East Peckham Primary School

To know more, do more, remember more

Newsletter

Term 1 Week 8 Wednesday 21st October 2026

Thank you!

Apologies for the early close today - our power stopped just before 10am, and we waited as long as we could to make the decision to close. Unfortunately, without power we were unable to make the school dinners, and would not have hot water to help clean up after lunch, and more importantly to wash hands after using the bathroom. As you know, we always try to remain open (even on snow days!) but today it would just not have been possible. Many thanks to all of the parents, friends and families who came to collect, and also a huge thank you to Co-op @ Branbridges for trusting us to take sandwiches for the remaining children and pay later when their power returned! It is now 1:30pm and the electricity has just returned so I can send this newsletter (without having to hotspot off of my mobile phone!), so the staff are now finishing everything up for the term and look forward to seeing all of the children at the start of term 2.

Dear parents and carers,
A very short week of just 3 days, but we have managed to fill it with a number of events! Please read on to find out the details. We will return to Term 2 with a full week, meaning that clubs, PE, Y2s FOSIL on Mondays and YRs Forest School on Wednesdays will all begin immediately, so please make sure that your child returns wearing the correct uniform and bringing the correct equipment for each day. It is also now the winter term, so please can children wear winter uniform, and no longer come in wearing the checked summer dress which is just not warm enough for these chilly months - and jumper or cardigans, as well as winter coats are essential! For Term 2, we are also introducing a new weekly fundraiser: **EPS** Cake Raffle - **E**very **P**iece **S**upports! This will be where every week we invite you to purchase a raffle ticket to be the winner of a delicious cake, with the winner announced in the Friday assembly! To make this possible, we need some budding cake bakers to offer to make a cake each week (on a rota, so likely only 1 a year!), so if this sounds like something you can do then please email the office to let us know and we will start allocating baking slots. The tickets will be available to purchase afresh each Monday until Friday morning @ 8:30, when we will select a name at random. Unfortunately we cannot promise that the baked goods will be able to meet specific dietary requirements, but if one of them is then we will let you know via an email on Monday morning. Wishing you all a restful weekend and we look forward to welcoming the children back on **Monday 2nd November at 8:30am**,

Mrs Elliott

Attendance for Term 1

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
97%	99%	97%	98%	97%	93%	94%
😀	😀	😀	😀	😀	😔	😔

EPS Cake Raffle - Every Piece Supports!



We are very excited to launch a brand-new weekly fundraiser! Each week, one of our wonderful families will kindly bake just one cake, which will be raffled off to one lucky winner. For just £1 per ticket (available on Arbor), you will have the chance to take home a delicious homemade cake while helping to raise money for our school. We are also looking for families who would be willing to bake at least one cake during the school year. Whether it is a Victoria sponge, chocolate cake, lemon drizzle or your own favourite recipe, we would love your support. Baking just one cake can make a real difference and helps keep this fundraiser running. If you'd like to volunteer to bake, please contact the school office and we will add you to our baking rota. Thank you for supporting East Peckham Primary School - every piece really does support!

Secondary School Admissions

Further to our email, Year 6 parents please be reminded that you must apply for your child's secondary school place before we return for Term 2. More information can be found on the KCC website here: https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/secondary-school-places#accordion-item-2

Year 5/6 Fundraising - the East Peckham Grand Prix

POSTPONED DUE TO THE WEATHER AND THE POWER CUT

Everything was definitely against us on Wednesday, so we had to take the decision to postpone the race until the start of the new term. Many apologies!

Pre-loved Uniform

Now that we have moved to our winter uniform, we have put out boxes of pre-loved uniform in the main reception area. Please do come and help yourself as we have so much that we are now struggling to store it! Please take as required,

Inter-House Ball Skills



On Monday, Mrs Askew led our Inter-House Ball Skills event. Every class took part to accrue points for their house team, and they were supported by our amazing Sports Captains: **Natty S**, **Tommy H**, **Jake S** and **Sidney G**. Well done to everyone, but a special mention to:

- Lemurs - **Mason T** for great effort and skill with the ball and **Maddi T** for great listening.
- Otters - **Ada P** for closely following instructions and **Natasha J** for fabulous effort.
- Meerkats - **Zack S** for great listening and **Phoebe S** for demonstrating super effort.
- Rhinos - **Arlo E** for great listening and **Max D** for great effort in activities.
- Penguins - **Monty H** for his effort and **Chester R** for improving his confidence as he scored a basket!
- Lions - **Dottie P** for good listening and **Nicky LR** for a great effort throughout.
- Dolphins - **Juniper O** for good listening and **Tommy W** for superb effort.

Congratulations to all of the teams, and the scores were:

1st place = **Blue**
2nd place = **Yellow**
3rd place = **Red**
4th place = **Green**







Year 1 and Year 2 STEM Workshop



Assembly on Keeping Safe

On Monday, we had an assembly about 'Keeping Safe' while in school. As always, we handled everything sensitively, but wish to share the details with you in case your children have any questions that they may ask you. We reassured the children that some of these items/processes are very unlikely to be used, but that they need to know about them just in case. Many thanks for your support and understanding with this.
To end the assembly we sounded the fire (evacuation) alarm and the emergency (invacuation) alarm so that the children could hear the difference, and later in the week we had a practice drill of both too. The items discussed were:

- **Lanyards -** Everyone on our site should be wearing a lanyard, where **green** means that they are a member of staff, **yellow** means that they are an approved visitor or volunteer who can be around the children, and that **red** is a person here for the school and not for the children, so not to be approached.
- **Walkie Talkies -** Used at playtime so that the admin staff can be contacted immediately if needed.
- **Snack Area -** Where we eat, with children reminded that no food or drink should be consumed anywhere on the playground other than here.
- **Designated Safeguarding Leads -** Trained members of staff to help us with safeguarding matters, and we can talk to them if needed, but children can also talk to any member of staff, who will refer to a DSL if required. .
- **First Aid Kits -** Available in every classroom, and key areas around the school.
- **Ice Packs -** Available from the school office, but only to be used for severe head bumps, to reduce swelling and lumps, not for small knocks!
- **Defibrillator -** Used to support our heart if needed.
- **Allergy Medication** - Used to support if someone has an allergic reaction, but in an emergency only. Those requiring auto-immune injectors must carry their own on their person.
- **Fire (Evacuation) Alarm** - Sounds if we need to leave the building, with a reminder about being quick and quiet.
- **Emergency (Invacuation) Alarm** - Sounds we need to remain in school, locking the external doors and being low to the ground. To reassure children, we said that we would use this if ever someone came on to the school site without Mrs Elliott's permission, and that we use this time to make sure that they are safe to be around us.

For the final few items we reassured the children that for all of the staff in the hall, and for all of our combined years of teaching we have never had to use these, so not to worry, but it is important that we are aware. If you have any questions then please do not hesitate to ask.





Christmas Preparation

Apologies for discussing Christmas in October, but we have had a few enquiries about the Nativity already! We will repeat this section every week, adding more details as we get closer to each event- so please check back for changes.

- **Winter Own Clothes Day** - On **Friday 20th November**, children are invited to come to school wearing their own clothes in exchange for a bottle or sweet treat for the Tombola stalls at the Christmas Fair.

- **Christmas Fair Raffle** - We will be sending out raffle tickets nearer the time, but if you would like to volunteer a prize then please email office@eastpeckhamprimary.org.uk and we will pass your kind donation on to the person co-ordinating the raffle.
- **Christmas Fair Stalls** - This event takes place on **Saturday 5th December**, and we think we have space for about 2 more stalls, so if you or anyone you know of is interested then please do pass on our details and ask them to contact us at fundraising@eastpeckhamprimary.org.uk
- **Christmas Fair Volunteers** - If you would like to volunteer to help at this event, please email fundraising@eastpeckhamprimary.org.uk or let Mrs Elliott know on the gate.
- **EYFS/KS1 Nativity** - The dates for this will be **Monday 14th** and **Tuesday 15th December**, and will likely both be in the afternoon we will confirm nearer the time.
- **Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day** - This will be on **Wednesday 16th December** with more details to follow nearer the time. There is no payment or item request for this day - it is just for fun! But please do book your child's Christmas Dinner on Arbor!

Winter Fireworks Helpers



If you would like to help out at the Fireworks event on Saturday 14th November, then please email directly on pta@eastpeckhamprimary.org.uk - we are looking for volunteers to wear hi-viz jackets and direct people to where they may need to be (or not be!). Volunteering means that your admission is paid for - and we are truly grateful because without you these events just cannot go ahead. Please do not feel that there is a high level of commitment required, we really do just need people on the night! The Wall family and the Atkins family are covering the food, Miss Ray and Mrs Duffield are leading the bar, the Elliott family are covering the entrance gate, the Jahanshahi family have organised the fun children's stall and the Swift family have got the entertainment covered - so now we just need you to help with marshalling the event. Many thanks in advance!

Reading Challenge

To bring the National Year of Reading to an end, we are excited to announce our first reading challenge using Pageticker which will take place over the whole month of **November**! The children have been asked to log as many reads as they can during the month, ensuring that all logged reads are for at least **10 minutes** of reading time. Certificates will then be awarded to children based on the number of reads they have logged; **Bronze** for 30 reads, **Silver** for 45 reads and **Gold** for 60 reads throughout the whole of November! There will also be a special prize for the class with the highest percentage of logged reads over the month and for the child in each class who logs the most reads. For the duration of the challenge, we will also include logs for adults reading to a child to make the challenge more accessible for our younger children, but please ensure this is specified when you record the read on Pageticker. We cannot wait to celebrate all of the fantastic reading that will be taking place across the school!

Year 1 FOSIL - Year 2 next term!

Otters Class finished their series of FOSIL sessions with delicious pancakes and chocolate spread, warmed up by the fire.





PE

Please ensure your child comes to school in PE kit on these days:

	Term 2 - PE
Year R	Formal PE begins later in the year.
Year 1	Monday (indoor) & Tuesday (indoor)
Year 2	Monday (indoor) & Friday (indoor)
Year 3	Wednesday (outdoor) & Thursday (outdoor)
Year 4	Tuesday (outdoor) & Thursday (outdoor)
Year 5	Wednesday (outdoor) & Friday (outdoor)
Year 6	Monday (outdoor) and Tuesday (outdoor)

Reminder: Optional Homework Activity - BBC's 500 Words

We are delighted to be promoting the BBC 500 Words, the UK's biggest writing competition which encourages children aged 5-11 years to write a story they would love to read. From Tuesday 29th September to 9pm on Friday 6th November, children can submit a story that's just 500 words or fewer. Punctuation and grammar do not matter in this challenge - it is only creativity that matters! Entries opened on Tuesday 29th September until 9pm on Friday 6th November 2026. We would like to encourage children to do this as an optional homework activity, if they choose to. Check out BBC 500 Words Learning Resources for more help. Also, every child that submits a story to BBC 500 Words will also be entered into a random draw to win a bespoke, literacy Wall Art project for their school.

Dates for your diary

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

Wednesday 21st Oct	End of Term 1	Whole school
Monday 2nd Nov	Start of Term 2	Whole school
Friday 5th Nov	Residential meeting for parents	Year 6 parents
Friday 6th Nov	Remembrance Assembly - led by Year 6	Year 6 parents welcome
Friday 6th Nov	Year 5 Football Tournament	Year 5
Monday 9th Nov	Individual/Sibling Photographs	Whole school
Thursday 12th Nov	Football match	Selected players
Saturday 14th Nov	Winter Fireworks Event	Community welcome
Tuesday 17th Nov	National Child Measurement Program	Year R and Year 6
Friday 20th Nov	Own-Clothes Day - in exchange for a bottle or sweet treat gift for the Christmas Fair.	Whole school
Wednesday 25th Nov	Open Evening	2027 parents
Thursday 26th Nov	Open Morning	2027 parents
Monday 30th Nov	Last week of clubs this term	Whole school
Saturday 5th Dec	Christmas Fair	Whole school
Tuesday 8th Dec	Assembly led by Christian Church group	Whole school
Monday 14th Dec Tuesday 15th Dec	Nativity - details tbc nearer the time. Both performances for the parents are in the afternoon.	Year R, 1 and 2
Wednesday 16th Dec	Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day	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**
Acting Chair of Governors - **Ms Wendy Johnson**

https://www.east-peckham.kent.sch.uk/
01622 871268





Click the poster- link is embedded!


FLORISTRY
ESTA 2007
EAST PECKHAM
PRIMARY'S
2026
Christmas
WREATH EVENING
THURSDAY 26th NOVEMBER
19:00 - 21:00
IN THE SCHOOL HALL
OFFICE ENTRANCE, CHURCH ROAD, TN12 5LH
£40.00 PER PERSON
£3 PER PERSON WILL BE DONATED TO THE SCHOOL
BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS & NIBBLES
CONTACT JO TO BOOK : 07833447217 JO@JWFLORISTRY.COM

MY NAMETAGS

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 Haunted House & Halloween Trail

1st November • 2pm - 4pm • Jubilee Hall

Presented by East Peckham Parish Council

Haunted House £1
Trail £2
Both for £3!

Payment on the day
Cash Only

For more info and to book: admin@eastpeckham-pc.gov.uk

Schools Out!
Autumn Holiday Club

26 - 29 October 2026

Greenfields Community Primary School, Shepway, Maidstone

Archbishop Courtenay Primary School, Tovil, Maidstone

Leigh Academy Tree Tops, Furfield Close, Parkwood, Maidstone

Providing childcare and peace of mind.

Schools Out Club provides the opportunity for children aged between 4 - 13 to participate in a range of **sports** and **arts & craft** activities. Sessions run for **4 hours** between **10:00 - 14:00**.

Places are now open to register for our Schools Out Autumn Club 2026. Don't delay as places are available on a first come basis and charged at £5.00 per day. Simply visit **stonesinthecommunity.org** to book now.

Payments are non-refundable.

stonesinthecommunity.org

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STONES in the community

Scouts
ADVENTURE FRIENDSHIP SKILLS FOR LIFE

EAST PECKHAM SCOUT TROOP
(15TH TONBRIDGE)

NEW TROOP STARTING 12TH JAN 27!

- CAMPING
- OUTDOOR SKILLS
- MAKE FRIENDS
- CHALLENGES
- HAVE FUN

SCOUTS & VOLUNTEERS BOTH NEEDED!

Be part of something great!

Sign up NOW

www.15thtonbridge.scoutsonline.co.uk

TUESDAYS
7:30PM - 9:30PM
EAST PECKHAM SCOUT HUT

Enquire via e-mail: ep.scouts15@gmail.com

or visit our Facebook page: East Peckham Scout Group