



## Ightham Primary School Newsletter

27th March 2026

### **This Week**

I am delighted to share some wonderful news about the recent TPA Cross Country event. A group of children from Years 3 and 4 proudly represented Ightham Primary School at Southborough Primary School, competing alongside 10 other TPA schools. Our team performed exceptionally well, securing third place overall! Additionally, several of our children earned individual medals—congratulations to all who took part for their fantastic effort and sportsmanship.

On a different note, I would like to kindly remind all parents and carers to ensure children are supervised at the beginning and end of the school day. We have received reports of young children playing near the side of the school building and accessing equipment from the school sheds after school hours. To ensure that this equipment remains available for play during lunchtime, please help us by preventing children from entering the plastic sheds. Additionally, for families who walk home via the recreation ground, please remind your children to use the designated path when exiting the school site. We have had concerns from a neighbour about children entering neighbouring properties. Please ensure that children do not enter the small woods on the way down the hill. Your support in respecting our community and safeguarding all children is greatly appreciated.

Looking ahead, we are excited about our upcoming Easter celebrations next week. The KS2 children have been working hard in preparation for the Easter service. KS1 will enjoy a preview of the service on Wednesday, and we warmly invite you to join us for the service at the church on Thursday at 9:15 am. This year, the church will be offering teas and coffees in the church hall before the service. We hope you can enjoy a cup and time to chat. Best wishes, Ms Earl

### **Acorn Class**

This week we have read the story of The Little Red Hen. We discussed the importance of team work and how important it is to help others, as a result we have seen so much kindness and helpfulness from the children! The children were fantastic at writing speech bubbles for the characters from the story and enjoyed changing these to make the characters be nicer to the Little Red Hen! In maths we have learnt about pattern. The children have 'wowed' us with their pattern making during Challenge Time, with lots of children choosing to make quite complex repeating patterns!



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### **Pine Class**

Last week's Year One trip to London was a truly wonderful experience from start to finish. We began our day at the Florence Nightingale Museum, where the children were excited to "meet" Florence Nightingale and listen to her fascinating stories about her life and work. They especially enjoyed taking part in hands-on activities, exploring the museum, and discovering a variety of interesting artefacts. Afterward, we visited the Sea Life Centre, which was another fantastic highlight of the day. The children were amazed watching the sharks being fed and were captivated by the graceful stingrays gliding through their tank. The children behaved exceptionally well and made us incredibly proud, showing curiosity, enthusiasm, and respect at every stop. In maths, we have started exploring length and height, using practical activities to help us measure and compare different objects. In English, we have introduced a poetry theme, reading and discussing a range of poems about nature, which the children have really enjoyed.

### **Chestnut Class**

The children's narrative writing has been really impressive this week with some fabulous descriptive vocabulary and use of exclamation sentences and questions. Next week we are going to complete the narratives and move onto editing. Within our reading lessons we continued exploring the Aesop Fable story The Sun and the Wind and the moral of the story. In maths we have been learning about capacity and volume, and identifying the meaning of both! We had a lovely weather walk this week, as part of geography, and there happened to be a hail stone shower whilst we were out, most unusual in March! It was great to experience the weather within our lovely grounds, looking at the clouds and deciding on the wind type by watching the trees. The children produced some fabulous art again this week working on printing! Thank you Mrs. Brown.

### **Willow Class**

Year 3 have had a busy and exciting week of learning! In English, this week year 3 have been writing clear, step-by-step instructions for making an Easter cards, whilst in Maths, we moved on to exploring capacity and volume. In RE, the class learned about the Jewish New Year (Rosh Hashanah) and the special traditions linked to new beginnings. In Computing, pupils enjoyed putting the finishing touches to their PowerPoint presentations. We also celebrated our final swimming lesson ending a term where every one has shown brilliant determination and progress.



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### Elm Class

Over the last week, we have learnt the skills that are needed for writing a diary entry. We have now planned what we are going to write, and are excited about putting our learning into practice next week. In Maths, we have been exploring decimals, and used our knowledge of fractions to help us plot decimal numbers on a number line and divide single digit numbers by 10. We have been using Place Value charts to help us. The highlight of the week, was our trip to Ightham Church. We had a full run through of our Easter play and thought about where and when we would enter and exit the stage. We have also practised with the rest of the school and are excited about the performance on Thursday. As always, we have spoken a lot of French! We have learnt how to say the members of a family in French and completed listening tasks too.

### Beech Class

This week, Beech class has been busy learning about percentages in maths. Mastering Number Sessions have challenged the children to use mathematical vocabulary in their justifications and to be able to clearly explain what each number in a mathematical equation represents, in relation to a 'maths story'. Our new writing unit this week is learning to write a synopsis of 'Romeo and Juliet'. On Wednesday afternoon, we visited Ightham Mote to plant three varieties of potatoes - Orla, Twinner and Sarpa Una! We are hoping to be able to harvest some of the potatoes in July and cook them.



### Oak Class

Year 6 Oak have been working hard this week, developing cohesion in their story writing by refining how ideas link smoothly across paragraphs. In History, we explored what education was like for children in 1930s Germany, comparing their experiences with our own. In Maths, we revised the equivalence between fractions, decimals and percentages and proudly completed our unit on Ratio.



### Awards and Certificates

The Gold Cup was awarded to:

Poppy in Year 3

Head Teacher certificates were awarded to:

Acorn Class—Chloé and Lewis

Pine Class—The whole of Pine Class

Chestnut Class—Barney and Clara

Willow Class—Miles and Freddie

Elm Class—Louie B and Amelia

Beech Class—Esme and Milo

Oak Class –Tripp and Edith

Maple Ready Award was presented to Beech Class.

Congratulations to all!

### Cancer Research

In memory of Caron Pullinger, who was a much beloved parent and a member of staff at Ightham Primary School, there will be a “Wig Walk for Caron” on Saturday 23rd May. It will start at the Recreation Ground with a 5K or 10K walk to choose from followed by a picnic, with a suggested donation of £5 going to Breast Cancer Research. Further details will follow but please save the date if interested.

### PSA

A huge well done to Lauren who has hit her £2,000 sponsorship target to be the 1st Ightham School parent to run the London Marathon for Ightham PSA! We will all be cheering you on! Thank you to everyone who has donated.

Upcoming events

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

26th April - London Marathon (sponsorship 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@ighthampta.com](mailto:chair@ighthampta.com) or just turn up!

Team PSA

### House Points

The House Points accumulated this term:

Mote	Chartwell	Knole	Oldbury
11	18	10	11

The winners this week were Oldbury

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

**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

**7th May** Year 2 Ightham Mote Partnership gardening afternoon

**11th—14th May** KS2 SATs

**19th May** Year 6 trip to The Science Museum

**20th May** Year R trip to The Rare Breeds Centre

**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
97.7%	96.87%	97.78%	97.58%	95%	97.4%	97.67%	97.1%	94.9%

Number of lates	Acorn	Pine	Chestnut	Willow	Elm	Beech	Oak	Whole School
	3	0	0	1	0	1	3	8

It is important that the children attend school every day. If you are 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/>