Muslims and how their preparation for pray reflects this. In Music, we are learning out 3rd note on the recorder and putting them together to play short melodies in an ensemble. Maths has seen us finish our current learning on multiplication and division and move on to length and perimeter and in English we have ben drafting, editing and publishing a third person narrative in life under the sea.

Oak Class

Oak Class have had a busy and exciting week in Year 6. The children have been developing their skills in writing explanatory texts, learning how to clearly communicate complex ideas. In RE, they explored the concept of samsara and discussed its significance within the Hindu belief system. During history, the class have been delving into real-life testimonies from evacuated children during WWII, considering whether every experience was positive. Finally, the class have enjoyed plenty of hands-on learning in Forest School too.



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PSA

PSA AGM 29th Jan (School Hall 2pm)

Agenda

Apologies

Minutes of last AGM

Matters Arising

Election of Officers and Committee

Chairman's Report

Treasurer's Report

Accounts approval

Confirmation of Office of Trustees and Examiner

Headteachers Report

Any Other Business

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 or just turn up!

Team PSA

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

House Points

The House Points accumulated this term:

Mote	Chartwell	Knole	Oldbury
7	10	10	3

The winning House this week was Knole

Well done!



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Awards and Certificates

The Gold Cup was awarded to:

Oliver in Year 5

Head Teacher certificates were awarded to:

Acorn Class—Malek and Elwood

Pine Class—Bee and Ethan

Chestnut Class—Henry and Jess

Willow Class—Daisy and Max

Elm Class—Ada and Amelia

Beech Class—Miles and Alex

Oak Class—Pearl and Florence

Maple Ready Award was presented to Willow Class .

Congratulations to all!

Upcoming dates

28th January Water Polo competition

2nd - 6th February National Storytelling Week

5th February Open books 3:30-4:00

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
95.83%	95.56%	98.56%	98.89%	97.22%	96.6%	98.89%	97.36%	95.3%

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

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/>