



East Peckham Primary School

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Newsletter

Term 3 Week 2

Friday 16th January 2026

Dear parents and carers,

This week our quality of the week was about working together and demonstrating team work. In our assembly on Monday we talked about how it is easy to accomplish things if you support each other - which is why we had several children receiving certificates in assembly today - well done to everyone whose name appears below! We also had our PTA AGM which was well-attended by staff and parents, again showing how when we work together we can achieve great things. I have also had a number of meetings with other headteachers and Local Authority staff this week where I have been able to share the great things that we do in school - all of which is only possible by a team of staff who support each other. In a time when we are hearing about so many divisive actions taking place across the world, it is so refreshing to reflect on what we achieve here at East Peckham Primary - and how together we are supporting our children to be kind and responsible citizens.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend,



Mrs Elliott

★ School Captains ★

Congratulations to our new School Captains for the Spring Term - **Orson F** and **George R!**

★ Stars of the Week ★

In our Friday Celebration Assembly we have been celebrating children who have been working together:

Lemurs	Otters	Meerkats	Rhinos	Penguins	Lions	Dolphins
Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Felicity A Imogen E	Noah L Isabella W	Myles B	Kobi D Murphy T	Louie B Harry B Nicky-Jensen LR Raphael P	Elijah H Kodey P Isabelle R Harry W	Kieran F Theo M George R Sammy W Emmanuel N

Many thanks to **Natalie B** for joining me to present assembly today.

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%	97%	92%	91%	97%	96%	96%
😊	😊	😞	😞	😊	😊	😊

Otters' Local History Project



Year 1 had the pleasure of a visit from local resident Mr Morgan last week. He came to speak to Otter class about his time at East Peckham Primary School, when he was a little boy. He told us about the Headteacher, called Mr Lawrence. He said he was very tall and you could hear his feet marching down the corridor! Mr Morgan said he was a fair man but a little bit scary! The children were so well behaved and respectful to our visitor as well as asking fantastic questions. What a great start to our new local history enquiry!



Meerkats' Toy Project



This term, Meerkats class are learning all about toys and games of the 1960s and comparing them to the toys and games that they enjoy today. To help the children develop their understanding of toys in the past, we would like to invite any parent or grandparent who owns a toy or game that was special to them as a child to bring it in to show the children, and talk briefly about their memories of it. If you are interested in popping in between now and half term, please let Mrs Sinden or Mrs Gardiner know at pick up, or via email to the office, and we can arrange a suitable time. Thank you!



Yoga for Year R, 1 and 2



On Tuesday we were joined by Martina from Tatty Bumpkins Yoga, who held a Yoga class for EYFS and KS1. The children had lots of fun learning a new skill. They would like to start a Yoga Club after school on Tuesdays for this age group, where class numbers will be kept small to ensure the best possible experience for the



children, but therefore early booking is advised to guarantee a place. If you are interested then please follow the link: https://portal.childreninspiredbyyoga.com/Classes/Course+Details/?course_id=6415 (it can also be accessed via their website childreninspiredbyyoga.com/tunbridgewells).



Smartphone Free Childhood

As parents of older children at the school are aware, every year the school has to deal with a number of issues linked to the children's use of social media when not in school. Although we have a robust curriculum around online use, unfortunately misuse still takes place every year. We have previously shared information about <https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/> at the request of a group of parents as there is a lot of interest in this. Although at the moment we are not changing our involvement with smartphones, it is something that we are constantly reviewing as we consider the message that we send to children by allowing them to store their smartphones here. *(For those who may not be aware, mobile phones are not permitted in school, but if a child has them on their walk to and from school, we do allow for them to be turned off and stored in the classroom - however it is alarming to see how quickly the children turn their phones back on to check their message as soon as they are returned to them at the end of the day).* This week, the Prime Minister also shared concerns about the amount of time children and teenagers are spending on their phones ahead of the imminent return of the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill to the House of Commons. As such, we are sharing a link should you wish to email your local MP to support the idea of raising the social media age to 16: <https://smartphonefreechildhood.eaction.org.uk/raise-the-age>. This is not about banning technology or demonising the internet; it is about setting reasonable, age-appropriate boundaries that protect children's wellbeing and reflect their developmental needs, just as we do in many other areas of life. There is absolutely no obligation to engage, but we feel it would be remiss for us to not share this with you.

Using Our Words

What have you been learning about this week?

Lydia M (Y3) - In PE we have been doing dance and gymnastics. In dance we have been doing an ocean-themed dance. In gymnastics we have been making flexible shapes where we are practicing to get better. We are working in pairs to do balances, jumps and stretches.

Emmanuel N (Y6) - In Science we have been learning about light. We learnt that light travels in a straight line, and we made a periscope. We put a hole through the back of our box, and a hole through the front at the opposite end, then we used our maths knowledge to put the mirrors at a 45° angle opposite each hole.

We could then look into it and see what is going on at a higher level, like you would use on a submarine.



Eco News

Many thanks to Mrs Duffield for resourcing the refreshments for the Disco - following the children's feedback for us to be more sustainable, she has purchased paper cups rather than plastic ones - which are much better for the environment!

Reminder: Winter Disco - TONIGHT!

The sign-up for next week's Winter Disco is now open on Arbor - details below:

- Years R, 1 and 2 will have their disco at 2:15-3:15.
 - Please make a £2 payment to attend the disco via Arbor. Payment also provides consent.
 - **We will keep children in school until the disco begins** - so please send children in with their disco clothes to change into in the afternoon.
 - During the disco the children will be given a drink and a snack.
 - **Please collect from the normal school gate.**
 - Any children in Years R, 1 and 2 who are not going to the disco can be collected as normal.

- Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will have their disco at 3:30-4:30.
 - Please make a £2 payment to attend the disco via Arbor. Payment also provides consent.
 - **Please can children leave school as normal at 2:00, then return to the office/car park side of the school to enter.**
 - During the disco the children will be given a drink and a snack.
 - **Please collect from the normal school gate.**
 - If you are giving permission for Year 5 and 6 children to walk home alone, please email the school directly.



We would really appreciate some parent help for this event - if you are able to lend a hand then please email the office on office@eastpeckhamprimary.org.uk

Reminder: Attendance Prize for Term 3

We are very pleased to share that we have been gifted a £10 and a £5 multi-purpose retail voucher from Verian, a company who we have supported with educational research. We will be offering these as 2 attendance prizes, to award at the end of Term 3. A reminder about how our attendance prizes work - every child who attends for a full week from Monday to Friday will have their name entered into the draw to win. If a child is off, they will still have a chance of re-entering the following week, but obviously the more full weeks of attendance mean more entries into the draw! Good luck!



Reminder: Emotional Wellbeing Parent Workshops

The NHS Emotional Wellbeing Team will be running two parent workshops here in school over the next two terms:

- Me and My Child: Understanding Resilience - Tuesday 20th January, 09:30am - 11:00am
 - Supporting Your Child with Worries and Fears - Monday 16th March, 09:30am - 11:00am
- To find out more and secure your place, please email office@eastpeckhamprimary.org.uk, FAO Mrs Smith.

East Peckham Primary School Workshop

Aimed at parents of children in primary school

Me and My Child: Understanding Resilience
Tuesday 20th January 9.30am - 11am

Would you like to come and meet with other parents and carers to reflect and generate ideas of how you can be a positive role model of resilience for your child?

You are invited to a workshop about understanding resilience and its importance in your child's development. It will help you to consider factors which can help to build your child's resilience in the context of caring relationships.

To book your place, please email:
office@eastpeckhamprimary.org.uk

If you require materials in another language or have any other access needs then please email:
EWandESTenquiries@neft.nhs.uk

We look forward to meeting you.

www.neft.nhs.uk

East Peckham School Parent Workshop

Supporting Your Child with Worries & Fears
Monday 16th March 9.30am - 11am

Are your child's worries and fears starting to impact their day to day life? Would you like to come and meet with other parents and carers and learn about ways to support your children so they can manage their concerns and enjoy themselves more?

You are invited to a workshop which focuses on understanding what anxiety is, the symptoms you may notice in your child and some techniques to help manage this anxiety.

To book your place, please email: office@eastpeckhamprimary.org.uk

If you require materials in another language or have any other access needs then please email:
EWandESTenquiries@neft.nhs.uk

www.neft.nhs.uk

Reminder: Clubs for Term 3 and Term 4

All clubs are available for you to sign up for via Arbor. If you are unable to sign up for a club then it means that it is full - so please email the office to be added to a waiting list. **Unless indicated, clubs led by members of staff run starting week beginning 12/01 and end in the week beginning 23/03.** For clubs that you sign up for by booking directly with the organiser, please follow their guidance for when they will run. **The clubs highlighted are now full.**

Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Years R-2 - Film Club with Mrs Sutcliffe Years 2-6 - East Peckham TaskMaster with Mr Atkins and Mrs Duffield <u>External</u> - Year R-2 - Multi-Sports - please book directly via the QR code on the flyer at the end of the newsletter. If numbers are low this may not go ahead.
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phonics Club @ 8.10am with Mrs Sinden (invite only) Years 1-2 cooking club with Mrs Stenning* (further information at the bottom) Years 3-6 - Drawing club with Mrs Bawden
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>External</u> - Year 4-6 - Football Club with Lee - please book directly via lccoaching18@gmail.com
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Years R-3 - Mindfulness Singing and Colouring with Mrs Gardiner Years 3-6 - Creative Play Club with Mrs Richardson <u>External</u> - Year 3-6 - Multi-Sports - please book directly via the QR code on the flyer at the end of the newsletter. If numbers are low this may not go ahead. Year 6 (invite only) - Podcast Club with Mrs Duffield
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>External</u> - Year R-3 - Football Club with Lee - please book directly via lccoaching18@gmail.com

*Cooking club has a cost of £3 per child for resources, the term will be split into 2x 5-week groups. Please take note of which dates you sign up for.

Reminder: PE for Term 3

Please wear PE kit on these days - please be reminded that trainers need to be appropriate for sport, and that hoodies and zip-up tops are not permitted for health and safety reasons. Any questions then please speak to Mrs Askew, PE lead.

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

Reminder: FOSIL - FOrest School Inspired Learning

Please make sure that your child brings in their complete outdoor learning clothing for the dates below. More information about the correct clothing required can be found on the [school website](#).

Week beginning:	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
19th January 2026	Year 3 / Year 5	Year 1	Year R
26th January 2026	Year 4 / Year 6	Year 2	Year R
2nd February 2026	Year 3 / Year 5	Year 1	Year R
9th February 2026	Year 4 / Year 6	Year 2	Year R
End of Term 3 - Start of Term 4			
23rd February 2026	Year 3 / Year 5	Year 1	Year R
2nd March 2026	Year 4 / Year 6	Year 2	Year R
9th March 2026	Year 3 / Year 5	Year 1	Year R
16th March 2026	Year 4 / Year 6	Year 2	Year R
23rd March 2026	Year 3 / Year 5	Year 1	Year R
30th March 2026	Year 4 / Year 6	Year 2	Year R

Dates for your diary

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

Tuesday 20th January	Christian group visit to lead assembly	Whole school
Friday 6th February	Bingo! (more details to follow)	All parents welcome
Friday 13th February	End of term bake sale - would a parent/class please volunteer to lead.	Whole school
Friday 13th February	End of Term 3	Whole school
Monday 23rd February	Start of Term 4	Whole school
Monday 23rd February	Young Voices at the O2	Choir
23rd-26th February	Book Fair 3.30-4.15pm	Whole school
Monday 2nd March	Book Week	Whole school
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day	Whole school

Tuesday 10th March	The Art of Brilliance Wellbeing Workshops	Year 3, 4, 5 and 6
Friday 13th March	Mother's Day Event - details tbc	Whole school
Friday 20th March	Year 5 Assembly	Year 5 parents welcome
Friday 20th March	Eco Warriors Litter Pick	Eco Warriors and Eco Ambassadors
Wednesday 25th March	EPS Awards	EPS Award winners
Thursday 26th March	East Peckham's Got Talent	Whole school welcome
Friday 27th March	Y 1/2 Fundraiser for KSS Air Ambulance	Whole school
Wednesday 1st April	Parent Consultations	Whole school
Thursday 2nd April	End of Term 4 - please note Friday is a Bank Holiday when school will be closed	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**
Chair of Governors - **Mrs Katie Bennett**

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




NEW East Peckham Men's Shed Start-up Meeting

Date:
Wednesday
28 January
1-3pm

Venue:
Jubilee Hall,
Pippin Road,
East Peckham
TN12 5BT

We are pleased to launch a new men's shed with community funding - and you're invited to our first coffee afternoons! Men's Sheds bring people together to make, repair and repurpose while supporting local neighbourhood projects. Whether you have skills to share or simply want to learn, we'd love to see you. No tools needed - we just want to meet people interested in getting involved!

Find out more...
E: active.communities@tactive.co.uk
W: menssheds.org.uk




Online Parent Workshops

Aimed at parents of children in

Primary school



Understanding your Child's Behaviour

19/01/2026 10:30-12:30pm

[Understanding Your Child's Behaviour | Meeting Jan | Microsoft Teams](#)



Supporting Your Child with Worries & Fears

02/02/2026 10:30-12:30pm

[Support Your Child with Worries & Fears | Meeting Jan | Microsoft Teams](#)



Autism and Sleep

09/03/2026 12:30 - 13:30pm

[Autism and Sleep | Meeting Jan | Microsoft Teams](#)



Understanding Neurodiversity

24/03/2026 10:30-12:30pm

[Understanding Neurodiversity | Meeting Jan | Microsoft Teams](#)



laudy, giggly yoga for strong bodies and clever minds

Yoga and More Club....

combining yoga, storytelling, active play, music, fun & relaxation, helping to build physical, emotional and social confidence



Join us on magical, exciting & imaginative adventures - whether diving into the ocean with Dolphin, tip-toeing through the jungle with Lion or zooming into space to explore the planets - every week is a new adventure!

After School Club @ East Peckham Primary
Tuesdays 3:15-4:00pm
For Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children

BOOK via our website: childreninspiredbyyoga.com/tunbridgewells or this link:
https://portal.childreninspiredbyyoga.com/Classes/Course+Details/?course_id=6415