



# St Helens Primary Newsletter



Friday 14th March 2025

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

We have had another exciting week at school with lots of fun had by all children.

In Explorers they have been really enjoying their environment. Hula hoops, climbing the frame and dressing up have been favourites of Lola, Sam, Logan and others.

Adventurers have loved maths and DT lessons where they have been designing and constructing windmills.

In Discoverers they have been experimenting with water colours in art and creating some amazing non-fiction in their English; Athena –Rose and Arlo created some excellent work.

In Pioneers they have been tackling algebra, designing sock bunnies, mixing primary colours in art in addition to their daily maths and English of course

PE has focused around ball sports with tennis and netball featuring highly.

There were some excellent examples of good attitudes and role models during the assembly. Evie also received the inaugural Anderson award...

Next week we will continue our clubs, swimming and Lego therapy sessions. In addition the school nurse is visiting, and Adventurers have a session with English Heritage.

On another positive note Miss Gorman will be returning and Mrs Rees has decided that she will miss St Helens too much and will be staying on in Key Stage one.

**Have a great weekend**

**Mr Wake**



# Attendance



Week from: 03/03/2025 to 07/03/2025

Class	Attendance	Late Arrivals	Minutes Lost Through Lateness	Unauthorised Absences	Authorised Absences
Explorers	87.5%	1	30	8	7
Adventurers	94.1%	2	65	11	6
Discoverers	95%	0	0	0	16
Pioneers	96.4%	3	100	3	7

Although we strive for 100%, our whole school attendance for this week was 94.1% which is below the national expectation of 95%.

In line with the school policy, **please inform the school every day of absence**, wherever practically possible, of the reason for their child's absence and the predicted date of their return.

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](mailto: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 Week's Awards



<u>Class</u>	<u>Worker of the Week</u>	<u>Star of The Week</u>
Explorers	Tate	Arabella
Adventurers	Lewis	Marley
Adventurers	Arlo	Miles
Discoverers	Athena	Levi
Discoverers	Arlo	Finn
Pioneers	Georgie	Cai-Wyn
Pioneers	Ellena	Blossom



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY



10<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> March

John age 8

Poppy age 8



**School Dinner Menu (£3.05 per day or free to Reception, Year 1 & 2 pupils)**



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

**Chartwells** FOODS

**WEEK 2** WED: 11/11, 02/12, 06/01, 22/01, 24/02, 17/03

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>HOT SPECIALS</b>	Veggie Supreme Pizza 🍕 Served with Plain Pasta	Beef Bourguoise 🍷🍴 Served with Wholewheat Pasta	Roast Pork Served with Roast Potatoes and Gavy	Cottage Pie 🍷 Served with Gavy	Crispy Chicken Burger Served with Chips
<b>JACKET POTATO</b>	Vegetable Fajitas 🍴🍴 Served with Wholegrain Rice	Chinese Vegetable Noodles 🍴	Winter Vegetable Hotpot 🍴 Served with Gavy	Macaroni Cheese 🍴	Quorn Dippers 🍴 Served with Chips
<b>DESSERT</b>	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	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 sauce with penne pasta 🍷🍴					
All main meals are served with two vegetables					
	Crunchy Chocolate Mousse	Apple and Cinnamon Sponge with Custard 🍴	Fruits of the Forest Jelly	Chocolate Cookies	Orange Glazed Sticky Sponge Pudding 🍴
<b>PACKED LUNCH AVAILABLE</b> Ham, Cheese or Tuna baguette available on Tuesdays and Fridays with veg sticks and fresh fruit or dessert of the day.		<b>AVAILABLE EVERY DAY</b> Water, salad, freshly baked bread, yoghurt & fresh fruit		🍷 Vegetarian 🍷 Oily Fish 🍷 Wholegrain 🍷 Fruity! 🍷 Nutritionist's Choice	

Our menu is subject to change. Please be assured that all certified food of allergen and allergy requirements will be safely managed by.

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



- Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March - St Helens Horticultural Society Spring Show (2.30-4.30pm school hall)
- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March - Schools Walk the Wight assembly
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March - School Reports sent out
- Monday 24<sup>th</sup> –
- Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March - Scholastic Book Fair
- Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>/Weds 26<sup>th</sup> March – Year 5 & 6 Bikeability
- Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>/Weds 26<sup>th</sup> March – Parents Evening
- Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March - Adventurers trip to Briddlesford Farm (details to follow)
- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April - School closes at 3:00pm for Easter holidays
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April - School reopens at 8:45am for Summer term
- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May - Spring Bank Holiday – school closed
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May - Class Photos (Cardwell & Simons)
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May - School closes at 3:00pm for half term
- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June - School reopens at 8:45am for Summer term 2
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July - School closes at 3:00pm for Summer holidays
- Monday 28<sup>th</sup> July - Staff Development Day – school closed to children
- Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July - Staff Development Day – school closed to children



### Mothering Sunday Service

Reverend Karen Wilson would like to warmly invite the children and their families/carers to their Mothering Sunday service at St Peter's Church, Seaview.

All of the Haven Churches will get together at 10am on Sunday 30th March.



## Neurodiversity Team launches new online initiative 'Navigating Neurodiversity'

IOW Neurodiversity Service is excited to announce the launch of its new initiative, 'Navigating Neurodiversity', aimed at providing support, guidance and resources to families across the Island. This initiative is designed to help parents and caregivers navigate the challenges and delights of raising neurodivergent children and young people.

### *Key Feature*

**Peer to Peer support groups** – regular meetings for parents-caregivers to share experiences, seek advice and build supportive networks

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 11am

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April at 10am

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 10am

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June at 10am

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July at 10am

Sessions will be open for an hour with time built in for 1:1 support

Please email [mitch.burson@iow.ov.uk](mailto:mitch.burson@iow.ov.uk) or [Katrina.austin1@iow.gov.uk](mailto:Katrina.austin1@iow.gov.uk) for details.

### **General enquiries and bookings**







## Family Help & Information



# EASTER HOLIDAYS 2025



## Sallywags Fun Club



AGES 3-18 Winchester House, Sandown Road, Shanklin, PO37 6HT 7.4 - 17.4.25

**OPEN: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April (9 DAYS)**

[PARENT PLACEMENT FORMS](#) (Pages 2-10)

[WORK PLACEMENT FORMS](#) (Pages 4-11) for children free of charge for writing

[LINKS FOR REGISTERED EDUCATION 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 in book)

### Easter Activities include:

#### CREATIVE EASTER ART

Egg decorating, easter jewellery/gadgets, gift making, nests

#### COOKERY

Create your own chocolate masterpieces, designer cakes, fruit bunnies

#### COMPETITIONS & PARTY TIME / GAMES/OUTSIDE PLAY

Egg hunt extravaganza, bingo, egg races, jelly-bean trail  
Party food, party games, large outside play area

#### PRIZES FOR ALL



Please ring/text Sarah Wherry on 07977709088

## ISORROPIA TASTER SESSION



Join us for an exciting fully-funded session to learn about Isorropia Foundation and how we're helping islanders enhance their mental wellbeing. Don't miss this opportunity to explore the support we offer!

01983 217791

Medina Valley Centre, Dodnor Lane, Newport, PO30 5TE

Monday the 28th of April, from 1pm - 2pm

### What is it?

A supportive session where you can explore how Isorropia can assist you or others in mastering mental wellbeing. We're here to answer all your questions and guide you every step of the way.

### Who is it for?

Everyone! Whether for yourself, a loved one, or as a professional, come and learn more about Isorropia.

### Pre-Enrolment Opportunity

Wellbeing Coaches will be available for pre-enrolment immediately after the information session.



## Easter Sports Activity Days



Premier School Sport Coaching

Dover Park Primary School

Dover Street, Ryde PO33 2BN

Booking is Essential please Email: [psscld@gmail.com](mailto:psscld@gmail.com)

OR Scan the QR for the registration form



Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April  
Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April  
Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April  
Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April

**Cost: £FREE**

(If on income related Free School meals) – LUNCH AND SNACKS PROVIDED!!

Funded by the Department of Education

OR

£15 per day

9.00am till 2.00pm each day.

The activity days are for children In Key Stage 2 to have fun, make new friends and enjoy physical activity in a safe and structured environment.

The activities will be a mixture each day of:

Team games - Football, Handball, Basketball, Cricket etc.

Individual sports - Tennis, Athletics, Soft Archery, Tri Golf etc.

Alternative sports - Dodgeball, New Age Kurling, Boccia etc.

There will also be a chill out zone for your child to play board games and relax.

### Staffing:

All Coaches are experienced in working in Island Schools, have an enhanced DBS, first aid and attended safeguarding training.

### What to Bring:

Plenty to drink  
Wear suitable clothing for physical activity.  
Warm Clothing for outside activities



For more information and to book Email Andy Day - [psscld@gmail.com](mailto:psscld@gmail.com) or phone/text 07970009509

## Schools Walk the Wight with Mountbatten



ROUSE JENSON  
Schools Walk the Wight 2024  
8460



**Sunday, 11 May 2025**

Register now: [mountbatten.org.uk](http://mountbatten.org.uk)





**ISLE OF WIGHT FAMILY HUBS**  
**Here for families expecting a baby and those**  
**with children aged 0 – 19 years**

We offer free support to families with children from 0-19 years to help you on your parenting journey. This leaflet gives a brief overview of all our courses, workshops, parenting programmes, stay and plays and drop-in sessions.



**Here when you need us**



**Parenting support for all**

Being a parent can be equally rewarding and difficult. We have a range of support available to help you meet the challenges from pregnancy all the way through to adulthood. All our courses, workshops and play sessions are free and open to all.

**START FOR LIFE**

Support for families from pregnancy through to 2 years of age



**Welcome to the World**  
9 week antenatal programme



**Five to Thrive**

Face-to-face course for families with babies up to 6 months old

**Breastfeeding support**

One off workshops as well as stay and play sessions to support you on your feeding journey

**PAIR**

Our Parent and Infant Relationship Team can help you strengthen your bond with your baby and promote a healthy relationship

**Baby Play**

Play session at our Family Hubs for babies aged up to 12 months old

**OLDER BABIES AND TODDLERS**



**Family Play (0 – 4 years)**

Play sessions at our Family Hubs for families with children up to school age



**Building Blocks for Toddlers (9months to 3 years)**

Workshop to help you understand your child's development and help strengthen your relationship with them

**Toddler Talk (18 months to 3 years)**

Workshop to give you ideas on how to support your child's speech and language development

**TODDLER AND PRE-SCHOOL**

**Language Builders (ages 2 – 3 years)**

Four, weekly face-to-face sessions with fun and interactive ideas to help encourage your child's language development



**Getting Ready for School**

2 hour online workshop to help you prepare for your child to start school

**Parenting Puzzle (ages 3-5 years)**

Four face-to-face sessions to help you manage the challenges of parenting



**Older Children and Teenagers**

**Nurturing Programme (3 – 11 years)**

10-week face-to-face course where parents can learn positive ways to help their children express their feelings and manage their behaviour



**Talking Teens**

Workshop and/or four-weekly online course to help you understand and communicate with your teenager

**Who's in Charge (8 years +)**

8-week course aiming to support families experiencing child to parent violence, whether verbal or physical



**Also available:**

**Healthy Balance**

Online workshops to promote healthy eating habits

**Supporting Parent Relationships**

One plus one is a free online resource to help parents maintain healthy relationships

**Supporting Families**

Targeted help and support with an allocated support worker for up to nine months

If you would like to know more about any of the information contained in this leaflet, please contact your nearest Family Hub by phone, email or by visiting our website.



**Website**



**Facebook**



**Instagram**



**How to get in touch and find out more:**

Email us: [lowfamilycentres@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:lowfamilycentres@barnardos.org.uk)

Website: [www.isleofwightfamilycentres.org.uk](http://www.isleofwightfamilycentres.org.uk)

<https://families.barnardos.org.uk/>

**Newport Family Hub**  
 Furlongs, Newport, IOW  
 PO30 2AX  
 Tel: 01983 529208

**Ryde Family Hub**  
 George Street, Ryde IOW,  
 PO33 2JF  
 Tel: 01983 617617

**Sandown Family Hub**  
 The Fairway, Sandown  
 PO36 9EQ  
 Tel: 01983 408718



## *This Week's Class Updates*



### Explorers

We have had a great week in Explorers.

The children have been busy in the role play area acting out lots of different jobs, we've had police, fire fighters, soldiers, vets, delivery drivers and lots of families.

The Explorers enjoyed applying their phonics and art skills to create wanted posters, writing descriptions and drawing their criminal!

We have started our new No Outsiders book this week called 'The Family Book' by Todd Parr. The children enjoyed reading this book and discussing what family means to us. We had a great class discussion about how families can come in all shapes and sizes but they all have some things in common like loving and caring about each other. Each of the children then drew their own family picture to go on our No Outsiders board.

In maths we have been practising sequencing numbers and recognising patterns and number facts. The children helped to create their own number line together and we discussed how they know which numbers are larger and smaller.

Have a great weekend.







## Adventurers

Another week has flown by. Speaking of flown, in DT we have made windmills! See the photos below for our finished products. We have had to follow instructions, bend, cut, attach and test our windmills. The children have enjoyed creating them! They may be repurposed at some point...you will have to wait and see when they bring them home in a couple of weeks' time.

In English we wrote our final piece on polar bears; a poster using all the facts we have learnt in this topic. In maths both year 1 and year 2 have been learning about money. So far we have looked at the value of the coins and the notes. It's getting harder with card and contactless being used so often! If you have any coins at home, let your child spend some time looking at them and see if they can work out amounts or tell you their value.

Next week Mrs Gorman will be re-joining us and I know she is looking forward to getting stuck back in and getting to know the class. I think she is going to be impressed with all their hard work so far this year 😊

Have a great weekend, hopefully the sun will keep shining.





## Discoverers

In English we have been doing instruction writing for our creatures. This week in Maths we have been learning short division, part whole and column multiplication. During art we have been doing flat wash, wet on dry and lifting with watercolours. In PE we have been doing tennis with coach and hand ball with Mr Day. We have been learning about Jewish religions in RE. Finally, in swimming we've been practicing both our front and back strokes.

By Lottie & Noah



## Pioneers

This week in computing Pioneers have continued with their AI journey. We were learning how AI is able to generate images following a detailed and refined instruction. Here are some examples. We used Microsoft CoPilot. I generated images using my account (as an account with images is not available to the children in school) but the children picked the information.



*Please can you create an image of an anime style, crazy, dog with colossal eyes playing cards with fire reflected in its eyes?*



*Please can you make an image of a 2023 McLaren Artura that is orange and has a flame coming out of the exhaust, and can it please be on Silverstone F1 track.*





*Please generate an image of a scary, black cat wearing thick black glasses and an orange puffy ball gown, with rusty shoes.*

*This week in English we were also creating some descriptive paragraphs about Amazon animals, these were developed in pairs (a Year 5 and a Year 6 child together) **not using AI but the children's own writing skills.***

## Furious Fer-de-lance

A descriptive paragraph about a Fer-de-lance snake, which lives in the Amazon rainforest.

Beware of the nimble, brunette, slinky serpent, slithering through the night. This furious constrictor has an extremely venomous bite. Which could torture a group of minute petrified creatures. So don't get too close or you shall be deceased in an instant.

He cannot be apprehended for he's been hushed for eternity; writhing through the viridescent greenery. The aroma of this scaly beast is repulsing, while it's left lingering around the leaf-covered understory, where no beam of light has had eyes laid on. Small mammals are no strangers to this long limbless ophidian. Camouflaging itself as a lush lilliana, getting ready to pounce on its scampering prey. This horrific predator is found on the brilliant Brazilian terrain, such as the nature guarded Amazon rainforest

## Looming Leaf-cutter ants

Be aware of where you step in the damp, dim rainforest, for if you interrupt a vicious leaf-cutter ant's precious territory, instant regret will fall on you. Their only predator, their only enemy, the sharp-clawed diggers known as the one and only armadillo. Don't be fooled by their size, as they can harm you much more than our intelligent human brains realise. We may not be able to hear, but their high-frequency vibrations are used when being harmed. They quietly scuttle all around the gloomy understory while they hunt for a unique type of fungus. These fatal, miniscule, amber coloured herbivores are as vicious as a snake but 100 times smaller. Beware of these minute beasts. If the rainforest disappears, so do they. Their prey includes; luxurious leaf fragments, fresh flowers (although flowers that are not so fresh are delicious too) and fruit parts.

They live in: South and Central America, Mexico and parts of the Southern United States. Leaf-cutter ants find and gather their food by farming in fungus gardens. As they crawl along the ebony forest floor, they will attack anyone who attempts to harm them.

If you ever travel in the rainforest, be conscious of these copper, menacing critters.



## 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.



For the latest school updates & information  
remember to look at the school website

[www.sthelenspri.iow.sch.uk](http://www.sthelenspri.iow.sch.uk)

## St Helens Village Fayre Competition

St Helens  
SUNDAY 15TH JUNE 2025  
**COMPETITION!**  
Village Fayre  
WE NEED YOU TO CREATE THE COVER OF THIS YEAR'S VILLAGE FAYRE PROGRAMME!  
THE WINNING DESIGN WILL APPEAR ON THE FRONT COVER OF THE PROGRAMME & WILL ALSO BE USED AS OUR ADVERTISING POSTER. THE RUNNER-UP DESIGN WILL ADORN THE BACK COVER OF THE PROGRAMME.  
ALL ENTRIES SHOULD BE ON A4 PAPER, PORTRAIT ORIENTATION ONLY PLEASE AND YOUR DESIGN MUST INCLUDE THE WORDS 'ST HELENS VILLAGE FAYRE 2025'  
**PRIZES!**  
EACH WINNING ARTIST WILL RECEIVE A £10 GIFT CARD, A COPY OF THE PROGRAMME TO KEEP AND A FRAMED COPY OF THEIR DESIGN.  
CLOSING DATE IS **FRIDAY 28TH MARCH.**  
WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED DURING THE WEEK ENDING 4TH APRIL  
ST HELENS PRIMARY STUDENTS SHOULD RETURN THEIR ENTRIES TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE WITH THEIR NAME & CLASS CLEARLY MARKED ON THE BACK.  
NON-ST HELENS PRIMARY CHILDREN'S ENTRIES CAN BE EMAILED TO:  
[STHELENSVILLAGEFAYRE.IOW@GMAIL.COM](mailto:STHELENSVILLAGEFAYRE.IOW@GMAIL.COM)

St Helens Village Fayre will be held on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June 10am-3pm and there will be lots of stalls and entertainment throughout the day – marching bands, Falconry displays, dog agility, magic from David Randini and a Viking camp and battle! We will also have static displays of vintage cars and military vehicles.

Our programme will list the timetable of the entertainment but we need designs for the front and back covers and once again we would like children from the village or who attend St Helens Primary to design it. Details of the competition are on the flyer sent home last week (a copy is here).

Entries need to be on A4 paper, portrait and must include 'St Helens Village Fayre 2025' but the rest is up to you! We only had 3 entries last year & would love to see more designs this year. Closing date is Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March.

# Wild Art Club

Animal themed art sessions for  
young people aged 8 - 14 years old.

Selected Saturdays  
**14.00 - 15.30**  
See our website for  
more information  
and to book your place

Meet our amazing rescue  
animals and new people!  
Try out a range of art  
techniques that can benefit  
mental health and  
wellbeing.

Sessions will be guided by  
Emma, our brilliant  
Learning and  
Discovery Assistant!

- Draw, paint and collage our amazing animals
- Have a go at model making
- Create your own animal themed sketch books

**£5 per  
person,  
per  
session**

