



## **This Week**

Another lovely week at Ightham Primary School with lots of excellent learning taking place across the school. We want to encourage children to continue aspects of their learning at home, so teachers are now awarding House Points for home learning. Your child will receive two House Points each time they reads at home, up to a maximum of ten House Points per week. House Points will also be awarded for completed homework and for work on Times Tables Rock Stars. There are lots of points available and every contribution helps: the winning House this term will earn an own clothes day, so please support your child to read and practise at home.

We are very grateful to Treeability for supporting the school by identifying the trees on our site and installing plaques in the woodland. This means all our children can now name our native trees and use the woodland more confidently for outdoor learning. If you need tree work, you can visit their website at [www.treeability.co.uk](http://www.treeability.co.uk).

Your opinions matter to us. You can continue to share your views through Ofsted's Parent View, and we will also make the same questions available via a short online survey and on paper. Please look out for the survey link or the paper copy that will be sent home in your child's book bag next week.

Finally, we would like to wish the Year 5 children taking part in the football league this weekend the very best of luck — play with our values of respect and teamwork and enjoy the experience.

Best wishes, Ms Earl

## **Acorn Class**

This week we have read the story of The Bog Baby by Jeanne Willis and Gwen Millward. We discovered lots of Bob Babies all around our classroom and outdoor area and have loved building homes for them and writing instructions on how to look after them! The children have used their fine motor skills to shape their own Bob Baby using playdough and described these using lots of interesting vocabulary. We have learnt about the artist Claude Monet and have used his waterlily painting as inspiration for our own art! Our class caterpillars are growing very big already and we are enjoying observing these changes and talking about what we can see.



### **Pine Class**

This week in Pine Class, we have been very busy with our learning and activities! In Science, we have planted lots of garden plants to support our learning about plants. The children have loved getting involved with the planting and learning about how plants grow. We would also like to say a huge thank you for all the lovely donations from parents. We really appreciate your kindness and support. We have continued to observe our cress growing that we planted last week and have been carefully recording our results. It has been exciting to see the changes each day and discuss what plants need to stay healthy.

In English, we have enjoyed creating our own poems. The children have experimented with syllables and rhyming pairs and have shown lots of creativity in their writing. We are looking forward to starting our instruction writing next week. In History, we are continuing to discover lots of interesting facts about explorers and the fabulous things they have done. The children have enjoyed learning about different adventures and achievements from the past.

### **Chestnut Class**

This week, in Year 2, the fairground wheels started to take shape and the children learned about mechanisms, and how they work. The plant non-chronological reports have been planned and the children have written some great introductions, using questions. Maths has involved a lot of practical learning this week and the children have really developed in their ability to use the maths equipment. Great excitement is building as the children get ready to start using joined up writing and the excitement continued with the first cricket lesson of the year.

### **Willow Class**

In year 3 this week we finishing our work on fractions in maths; building confidence in finding unit and non-unit fractions of objects. In English, the children have begun planning and drafting their own third person narratives, focusing on the past tense and a range of descriptive devices. In history, we have been learning about Henry VIII and Elizabeth I, discovering why they were such significant monarchs. In our science lessons we have explored the different parts of a plant and their functions. However, the best part of our week was a fantastic singing workshop with singer/songwriter, Emily Barden, described excitedly by one child as, "So much better than I was expecting!"





## Ightham Primary School Newsletter

1st May 2026

### Elm Class

In Elm class this week, have finally made and evaluated our torches. They were a great success and all the children were able to switch them on and off! We evaluated our torches against the success criteria and thought about how we might improve them if we made them again.

We started our new History unit this week, brainstorming questions about Ightham and in French we have learnt about items that we find in the classroom.

In English, we have continued analysing narrative poems written by Hilaire Belloc. We have enjoyed the humour in the poems and discussed why Cautionary tales were written for children. In Maths, we have continued our work on decimals.

### Beech Class

This week, Year 5 have really been enjoying 'Secrets of a Sun King' as we get further into the story, with each lesson leaving us on a cliffhanger. Our new maths unit this week is 'Shape' and we have focused on classifying right angles, acute, obtuse and reflex angles and being able to estimate the size of an angle. In computing, we began our unit on 'games creator', when the children had to evaluate 'maze' games created by other children, before we begin to create our own. Geography this week was learning about the World's different Biomes.

### Oak Class

Oak Class have enjoyed a purposeful and varied week of learning. In English, the children wrote formal reports on subjects of their own choosing, showing great independence and enthusiasm. Topics ranged from musicals and the sinking of the Titanic to atomic bombs, tsunamis and even extinction-level events, with pupils organising their research clearly and confidently.

In Maths, we revised fractions to build fluency and understanding. In Science, the class worked scientifically to investigate how light is affected by different materials, while in Geography we explored how geographers define the world's biomes.



**PSA**

Our two marathon runners did amazingly well last weekend, please join me and thanking them for raising money for our school. We are hugely appreciative and applaud you both. Their donation pages are still open if you still want to sponsor them.

Readathon results:

Y1-£379 (3 kids)

Y2-£275 (5 kids)

Y4-£265 (4 kids)

Y5-£130 (3 kids)

Y6-£85 (3 kids)

Y3-£64 (3 kids)



Many thanks to all the children who took part. You raised an amazing amount!

**Upcoming events**

1st May - Sunflower growing competition starts.

15th May - Break the Rules day with a twist!

19th May - PSA meeting - George&Dragon 7.30pm

3rd June - Bags2school

12th June - Home clothes day for bottle donations.

26th June - Home clothes day for bottle donations.

3rd July or 17th July - Cake sale at sports day - donations welcome.

11th July - Ightham Summer Fair - please email the chair if you can help run a stall on the day.

Team PSA

**Awards and Certificates**

The **Gold Cup** was awarded to:

Emel in Year 1

**Head Teacher certificates** were awarded to:

Acorn Class— Malek and Phoebe

Pine Class— Reggie and Elsie

Chestnut Class— Harley and Xander

Willow Class— Chloe and Torben

Elm Class— Raphael and Elara

Beech Class— Isobelle and Sofia

Oak Class— Harper and Story

**Maple Ready Award** was presented to

Year 6

Congratulations to all!

**House Points**

The House Points accumulated this term:

Mote	Chartwell	Knole	Oldbury
7	3	7	3

The winner this week was Knole

Well done!



# Ightham Primary School Newsletter

24th April 2026

## School Calendar

### 2025-2026

**Term 5:** 20th April – 22nd May

**Term 6:** 1st June – 21st July

#### Inset Day:

1st June 2026

### 2026-2027

**Term 1:** 1st September-19th October

**Term 2:** 2nd November—18th December

**Term 3:** 4th January— 12th February

**Term 4:** 22nd February—25th March

**Term 5:** 12th April—28th May

**Term 6:** 7th June—23rd July

## Upcoming dates

**4th May** Bank Holiday

**5th May** Year 4 Community afternoon

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

**11th—14th May** KS2 SATs

**18th—22nd May** Science Week

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

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

**22nd May** Year 5 trip to Herstmonceux

**22nd May** Last day of term

**1st June** Inset Day

**2nd June** Year 6 Ightham Mote Partnership gardening afternoon

**3rd June** Year 6 Safety in Action

**5th June** Class photos

**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
100%	98.9%	97%	100%	99.1%	97.6%	98.3%	98.7%	94.9%

Number of lates	Acorn	Pine	Chestnut	Willow	Elm	Beech	Oak	Whole
	4	2	0	2	2	1	2	13

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/>