



## Ightham Primary School Newsletter

30th January 2026

### **This week**

Our water polo team took part in the Sevenoaks Partnership competition, competing fiercely against several other schools. The children showed great determination and resilience, treading water continuously in the deep end of the pool. We are proud of their effort and delighted that they secured a well-earned victory in one of their matches. A big thank you to Mrs Parkinson for accompanying and supporting the team.

This week we also had the PSA Annual General Meeting. Thank you to all parents and carers who attended. The PSA plays a crucial role in raising funds that directly benefit our school community. I would like to express my sincere gratitude for their dedication, creativity, and hard work. We are excited about the upcoming events they have planned and look forward to your continued support.

We are looking forward to National Storytelling Week and NSPCC Number Day next week. We also invite you to our Open Books session on Thursday, where you can explore your child's books and celebrate their learning and progress together.

Best wishes, Ms Earl

### **Acorn Class**

This week we have taken part in the Big Bird Watch! We have learnt about the different birds we see in our gardens and around school and went on our own bird watch to count how many of these birds we saw! We have learnt to make a hinge joint and have used this skill to make our own bird houses using junk modelling resources.

### **Pine Class**

It's been all go in Pine class this week as we continued with learning to write informal letters. In maths we have moved onto our new topic; addition and subtraction and the children have enjoyed playing games with a number line. We had a 'tasty' science lesson where we got to learn about taste buds and our four tastes sour, sweet, salty and bitter. As a class we weren't a fan of bitter foods! We also enjoyed playing percussion instruments in music this week, whereby we used them to make noises from the beach.

### **Chestnut Class**

In Year 2 this week the children produced final copies of their non-chronological reports, which are proudly displayed in the classroom. They began the subject of multiplication in maths and have been getting to grips with using the manipulatives. We are remembering to water our plants which have now started to germinate, which the children are finding fascinating.

### **Elm Class**

In Science, Elm class have been learning about the freezing points of different substances. We found out that honey was still in a liquid state at -12 degrees Celsius!

In History, we explored what Roman children would have played with two thousand years ago, as the students from Sevenoaks school shared pictures of artefacts found at Hadrian's wall. We learnt that school was quite hard at this time, with children coming in at sunrise and not leaving until sunset, seven days a week!

### **Beech Class**

Year 5 have been busy finishing their cultural stories set in the Amazon rainforest, ready to publish next week. The children have been busy getting to grips with using the formal method of multiplying a 2 digit number by a 2 digit number and demonstrating great resilience. In music this week, Year 5 excelled themselves by playing 3 different "3 chord" notes on the xylophones in time with each other, to the South African song "Shosholosa".

### **Willow Class**

In History this week year 3 have continued learning about life in Ancient Greece looking at how it has influenced our own lives over 2,500 years later. In Science they carried out experiments to look at how friction works, whilst in RE they have been learning about the religious purpose of the unique, and often beautiful features, of Mosques. In Art, the children are developing their shading skills and in Music they have learnt to play another note on the recorder. Maths has seen year 3 measuring and converting measurements and in English they have begun work on a non-chronological report on Sevenoaks.

### **Oak Class**

This week, Oak Class have been busy researching a creature of their choosing in preparation for writing an explanation of its life cycle. As part of this learning, the children carried out research, created detailed diagrams and confidently presented their chosen animal to the class. This provided a valuable opportunity for them to orally rehearse their ideas before beginning their independent writing.

In science, the children learned about the different symbols used to create scientific circuit diagrams and explored how these are used to represent electrical components.

Finally, in maths, Oak Class spent time refining their reasoning and problem-solving skills while multiplying and dividing decimals by whole numbers.



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## PSA

We are urgently looking for parents/carers from KS1 to join the PSA committee to ensure each year group has a voice and vote on PSA matters and spending.

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

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

Dates for the diary

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

13th Feb - Wear Red for Valentines & Cake sale

25th Feb - Bags2school

ATB

## Governors' 200 Club

The winners of the January 2026 draw are;

1<sup>st</sup> - Lisa Pearson, £9.00

2<sup>nd</sup> - Hugh Stirk, £5.40

3<sup>rd</sup> - Natasha Foster, £3.60

## Our Community

We have recently received several concerns from local residents regarding parking around the school. It has been brought to our attention that some vehicles are being parked across driveways and causing obstructions on the road.

We kindly ask all parents and carers to park considerately and responsibly to ensure the safety and convenience of our neighbours and the wider community. Your cooperation helps us maintain positive relationships with those living near the school.

## 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

## House Points

The House Points accumulated this term:

Mote	Chartwell	Knole	Oldbury
9	12	13	4

The winning House this week was Knole

Well done!



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## Awards and Certificates

The Gold Cup was awarded to:

Luna in Year 6

Head Teacher certificates were awarded to:

Acorn Class—Theo and Jasper

Pine Class—Cleo and Emel

Chestnut Class—Jude and Clara

Willow Class—Ezra and Joshua

Elm Class—Gracie and Penelope

Beech Class—Elvis and Harrison

Oak Class—Arya and Oliver

Maple Ready Award was presented to Willow Class .

Congratulations to all!

## Upcoming dates

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

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

**6th February** NSPCC National Number Day

**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%	97.78%	96.84%	98.33%	97.67%	95.68%	100%	97.45%	95.3%

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