



Istead Rise Primary Celebration Newsletter

Friday 17th November 2023



Headteacher Mr S Payne

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs M Clark

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Facebook: [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/IsteadRisePS)



Thursday 23rd November
Year 4 Back to the Future Theatre Trip

Friday 24th November
Year 5 Leeds Castle Trip

Monday 4th December
Years 5 & 6
Christmas Carol Service 1pm - 2.30pm

Tuesday 5th December
Year R Nativity 2.15pm - 3pm

Tuesday 5th December
Parent Drop In Session Years 1 - 6

Wednesday 6th December
Years 3 & 4
Christmas Carol Service 1.30pm - 2.30pm

Thursday 7th December
FIRPS xmas Market & Grotto

Friday 8th December
Years 1 & 2
Christmas Production 2pm - 3pm

Wednesday 13th December
Storytelling exhibition Years 1 - 6

Thursday 14th December
Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day

Friday 15th December
End of Term 2



Dear Istead Rise Families,

We would like to thank all parents and carers who attended our recent parent consultation day. It was great to see so many of you there and to have the chance to share your child's many achievements so far this year. Thank you also to the many parents who have taken the time to complete our Parent View survey. The results are extremely positive and we are very grateful for your feedback.

Please remember that information about what your child is learning in school is published on our school website, for every year group and every curriculum subject.

Well done to all pupils who are dressed for Children in Need today - you look fabulous! Also, a big thank you to all families who have made a donation to support this important cause.

We hope you enjoy this update on your child's learning and wish you a fantastic weekend!

Steve Payne



Thank you to all Parents and Carers who donated food items for our recent Rainbow Harvest Festival. The Gravesham Food Bank were very grateful, your donations will help so many people.

Nourish
contract catering

School Lunch Menu

If you would like your child to receive a Christmas Dinner this year on the 14th December, please book in the usual way via Parent Pay.



Play, Learn,
and Grow Together

HAVE FUN!

Starting January 2024

Istead United Colts U5's Football Academy

Register your “Year R” Childs’ name and D.O.B. for a space
email: Academy@Isteadunitedcolts.co.uk



We would like to say a huge thank you to Istead United Colts for their recent generous donation to our school.



Storytelling Dress-Up Day



Thank you to all parents who attended parent consultations last week. Mrs Andreou and Mrs Clark are delighted to have caught up with nearly all parents of children with SEND, and to have given feedback on your child's progress and SEND support. Thank you too for the positive feedback you gave us! It is hugely appreciated. If you have further questions or thoughts you wish to discuss around SEND and inclusion, please contact Mrs Andreou or Mrs Clark via the school office.

No Pens Day has been confirmed for Wednesday 29th November 2023. It's a chance for your child to improve their speech, language and communication skills through a day of talking and listening activities – starting with the biggest ever 'show and tell'! Please read the accompanying information email for more details.

NO Pens Day
Show and tell

Kent's Local Offer for SEND. A [local offer](#) gives SEND children and young people and their families information about what support services are available in their area.



SEND & Inclusion

With only 4 weeks until we break up for Christmas holidays, Autism South East have prepared some top tips for managing the Christmas period for children with autism:



Christmas Top Tip 1

Think about ways that will make the festive season **work for you!**

Don't feel pressurised to do something just because that's what other people do!

It's OKAY to have chicken nuggets for Christmas Dinner!

Christmas Top Tip 2

Where possible, plan in advance.

Share the plan! A family calendar or visual timetable might be useful.

If everyone knows the plan it will reduce anxiety!

Christmas Top Tip 3

Christmas can be overwhelming...

People, lights and noise can be too much. Create a quiet space where you can go for a break and have time for you to recover.

Shhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!

Christmas Top Tip 4

Plan the most suitable decorations for your home.

You may need to avoid Christmas lights (or it could be lovely and 'stimmy')! Some find Christmas cards are enough decoration to have. Whatever you decide, consider doing it gradually with everyone involved so that it's not a surprise.

Autistic people often aren't keen on surprises!

Christmas Top Tip 5

Presents can be overwhelming!

For example, the number of them, the wrapping paper itself and the unwrapping.

To reduce the anxiety, some autistic people go through the presents days before to check they're working or what they expected. Others use clear cellophane to wrap presents. Some abandon wrapping presents at all, do whatever works for you!

Autistic people often aren't keen on surprises!

Christmas Top Tip 6

Talk to everyone involved and decide what works for **YOU**.

Enjoy your festive season, your way!

Remember that Christmas isn't forever - it ends and things will go back to normal!

Upcoming Events

- Lego Club at The Meeting Place at The Orchards Shopping Centre on 16/11/2023
- Lego Club at St Botolphs Church Hall on 24/11/2023
- Youth Club at Future Survival on 02/12/2023
- Girls Group at Dartford YMCA Café on 05/12/2023
- Lego Club at The Meeting Place at The Orchards Shopping Centre on 14/12/2023
- Youth Club at Future Survival on 06/01/2024
- Lego Club at St Botolphs Church Hall on 26/01/2024
- Youth Club at Future Survival on 03/02/2024

Virtual SEND workshops are available through [IASK](#) for parents and carers.

Special Educational Needs (SEN) Support in mainstream schools and colleges
Tuesday 16th January 2024
Virtual workshop
From 10:30am to 12:00pm

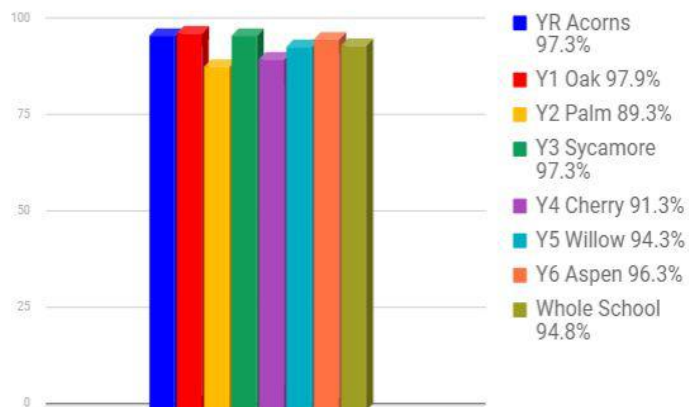
Based on the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Code of Practice you will gain knowledge and understanding of:

- The definition of Special Educational Needs Support
- The 'graduated approach' to supporting children and young people with SEN
- The term 'reasonable adjustments'
- The term 'best endeavours'

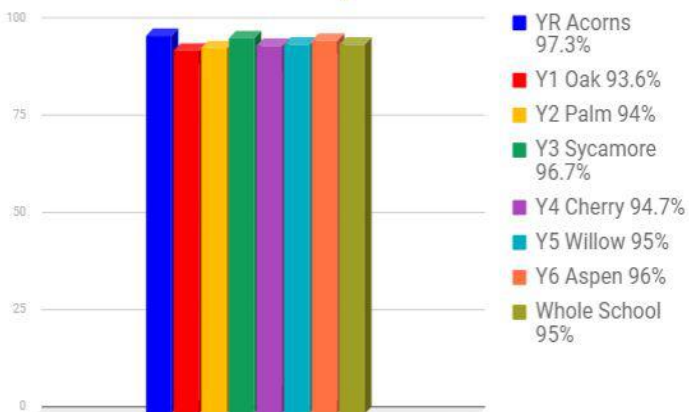


Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.



Whole School Attendance Week Commencing 06.11.23



Whole School Attendance Week Commencing 13.11.23

Attendance Class Awards

W/C 06.11.23

KS1 - Oak

KS2 - Sycamore



W/C 13.11.23

KS1 - Acorns

KS2 - Sycamore



Excellent

98% Or Above

0 - 3 Days Of School Missed Per School Year

Good

96% - 97.9%

4 - 8 Days Of School Missed Per School Year

Poor

90.1% - 95.9%

9 - 18 Days Of School Missed Per School Year

Cause For Concern

90% Or Less

19 Days Or More Of School Missed Per School Year

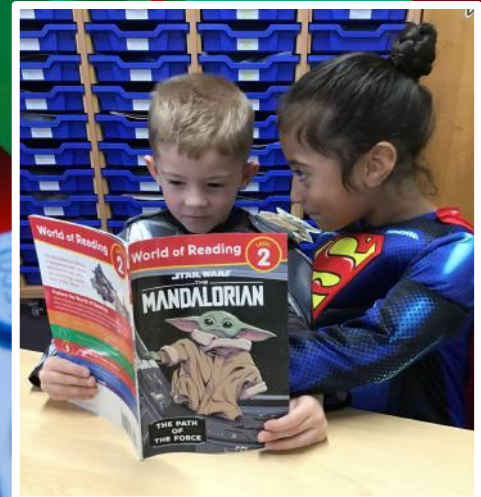
For all up to date attendance information and what the expectations are for you and your child's school attendance please use the link below.

[Attendance & Punctuality Policy](#)

If you need to take your child out of school for any reason you will need to complete the attached form, many thanks

[Withdrawal From Learning Form](#)

Acorns



Reading

On Friday 3rd November, the children in Acorn class came to school dressed up as their *favourite fictional book character*. The children were so excited to share with their friends the character that they had dressed up as. Many children also brought to school the matching story book for their character. To continue our love of reading, Acorn class went to the school library to share their books with each other. Some children retold their story, adding their own little spin. Thank you to all the parents who helped make this day so enjoyable for their child.



Once again, the children have been very busy with lots of learning in the different subjects. In Science, the children are learning about their bodies and labelling the body parts. Last week, the children learnt about Remembrance Day and completed some activities related to this.

During English, children are writing their alternative stories that they can't wait to read with you in December!



The children enjoyed collecting their attendance prizes. We had an amazing number of children who had been at school for 100% of Autumn Term 1 - 21 children in total. Let's see if we can beat it this term!!



For storytelling week the children have been reading the book Chalk. They have created their own versions of this story and have had great fun using their own 'magical' chalk to produce their own characters. Palm class has focused on fronted adverbials and sentence types to ensure their stories are super exciting.





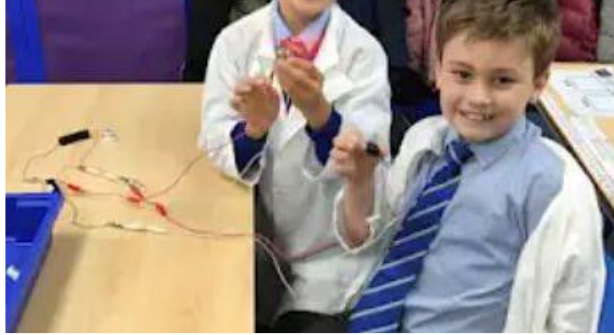
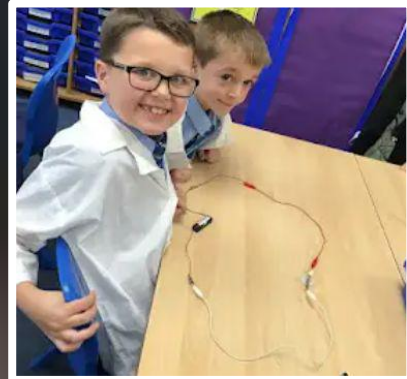
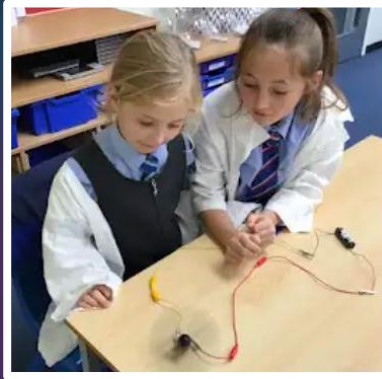
Forest-School-Palm-Class



Palm class noticed a new magical Elf house at Basecamp. Leo carefully opened the door to discover a mouse inside called Pip. Pip was the main character in our story this week called - Pip. Please ask the children what adventure Pip got up to and who she met. It was a really lovely story about friendship. The class went on to make their own 'Pip' out of clay. Each week the children in Palm class will meet someone or something new hiding in the Elf house. Everything they find will lead up to our last story of the term. See if you can all guess each week, what that story might be. Well done Year 2 for being fantastic in the Forest. I am looking forward to a great term of adventures.

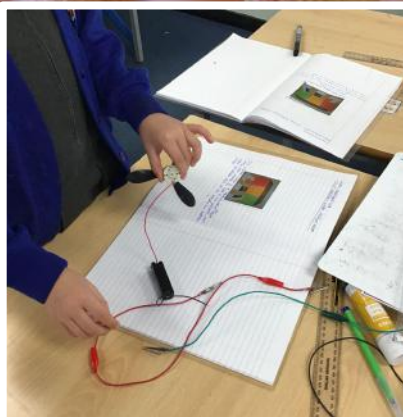
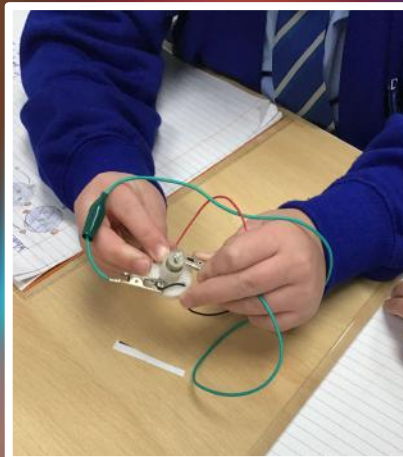
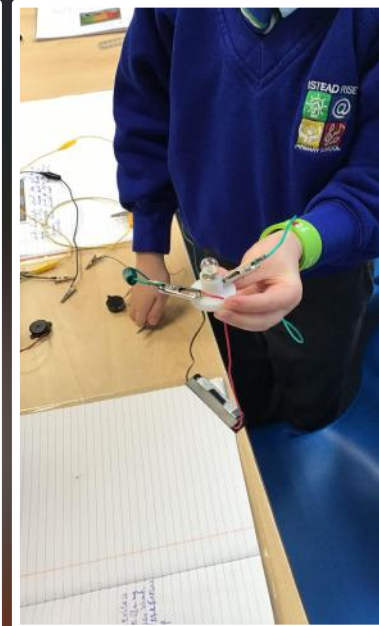
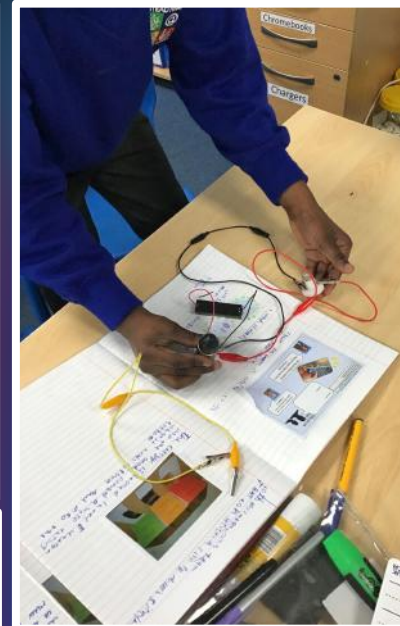
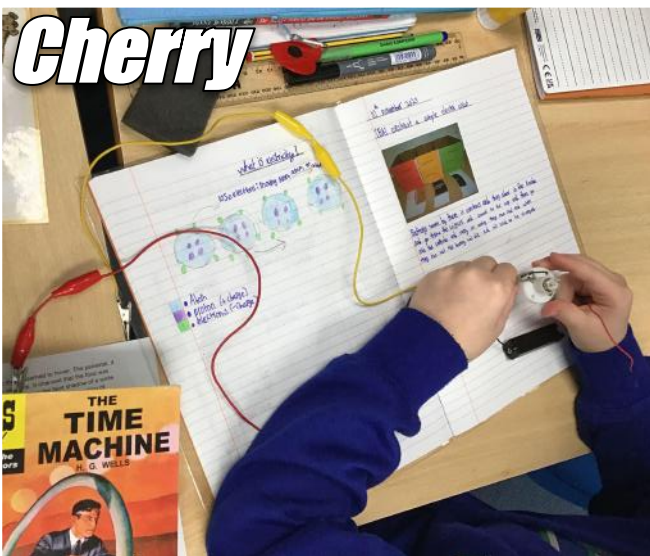
Mrs T Clark

Sycamore



Sycamore class have been working fantastically well over the past two weeks. They have been learning multiplication facts and division for known times tables (2,5,10). We will be moving onto learning the 3, 4 and 8 times tables in the coming weeks. In English, the children have finished writing their adventure stories and are busy publishing them ready to share with another year group. In Science the children explored resources to make electrical circuits. They were thrilled to make a propeller, buzzer and light bulb work. This week we finished reading the fiction book 'Stone Age Boy'. The children loved our art lesson identifying and collecting natural materials from outside to paint with.

Cherry



In English this week we have completed the final redraft of our time travelling narratives ready for the Storytelling Exhibition in December and have started our next sequence of writing, a set of instructions.

We are working through our maths topic of multiplication and division and have looked this week at the connections and patterns in and between the 3, 6, and 9 times tables.

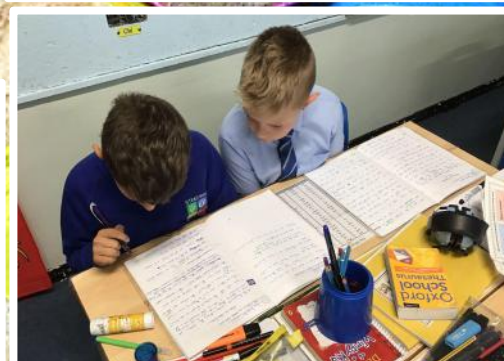
In computing this term we are working on programming and have looked at coding with how to use coding blocks to move items in a game.

Through history we are continuing with our learning about the Anglo-Saxons, this week looking at their homes, food, clothes and gods, which provided a wealth of new learning to follow up looking and handling the artefacts from Maidstone Museum last week.

In science we have created simple series circuits, thinking in particular how the electrons travel around in a complete circuit and also learnt about how a battery works with the anode and cathode and the release of electrons by the electrolyte! Phew!



We have been busy this term writing their stories in English as part of our 'Storytelling Term'. The children have also been making their front covers, which look great! They've also enjoyed making periscopes in science and spending time learning about the Tudors in history



Year 6 have been busy as always this week. In History, we have learnt about the Industrial Revolution and the impact this had on society.

We have also been looking at the artefacts and resources from our museum loan box. Some children dressed up in Victorian clothes and really looked the part!

We have been focusing on fractions in Maths this week. Year 6 have worked hard to learn how to convert fractions, add and subtract fractions and we will soon be moving onto multiplying and dividing fractions.

Continuing with our work about the Victorians, in English, we have started a new learning sequence - writing a diary entry. Year 6 will be writing a diary entry from the point of view of a Victorian child in the workhouse. They've already come up with some great ideas and I look forward to reading their final pieces.

Well done for your hard work with learning your spellings recently. Keep up with your home reading and practising your Maths on TT Rockstars and Mathletics!

Forest School



What an exciting week it was for this terms F.O.F. group. The children were in awe as we melted pewter over the open fire. Seeing the solid change into a liquid and then back again - into their chosen design - was mesmerising for them. As it was remembrance week, the group made some forest poppies by weaving coloured wool around two sticks. The results were their very own poppies. This week their imaginations grew even bigger and into a large, Christmas shaped, tree. It is not quite finished yet however, keep an eye out as the tree gets decorated each week with lots of the group's decorations. You will find it standing tall outside of the outdoor classroom.



Rock Hero Status
W/E 09.06
Edward of Cherry
0.98 Seconds

W/E 10.11
Most Valuable Player
1st Edward of Cherry
2nd Samuel Yanis of Cherry
3rd Grace of Willow

W/E 17.11
Most Valuable Player
1st Ronak of Willow
2nd Edward & Nihaal of Cherry
3rd Samuel Yanis of Cherry

W/E 10.11
Winning Class
1st Cherry
2nd Sycamore
3rd Willow

W/E 17.11
Winning Class
1st Willow
2nd Cherry
3rd Sycamore

***Congratulations for all
your hard work!***

Bronze Peg Up Points



W/E 10.11
Sujaan, Evelyn, Bobby, Alicia & Amaia of Sycamore,
Freddie, Martin, Lucas, Abril, Elvie, Samuel-Yanis &
Kai of Cherry

W/E 17.11

Maya, Cooper G & Arabella of Cherry, Nyla,
Nevaeh, Harry, George, Elliott & Ella of
Sycamore



Core Values Congratulations To All Our Winners



Week Ending 10.11

Acorns Class

Lillie for Self Reflection, Jorge & Ava for Independence

Oak Class

Aubany for Perseverance, Nathan for Independence & Rei for Respect

Palm Class

Zachary for Perseverance, Florence for Respect & Rajah for Self Reflection

Sycamore Class

Jack L for Self Reflection, William for Independence & Elliott for Perseverance

Cherry Class

Lucas for Respect, Leah Marie & Edward for Independence

Willow Class

Harvey, Finn & Lillie for Independence

Aspen Class

Isabella, Margaret & Ruby for Independence

Week Ending 17.11

Acorns Class

Cara & Louie for Perseverance, Amari for Respect

Oak Class

Annalise & Carter for Perseverance, Daisy for Self Reflection

Palm Class

Henry & Felix for Perseverance, Emilia for Independence

Sycamore Class

Samuel for Independence, Jack E for Perseverance & Bobby for Respect

Cherry Class

Samuel L, Summer & Louie for Independence

Willow Class

Millie H for Perseverance, Poppy & Tommy for Independence

Aspen Class

Lily for Perseverance, Archie & Elsie for Independence

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE
ISTEAD RISE PRIMARY SCHOOL
**CHRISTMAS
MARKET**

SPONSORED BY ROBINSON, MICHAEL & JACKSON

7 DECEMBER

15:15 - 18:15

CRAFT STALLS ★ GAMES ★ FACE PAINTING

FOOD & DRINK ★ ACTIVITIES

PUBLIC EVENT ★ FREE ENTRY ★ CASH ONLY

ISTEAD RISE PRIMARY SCHOOL, DOWNS RD, GRAVESEND, DA13 9HG

FIRPS XMAS
RAFFLE

TICKET
£1

OVER 50 AMAZING PRIZES TO BE WON !

FRIDAY, 8 DECEMBER | AT 10 AM

Enter [here](#) or via the QR code below

- Xbox Series S
- Lakeland air fryer
- £50 Amazon voucher
- £50 Bluewater voucher
- £100 one for all voucher
- Family Showcase voucher
- Restaurant vouchers
- Microneedling facial
- Range of beauty vouchers
- Plus so much more

SCAN
ME 

ellenor.*
hospice care in your home or ours

SANTA'S TEA PARTY

Come along to Santa's Tea Party, a magical afternoon for all the family to enjoy.



Dates	Timeslots
Saturday 16 Dec	11 am – 12:30 pm
Sunday 17 Dec	1 pm – 2:30 pm 3 pm – 4:30 pm

Timeslots must be pre booked on our website
ellenor.org/santa

Child £12.50 to include a picnic lunch box & a small gift from Santa
Adults £5 to include a hot drink & mince pie

Best Western Manor Hotel,
Hever Court Road,
Gravesend, DA12 5UQ

[f](#) [i](#) [in](#) [X](#) @ellenorcharity ellenor.org



SCAN AND BOOK

Registered charity no. 1121561

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CHRISTMAS FAIR

Come along to **ellenor's Christmas Fair** and enjoy traditional food, drink and festive music. Pick up some locally made Christmas gifts for your family and friends or bring the children to visit Santa in his grotto, there's something for everyone!

ST GEORGE'S C OF E SCHOOL
MEADOW ROAD
GRAVESEND
DA11 7LS

11AM
UNTIL
3PM

SATURDAY
2 DECEMBER
2023

We will be holding a Christmas Centrepiece Making Workshop at the Fair. This must be booked in advance. Places are limited. To secure your place visit www.ellenor.org/workshop

SUGGESTED DONATION OF £1 ON ENTRY, CHILDREN FREE

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