



Istead Rise Primary Celebration Newsletter

Friday 14th November 2025



Headteacher Mr S Payne

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Twitter: @IsteadRisePS

Acting Head of School: Mrs M Clark

Email: irpoffice@swale.at

Facebook: Facebook

Website: www.isteadrise.org.uk



Monday 8th December
Year's 5 & 6
Christmas Carol Concert
St Barnabas Church
10:00am

Tuesday 9th December
Year R
Christmas Songs 2:15pm

Friday 12th December
Year's 3 & 4
Christmas Carol Concert
St Barnabas Church
1:30pm

Tuesday 16th December
Years 1 & 2
Christmas Show 1:45pm

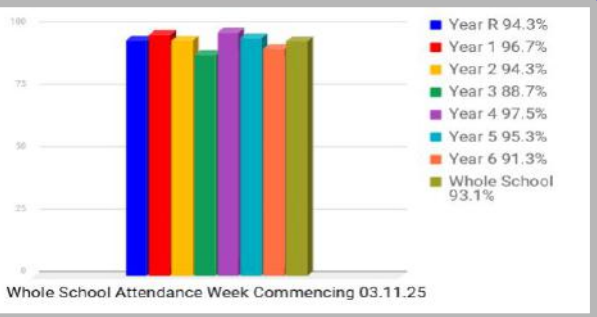
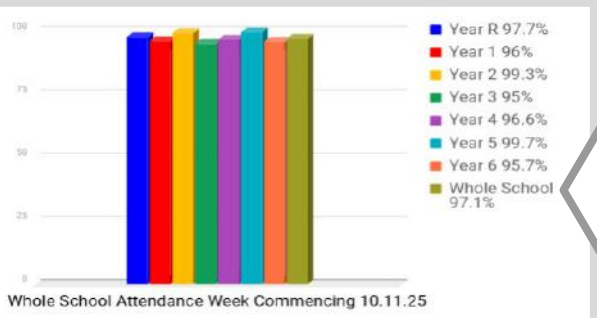
Wednesday 17th
December Christmas
Dinner & Jumper Day

Friday 19th December
End of Term 2



Monday 5th January 2026
INSET Day
School Closed

Tuesday 6th January
Term 3 Begins



Attendance Class Awards



W/C 03.11.25
KS1 - Year 1
KS2 - Year 4



W/C 10.11.25
KS1 - Year 2
KS2 - Year 5

Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day



Wednesday 17th December 2025.
For full details please use the attached link.

[Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day](#)

NOURISH

WEDNESDAY 17TH DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS MENU

Roast Turkey with Festive Trimmings ^{ivg}

Winter Vegetable Wellington ^{ivg}

Rustic Roast Potatoes

Peas, Carrots, Brussel Sprouts

Santa's Cookie ^{ivg}

Leed Chocolate Sponge ^{ivg}

Fruit pots ^{ivg}

Jelly ^{ivg}



Dishes marked with any of the following numbers contain the matching allergen:
1 Wheat Gluten 2 Crustaceans 3 Soybeans 4 Mustard 5 Sesame 6 Sulphites 7 Eggs 8 Dairy 9 Egg 10 Peanuts 11 Milk 12 Celery 13 Nuts 14 Lupines 15 Fish 16 Honey 17 Vegetarian 18 Vegan

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

This certificate is proudly presented to

ISTEAD RISE PRIMARY SCHOOL

In recognition of your outstanding contribution to our Harvest 2025 with your donation of 140.2KG on this day of September 25th, 2025.

We sincerely appreciate your dedication and efforts.

Thank You!

Gravesham Foodbank
Together with Trussell

Trussell

Churches Together in Leicestershire

Thank you so much for all your contributions to our recent Harvest Festival. All your kind donations have been gratefully received by the Gravesham Foodbank and weighed in at an impressive 140.2kg.



Friends
of Istead Rise
Primary School

We would like to say a big thank you to our wonderful FIRPS team, who work very hard providing memorable experiences for your children.

We hope your children enjoyed movie night. The school hall looked great! All your clothing donations have raised nearly £140, so thank you again.

Don't forget to book your child into FIRPS's Annual Christmas Craft Workshop (see the attached link)



FIRPS ARE EXCITED TO INVITE PUPILS TO ICE-STEAD'S IGLOO

OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS
CRAFT WORKSHOP

Let your child kick off the festive season by visiting our magical 'Igloo' to personalise a Christmas stocking (KS1) or decorate a ceramic bauble (KS2)

£4 PER PUPIL

FRIDAY 5TH DECEMBER
DURING SCHOOL HOURS

Steps to reserve your child's place by 28th November

1. Complete the Google Form with their details
2. Pay using the bank details in the box below

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK](#)

Friends of Istead Rise Primary School
Account Number: 67317325
Sort Code: 08-92-99



[Click here to book](#)



CERTIFICATE

This certificate is presented to:

Friends Of Istead Rise Primary School

for participating in The Little Recyclers school fundraising programme. Through clothing donations, you helped to divert textile waste ending up in landfills.

Date: 4th November 2025
KG collected: 304
Funds raised: £136.80

THE LITTLE RECYCLERS TEAM



We would like to say a big congratulations to Frank in Year 3. Frank has just been signed by Charlton Football Club which is an incredible achievement.

Well done Frank, from all of us at Istead Rise Primary School!

We are delighted to inform you that the debut novel 'Grimble' by our own Mr Meredith has been published and is now available, should you wish to purchase a copy, on Amazon (both Kindle edition and as a paperback). Our current Year 5 pupils experienced it prior to publication as a guided reading text last year and are very excited by this news!

You can purchase your very own copy from Amazon via this link! [Grimble](#)

The chair went out from under me and I hit the floor hard enough to knock the air from my lungs. I lay there, stunned, blinking up at the ceiling... and something blinked back.

Two eyes, deep and red like dying embers, stared down at me from the plaster above. They weren't reflections. They weren't tricks of the light. They were there—watching. And they blinked again.

My breath caught. For a split second, I thought I'd hit my head too hard, that this was some weird concussion dream. But then, it let out a high-pitched giggle, dry and whispery, like dead leaves scraping across glass. It didn't have a mouth, but somehow, I heard it.

And that was how it began...with the arrival of a strange creature in my house. A creature I named 'Grimble'. It would end, however, with the fate of the world hanging in the balance, as a battle which had waged for centuries, across multiple worlds and dimensions, came to my sleepy little town. And all that stood in its way was me and my friends in the Chess Club.



Year R

Reception class have continued with their topic on celebrations. Last week we were looking at the story of Guy Fawkes and the festival of Diwali.



Reception class have thoroughly enjoyed dressing up in traditional Hindu clothing and creating their own Mehndi patterns.



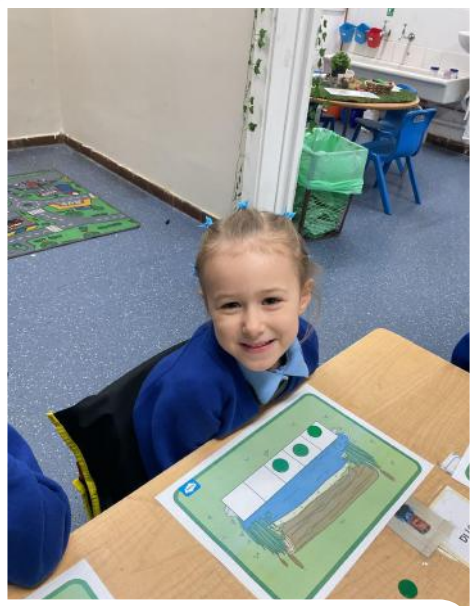
The children were excited to create their own sparkler biscuits. They talked about how the chocolate melted when hot and how it then turns back to a solid when cool.



Guy Fawkes
We have been learning about the story of Guy Fawkes. The children went on an autumn walk to collect leaves and sticks to create their own bonfire picture. They recognised that the red/orange/yellow leaves were best to use when representing the fire.

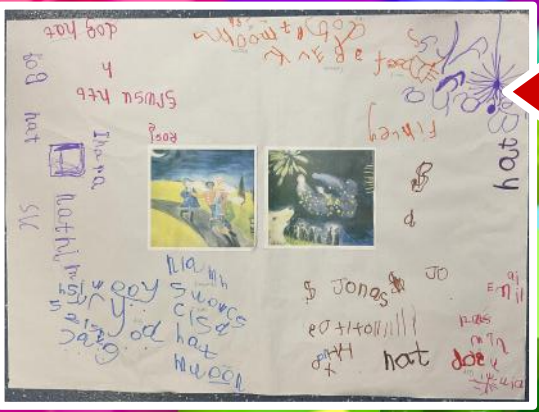


Year R

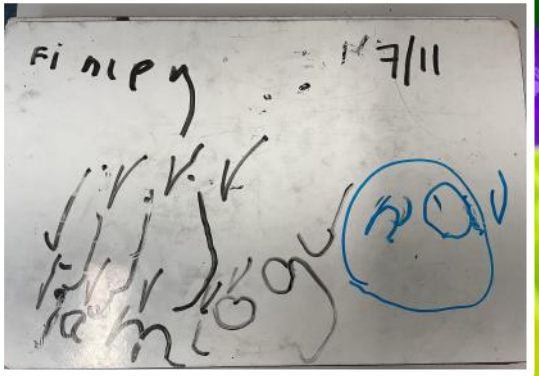
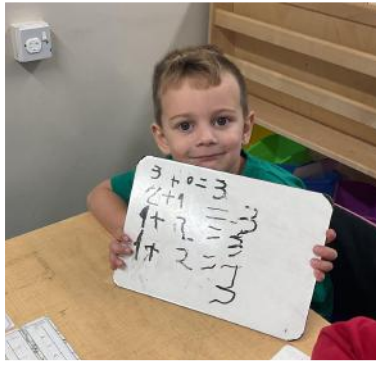


Maths
On our Maths learning journey we have been exploring 1, 2, and 3 in depth. We have explored through song, games and partner work. The children were introduced to number sentences and have enjoyed writing them down.

Each week in English we use big paper and work in groups to practice using our phonic knowledge to make words.



We have been looking at 1 more and 1 less using stories and rhymes. The children were able to follow along to the rhyme '5 Little speckled frogs' taking away one counter each time a frog 'jumped into the pool'.

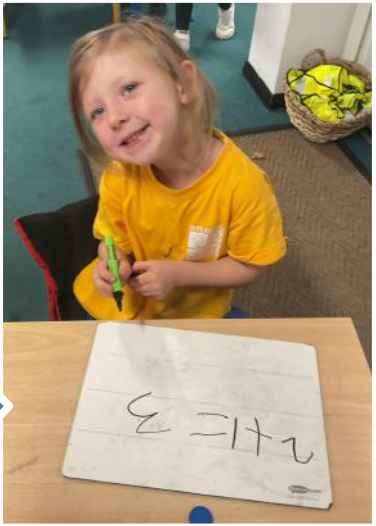
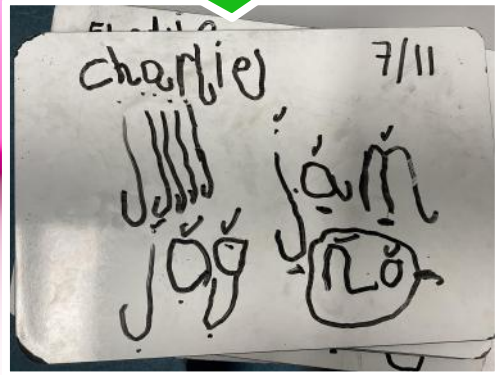


Phonics
This term we are recapping sounds from set 1 that have been challenging. We have focused on blending and special friends ck, ff, ll, ss, zz.



The children enjoyed placing the picture with the correct number. They love working with friends.

The children have been looking at the composition of 1, 2, 3. They have started to understand and use number sentences.



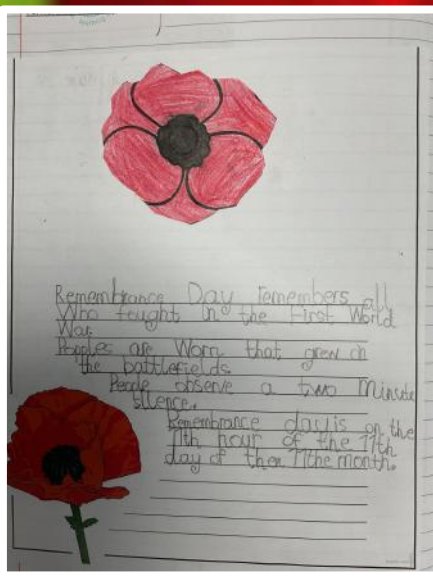
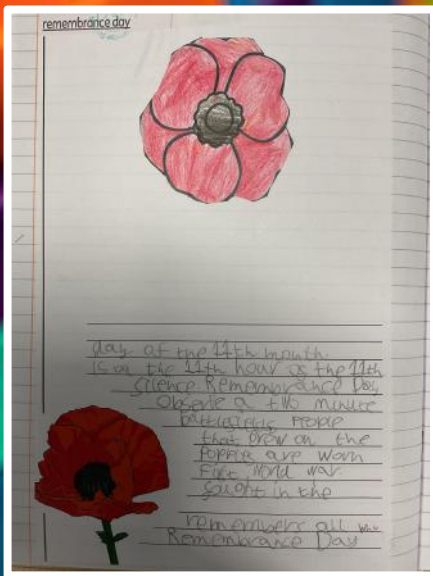
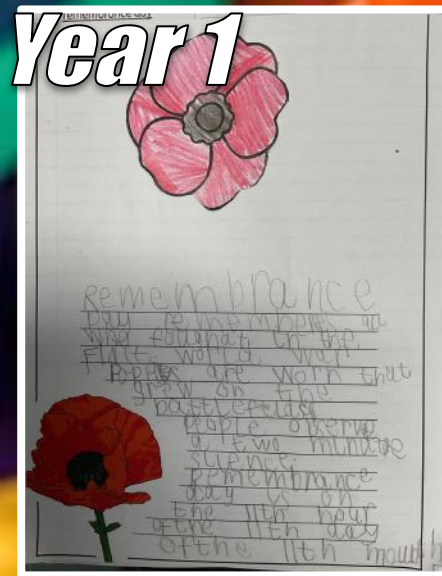
Year R



Superclass party

We had great fun at our superclass Halloween party! We started with some colouring on Halloween felt pictures, followed by party snacks and lots of dancing. The children loved showing us their dance moves and myself and Mrs Davies got to show ours off too! We cannot wait for our next superclass - the children said they want to 'do it all over again!'

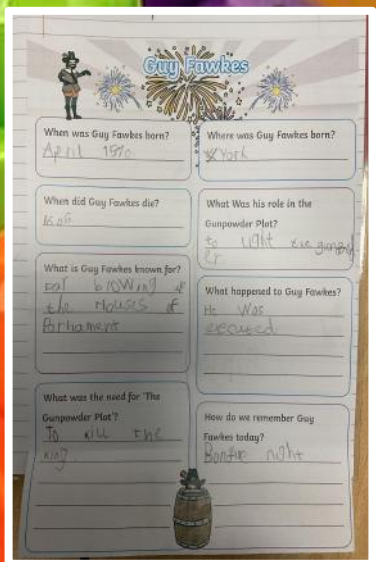
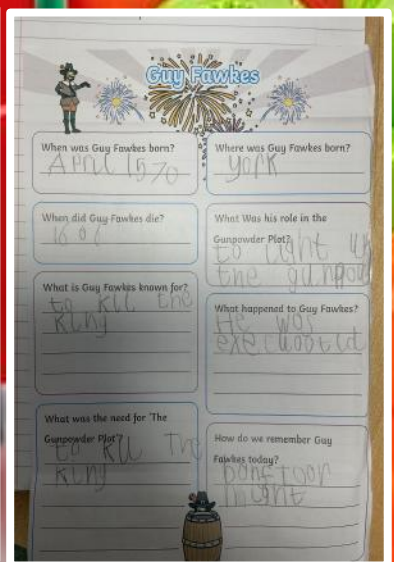
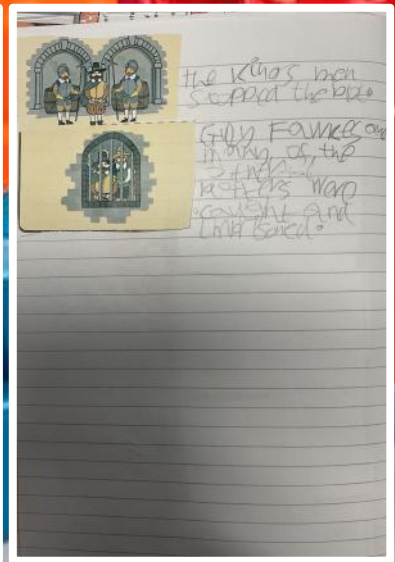
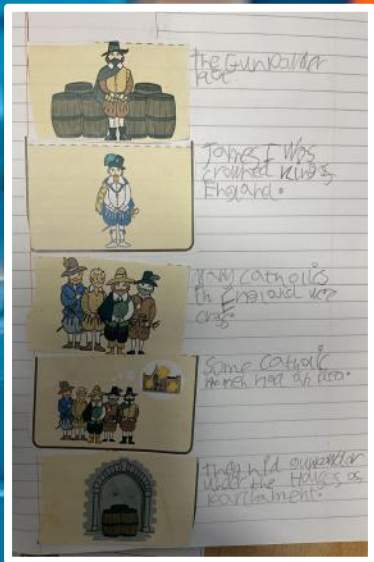




The children learnt about the significance of the poppy and why we have 2 minutes silence.

Year 1 children have shown a great interest in learning about Guy Fawkes and why he tried to blow up the Houses of Parliament, also learning why we celebrate Bonfire night.

In PSHE lessons we have been learning how we are different as well as how to be kind. We wrote slogans on our gingerbread people.





It's been a very busy and exciting time in Year 2! In Maths, we have started learning the column method for addition and subtraction. Everyone is working really hard and showing great progress with their calculations.

In English, we wrote fantastic diary entries about the Great Fire of London, imagining we were Thomas Farriner himself. The children loved stepping into the past and bringing the disaster to life through their writing.

In Science and DT, we are continuing to explore materials and structures. The children have been applying their knowledge brilliantly in practical activities and investigations.

We've also begun preparations for our KS1 production—more information about this exciting event will be shared soon! All the children are putting in excellent effort across every subject and are truly enjoying their learning.

Well done, Year 2! Keep up the good work.





Year 3 have had a great couple of weeks.

In English we have started a new sequence of learning which will be to write a story based on a video clip.

In maths we are just finishing a unit of work on addition and subtraction. This week we have been practising the inverse operation.

In History we undertook a historical case study (Skara Brae), the children found out it is an archaeological site in Orkney, Scotland and that it is one of the best preserved Neolithic settlements.

In science we investigated the effect of friction on objects in motion. The children enjoyed investigating which surface has the most friction, they predicted which material will slow the car down the most and compared how things move on different surfaces.

In art we used the medium charcoal to explore simple, bold lines and shapes of animals.



I would like to thank everyone who has bought my book so far! Thank you! If you would like a copy, it's available on Amazon. If you could write a review with your child after reading it, that would be fantastic! Thank you all once again.



It's been another busy time in Year 4! In English we are working on writing a newspaper report, basing it on issue #75 of Superman. The children have been very enthusiastic about their writing, and worked really hard on writing their orientation this week. In Maths we are continuing to work on our multiplication and division, looking at the patterns and common multiples between times tables. In Science we have been working on making simple series circuits, and this week investigated insulators and conductors. In RE we have been learning about Rome and Vatican City this week, which the children found fascinating. We have continued our learning in History by exploring the daily lives of the Anglo-Saxons. This involved investigating artefacts from Maidstone Museum, as well as writing about their houses, clothes, food, daily jobs and their different gods. In Music this term we are focussing on our instrumental work, and the children are becoming better at playing together and keeping time with each other. They are also learning the different notes, and their lengths, on a staff and how these relate to a glockenspiel, and have also learned about rests in notation and counts. We have also been taking part in the Emile Spelling World Cup this week, and the children have found it incredibly engaging. Hopefully we can qualify for the National final next week.

Year 5



Year 5 have continued their hard work in term 2. In English, the children have been learning about the features of a biography and creating a biography about Mae Jemison, the first black woman in space. Multiplication and division has been our focus in maths, where we have been learning about prime numbers, square and cube numbers, as well as dividing and multiplying by 10, 100 and 1000. In PE we have been learning how to play badminton and volleyball. In volleyball we have been learning how to play the ball in a set and how to dig.

Year 5



In history we have been learning about Henry VIII and his six wives and the reasons why they were divorced and beheaded. We were also lucky enough to take a trip to the Tower of London on Monday, to help our learning about the Tudors. We were able to see the crown jewels, the famous Tower of London ravens and took part in a workshop to learn more about crime and punishment during the Tudor times.



Creating a timeline of significant events in the Victorian era.



Using our notes from an information video and writing a 'narrative voice' paragraph for our descriptions based on 'the eye of the storm'.



Year 6 have been busy in Maths with our work on fractions. We have recapped equivalent fractions, practised converting an improper fraction to a mixed number and vice versa and are now moving onto adding and subtracting mixed numbers. Next week we will start learning how to multiply and add and subtract fractions with different denominators. Year 6 have shown great perseverance with their fractions work - well done!

In History, we are really enjoying the discussions about our topic for this term - The Victorians. We are also really looking forward to having a look at the artefacts from our museum loan box!



W/E 07.11

Winning Class

1st Year 4

2nd Year 5

3rd Year 6

W/E 07.11

Most Valuable Player

1st Tyler G - Year 4

2nd Khenyang - Year 64

3rd Sienna - Year 4

W/E 14.11

Winning Class

1st Year 4

2nd Year 6

3rd Year 5

W/E 14.11

Most Valuable Player

1st Lucas S - Year 6

2nd Khenyang - Year 4

3rd Rajah - Year 4



Gold Mathletics

W/E 07.11

Khenyang of Year 4

W/E 14.11

Khenyang of Year 4 & Nathan of Year 3



Bronze Peg Up Points

W/E 14.11

Khenyang, Emilia, Devan, Bobby, Ashiya, Leo H, Felix, Aria, Tyler, Theo H & Leo D, Louie, Jacob F, Valerie, JJ & Carter
All of Year 5



Core Values Congratulations To All Our Winners



Week Ending 07.11

Year R

Niamh for Self Reflection, Sofia for Respect & Ronnie for Independence

Year 1

George B & Kayla for Perseverance, Chantelle for Independence

Year 2

Melissa for Self Reflection

Year 3

Chalie for Independence, JJ for Self Reflection & Oscar for Perseverance

Year 4

Annabelle for Respect, Khenyang & Bobby for Independence

Year 5

Jack L & Bradley for Self Reflection, Sienna for Respect

Year 6

Ruby J for Independence, Edward for Respect & Summer for Perseverance

Week Ending 14.11

Year R

Max & Elodie for Independence, Joshua for Respect

Year 1

Clark & Dennie for Independence, Mason for Perseverance

Year 2

Joshua for Perseverance, Louie for Self Reflection & Cara for Independence

Year 3

Annalise for Self Reflection, Ava for Independence & Archie for Perseverance

Year 4

Emily for Respect, Rose for Independence & Mary Kate for Perseverance

Year 5

Ella for Independence, Jack E for Self Reflection & Elliott for Perseverance

Year 6

Arabella, Oliver M & Otis for Perseverance

MANAGING CHILDREN'S BEHAVIOUR

Unlocking positive parenting strategies together
Are you looking to set clear boundaries, understand your child's behaviour and communicate more effectively? Find out more on this positive and nurturing course for parents.

Where:
ONLINE
Date:
TUESDAY 2nd DECEMBER 2025
Time:
09:30am-11:30am

To book a place please contact:
lawnh@kent.gov.uk

For more information scan the QR code

kentadulthoodeducation.co.uk
FREE, Fun & Informal



KEEPING YOUR CHILD SAFE AS THEY RETURN TO SCHOOL

We know that as a parent, nothing matters more than your child's safety and wellbeing. As the school term begins, we understand this can bring worries about safety both inside and outside school.

Kent and Medway Violence Reduction Unit works with partners and communities to keep children safe by reducing and preventing violence. We support parents in having the right conversations and helping them spot if their child may be involved in violence or bullying.

Our back-to-school guide outlines year-round tools to help your child stay safe, take action and make the right choices.

Having the right conversations

Talking with young people or young adults about knives and weapons can be difficult, whether you are a parent, guardian or carer. Our toolkit can help you prepare for a conversation with your child about carrying knives.

Free sports activities

We work with Sports Connect to provide free local out-of-school activities that support physical and mental health while keeping children and young people out of trouble through creative and interactive sessions.

Visit the Sports Connect website.

CLOCK IT CHECK IT CHANGE IT

Being an active bystander: Clock It, Check It, Change It

Many young people witness unacceptable behaviour in and outside school, and you can empower them to safely step in and make a change.

Free resources from our Clock It, Check It, Change It campaign support conversations with young people about responding when they see or anticipate violent incidents.

Access the resources on our website

Our team can provide advice and guidance all year round.
vrunit@kent.police.uk
kentandmedwayvrunit.co.uk



Santa's Grotto

30th NOV

2-5PM

Tickets £5.00
Per child

ISTEAD RISE COMMUNITY CENTRE
WORCESTER CLOSE, ISTEAD RISE, DA13 9LB

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM
YOUNG RISERS PRE-SCHOOL
beckie.francis@yrps.co.uk

Sponsored by Jags Property Group

15 NOVEMBER 2025

GRAVESEND TOWN CENTRE

Lights Switch On

Experience our Christmas Lights Switch On in Gravesend town centre.

visitgravesham.co.uk
#VISITGRAVESHAM



GRAVESHAM

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SMALL BUSINESSES THIS CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS MARKET

Join us for an exciting Christmas Market where you'll find unique gifts, a magical atmosphere and festive spirit!

KIDS CRAFT ACTIVITY * CRAFT @ STALLS
ELF VISIT AND KIDS GAMES * FACE PAINTER

SUNDAY 30th NOVEMBER
2PM TILL 5PM

FREE ENTRY

Istead Rise Community Centre
Worcester Close, Istead Rise DA13 9LB



Christmas Fun Day at The Lounge

Saturday 13 December 2025 | 9:00am - 1:00pm
The Lounge, Longferry Court, Gravesend
DA12 2DF

Join us for a morning full of festive fun!

- Meet Father Christmas!
- Face Painting
- Christmas Crafts & Activities

Booking Required.
To book your place, email tenantengagement@gravesham.gov.uk or call 01 474 337000

Due to how the event is funded, this event is for Gravesham tenants only. Time slots are available between 9:00am and 1:00pm, and each experience lasts approximately 45 minutes.

Guitar Tuition

Available in school on a 1-1 basis

£10 a lesson
for children in Years
3,4,5 & 6

Contact Chris
07940 046124 or downschr6@aol.com



At The heart of the New Story Theatre Company is storytelling through theatre, which provides space for creativity and collaboration.

Children are involved in the writing and performing of an original production, including prop making, costume design and set design. They are also involved in making decisions on staging, lighting, visuals effects and soundtracks. The project culminates in a performance for parents later in the school year.

New Story Theatre Company meets every Tuesday in the school from 3.15pm until 4.45pm. If your child would like a taster session, please contact Martin Smyth directly. For further information, please email: martin@newstorytheatrecompany.co.uk



SPARTANS JUNIOR HOOPS PROGRAMME

EVERY SATURDAY 08:30 - 09:30
08 NOV - 20 DEC 2025

AGES 7-11
BOYS & GIRLS

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP BASKETBALL SKILLS, MEET NEW FRIENDS AND HAVE FUN PLAYING THE GAME!




REFORMOLOGY

REFORMER PILATES STUDIO
NOW OPEN



OVER 50
CLASSES
A WEEK

INTRO OFFER
2 CLASSES FOR £30

ALL CLASSES ARE MIXED ABILITY
INCLUDING MENS ONLY CLASSES
& OVER 50s CLASSES

We have a team of highly qualified instructors, so each class will be instructed with adaptations for all levels including beginners.



REFORMOLOGY
STATION APPROACH
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[reformologymeopham](https://www.facebook.com/reformologymeopham)



FREE PARKING: SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS

KING'S SCHOOL
ROCHESTER

THIS IS
KING'SPIRATION

YEAR 7 OPEN MORNING
TUESDAY 18 NOVEMBER

Year 7 marks the beginning of an exciting journey - discover how King's can ignite your child's ambition and inspire them to excel at our Open Morning




SCAN ME TO REGISTER

JOIN OUR EXCITING UNDER 10 ICE HOCKEY TEAM!

WAHOO BUCKAROOOS

#01 JUNIOR HOCKEY CLUB 2025 2026



START YOUR JOURNEY WITH HOCKEY EXCELLENCE

AGES 5-8 AND ALL ABILITIES WELCOME!

FREE CLUB FEES FOR YOUR FIRST SEASON!

HIT US UP AT INVICTA10@GMAIL.COM NOW!

NOVEMBER TO
MARCH 2026

GROW WITH US
NOURISH



MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

WEEK ONE

3 Nov
24 Nov
15 Dec
19 Jan
9 Feb
9 March
30 March

Chicken Pie 1
Pesto & Pea Pasta 1,7 V
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Crushed Potato
Cauliflower,
Carrots

Strawberry Mousse 7
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Fruit Pots VG

Margherita Pizza 1,3,7 V
Bean Biryani VG
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Rainbow Pasta 1
Seasonal Vegetables

Toffee Apple Pudding 1 VG & Custard 7
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Fruit Pots VG

Roast Turkey & Gravy
Broccoli Tots 1,7 V
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Rustic Roast Potatoes or Jollof Rice
Cabbage,
Peas

Fruit Jelly VG
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

Beef Bolognese Pasta Bake 1,7
Loaded Bean Chilli Wedges VG
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Green Beans
Grated Carrots

Parsnip Brownie 1 VG
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

Chicken Sausages 1,6
Vegetable Sausage VG
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Chips,
Sweetcorn, Baked Beans
Cucumber Sticks

Oaty Cookie 1,15 VG
Yoghurt 3,7
Fruit Pots VG

WEEK TWO

10 Nov
1 Dec
5 Jan
26 Jan
23 Feb
16 March

Caribbean Brown Chicken
Tomato Spaghetti 1 VG
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Rice,
Carrots,
Peas

Chocolate Ice Cream 7
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Fruit Pots VG

Cheese & Broccoli Pasta Bake 1,7 V
Buffalo Cauliflower Wings
& Wedges VG
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Seasonal Vegetables

Plum Pudding 1VG & Custard 7
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Fruit Pots VG

Roast Chicken & Gravy
Ratatouille Puff 1,3 VG
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Rustic Roast Potatoes or Jollof Rice
Broccoli,
Carrots

Crispy Cake 1,3,7,16
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

Beef Stew & Dumpling 1
Pesto Pasta Bake 1,7 V
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Cauliflower,
Green Beans

Apple & Cinnamon Pinwheel 1 VG
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

Salmon Bites 1,8
Margherita Pizza 1,3,7 V
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Chips,
Peas,
Coleslaw 9

Marble Cookie 1 VG
Yoghurt 3,7
Fruit Pots VG

WEEK THREE

17 Nov
8 Dec
12 Jan
2 Feb
2 March
23 March
27 Oct

Macaroni Cheese 1,7 V
Sweet Potato & Chick Pea Curry VG
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Rice,
Green Beans,
Mixed Salad

Peach Crumble 1 VG & Custard 7
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Fruit Pots VG

Chicken Noodles 1
BBQ Vegetable Burrito 1 VG
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Sweetcorn,
Peppers

Chocolate Rice Pudding 7
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Fruit Pots VG

Savoury Minced Beef & Yorkshire
Puddings 1,7,9
Vegan Sausage Roll 1 VG
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Rustic Roast Potatoes,
Green Beans,
Carrots

Fruit Jelly VG
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

Beef Cottage Pie
Herby Tomato Pasta 1 VG
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Seasonal Vegetables

Beetroot Cake 1 VG
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

Fish Fingers 1,8
Cheese, Carrot & Tomato Swirl 1,7 V
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Chips,
Peas, Baked Beans,
Grated Carrot

Caramel Flapjack 1,7,15 V
Yoghurt 3,7
Fruit Pots VG

Primary 3 NP

1 Wheat Gluten 2 Crustaceans 3 Soybean 4 Mustard 5 Sesame 6 Sulphites/Sulphur Dioxide 7 Milk 8 Fish 9 Egg
10 Peanuts 11 Molluscs 12 Celeriac/Celery 13 Nuts 14 Lupins 15 Oat Gluten 16 Barley Gluten VG Vegan V Vegetarian

**AVAILABLE
DAILY**

Selection of Salads 9, Homemade Bread 1,3. Some of our schools may use pre prepped potatoes or vegetables on occasions. These may contain sulphites and celeriac. Please discuss with your manager.

