



Ethelbert Road Primary School

Together We Thrive

Newsletter (7) Term 3 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year and a huge thank you from all the staff for your thoughtful messages, cards and gifts. Never underestimate the power of a thank you! A thank you shows us you value and appreciate the work we are doing and the support we are giving your children.



As always, if you have any worries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.



Michele Kirkbride
Headteacher

ECO Warriors AKA ECO Eagles

The school council are excited to announce that they have chosen our new ECO Warriors, known as the ECO Eagles.

Our ECO Eagles will support Mrs Kirkbride to ensure the school continues to protect the environment by promoting sustainability, reducing waste, conserving energy and raising awareness through practical actions such as planting, recycling, campaigns and working to make our community and planet greener.

The ECO Warriors first job is to introduce our cardboard recycling bin 'Cardboard Charlie Recycling bin'. We would like to invite families to place small cardboard items such as toilet rolls, small food boxes, egg boxes etc into the bin for us to use during art and DT sessions, STEM work and for creative junk modelling. Please note: if the bin is full, please take your items back home.

Thank you for your support.



E – Waste Warriors Project

How can you get involved?

Bring in your broken and/or reusable small electricals (smaller than microwave in size) and place them in the pink recycling/repair bin. We only have one bin, so all items can go in the pink bin and will be sorted once collected.

Please place the items in the bins so they are not damaged as they are all still valuable! Cables are welcome too!

No vapes or batteries please

The bins will be open for use from **Monday 19th January to Friday 13th February 2026**, before and after school.



Be Kind

With an increase of unkind comments being shared on line, via WhatsApp groups, Facebook pages, emails and social media we are asking that as parents, carers and families you support us to model appropriate and acceptable ways to communicate.

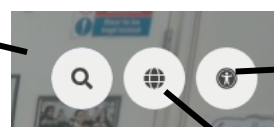
As adults we understand how unkind and negative comments can affect somebody's life and state of mind. We want to teach our children that everyone is entitled to their opinion, but the one thing everyone should agree on is that it is always best to share that opinion in a kind and respectful way.

Over the year the school will be holding assemblies, in class circle times and specific lessons to teach our children how a few unkind, or negative words can be upsetting and affect the person they are aimed at. The school will be modelling positive communication and we would like to ask that you support our work by doing the same.



New School Website

We are looking forward to sharing with you our new school website which will be launched shortly. The website is easy to use and will give parents/carers the information they need. There are special features on the website including an accessibility option, where you can change the font size and background colour, as well as a function tool to change the website language.



Accessibility

Languages

Faversham Gym

The **Year 3** children have started their gym lessons at Faversham Gym. They walk to the gym and return before the end of the school day. There will be a total of six sessions. We would be grateful if you could make a contribution of **£6** to go towards the cost, which can be paid into the office or into our bank account clearly stating what payment is for.

If we do not receive enough contributions then we may have to cancel the gym visits. If you are unable to make the contribution or need assistance with it, please email Mrs Kirkbride via the office.



Fun February Disco

We will be holding our Fun February Disco on Friday 13th February.

The timings will be:

Years R, 1 & 2 - 3.15pm – 4pm

Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 - 4.15pm – 5.15pm

Tickets are £4 each and include a drink and snack.

More details to follow.



Clubs

We are currently working on the clubs list for terms 3 & 4.

Once they have been finalised, we will be sending a club's letter to all parents.



Message from the Children's Commissioner

I am writing to inform you that I have recently published a new guide, [What I wish my parents or carers knew: A guide for parents on managing children's digital lives](#).

Supporting children's safety is a shared responsibility between families, schools and wider society. For parents and carers, this responsibility has become increasingly complex as children's lives are now deeply intertwined with the digital world. Many parents face difficult decisions about how to balance protecting children from online harm with enabling access to spaces that are now central to learning, socialising and play.

This guide was written with the direct involvement of children in England. It is a reflection of their views.

Poetry at Ethelbert

In order to promote a love of poetry, this term we are challenging the children to learn a poem by heart. The teachers have a list of poems the children can choose from, or they can choose their own.

At the end of term, each class will choose one child to share their poem in celebration assembly.

Faversham Gem Awards

A new year means a new season of the Faversham and surrounding communities, celebrating children and young people who Go Extra Miles and make life sparkle for others.

Who will you nominate this year?

Who do you know - 19 and under - individuals, groups, classes etc - with some connection to Faversham and surrounding communities - who gives of themselves, their time, energy, gifts and talents to benefit others?

NOMINATE NOW at favershamgems.org



Class Showcases

Each class will be holding a showcase to share the things they have been learning. There will be one, year group showcase per term. We hope you will be able to come and share some of the amazing work we are doing, but please could we ask that we only have two adults per child due to our hall size.

Term 3 – Year 2 (see below for details)

Term 4 – Year 3

Term 5 – Year 1

Term 6 – Year 6 end of year show

Reception – **date to follow**



Year 2 Showcase

Year 2 will be presenting their learning about China in a showcase assembly on Thursday 12th February at 9.10am in the school hall.

Due to our hall being so small, please could we request only two guests per family.

We are looking forward to seeing you all there. Please note: for safeguarding reasons our performances cannot be videoed, or photographs taken and posted on social media sites.



The Young Artists' Summer Show

Now in its eighth year, the Young Artists' Summer Show is a free, open submission exhibition for students aged 4–18 studying in the UK. Artworks are judged by a panel of artists and arts professionals, with selected artworks displayed online and on-site at the Royal Academy of Arts.

Registration and submission are open until 5pm on 4 March 2026, [find out more and get involved](#).

Payments

A reminder of how to pay for the following:

Clubs/Trips/PGL/Swimming: Account name: **Ethelbert Road Primary School**
Bank name: **Natwest**
Account number: **81845782**
Sort code: **51-70-55**

Breakfast & after school club: Account name: **KCC Re Ethelbert Road Primary School**
Bank name: **Natwest**
Account number: **83294880**
Sort code: **60-60-08**

School lunches: **Cash or cheque made payable to Chartwells**

Email

Please note that emails sent to the class inbox should only be used for curriculum related queries. **All attendance, medical and any other enquiries should go to the office:**

Office: office@ethelbert-road.kent.sch.uk

Reception (Orange): yr@ethelbert-road.kent.sch.uk

Year 1 (Purple): y1@ethelbert-road.kent.sch.uk

Year 2 (Yellow): y2@ethelbert-road.kent.sch.uk

Year 3 (Blue): y3@ethelbert-road.kent.sch.uk

Year 4 (Red): y4@ethelbert-road.kent.sch.uk

Year 5 (Green): y5@ethelbert-road.kent.sch.uk

Year 6 (Onyx): y6@ethelbert-road.kent.sch.uk

Chartwells lunches

The price of a school lunch is now **£2.97 per day**.

The cost for term 3 will be £89.10

Please make payment to the office by cash or cheque made payable to Chartwells.

Please note that all lunches must be paid for in advance



Dates for the academic year 2025-2026

Please note: these dates could be subject to change

Academic Year 2025/2026	
Term 3	
Thursday 12 th February	Year 2 Showcase
Friday 13 th February	Last day of term
Friday 13 th February	Fun February Disco
Term 4	
Monday 23 th February	Children return to school
Thursday 2 nd April	Last day of term
Term 5	
Monday 20 th April	Children return to school
Monday 11 th – Thursday 14 th May	Year 6 SATS
Friday 15 th May	Year 6 Trip
Friday 22 nd May	Last day of term
Term 6	
Monday 1 st June	INSET Day – school closed to children
Tuesday 2 nd June	Children return to school
Wednesday 3 rd June	Class Photos
Tuesday 21 st July	End of school Year 2025/2026 School closes at 1:30pm and not wrap around care on this day
Happy Summer Holidays Everyone!	Children return to school TBC

INSET DAYs 2025/2026

INSET DAY 5 – Monday 1st June 2026