





Friday 2nd February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy week we have had.

The week started with a visit from Estelle Baker and her rural life workshop and concluded with a visit from Mr Hunt to talk about his experiences of years spent living and working in Antarctica.

In between there have been governor visits, a visit from Chartwells nutritionist, school nurses, assemblies, swimming, whole school reading, and the continuation of the range of some great clubs. And of course some great lessons.

On Friday we had our latest fire drill attended by one of the governors. The children were very respectful of all expectations, lined up beautifully and recorded the fastest time to date. The preschool also attended of course - without prior warning on this occasion and were also very efficient and speedy.

During assembly we heard about the various animals stories and associated work in Explorers. Harvey has also enjoyed using Lego and constructing.

In Adventurers, Levi is enjoying the work on pop art, Alena has enjoyed working with different teachers this week and Emily working with shapes. She certainly knows the names of 2D shapes including pentagon, hexagon and octagon.

Macie, Emily and many others enjoyed the Discoverers trip to Independent Arts Museum and Barnaby has loved developing his maths through word problems.

In Pioneers Tessa has enjoyed her swimming, Hannah the stop- go motion work in computing and Josiah making DNA out of sweets. Moreover the eating of the left-over sweets.

Next week will be another exciting I'm sure featuring the Explorers trip to Amazon World on Wednesday.

I hope the bingo is well attended later today.

Have a great weekend.

Mr Wake

Attendance week from: 22/01/2024 to 26/01/2024

Class	Attendance	Late Arrivals	Minutes Lost Through Lateness	Unauthorised Absences	Authorised Absences
Explorers	85.4%	0	0	2	17
Adventurers	99.3%	0	0	0	2
Discoverers	91.2%	0	0	2	20
Pioneers	88.3%	2	32	4	26

Although we strive for 100%, our whole school attendance for this week was 92.1% 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.



<u>Class</u>	Worker of the Week	Star of The Week
Explorers	Marley	Layton
Adventurers	Lila	Raif
Adventurers	Seb	Jude
Discoverers	Lottie	Noah
Discoverers	Selena	Abbie
Pioneers	Hannah	Millie
Pioneers	Lottie	James



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

Atticus age 9 Jarryd age 11 Sophia age 10

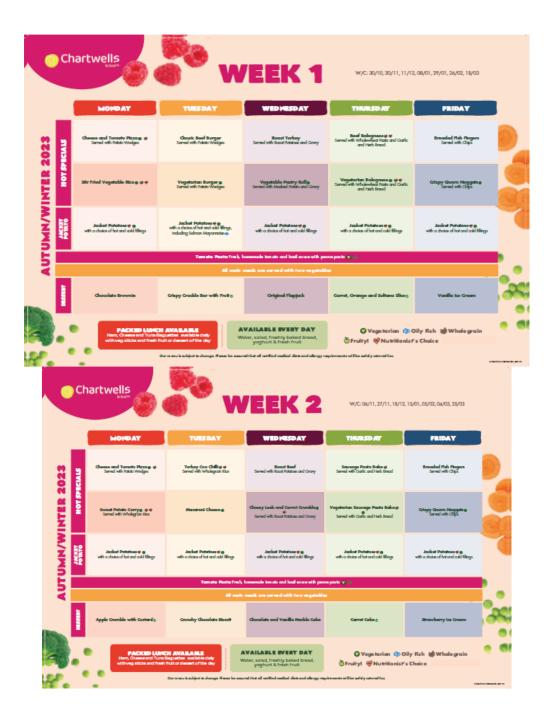
School Dinner Menu (£2.75) per day or free to Reception, Year 1 & 2 pupils)

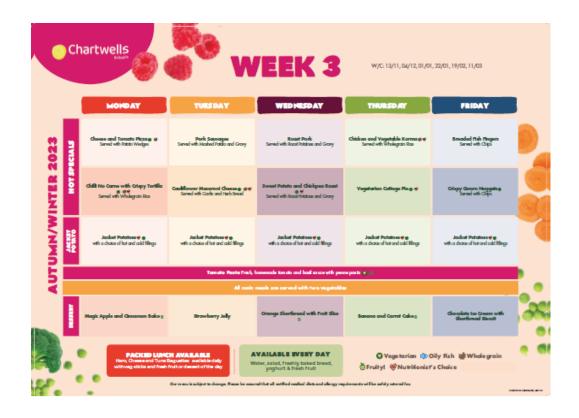
On <u>TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS only</u>, the children will be able to order baguettes - fillings cheese, tuna or ham.

FROM WEEK COMMENCING 19TH FEBRUARY, BAGUETTE DAYS WILL BE TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS. BAGETTES WILL NO LONGER BE AVAILABLE ON FRIDAYS.

Upcoming menu changes







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 7th February – Explorers trip to Amazon World

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

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

Wednesday 6th March - Adventurers trip to Wildheart Sanctuary

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

Friday 15th/Saturday 16th March -St Helens Primary 50th Anniversary

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

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

Monday 22nd April - Joanne Ryan Athlete Visit (with sponsored event)

Monday 6th May - May Bank Holiday - school closed

Monday 13th to Thursday 16th May - KS2 SATs

Monday 20th May - Class Photos with Cardwell & Simons

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

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

Monday 17th June - RNLI Day

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

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

This Week's Class Updates

Explorers

We have had another good week in Explorers!

The children enjoyed our visit from Ed from Chartwells who came to talk to the class about healthy eating. The children have told me about food like tomatoes, cucumbers and carrots. And they told me that treats like doughnuts, cookies and chocolate are not healthy choices but make good treats. Together they made some caterpillars out of a large selection of healthy food that Ed brought in with him, which they ate all up!

In maths we have been talking about length, the children were challenged to find one short thing and one long thing in the classroom and then we compared their differences together. In phonics we have done the sounds "or, ur, ow, oi" and the tricky word "you".

In preparation for our trip next week we have been looking at lots of different animals. The Explorers have enjoyed threading beads to make their own snakes using a repeating pattern. The children have also done some great writing about snakes and mice!

Have a lovely weekend!









Adventurers

On Monday we welcomed a visitor from English Heritage who gave the children a workshop all about our agricultural past. It was very interesting to see and feel items from the past.

Tuesday was another opportunity to get hands on with some amazing fossils on loan to us from Dinosaur Isle. We got to touch and see lots of amazing exhibits from fossilised coral to 120 million year old tree bark.

We have also enjoyed getting the gymnastics equipment out for PE which is always a firm favourite.

Discoverers

This week we went to independent arts, during which we did lots of activities including making a realistic papermache moon. In the afternoon, after we had lunch we headed on to our new destination the Guildhall Museum in Newport, here we saw different artifacts like stuffed foxes and hand axes, we also some arrowheads and different types of knives.

In English we have been working on time adverbials and similes for example my cat is as fast as the speed of lightning. In maths we have been doing word problems. This week in science we have been predicting if you have a longer femur than others can you jump further? In maths we have had tests and practiced place values and times tables. During R.E (Religious education) we learnt what is holy and we watched an animation about holy things. This week in PSHE we are learning how to stop colds from spreading. Finally, in handwriting we have been practicing curvy letters in lower case and found words using them.



Pioneers









This week we have been completing our art work (here our a few examples)

ANTARCTIC GRAPHIC ART
PENGUINS AND ICEBERGS WATERCOLOUR

We have also been working on editing and adding music to our Stop Go Motion projects and next week I am hoping to add links for you to view the children's work. In the meantime, here are some of the

characters, created by Pioneers pupils.











In science we are looking at Evolution and Inheritance and a fun activity to understand DNA is to make it out of sweets!

DNA stands for deoxyribonucleic (dee-OK-see-ri-bo-new-klee-ik) acid. It is the genetic information inside the cells of the body that helps make people (and all organisms) who they are. Think of DNA as instructions for how to make the body, like the blueprints for a house. Under a very strong microscope, DNA looks like a twisting ladder.

Here are our attempts from this week's science lesson for the children in pairs to make a double helix. We assigned a different colour of soft sweet to each of the DNA base pairs. Here Adenine is green, Thymine is purple/red, Cytosine is yellow and Guanine is orange. Push two soft sweets onto each of 4-5 cocktail sticks, making sure that your sweets pair as DNA does (Adenine with Thymine and Cytosine with Guanine).

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

Free Parent Webinars

Cyber Choices presentations are aimed at parents of a wide range of children/young people, from KS2 pupils (7-8 year olds) right up to college/uni students (18+) Each webinar covers the same material, so you need only sign up for one of them (unless you want to hear the same messages on repeat!)

There are currently 3 webinars available for parents:

Tuesday 6th February 13:00-14:00 Thursday 8th February 09:30-10:30 Thursday 8th February 20:00-21:00

The invitations are as follows:

When: Feb 6, 2024 13:00 London

Topic: Cyber Choices for Parents & Carers

Register in advance for this webinar: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_w4CZPn-

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When: Feb 8, 2024 09:30 London

Topic: Cyber Choices for Parents & Carers

Register in advance for this

webinar: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN Tpd56MjvSs25i nz5W8Vlg

When: Feb 8, 2024 20:00 London

Topic: Cyber Choices for Parents & Carers

Register in advance for this

webinar: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_guDQFW6TRBiOJWEga_g6gw

After registering, a confirmation email containing further information about joining the webinar will be automatically sent out.





Updates:

Our <u>Museum of Island History</u> and <u>Newport Roman Villa</u> are open for low cost activities during half term. Click on the museum names for more information.

Cost of Living support information

Use our <u>cost of living web pages</u> to see what's available near you. You can also call us on 01983 823134.

Contact Citizens Advice Isle of Wight on 0800 144 88 48 or enquiries@iwcab.org.uk. Their advice is free, confidential and independent. They can help with debt, benefits, legal advice and much more. Contact Trust for free advice or call them 01983 822282.

Use the <u>connect4communities website</u> to see what other support is available in your area. The government <u>Help for Households website</u> has information about help with childcare costs, benefits and many other schemes.

Anyone can join a community pantry or larder

Join a community pantry or larder and for £5 a week, receive over £15 worth of food. Membership is free and anyone can join.

Contact details for pantries and larders:

- 01983 296592 East Cowes Community Pantry
- 07961 959003 Ventnor Community Pantry
- 01983 563732 Ryde Community Pantry
- 07300 329610 Pyle Street Pantry, Newport
- 01983 248170 Pan Community Larder (for East Newport residents only)
- 01983 716020 The Aspire Mobile Community Pantry:
 - o Monday 10.30am to 12.30pm, Northwood Cemetery, Cowes, PO31 7ER.
 - Wednesday 10.30am to 12.30pm, The Lighthouse Church, Sandown, Hope House, Fort St, Sandown PO36 8BA.
 - Friday 3.30am to 5.30pm, West Wight Sports & Community Centre, Moa Place Freshwater PO40 9XH.

Get more information about community pantries and larders on our website

Find a Warm Welcome Space

There's a great network of Warm Welcome Spaces across the Island. These friendly spaces are run by the community for the community.

In a Warm Welcome Space you might find support and advice, tea and coffee, other refreshments, games, crafts and you'll always find a friendly face and someone to chat to.

Discover a Warm Welcome Space near you

Apply now for community grant funding

Applications are now open for Island community and voluntary organisations, town, parish and community councils to apply for the final round of community grant funding to support Islanders with the cost of living.

We are looking for:

- Schemes providing immediate support to residents
- Innovative, sustainable schemes that could be seed funded

If your schemes can offer this and knowledge and skill sharing that residents can use in the future, that would be even better!

A couple of the other current schemes include:

- Slow cooker cookery lessons with Aspire Ryde
- Living on the Veg at Newport Congregational Church
- Bereavement support group Community Spirited
- Cooking on a budget lessons with Bridges at the Apex Church

The community grants are paid for from the current grant round from the Department for Work and Pensions Household Support Fund which comes to an end on the 31 March.

Applications close 12pm 9 February 2024.

Apply now for community grant funding

Warmer Homes scheme

Islanders who don't have gas central heating may be eligible for FREE energy upgrades like insulation, air source heat pumps and solar PV panels.

These improvements can

- help lower your energy bills
- keep your home warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer

Find out more and check your eligibility on our website or call 0800 038 5737 to talk to someone.







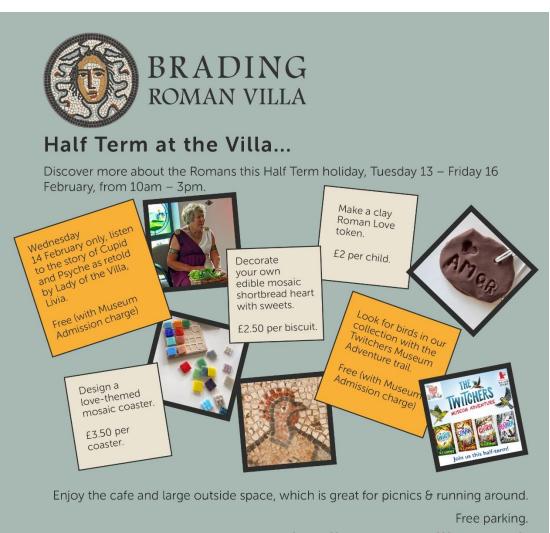


Daisy Bus Bingo!

There will be fundraising bingo at The Vine Inn, St Helens on March 2nd - 4.30pm to 5.30pm.

£5 for 5 games

Come along and support this invaluable service provided by Wessex Cancer Trust.



www.bradingromanvilla.org.uk