



East Peckham Primary School

To know more, do more, remember more

Newsletter

Term 3 Week 3

Friday 23rd January 2026

Dear parents and carers,

This week our quality of the week has been about showing gratitude. We were inspired by the gratitude that we had from all of the adults who helped to make our Winter Disco a success (please see below). These parent volunteers gave up several hours to supervise the event, while many staff also stayed behind into the early evening to support too - not forgetting tidying up afterwards. As such in assembly, the children have been counting how many times they say thank you and how many thank yous they hear over the course of a day. We found out that on average we say thank you 36 times, and we received 42 thank yous in return. We also listed names of those who have been polite and showing gratitude to ensure everyone knows that good manners do not go unnoticed. Congratulations to our Stars of the Week who were caught doing this frequently (please see below)



Please can I also take this opportunity to thank our parents who park carefully around the school, including using the car park outside the Jubilee Hall. However I do need to remind some parents of this as we have seen cars parked on the yellow zigzags outside the KS2 gate. Not only is this prohibited, but it makes it very difficult to see parents and children - and the last thing we want is for an accident to be caused to any member of our school community. Please keep

this in mind at the next collection or drop off - we know it can be busy at times, please do still follow the polite parking requests. 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 gratitude:

Lemurs	Otters	Meerkats	Rhinos	Penguins	Lions	Dolphins
Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Luana B	Harriet S	Charlotte B	Luca D	Felix G	Natasha E	Scarlett M

Many thanks to **Jamie K** 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
95%	99%	96%	96%	96%	96%	95%
😞	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊	😞

Bingo Fundraiser!

On Friday 6th February, from 7:00pm-9:00pm, we will be organising a night of bingo and other fun activities to raise money on behalf of the school - many thanks to the **Swift Family** for being our hosts. The event is aimed at adults, but children accompanying adults may join, so long as they are playing bingo too - please note that the ticket price is per person so that we know how many place settings to arrange so children will also need to have a ticket. There will be the option to purchase additional books and Bingo dabbers on the night. The bar, which will include light snacks, will also be available (please do not bring your own food and drink). Cash on the night is preferred, however we will also try to get the card machine working. This is also available to people in the village - where they can purchase their tickets from the School Office. Buy your tickets now on Arbor!



The poster features a dark blue background with a starburst effect behind the word 'BINGO'. The letters are colorful and stylized. Above the letters are several bingo balls with numbers like 42, 26, 12, 30, 44, and 31. Below the word 'BINGO' is the word 'Night' in a cursive font. At the top, it says 'EAST PECKHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL PRESENTS'. At the bottom, there are three yellow buttons with text: 'FRIDAY', '07.00-9.00 PM', and '6TH FEBRUARY'. Below these is a white button with 'TICKETS £7'. At the very bottom, it says 'Available to buy from the School Office, Church Lane.' There are also several bingo balls with numbers like 6, 7, 24, 16, and 13 scattered around the bottom.

EAST PECKHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL PRESENTS

BINGO

Night

Gather your family and friends, and join us for a fun filled BINGO NIGHT. **Tickets £7 per person**, including a bingo book. Licensed bar and snacks.

FRIDAY **07.00-9.00 PM** **6TH FEBRUARY**

TICKETS £7

Available to buy from the School Office, Church Lane.

Winter Disco!

We hope the children enjoyed Friday night's disco! It was lovely to see everyone in their party outfits - who knew so many of us had shiny sequins in our wardrobes! Well done to the children for demonstrating exemplary behaviour too. Many thanks to everyone who came along to help to make this possible: **Mrs Brooker, Mrs Duffield, Mrs Fleming, Mrs Gardiner, Ms Hook, Miss Jarvis, Ms Newlands, Mrs Newton, Mrs Reynolds, Mrs Richardson, Miss Simpson, Mrs Senior, Mrs Sutcliffe, Mr Swift, Mrs Swift, Miss Tait and Ms Wheeler.** Volunteers, both parents and staff, make these fun events possible - and I promise that the picture below definitely is not evidence of them enjoying themselves and doing the Macarena while helping out!



'Art of Brilliance' Workshop

Last month, I (Mrs Elliott) attended a conference alongside 200+ headteachers and saw a presentation from Hannah from [Art of Brilliance](#) - she was so inspiring that an audience filled with old, grumpy headteachers literally skipped out of the meeting afterwards! Her passion and teaching about wellbeing was infectious. She shared practical ideas, with an understanding that change takes small steps, but how small steps lead to massive gains! As such, I am delighted that despite being highly sought after, she has agreed to come into school to share her passion, enthusiasm, and just genuine joy with our Key Stage 2 children. She will be visiting on Tuesday 10th march, where she will be working with Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and year 6 individually (unfortunately she does not do workshops for the younger children... yet!). We will be heavily subsidising her visit, but would be grateful if you could also **contribute £4 via Arbor** to her visit - I promise you it will be worth it.



History Lessons in Otters

Last week Otter's class turned back time! They experienced what it might have been like to be in a Victorian classroom. They had a very strict teacher who made them write the alphabet onto blackboards with chalk. The children decided that being at school today is much better than in the past!



Rhinos History Workshop



On Wednesday, Rhino class took part in a Roman workshop with Maidstone Museum. They began by examining artefacts in small groups, working together to identify the theme of each tray and decide whether the objects were real or replicas. Some of the artefacts were over 2,000 years old, including a knucklebones game and an oil lamp that had exploded and broken into two pieces. The children then had the opportunity to try on the armour worn by Roman soldiers during battles and long marches. They were surprised by how heavy it was! Using shields, they practised a 'mushroom march', where the shields were held overhead to protect against spears flying through the air. Afterwards, Rhinos class made their own clay oil lamps. They created the base and the lid, moulded them together and decorated them with traditional Roman patterns. The workshop was great fun, and the children learnt a lot about life in Roman times.

Martial Arts Trials



On Thursday, Mrs Askew organised for [British Military Martial Arts](#) to lead an assembly for the whole school. It consisted of talking about the theory and discipline behind martial arts, as well as some demonstrations which were really interesting - and the children got to have go too! They will now be returning next week to do some free workshops with each class.

Where possible we have tried to overlap with existing PE days, but for Year 2 and year 6 this has not quite been possible, so please could the children come into school wearing PE kit on that day too. For Year R, please just wear normal uniform as usual, but if the children could wear trainers (or bring in their bag if preferred), then that would be great.

Workshops on **Tuesday 27th January 2026 - Year R, Year 1 and Year 2**

Workshops on **Thursday 29th January 2025 - Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6**



How we Calculate Reading Certificates

Reading is central to our learning here at East Peckham, and presenting children with reading certificates has been a reward we have had at East Peckham for many years. We just wanted to remind everyone, as well as informing our new families, about how these work:



- Children must bring home their reading journals every day (or on set days in EYFS/KS1 as they use group reading books) - **parents, please sign and date after each read** so that we can keep track.
- A 'read' is classified as **10 minutes daily reading for years 1 and 2, 15 minutes daily reading for years 3 and 4; and 20 minutes daily reading for years 5 and 6** that takes place at home.
- If a child reads several times - that is great! However for manageability, **we only officially record 2 reads a day** (encouraging reading perhaps before and after school).
- We want to celebrate children reading at home and this is where the Reading Certificates come in. When a child reaches a milestone such as 50 or 100 reads, the class teaching assistant will count these up and complete a reading certificate. **The child will then receive a certificate in our Friday celebration assembly.** Please note; *we do not inform parents in advance by email of this (emails are only for Stars of the Week, which are a slightly higher accolade), but you should be able to see when a milestone has been reached as the class teaching assistant normally circles/stars/makes a comment in the reading journal.*
- Reading at home can be magazines, stories, poems and comics. We want children to enjoy reading and try reading new types of text, but should really be for as long as the times specified above.

RockSteady Trials

Please see below a message from our new RockSteady lead:

Hello Parents and Carers,

Ellie here from Rocksteady, and we are excited to invite your child to take part in a free Rocksteady Lesson taking place on the Wednesday 28th January 2026.

We have a limited number of spaces available in the following bands:

- *Band A (Year 2-4): 1 Keyboard*
- *Band B: (Year R-2): 2 Singers, 1 Keyboard, 2 Electric guitars and 1 Bass guitar*
- *Band C (Year 1-3): 1 Keyboard*
- *Band D (Year 4-6): 1 Drum, 1 Bass Guitar, 2 Electric guitars, 2 Keyboard and 1 Singer*
- *Band E (Year 3-5): 1 Drum*



If you think your child would enjoy or benefit from having a free trial Rocksteady lesson, please contact me directly at ellie.sugden@rocksteadymusicschool.com. Please include your child's name, year group and what instrument they would like to try out. Thank you!

Using Our Words

What have you been learning about this week?

Marshall T (Year 5) - In our History lesson on the Vikings I enjoyed measuring with a metre stick to see how long a longship is. It is 21 metres long and 5 metres wide.

The children have also been learning a lot about history from attending all of the workshops above - and FOSIL restarted for 2026 - apologies for the mud!



Eco News



The Eco Warriors met last week to discuss a new event in their mission to gain a Green Flag Award for the School. They agreed that a community litter pick would be a fantastic way to bring everyone together to help keep our school and local environment as litter free as possible. So on the 20th March the school will take part in a litter picking event in the school grounds during the school day, but then we would

like to open this up to parents and children after school on that Friday. We would love as many families as possible to join in and help litter pick the school field as well as the park area outside of the school gates. Further details will be sent out a little nearer the time.

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 a parent workshop here in school:

- 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.

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.**

There was very little interest in the Yoga Club for after school on Tuesday, so it is unlikely to go ahead. If you are interested then please sign up using the link below, otherwise we decline the offer of hosting: https://portal.childreninspiredbyyoga.com/Classes/Course+Details/?course_id=6415

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• <u>External</u> - Year R-2 - Yoga
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 - FOrrest 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
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.

Friday 6th February	Bingo! Details above.	All parents welcome
Monday 9th February	Safer Internet Day Workshop - donation to be made on Arbor.	Whole School
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 - donation to be made on Arbor	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	Whole school

Bank Holiday when school will be closed

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 afternoon! 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




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: EWForALS@nhs.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 Join | Microsoft Teams](#)



Supporting Your Child with Worries & Fears
02/02/2026 10:30 -12:30pm
[Supporting Your Child with Worries & Fears | Meeting Join | Microsoft Teams](#)



Autism and Sleep
09/03/2026 12:30 - 13:30pm
[Autism and Sleep | Meeting Join | Microsoft Teams](#)



Understanding Neurodiversity
24/03/2026 10:30 -12:30pm
[Understanding Neurodiversity | Meeting Join | Microsoft Teams](#)



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