



East Peckham Primary School

To know more, do more, remember more

Newsletter

Term 1 Week 3

Friday 18th September 2026

Dear parents and carers,

It has been another hardworking week at East Peckham Primary. The children in Year 1 have been enjoying their computing lessons where they have been creating algorithms to move their little mouse towards his cheese. They have been using the language of forwards, backwards, left and right. You will be glad to know that he finally reached his



cheese after they debugged their algorithms 🧀! Miss Braybrook has also spent some time this week overseeing the subject that she leads - Maths. She was very impressed with all of the classes, including the place value activity in Year 3. Wishing you all a wonderful weekend,

Mrs Elliott

★ Stars of the Week ★

In our Friday Celebration Assembly we have been celebrating children who have been showing active listening (as a part of our approach to being in FOCUS):

Lemurs	Otters	Meerkats	Rhinos	Penguins	Lions	Dolphins
Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Bella F	Poppy S	Zack S	Allana R	Poppy C	Esmé W	Tommy H

Attendance

Attendance and punctuality are very important and we have class targets of 96%+. Please make sure that the children attend every day to ensure their class can achieve their targets. Holidays during term-time will not be authorised, this includes those where we are notified both before and after they occur.

Lemurs	Otters	Meerkats	Rhinos	Penguins	Lions	Dolphins
Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
96%	99%	90%	99%	100%	93%	96%
😊	😊	😞	😊	😊	😞	😊

Harvest Assembly - Friday 2nd October

On Friday 2nd October we would like to invite our parents to our Harvest Assemblies, where every class will be doing a short activity to present, such as singing, a reading or sharing artwork. We will be hosting 2 assemblies so that we can hopefully have enough space to fit everyone into the hall! **The content of both assemblies will be the same**, with the exception of the Reception class only joining the 1:00pm assembly. Therefore, to stagger parent attendance, please can we ask that if you have children in Y3/4/5/6 that you attend the 9:00am assembly, and if you have children in YR/1/2 that you only attend the 1:00pm assembly (and obviously if you have children in both, please choose which assembly to attend). For the parents in YR - the children can get teary when they first see you in assembly, so it is highly likely that we will dismiss them to you as soon as assembly has finished. Also, if you are unable to attend then please do not worry as we will share photographs in the newsletter that follows. Additionally, as is traditional in a Harvest Assembly, if you are able please could you send the children in with donations of food, preferably those with long shelf-lives, such as tins and packets. We will be waiting at the gate to collect donations as the children arrive.



Reception and Year 1 Early Reading Meeting with Mrs Richardson

On Monday 28th September, Mrs Richardson will be delivering an 'Early Reading Meeting' for Reception and Year 1 parents. She will be sharing all of the details of our Phonics Scheme ([Little Wandle](#)), and crucially how you can support your child with reading at home. If you are able to come along, please email the [office](#), stating if you can attend the 2:45pm-3:25pm meeting, or the 5:00pm-5:40pm meeting. Notes will also be sent out after the meeting. Please note that a lot of the content is similar to last year, so Year 1 parents are welcome to join for a refresher if they have already attended.

Meet the Teacher FAQs

Many thanks for joining us for Meet the Teacher. There were a few questions that were asked that we thought would be useful information to share with you all. If you have any further questions then please do ask your child's class teacher or send the office an email.

- **In Key Stage 2, my child is now a free reader - what type of books should they read?**
 - Follow your child's interests to develop a love of reading. If you find that they are reading a book too easily, then encourage them to try something more challenging, or a different genre. More information about reading at EPS can be found on our [website](#), or a Google Search about age-appropriate texts can be made online, such as this resource from [School Reading List.co.uk](#) or [Books for Topics.com](#).
- **How does the school reward positive behaviour?**
 - We use lots of praise throughout the day, names are written on the recognition boards in classes, respect points are awarded to classes working together and reward cards go home when behaviour and effort is exceptional. We also host the EPS Awards 3 times a year to celebrate children who have gone above and beyond expectations for that term.
- **My child has said that some children are bringing in cereal bars and similar treats at snack time, please clarify what the snack should be.**
 - Children in Year R, Year 1 and Year 2 will be given free fruit which is delivered daily. For children who would like a snack at break time they can bring a snack in from home. This snack must be fruit or vegetable. Packed fruit and vegetables are fine, but not those that are topped up with additional sugars and preservatives, such as Nestle fruit winders. If unsure, please ask at the office.
- **Is it true that children with packed lunches now need to sit away from the children who eat school dinner?**

- No! We have not got enough dining tables that have individual chairs, so one table has benches. It is quite difficult for children to get up and down from this table while carrying plates and bowls (containing food that likes to roll off...), so this table is for packed lunches only. So while packed lunches can sit anywhere, including the table with benches, children with school dinner can only sit at the usual dining tables. If anyone would like to make a donation so that we can buy an extra dining table or two, then please contact the office!
- **How long do the children get to eat their lunch?**
 - Year R 11:45-12:15, Y1/2/3 12:00-12:15, Y4/5/6 12:15-12:30 - and then they all head out to play for a further 30 minutes of outdoor playtime. This is in addition to the morning break and the afternoon break, both of which are 15 minutes.
- **What can children have in their packed lunch?**
 - The general advice is '*Please make sure that the packed lunch supports a balanced diet and there are no nuts in any food*'. Packed lunches filled with processed, sugary foods mean that children are often not well prepared for learning into the afternoon. Encourage your child to not compare what they have with someone else, but discuss with them what is sufficient to help them keep healthy and learn well to the end of the day, while being enough to fill them up. Similarly, please also do not provide an excessive amount of food as some children find there is too much for them to eat during their time in the hall (see above). Where those having school dinners have a pudding, it is perfectly fine for packed lunches to have a treat, but this could be fruit, a biscuit or small cake, avoiding bars of chocolate and packets of sweets. Please visit this website - www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes#lunchbox-recipes - here there are a number of good suggestions.
- **Do girls have to wear shorts under their dresses/skirts?**
 - No! But those who like to spin on the rail on the trim trail may wish to choose to. If shorts are worn, please can they be shorter than the length of the skirt. Please can children also wear tights rather than leggings under their dresses and skirts as this makes our uniform look much smarter.
- **Do you set homework?**
 - As a school we do not set homework because we agree with the research that suggests it does not have a significant impact on children's attainment. We highly recommend that children spend time reading as much as possible, and lists of spellings may be sent home too. We do subscribe to Numbots (KS1)/TTRS (KS2) for Maths and Spelling Shed for English for those who would like to do homework, but it is completely at the parents' discretion as to how much the children engage with it - and we do use these platforms in school. Our school days are long, and as such we would prefer that the children play and relax at home, before returning to school rested and refreshed the following day. .

We also had questions about the **11+/Kent Test** - Mrs Elliott will be doing her annual presentation about this for Years 4 and 5 in Term 2 - keep an eye on future newsletters for the date. There were also questions about Pageticker, so please read below.

Pageticker Update



Many thanks to everyone who has logged into Pageticker, we have enjoyed seeing the children make an enthusiastic start at progressing through their reading this term. We have seen that last week **Emy SN** read a huge number of pages, with **Ivy M** and **Henry W** reading a consistent amount of pages each evening, and across the school the Dogman series continues to be popular for many, including **Felix G** who even left feedback. For this term, we will give our families time to familiarise themselves with the app (and for those who still have not joined to sign up - please do reach out to us if you are stuck), and then next term Mrs Richardson will start setting reading challenges - it will be upon completion of these challenges that we will be able to produce reading certificates to start handing back out to the children in assembly. As last year, please only log 2 reads a day, where we would consider at least 10-minutes dedicated to reading each time as a suitable amount to log.

We are already talking about Christmas!



[JW Floristry](#) are returning for another year with a wreath making workshop on the evening of Thursday 26th November. We are very happy to support this business as it is owned by a member of our community, and we are really grateful to Jo and the team for constantly updating our beautiful hanging baskets at the front of the school. Additionally, for every attendee at this event, Jo makes a £3 donation to the school.



so we are truly grateful for their support, and to support them in return. It is always such a lovely event, so do gather your friends and family and get in touch with Jo on jo@jwfloristry.com to buy a ticket.

We are also looking into the idea of having external stalls at our Christmas Fair (Saturday 5th December) - so if you like the idea of hosting a stall, then please contact the school office.

Support group from Space 2 Be Me



Space 2 Be Me is pleased to offer a space for parents who are neurodivergent themselves or think they might be. No formal diagnosis is required to attend, and it is an adult only group. This is a calm environment for neurodivergent parents to talk about recognising and managing their own needs, the challenges of parenting and make connections with others. The session will be held on the last Monday of the month during term time, at Paddock Wood Community Centre, 10:00 – 11:30. Free tickets are available via their [booking page](#).

Space 2 Be Me continue to offer a range of support to families of children with additional needs, including:

- [Drop-In Support](#) – individual support sessions
- [1:1 Clinic Appointments](#) – bookable appointments
- [Space 2 Talks](#) – Informal Support Groups for parents & carers of additional needs in Snodland & Tunbridge Wells
- [Space 2 Learn](#) – Parent & Carer workshops
- [Parent Wellbeing](#) – Time to recharge and make connections.

Dates for your diary

New dates added are in **red**. More information about the events will be shared nearer the time.

Monday 21st Sept	Flu Vaccination Deadline - please either consent or decline	Whole school
Thursday 24th Sept	Flu Vaccinations	Children whose parents have signed up
Thursday 24th Sept	NSPCC Assembly	Whole school

Monday 28th Sept	Y5/6 Football Tournament at Maidstone	Selected Footballers
Monday 28th Sept	Early Reading Meeting - 2:45pm or 5:00pm	Year R and Year 1
Tuesday 29th Sept	Open Morning	Whole school
Thursday 1st Oct	NSPCC Workshops	Years 1-6
Friday 2nd Oct	Kent Golf Taster	Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6
Friday 2nd Oct	Harvest Assembly - more details to follow	Whole school
Monday 5th Oct	STEM Workshops	Year 5 and Year 6
Monday 12th Oct	STEM Workshops	Year 3 and Year 4
Wednesday 14th Oct	Open Morning	Whole school
Tuesday 20th Oct	STEM Workshops	Year 1 and Year 2
Tuesday 20th Oct	Parents Evening	Whole school
Wednesday 21st Oct	End of Term 1	Whole school
Monday 2nd Nov	Start of Term 2	Whole school
Friday 6th Nov	Remembrance Assembly - led by Year 6	Year 6 parents welcome
Monday 30th Nov	Last week of clubs this term	Whole school

Designated Safeguarding Team

Mr Atkins - Mrs Elliott - Miss Ray - Mrs Sinden - Miss Worrall

Please notify any of the team if you have any concerns via dsl@eastpeckhamprimary.org.uk

Contact us

Headteacher - **Mrs Kate Elliott**

<https://www.east-peckham.kent.sch.uk/>

Acting Chair of Governors - **Ms Wendy Johnson**

01622 871268



All proceeds will go to the Hospice in the Weald

FAMILY QUIZ

Enjoy a fun afternoon of questions, prizes and fundraising!

**£20
ENTRY
PER TEAM**

- GREAT PRIZES
- RAFFLE
- REFRESHMENTS
- TUCK SHOP
- BAR

Cash only!

To book email richardson_fundraising@yahoo.com with your team name and number of players (max 6 adults). Payment can be made in cash or online using the QR code and reference 'quiz':



3:00pm

17TH OCTOBER,
2026

EAST PECKHAM
PRIMARY SCHOOL
HALL

This event is being independently run by Sian Richardson and is not affiliated with East Peckham Primary School

**£22 PER DAY
£40 TWO DAYS
£56 THREE DAYS**

TUESDAY 27TH OCTOBER 9AM - 3PM
WEDNESDAY 28TH OCTOBER
THURSDAY 29TH OCTOBER

AGES 4-13

3V3 INFLATABLE PITCH!

OCTOBER SOCCER SCHOOL

**HUGH CHRISTIE SCHOOL
3G PITCH
TONBRIDGE
KENT
TN10 4PU**

LC COACHING

CALL LEE -07837 996183



NO MORE LOST ITEMS!

Our nametags are perfect to label all of your child's possessions. From clothing to shoes, stationery, toys - everything is identified!

★★★★★
4.8/5 ON TRUSTPILOT

STICKERS STAY ON IN THE WASH!

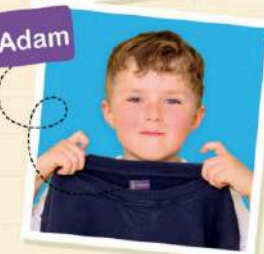
NO SEWING REQUIRED

QUEEN'S AWARD WINNER

UK MARKET LEADER FOR 20 YEARS

School ID: **30813**

*If blank ask your school for your School ID



EAST PECKHAM BIKEFIX

Free safety checks and basic bike services to keep you cycling locally



SATURDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER

12 - 4pm | Jubilee Hall, Pippin Road, TN12 5BT

We will be running a drop-in service on the day.

If you would like to guarantee a fix and skip the queue please scan the QR code to pre-book a slot.



BigBikeRevival.org.uk
#BigBikeRevival



Funded by
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