

# Headlines

17<sup>th</sup> October 2025



## Dear Parents

It's been another busy week of learning at Ongar. Some of the adults have been enjoying singing as part of our staff choir led by Sarah, our Primary Robins teacher, who teaches singing to the children each Friday. They are starting to sound very good - who knows, they may even perform at the Carol Concert this year!



## Parent Governor

We are pleased to welcome Mrs Rebecca Lawless to our Governing Body as the new parent governor. Rebecca has a wealth of experience as a Senior Leader in schools and understands the challenges currently facing educational settings. She is enthusiastic about creating and sharing the vision and values of the school and supporting the governors and leadership team in shaping the strategic direction of Ongar. We look forward to working with her in the future.

## Financial Support Half Term

Surrey County Council are continuing to fund supermarket food vouchers for all Surrey families with children eligible for benefit-related Free School Meals (FSM) during the October 2025 half term holiday period. However, as per the letter sent earlier this month the amount has been reduced to £10 per child for the whole week.

If you are suffering financial hardship there is a new Surrey fund: Everyday Essentials E-voucher Scheme. Applicants who qualify could receive an E-voucher (£200 or £300) that can be used at a supermarket of your choice to help with the cost of everyday essentials. Applications are open on a monthly basis until March 2026 or until funding runs out. Eligible residents can apply here [Everyday Essentials E-Voucher scheme](#).

## Parents' Evenings

Parents' Evenings will be on **21st and 23<sup>rd</sup> October**. These meetings provide you with an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and discuss how your child has settled into this year. If you have not yet made an appointment please contact the office. If you bring your children with you please can you ensure they stay with you during the evening.

We look forward to seeing you.

## Football

On Monday, the Y6 football team kick-started their season with a league game against Stepgates. Mr Bullett, one of our governors, accompanied the team and writes:

The fixture was well contested and characterised by positive play, mutual support among pupils, and strong and warm encouragement from Miss Hale. Ongar pupils represented the school admirably both on and off the pitch.

The children showed exemplary sportsmanship, demonstrating respect for their opponents and the referee and maintained dignified composure whether the immediate outcome went for or against them. Teamwork was a clear strength; players encouraged one another, celebrated good play, and supported peers after mistakes, creating a resilient, collective approach to the game. Two well-executed goals and sustained attacking sequences reflected good technical ability and clear effort.

It was a pleasure to accompany Year 6 and watch a competitive and good-natured game of football. The children were a credit to the school.

Well done to Hugo, Lennon, Louie, Emanuel, Oliver, Octavia, Callie and Frank for their efforts. Thanks also to parents for helping with transport and for their support during the game.

## Don't forget - Accelerated Reader Workshop

We are holding an Accelerated Reader information session for parents on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October** at 9.00am.

**School Dates.** Here are some dates of upcoming school events.

	Date	Time
Y6 Forest School	20/10/25	All day
Accelerated Reader Parents' workshop	21/10/25	9.00 – 10.00
Parents' Evenings	21/10/25 23/10/25	15.30 – 18.00
<b>Half term</b>	<b>27/10/25 -31/10/25</b>	
<b>INSET day (Nursery open as usual)</b>	<b>3/11/25</b>	
Individual Photographs	5/11/25	9.00 – 11.00
Prospective Parents' morning	06/11/25	9.00-10.00
Y6 Junior Citizenship	13/11/25	9.00 – 12.00
Prospective Parents' evening	27/11/25	19.00 – 20.00
Y5 - 6 Sayers Croft residential	03/12/25-05/12/25	
Y5 football match	10/12/25	14.00-16.00
YR and KS1 Nativity	11/12/25 & 12/12/25	14.30 – 15.00
KS2 Carol concert	15/12/25	
Pantomime trip	17/12/25	
Christmas lunch	18/12/25	
End of term (school finishes at 13.30)	19/12/25	