







St Helens Primary Newsletter

Friday 12th September 2025





Attendance

Week from: 03/09/2025 to 05/09/2025



| Class | Attendance | Late Arrivals | Minutes Lost Through Lateness | Unauthorised Absences | Authorised Absences |
|-------------|------------|---------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Explorers | 100% | 2 | 45 | 0 | 0 |
| Adventurers | 97.3% | 1 | 25 | 0 | 4 |
| Discoverers | 98% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Pioneers | 100% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Although we strive for 100%, our whole school attendance for this week was **98.6%** which is **above** the national expectation of 95%.

In line with the school policy, <u>please inform the school every day of absence</u>, 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 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.

Attendance Matters



Every Child Every Day















Luke age 9

Jude age 9

Mr Wake

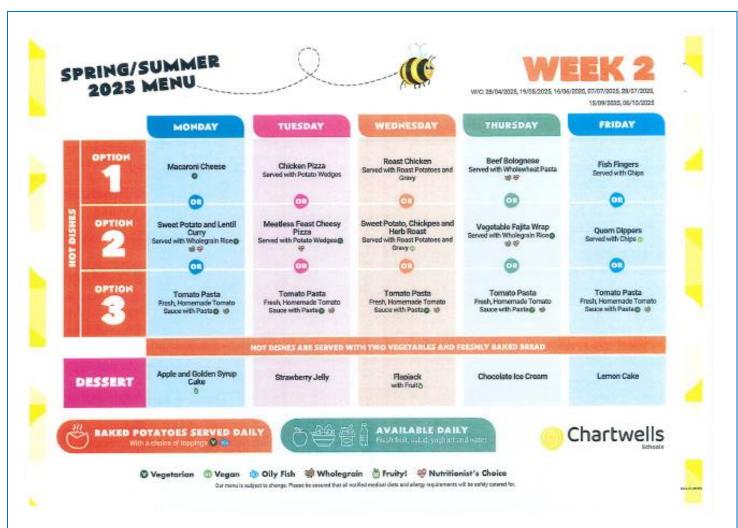




School Dinner Menu (£3.30 per day or free to Reception, Year 1 & 2 pupils)







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 Nettlestone kitchen.



Dates for Your Diary



Thursday 25th September

Monday 6th October (AM)

Tuesday 7th October

Friday 17th October

Monday 3rd November

Friday 19th December

Monday 5th January 2026

Friday 13th February

Monday 23rd February

Tuesday 24th February

School Nurse Clinic (9am-12pm) Appointments required

Cardwell & Simons School Photographer (individual & sibling photos)

Pioneers - Osborne House visit

School closes at 3:00pm for half term

School reopens at 8:45am for Autumn term 2

School closes at 3:00pm for Christmas holidays

School reopens at 8:45am for Spring term

School closes at 3:00pm for half term

Staff Development Day-school closed to children

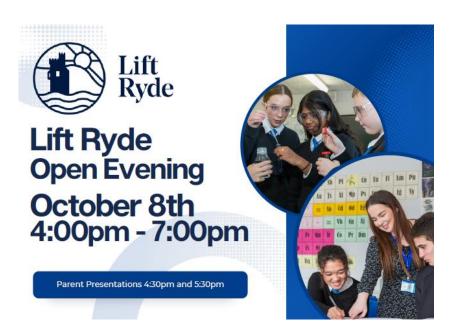
School reopens at 8:45am for Spring term 2













Headteacher's



Update

Dear Parents,

We have had a great first full week back. The children have been an inspiration as usual. I have seen the Explorers continue to settle in, great maths and phonics from our year one and two children. In Discoverers, the pupils have settled very well and completed some superb history based on the Ancient Egyptians as well as painting their amulets in art. Pioneers has continued to expand with Thomas and Isobel joining their new class. They have settled in very well and I am very impressed with the calm nature of the class on my regular visits to the modular.

After some amazing attendance figures last week, we have a little more absence this week with a few children falling victims to a sickness bug doing the rounds. It probably hasn't been helped with the children spending more time indoors due the rainy weather.

It's raining outside, why do we have a hosepipe ban?



Even if it's rained recently, hosepipe bans are based on long-term water levels, not just short-term weather. It takes a lot of consistent rainfall to fill reservoirs and top up underground supplies after a dry spell. So even after a period of rain, the overall supply might still be too low to lift the hosepipe ban.

PE and Jewellery

Please can I remind our new parents that at St Helens we follow the no jewellery guidance in our PE lessons. Children will need to be able to remove their own earrings in order to be able to participate in lessons. The decision is made purely to minimise the risk of injury and will be adhered to at all times.

National guidance recommends removing all jewellery, including earrings, before physical activity to prevent injury to the wearer and others. <u>Taping over earrings is not a safe solution, as it can create a false sense of security and still pose a risk of tearing the earlobe or causing other injuries.</u> Parents should encourage children with newly pierced ears to wait until the piercing has healed before returning to PE, or have the piercing done during a school holiday.

Risks of wearing earrings during PE

- Torn earlobes: Earrings can be caught on clothing, equipment, or another person, which can cause the earlobe to tear.
- Compression injuries: If an ear is accidentally struck by a ball or an elbow, the back of the earring post can be forced into the sensitive area behind the ear, causing serious damage.
- Piercing wounds from dropped items: In gymnasiums or swimming pools, a lost earring can be stepped on. The sharp end could then cause a puncture wound to someone's foot, leading to infection.
- Injury to others: The risks aren't just for the person wearing the earrings. The
 jewellery can also scratch or injure classmates during contact sports or closeproximity activities like gymnastics.

Volunteers

The school is always keen to invite volunteers to help at the school. Please contact the office if you are able to commit some time to supporting with activities such as reading, gardening, clubs, FOSH- inspired events or even finding out about being a governor.

Clubs

The school is offering a number of clubs this term. We have some places available in cross country, Merry and Bright, computer and music. The dance club is full at this time.

I look forward to another excellent week on Monday when we will welcome a new pupil to year 2. We are filling up nicely now but will still welcome a small number of pupils to reach full capacity.

Have a pleasant weekend

Mr Wake

Celebration Assembly

Just a reminder that our Awards assemblies have moved from Friday mornings to Monday afternoons at 2.30pm. If your child is due to receive a certificate a text will be sent at the end of the previous week, usually Thursday afternoon.



This Week's Class Updates



Explorers

We've had a busy week in Explorers and the children have all done so well for their first full week!

We've been looking at phase 1 sounds and have introduced the children to our bug club phonics scheme. The children all enjoyed singing the ABC song with our bug and we looked at the book 'A Wet Walk' where the children discussed what they could see and what they think is going on. They also made some great predictions!

Mrs Allman took the children up to our forest area this week, where the children enjoyed picking blackberries that they brought back to the classroom and made their own seasonal playdough.

We've continued looking at the topic all about me. This afternoon Mrs Callaghan shared about herself and her family and the children look forward to sharing their portfolios with each other next week.

Have a lovely weekend!









What a busy week it has been. The children have taken part in lots of activities based on phonics, number knowledge and sentence structure. We have looked at our new class text the snail and the whale.

Next week we will be starting our Geography and Science work all based around places in the world, animals and climates.

Have a great weekend

Discoverers

We've had a fantastic start back to the year. Complete with exciting projects galore! The children have been immersed within Ancient Egypt, from learning hieroglyphics to creating lucky amulets, from pouring over maps to entombing their very own mummies!

We are well and truly being taken back in time. Our current English learning journey features Marcy and her quest to solve the Sphinx's riddle- the class have created lovely story maps, character and setting descriptions.

In maths we've been exploring more than and less than and place value with three, four & five digit numbers.

Have wonderful weekends!!





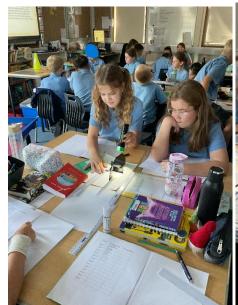






Pioneers have been engrossed in reading, "Street Child" and then thinking about what they have learnt about the character of Jim and his life in London in the 1860s. In Maths, place value has been explored, with the children building numbers, exploring which value in the number has been changed, comparing and ordering numbers. For Science the children were working in groups to explore how the length of shadows may change during the day using torches, a model person and measuring the shadow with a ruler. Super team work everyone.

The children are very interested to find out more about the Victorians, their History topic, so look out for a letter about a trip to Osborne House.







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!

<u>Please do not donate duvets, illows, cushions, household textiles, soiled rags, curtains, blankets</u> 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