



Friday 24th November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another busy week with two class trips, the Christmas nativity in full swing and a series of visits and visitors.

The publication of the Ofsted Report in various media was of course very well received. Thank you to all the positive comments both in person and on social media. They are very much appreciated.

The FOSH met at school on Thursday and were busily adding final touches to the school fayre. Sadly I was unable to attend due to other commitments. Thank you to them for their continued support of course. We now have a Christmas tree in the hall, a newly carpeted library bus as well as supply of wood that will be used for future endeavours.

Thank you to the suppliers and fitters who gave up their time and materials to fit the carpet free of charge. I have already seen children up on the top deck enjoying their reading. The FOSH and I will now liaise to find some suitable furnishings to support the reading experience by adding the appropriate bean bags and cushions.

Thank you again to everyone involved including Mr Andre our site manager for ensuring the school was open and Mrs Morling and Miss Campbell for their organisational skills.

Saturday 2nd December promises to be a busy day in St Helens with a number of seasonal events occurring with our own Fayre featuring highly of course between 1-3pm.

On Monday afternoon, I continued my Discoverers reading groups. 8 children in two groups and I get together to read *The Boy at the Back of the Class* by Onjali Q. Rauf.

The children impressed again and the choice of text is very well chosen

In fact it is the winner of the Blue Peter Best Story Award 2019. I know I am going to enjoy these sessions.

Reviews include –

Raul's book is at once tear-jerking and chuckle-inducing and will go a long way to restore faith in human nature. — Sunday Post

Onjali Raúf's debut, *The Boy at the Back of the Class* (Orion), illustrated by Pippa Curnick, offers a child's eye view and an ambitious, adventure-filled plot. When a new boy is introduced at school, no one is exactly sure where he has come from; what is a "refugee kid", anyway, and how can Ahmet be helped to feel that he belongs? Though the narrator's voice is overly young at times, this is a lovely, warm-hearted first novel, a celebration of courage and friendship leavened with mischief. — The Guardian

This is a powerful story about friendship and kindness. — Family Traveller

In Explorers this week they have been busy finding shapes and attending nativity rehearsals with Adventurers class.

Levi's favourite activity was the class visit to Newport cinema to watch 'Epic Tails', part of the Into Film Festival which offered free viewings to local schools. The class went on to write film reviews which Alfred particularly enjoyed. Athena enjoyed decorating the angels and Emily, the nativity rehearsals.

In Discoverers Taylor has enjoyed writing their newspaper articles and discovering the differences between rituals and routine in RE, Emily the 2D/3D shapes and Barnaby drawing the old church at St Helens duver in art.

Pioneers took a trip to Osborne House on Tuesday and first impressions for Millie-Jay were very good. They acted out being servants, footmen and maids, had a tour around the house (which they had all to themselves as it was closed to the general public!) and also made sketches of the exterior of the building.

On Friday Mrs Maloney will take the reigns during assembly as I had to attend a course in Newport meaning I had to relinquish one of my favourite events of the week. Thank you to Mrs Maloney for stepping in on her day off.

Thank you to the staff for all their efforts this week with a special thanks to Mrs Yardley for holding the fort in Adventurers.

Have a great weekend

Mr Wake

FOSH NEWS

MUFTI DAY MONDAY 27th NOVEMBER

The school is holding a **MUFTI DAY on MONDAY 27th NOVEMBER**. Children may wear their home clothes to school in exchange for a chocolatey donation for the chocolate tombola at the upcoming Christmas Fayre. The suggested value of the chocolatey donation is about £1

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

The annual Christmas Fayre is Saturday 2nd December 1-3pm.

WE NEED YOUR HELP to make the fayre a success. If you are able to spare some time on Saturday 2nd December to help set up/run the fayre, please get in touch. We are also seeking volunteers to help tidy away afterwards.

Make sure you put a note in your diaries as we would love to see you all there! The fayre will include lots of local craft stalls selling their wares, games to play, crafts to enjoy and Father Christmas will be paying a visit too! We will also be serving hot food, cakes, tea and coffee. If you are able to help before (to set up or bake a cake)/during/after (to help tidy away) the event, all assistance will be welcomed enthusiastically. Please speak to Katherine or Tammy outside school or email foshsthelens@gmail.com

Donations of homemade cakes and biscuits that can be sold at the Christmas Fayre will be gratefully received anytime on Friday 1st December. Please leave donations with the school office.

SCHOOL TEA TOWEL

Orders are still being taken for the school tea towel! These towels make a fabulous keepsake of your child's time at St Helens (our own mothers still have the ones we ourselves made at school in the 80s!) and they also make great Christmas presents! Tea towels that are pre ordered cost £5 each. This price will go up to £7 at the Christmas Fayre so get your orders in quickly to benefit from the discounted price! Please email foshsthelens@gmail.com with 'Tea Towels' in the subject box, detailing the number of towels required and your child's name and class. Towels will be available to collect at the Christmas Fayre on 2nd December.

VILLAGE OF ANGELS

Each year in December the village of St Helens is decorated with angels made by the villagers. This year FOSH will be running the event and it will be tied into our school Christmas Fayre. **The children of the village and those who attend the school are being invited to make their own angel** to be displayed at school until 2nd December and from then at The Vine. Judging will take place on Friday 1st December with winners announced and prizes given out at the Christmas Fayre. More information and details of how you can enter can be found on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/FOSHPS> and on posters around the school and the village.

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATION COMPETITION

A Christmas tree has appeared outside the school office but it is looking very bare because it has no decorations! **FOSH would like to invite the children to make a hanging decoration at home and bring it in to liven up our tree.** The best decorations in each class (judged by the School Council) will receive a little prize at the end of term. Decorations must be hanging and be no more than 15cms long. They must be made entirely by the children and be clearly labelled with name and class. Entries cost 50p. Please send entry money in a sealed envelope labelled FOSH CHRISTMAS TREE COMPETITION with your child's name on the front. Children can hang their own decoration up when they bring it in.

2ND HAND UNIFORM SALE

FOSH will be holding their next **2nd hand uniform sale on Wednesday 6th December from 2.45-3.15pm.** Lots of items to choose from for 50p each. There are also school shoes and football boots available.

Attendance week from: 13/11/2023 to 17/11/2023

Class	Attendance	Late Arrivals	Minutes Lost Through Lateness	Unauthorised Absences	Authorised Absences
Explorers	91.3%	0	0	0	11
Adventurers	98.6%	0	0	0	4
Discoverers	97.6%	1	5	4	2
Pioneers	97%	1	20	2	6

Although we strive for 100%, our whole school attendance for this week was 96.9% which is above the national expectation of 96%

If your child is too unwell to attend school please contact us to let us know. You can phone on 872442 or email us on admin@sthelenspri.iow.sch.uk If you let us know by phone please can you put the reason for your child's absence in writing when they return to school otherwise the absence will be marked as unauthorised. We are required to ask you for this in order to follow the Local Authority attendance procedures, and if we don't receive a letter or email we have to follow it up.



We would like to wish a very 'Happy Birthday' to the following children and staff who celebrate their special day this week:

Mrs Rue
 Selena age 9
 Hollie age 7

School Dinner Menu (£2.75) per day or free to Reception, Year 1 & 2 pupils)

On **TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS only**, the children will be able to order baguettes - fillings cheese, tuna or ham.

Chartwells **WEEK 1** W/C: 30/10, 20/11, 11/12, 08/01, 29/01, 26/02, 18/03

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
AUTUMN/WINTER 2023	HOT SPECIALS Cheese and Tomato Pizza @ Served with Potato Wedges	Classic Beef Burger Served with Potato Wedges	Roast Turkey Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Beef Bolognese @ Served with Wholewheat Pasta and Garlic and Herb Bread	Breaded Fish Fingers Served with Chips
	Stir Fried Vegetable Rice @ @ @	Vegetarian Burger @ Served with Potato Wedges	Vegetable Pastry Roll @ Served with Roasted Potatoes and Gravy	Vegetarian Bolognese @ @ Served with Wholewheat Pasta and Garlic and Herb Bread	Crispy Quorn Nuggets @ Served with Chips
	JACKET POTATO Jacket Potatoes @ with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes @ with a choice of hot and cold fillings, including Salmon Mayo sauce @	Jacket Potatoes @ with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes @ with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes @ with a choice of hot and cold fillings
Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade tomato and herb sauce with paneer pasta @ @					
All main meals are served with two vegetables					
DESSERT	Chocolate Brownie	Crispy Crumble Bar with Fruit @	Original flapjack	Carrot, Orange and Sultana Slice @	Vanilla Ice Cream

PACKED LUNCH AVAILABLE Ham, Cheese and Tuna Baguettes available daily with veg sticks and fresh fruit or dessert of the day

AVAILABLE EVERY DAY Water, salad, freshly baked bread, yogurt & fresh fruit

Vegetarian Oily Fish Whole grain Fruity! Nutritionist's Choice

Our menu is subject to change. Please be assured that all verified medical diets and allergy requirements will be safely catered for.

Chartwells by school

WEEK 2

W/C: 06/11, 27/11, 18/12, 15/01, 05/02, 04/03, 25/03

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT SPECIALS	Cheese and Tomato Pizza 🍕 Served with Potato Wedges	Turkey Con Chili 🍲 Served with Wholegrain Rice	Roast Beef Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Sausage Pasta Bake 🍝 Served with Garlic and Herb Bread	Breaded Fish Fingers Served with Chips
	Sweet Potato Curry 🍲 Served with Wholegrain Rice	Macaroni Cheese 🍝	Cheesy Leek and Carrot Crumble 🍷 Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Vegetarian Sausage Pasta Bake 🍝 Served with Garlic and Herb Bread	Crispy Quorn Nuggets 🍲 Served with Chips
	Jackpot Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jackpot Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jackpot Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jackpot Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jackpot Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings
	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade tomato and beef sauce with penne pasta 🍝				
	All main meals are served with two vegetables				
DESSERT	Apple Crumble with Custard 🍎	Crunchy Chocolate Biscuit 🍪	Chocolate and Vanilla Marble Cake 🍰	Carrot Cake 🍰	Strawberry Ice Cream 🍦

PACKED LUNCH AVAILABLE
Hem, Cheese and Tuna Baguettes, available daily with veg sticks and fresh fruit or dessert of the day

AVAILABLE EVERY DAY
Water, salad, freshly baked bread, yoghurt & fresh fruit

🌱 Vegetarian 🐟 Oily Fish 🌾 Whole grain
🍏 Fruity! ❤️ Nutritionist's Choice

Our menu is subject to change. Please be aware that all certified medical diets and allergy requirements of the safety school fee.

Chartwells by school

WEEK 3

W/C: 13/11, 04/12, 01/01, 22/01, 19/02, 11/03

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT SPECIALS	Cheese and Tomato Pizza 🍕 Served with Potato Wedges	Pork Sausage Served with Mashed Potato and Gravy	Roast Pork Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken and Vegetable Korma 🍲 Served with Wholegrain Rice	Breaded Fish Fingers Served with Chips
	Chilli No Cheese with Crispy Tortilla 🍲 Served with Wholegrain Rice	Cauliflower Macaroni Cheese 🍝 Served with Garlic and Herb Bread	Sweet Potato and Chickpea Roast 🍷 Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Vegetarian Cottage Pie 🍷	Crispy Quorn Nuggets 🍲 Served with Chips
	Jackpot Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jackpot Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jackpot Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jackpot Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jackpot Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings
	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade tomato and beef sauce with penne pasta 🍝				
	All main meals are served with two vegetables				
DESSERT	Magic Apple and Cinnamon Bake 🍎	Strawberry Jelly 🍓	Orange Shortbread with Fruit Slices 🍰	Banana and Carrot Cake 🍰	Chocolate Ice Cream with Shortbread Biscuits 🍦

PACKED LUNCH AVAILABLE
Hem, Cheese and Tuna Baguettes, available daily with veg sticks and fresh fruit or dessert of the day

AVAILABLE EVERY DAY
Water, salad, freshly baked bread, yoghurt & fresh fruit

🌱 Vegetarian 🐟 Oily Fish 🌾 Whole grain
🍏 Fruity! ❤️ Nutritionist's Choice

Our menu is subject to change. Please be aware that all certified medical diets and allergy requirements of the safety school fee.

If your child would like the vegetarian option on a particular day, please can they let their teacher know so we can order enough portions from The Bay kitchen.

Dates for Your Diary

Thursday 30th November – Autumn term Well Being Day

Saturday 2nd December – FOSH Christmas Fayre in the school hall

Saturday 2nd December – FOSH St Helens Village of Angels launch/Village Christmas tree lighting from 5pm

Wednesday 6th December – EYFS/KS1 Nativity to school/dress rehearsal

Thursday 7th December – EYFS/KS1 Nativity to parents (2pm and 5.30pm)

Wednesday 13th December – Party Day (EYFS/KS1 morning, KS2 afternoon)

Thursday 14th December – Father Christmas visit AM

Thursday 14th December – School Christmas lunch

Friday 15th December - School closes at 3:00pm for Christmas break

Monday 18th December – Staff Development Day – school closed to children

Tuesday 19th December – Staff Development Day – school closed to children

Tuesday 2nd January 2024- School reopens at 8.45am for the Spring Term

Monday 11th March 2024 – Staff Development Day – school closed to children

Monday 17th to Wednesday 19th June – Year 5/6 Residential trip

This Week's Class Updates

Explorers

Another lovely week in Explorers!

We've had a busy week with Nativity rehearsals. The children have all done a great job learning the songs, we are looking forward to you seeing the finished production in a couple of weeks.

In phonics this week we have been revising our phase two sounds and tricky words. The Explorers have enjoyed a number of blending activities and games to help them apply their sound knowledge to read and write words. As well as this we have enjoyed reading the book The Tiger that came to tea. We have done a few tea party activities to help get the children writing.

Our number of the week has been 7 this week. The children have loved helping Mrs Sharp update the maths display each week as we continue to count up our number line. In maths with Ms P this week the children have been spending money. We have been counting pennies and working out what we can buy with 5p. Later this week with Mrs Callaghan we have been exploring 4 sided shapes. We have been talking about the different properties of shapes and sorting them into groups.

We hope you have a lovely weekend!

Adventurers

Adventurers have had a wonderful week. Filled with fun! We've continued with our new book in English; 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas'. The class discovered the Grinch was the one who destroyed Christmas in our classroom last week.

They took a trip as part of the Into Film Festival, to Cineworld to watch 'Epic Tails' and once back at school, they wrote a film review for the film festival competition. We had a great time and we must say, they were the youngest class in the viewing and by far the most well behaved. We are very proud of each and every one of them.

Nativity practise is going strong! With only 12 days to go until the first dress rehearsal to the school?!?! We can't wait. We're finalising costume details now and a letter will go out on Monday. Please don't panic- it'll be for leggings, tops etc that they already own. If you're having trouble sourcing something, please let us know and we'll see what we can do. Our narrators have each gone home with lines, can we please remember to bring them in each day for the rehearsals.

Have wonderful weekends! Remembering it's Mufti Day on MONDAY, in exchange for bringing in something chocolate based for the Christmas Fayre.

Thanks again for a lovely week.



Discoverers

In English this week we have been planning, Writing and typing up our newspaper for the firework maker's daughter.

This week in Art,we have been drawing the old St. Helens church. We have also been colouring in the angels for the christmas tree in the village.

In Science this week we have been showcasing how a dinosaur is fossilised.

This week in maths we have been learning about acute,Right and obtuse angles.We have also been learning about identifying symmetry.

In geography we have been creating a map of North America.

In RE (religious education) we have been learning about routines and rituals.

Written by Luke Hughes.

Pioneers



This week in Pioneers we had our visit to Osborne House. What a great day we had. It began with a workshop below stairs. All the children were assigned servant's names and roles (actual jobs and people who worked at Osborne House in the 19th Century) Mrs Smith the housekeeper taught the children how to set the table, make a fire, make a bed , polish the silver and prepare an afternoon tea tray. The children had to pretend that Queen Victoria was coming and all had to be ready for her visit.

After lunch we had our own personal visit of the house (the house was not open to the public) and so we were impressed with the knowledge of our personal English Heritage Guide. All the children were extremely well behaved and all asked great questions.





Textile Bank

Don't forget that we have a textile bank where you can donate unwanted **clothes, belts, paired shoes, bags, hats, (in a tied bag)**. The donated items will be collected and weighed fortnightly and the school will receive 20p per kilo towards our funds. **Donated items (bagged please) should be left near to the front entrance of the school. Please let the office know you have left items! *Please do not donate duvets, pillows, cushions, household textiles, soiled rags, curtains, blankets as the recycling company will deduct the cost of disposing of these items from our overall total raised.***

Remember to look at the school website for the latest school updates and information at www.sthelenspri.iow.sch.uk

Online relationship support for parents 

Parents in this area can now access **THREE ONLINE COURSES** from the relationship experts at OnePlusOne. Learn to cope with stress and communicate better, wherever you are in your parenting journey.

FOR ALL PARENTS

FOR NEW PARENTS

FOR SEPARATING PARENTS

Arguing better
Disagreements are a normal part of life. How you approach them can make all the difference to you, your partner, and your children. You will learn:

- How to recognise stress and how it can affect you.
- How to support each other through difficult times.
- What causes arguments and how to stop them.

Me, You and Baby Too
Learn how to navigate the changes that happen in a relationship when a baby arrives, including:

- How you and your partner can support each other.
- How to talk to bring up difficult topics.
- How arguments start, and how to stop them.

Getting it right for children
When parents are separating or separated, children can often get caught in the middle. Learn how to manage conflict to minimise the impact it has on your children, as well as:

- How to stop a discussion from turning into an argument.
- How to stay calm and listen as well as talk.
- Skills for finding solutions and making compromises.

To access the courses, you will need a smartphone, tablet, or computer, and a good internet connection. They are all FREE to use, so you'll just need to select your local authority area and create an account with a username and password. You can get started by scanning the QR code or visiting: www.oneplusone.org.uk/parents



Scallywags Fun Club

Christmas Holidays 2023

AGES 3-18 Winchester House, Sandown Road, Shanklin, PO37 6HT 19.12 - 22.12

OPEN: Tuesday 19th – Friday 22nd December (4 DAYS)

Opening for the first time ever during the Christmas holidays for our fun packed holiday club.

PAYING PLACES....(TIMES 8-6) (ages 3-18) Except Friday 22nd we close at 5pm not 6pm

FREE PLACES....(TIMES 9-4) (ages 4-16) for children free of charge for families

ELIGIBLE FOR BENEFITS RELATED FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Funded by the IWC as part of the HAF Programme includes FREE Healthy 2 course hot lunch

Places are very limited, contact Sarah Wherry on 07977709088 (or message our facebook page to book)

Scallywags Play Zones

Activity Zone – Children aged 3-8/9 yrs
Large construction, role-plays, messy, creative areas, toys, consoles

Youth Zone – 8/9 – 18 yrs
Youth club area: ball pool, i pads, xbox one, music, snooker, art, dens, cookery

Chill Zone- separate areas for both zones
Cinema time, music, books & comics

Outside - Physical Zone
Woodland Garden, Bouncy castle, Rope swings, Mud Kitchen, Go-carts, bikes, football, scooters, Skateboards/ramps, challenges

EVERY DAY WILL BE A CHRISTMAS PARTY DAY

Includes: Games – Competitions – Party food – Challenges – Disco

Phone: 07977709088 / 530433





FREE COURSES AND WORKSHOPS 0-19 years service

Start for Life Offer

Antenatal Courses
Breastfeeding Support
Stay and Plays

Healthy Eating
Understanding baby/child development



Suitable from Pregnancy – 2 years

Parenting Support

Language Skills
School Preparation
Emotional Development

Understanding Teen development

Understanding all Behaviours
Neurodiversity



Suitable from 2-19 years

ELIM (Early Language Identification Measure)

Do you have a child aged between 2-2.5 years. Scan the QR code to complete our language measure. You will be contacted offering you appropriate information and support if needed.



Suitable from 2-2.5 years

Contact us

Email iowfamilycentres@barnardos.org.uk

Or call us on 529208, 617617 or 408718

Family Hubs in NEWPORT, RYDE, and SANDOWN

Family Centres SHANKLIN, VENTNOR, COWES, EAST COWES and WEST WIGHT

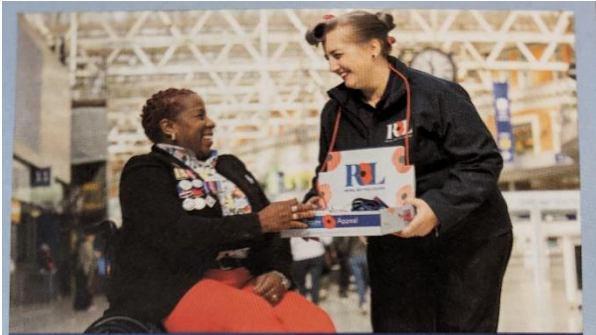
WEBSITE



FACEBOOK



INSTAGRAM



Thank you for your support

To ST HELENS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Thank you for supporting the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Your collection total £121.03p



Isle of Wight family information hub

Helping families keep up to date with the information, support and advice that is available to them.

- Early years and childcare
- Health and wellbeing
- Housing and finance
- Learning and employment
- Leisure
- SEND Local Offer
- Start for Life and family hubs
- Support for families
- Young people

To find out more visit:
www.familyinfohub.iow.gov.uk



Tel: 01983 823169 Facebook: [IWFamilyInfoHub](https://www.facebook.com/IWFamilyInfoHub)
Email: FamilyInformationHub@iow.gov.uk



JOIN US FOR SOME

CHRISTMAS POTTERY

20 TH DECEMBER

10AM - 12PM & 2PM - 4PM

COME AND GET CREATIVE THIS CHRISTMAS!

Activities are great for all the family and include pottery wheel throwing, festive sculpting and Christmas themed painting projects

HO-HO-HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

BOOK ONLINE NOW
WWW.ISLEOFWIGHTPOTTERY.COM