



ST HELENS PRIMARY



Friday 8th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

The nativity has been a big focus for Explorers and Adventurers this week. Three performances wowed the audience on Wednesday and Thursday with the children doing themselves, parents and school very proud. Speaking from personal experience, it was amazing to watch my own child perform on stage for the first time.

Thank you to the staff of course for their preparation and direction but we know that the most praise must go to the actors for their great performances.

Parents and grandparents loved the performance with one 'friend' in awe of the clarity of narration, singing and dancing.

Reading was high on the agenda on in Key Stage Two.

The children have had the pleasure of 'meeting' two authors this week. Peter J Murray certainly inspired the children. He returns on Tuesday to sign his latest book. It appears that many children will be challenging their parents to add to their Christmas wish list and buy the book. I know Mrs Maloney has already bought one to add to her extensive library.

In Pioneers, Jarryd enjoyed listening to Kathryn Rundell who spoke her new book Impossible Creatures and Millie-Jay and many others enjoyed the visit from Mr Murray.

Meanwhile in Discoverers Taylor and Logan have enjoyed biographical writing and Luca enjoyed his work on time.

In Adventurers, Alena has enjoyed letter writing to the Grinch, Miles experimenting with colour in art and Rosie learning about the oo sound.

Isabella enjoyed making Christmas decorations in Explorers

We have had a busy week. Not only the nativity and author visit but also clubs, staff training and plenty of visitors. The children have of course been great. During the week, I have observed a few lessons and I am pleased to say that the children have continued to produce some great work in maths, English, art, RE and during continuous provision in Explorers. Rowan and Lewis impressed with their modelling (constructing an enclosed garage as well as their knowledge of tricky words such as go, the, and into. Rowan was particular proud that his garage could hold 18 cars which he counted without hesitation.

I always enjoy working with Pioneers and this week. RE, English and Maths were both entertaining and enjoyable

Parent Governor Vacancy

I am sure there are many parents are keen to join our excellent group of dedicated governors. Please ensure that applications for the parent governor vacancies have been submitted by Friday 15th December.

Next week promises to another fantastic week that I am looking forward to.

Have a great weekend

Mr Wake

Attendance week from: 27/11/2023 to 01/12/2023

Class	Attendance	Late Arrivals	Minutes Lost Through Lateness	Unauthorised Absences	Authorised Absences
Explorers	84.9%	0	0	6	13
Adventurers	92.9%	0	0	6	14
Discoverers	93.2%	1	25	8	9
Pioneers	98.9%	1	25	0	3

Although we strive for 100%, our whole school attendance for this week was 93.6% which is **below** 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.



THIS WEEKS AWARDS



<u>Class</u>	<u>Worker of the Week</u>	<u>Star of The Week</u>
Explorers	Tilly	Lewis
Adventurers	Margaux	Charlie
Adventurers	Seb	Alena
Discoverers	Lottie	Zach
Discoverers	Cai-Wyn	Selena
Pioneers	Sophia	George
Pioneers	Katy	Jarryd



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

Miss Gorman

FOSH News

CHRISTMAS FAYRE 2023

Thank you to everyone who came and supported the annual Christmas Fayre last Saturday. The event raised just over £1000 and this money will enable FOSH to continue to subsidise school trip travel costs, to buy books for the school and to put on free events (like the Winter Ball) for the children, amongst other things. FOSH would not have been able to run and organise the fayre without the support of our small band of volunteers. We must thank Barbara and Margaret who worked so hard in the cafe, Barbara and Peta for making their delicious soups, Harriet and her lovely daughters for all their assistance and for running the tombola, James for being in charge of the raffle,

Charlie and Andrew for their lovely art work on the raffle prizes, Ollie for supervising the chocolate tombola, Cilla and Pip for helping with running stalls, Sophie and Becky for looking after the tea towel sales, Sarah and Laura for coming back to St Helens to do the glitter tattoos, all the St Helens children who helped out and Sophie at Preschool for opening up and allowing us to use her space. Martyn and Nan were an essential part of the set up team and Justin and Jack were incredible with helping to tidy away at the end. Thanks must also go to Mr Andre who came in on his day off to open and then lock up at the end of the day. Finally, a very special thank you needs to go to Father Christmas and his elf who took time out of their busy schedules to come and visit! Hopefully we haven't missed anyone but if we have, I think you know how very grateful we are for your help!

From Katherine, Jo and Tammy

FOSH NEWS

Tea towels are available to buy for £7 each. Please speak to Katherine or Jo outside school or email foshsthelens@gmail.com with your name, your child's name and the number of tea towels you require. If you have pre-ordered tea towels but have not yet paid, your towels are ready to collect upon receipt of payment.

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATION COMPETITION

Thank you to everyone who has made a decoration but the Christmas tree outside the school office is still looking a bit bare. Why not spend this upcoming wet weekend making a decoration to add to it? Decorations must hang and be labelled with the child's name and their class. **Entry is 50p per child.** Please give entry fees to the office in envelopes labelled with your child's name and 'Christmas tree decorations'. **There are a couple of entrants that have not paid their entry fee. If you think you might be one of them, please send your payment in next week.** The competition closes on **Tuesday 12th December.**

FOSH AGM

The FOSH AGM will be held on Thursday 25th January at 7pm in The Vine. The current committee will not be standing for re-election and without a committee, there is no FOSH. More information will follow next week but it is more important than ever that you consider coming along to support the group and carry on the good work that we have been doing. Please get in touch if you would like more information.

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

MENU CHANGES FOR WEEK COMMENCING 11TH DECEMBER

Monday 11th December:

As per week 1 menu

Tuesday 12th December:

Turkey Con Chilli or Sweet Potato Curry (v)
Jacket Potatoes, Tomato Pasta or Baguettes will **not** be available.

Wednesday 13th December:

Beef Bolognese or Vegetarian Bolognese
Jacket Potatoes, Tomato Pasta or Baguettes will **not** be available.

Thursday 14th December:

Christmas Dinner Menu (pre-ordered)
Jacket Potatoes, Tomato Pasta or Baguettes will **not** be available.

Friday 15th December: – as per menu

Fish Fingers & Chips or Quorn Dippers
Jacket Potatoes, Tomato Pasta or Baguettes will **not** be available.

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

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

Wednesday 10th January - School Aged Nasal Flu Immunisations, 2nd visit

Thursday 25th January – FOSH AGM – The Vine Inn, St Helens 7.00pm

Friday 9th February – School closes at 3.00pm for half term

Monday 19th February – School reopens at 8.45am for Spring term 2

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

Thursday 28th March – School closes at 3.00pm for Easter holidays

Monday 15th April - School reopens at 8.45am for the Summer term

Monday 6th May - May Bank Holiday – school closed

Friday 24th May - School closes at 3.00pm for half term

Monday 3rd June - School reopens at 8.45am for Summer term 2

Friday 26th July - School closes at 3.00pm for Summer holidays

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

Flu Immunisations

The school nursing team will return to school on Wednesday 10th January to administer nasal flu vaccinations for any children who may have missed out in September. If your child missed out then and you wish them to receive it please use the previously sent link or QR code to access the consent form.

If you do not wish your child to be vaccinated and do not want to receive any further reminders, please use the link or QR code for the no consent form so that your child's record can be updated.

Please contact the school Aged Immunisation Service if you need any help or advice.
Email: snhs.schoolagedimmunisations-iow@nhs.net or Tel: 0300 123 5074

This Week's Class Updates

Explorers

WOW!!!

We are so impressed with how great the Explorers did in the Nativity, they all did an amazing job and were absolutely fantastic!

This has been a busy week with our last few nativity rehearsals before yesterday's performances. The children enjoyed performing for the older children on Wednesday and were amazing for both performances yesterday.

We have been busy starting our Christmas crafts this week making lots of sparkly decorations and festive treats. The children have enjoyed making and designing their own gingerbread men with the gingerbread playdough. We've also done some tricky word revision by colouring the tricky word baubles as well as some of the bug club games to secure their phase 2 knowledge before starting phase 3 of phonics. You can find their log in details at the front of their reading records, they have loved the games on the board.

Have a lovely weekend!



Adventurers

What a fantastic week, the children have all worked so hard to perform the Nativity and did such a fantastic job!

In art the children have produced some great water colour work this week. We've done continuous lines of watercolour to create the London skyline. The Adventures have been practising mixing their colours and fading them to complete this. In English we have been busy writing letters to the Grinch. This morning we enjoyed some Christmas crafts! The children have been busy making their own little elves.



Discoverers

In English we have been writing biographies about historical figures that changed women's rights.

This week in Maths we have been learning about Time and Measuring.

In Art This Week we have been making Christmas baubles.

In Science we have been writing about soil formation.

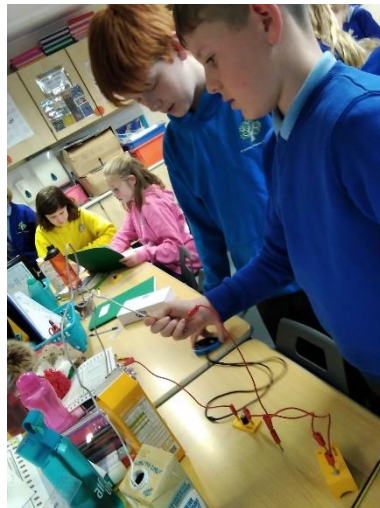
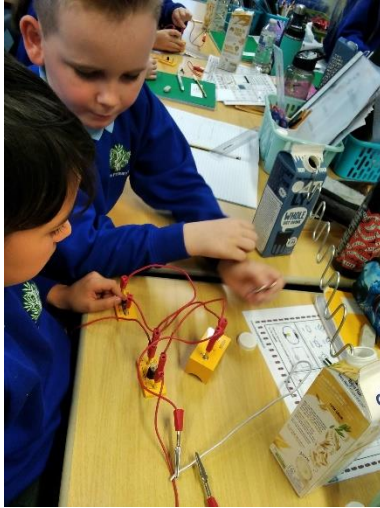
In music we have been learning to play the song "Silent Night" with various instruments.

We have also had an author coming into pioneers class and the author's name was Peter J Murray.

Written by Luke Hughes

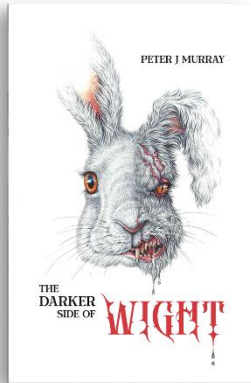
Pioneers

This week in their science lesson the children in Pioneers Class were making their own *steady hand games*. They had to use their knowledge of circuits and conductors to create a working model. We had a competition timing our attempts and then the winner was Lylah , with Ellie in second place.



In KS2 on Thursday morning we had a visit from Peter J Murray who was engagingly talking to the children about his new book *The Darker Side of Wight*. By the time you read this letter many of your children may have convinced you to buy a copy!!

<https://www.peterjmurray.co.uk/about>



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

New Carnival's FREE family is on tonight Friday Saturday 9th December from 12-entertainment, performances, installations, interactive only) and more!

To view the full programme,

[events/merry-bright/](https://newcarnival.co.uk/annual-events/merry-bright/)



friendly festive event - Ryde Merry and Bright 8th December from 5-8pm and tomorrow 8pm. There will be a huge range of activities, a soundscape treasure hunt, art shadow play, a lantern parade (Friday at 6pm

and find out more about the event please visit: <https://newcarnival.co.uk/annual->

CARE IN THE GARDEN Christmas 2023









Visit The Plant Market for all your Christmas plants and gift ideas.

Come along and meet "The Real" Santa.



On
2nd, 3rd, 9th, 10th,
16th & 17th
December
10.30am to 2pm.
Children and well-
behaved dogs
welcome.







From Christmas wreaths for your front door, to lots of lovely gifts galore, Care In The Garden really has it all.









Spend with us this Christmas time and your money will provide, work-based opportunities all year through, for those less fortunate than you.



Our potted Christmas trees will be available from mid-November.



Care In The Garden's, The Plant Market, Park Road, Wootton, PO33 4NS
careinthegarden.com
careinthegarden@hotmail.co.uk
Follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter and Instagram



*Wight Island Players
Presents*

**DICK
WHITTINGTON**
By Peter Denyer

**Bembridge Village Hall
January 2024**

**Fri. 19th 7:30pm
Sat. 20th 2:30pm. 7:30pm
Sun. 21st 2:30pm**

**Tickets
Adults £10
Child £5**

**Book Tickets Online at
wightislandplayersbooking@gmail.com
Or call/ text 07969036550**

**BEMBRIDGE COAST
HOTEL**

6.30PM – 9PM

**CHRISTMAS BEAUTY
EVENT**

**THURSDAY 7TH & 9TH
DECEMBER**

COME & JOIN OUR FANTASTIC BEAUTY TEAM WHO WILL BE SELLING
OUR INCREDIBLE TEMPLE SPA & MII GIFT SETS & IDEAS
LOTS OF OFFERS TO BE HAD .. CHEESE & BISCUITS & BUBBLES

Sandown Soccer - Isle of Wight

SANDOWN SOCCER
at The Bay CE Secondary

FOR CHILDREN AGED 4-11

**Wednesday - Friday
20th - 22nd December**

10AM - 3PM

Mini-Soccer camp for children. Aiming to provide a fun and enjoyable environment whilst developing and improving players footballing ability!

- ★ FA Qualified coaches with enhanced DBS and up to date first aid and safeguarding training.
- ★ Fun football games to develop agility, balance, coordination and speed!
- ★ Win medals by becoming Penalty, Keepy-uppy, Crossbar or Speed Champion as well as our Best Attitude, Most Improved and Future Star awards!
- ★ Take part in the Sandown Soccer World Cup where one team will be crowned **WORLD CHAMPIONS!!!**

SANDOWN SOCCER

Player of the day!

Win Player Of The Day trophies and t-shirts!

**5 hours of fun EVERY day!
10am - 3pm**

Inclusive football for ALL abilities!

Only £14 a day **Special Discounts!**
All 3 DAYS - £39
Sibling Discount available!

Have questions or would like more information?
Contact Lewis (Mr Mitchell)
sandownsoccer@yahoo.com
07594 389531

SANDOWN SOCCER

Children are welcome to come for one day or for ALL the days!

Attend at least 3 out of the 3 days during the week and win a medal for all of your hard work!

To book a place text your child's name, school year, dates and your name to 07594 389531



Arreton CC
Christmas Fair

Thursday 21st
December
Arreton Community
Hall
11am-3pm

An event for the whole
family to enjoy
Free Entry

A VISIT FROM
QUEEN ELSA

SANTAS
GROTTO

XMAS PHOTO
SHOOT

A VISIT FROM
JANGLE FROM
SHELF

FACE
PAINTING

REINDEER
FOOD MAKING

FESTIVE FOOD
& DRINKS

LOCAL CRAFT
STALLS

RAFFLE

GAMES &
TOMBOLA

