



St Helens Primary Newsletter

Friday 5th September 2025



Attendance

Week from: 21/07/2025 to 25/07/2025



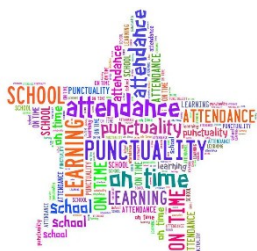
Class	Attendance	Late Arrivals	Minutes Lost Through Lateness	Unauthorised Absences	Authorised Absences
Explorers	92.3%	0	0	10	0
Adventurers	93.9%	2	55	16	3
Discoverers	97.1%	0	0	4	4
Pioneers	97.9%	1	30	4	2

Although we strive for 100%, our whole school attendance for this week was **95.7%** which is **above** 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 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



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



1st - 7th September

Mrs Callaghan

Margaux age 8

Raif age 8



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































Menu Changes

Our school dinners are now provided by the kitchen at Nettlestone Primary school and there are some slight changes to the menu. Baguettes are still available on a daily basis.



SPRING/SUMMER 2025 MENU

WEEK 1

W/C: 21/04/2025, 12/05/2025, 09/06/2025, 30/06/2025, 21/07/2025,
08/08/2025, 29/09/2025

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT DISHES	OPTION 1	Cheese and Tomato Pizza Served with Wholewheat Pasta  	BBQ Chicken Served with Rainbow Rice 	Roast Pork Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy 	Classic Beef Burger Served with Potato Wedges 	Battered Fish Served with Chips 
	OPTION 2	Broccoli and Leek Tart  	Macaroni Cheese 	Butternut Squash and Tomato Bake Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy  	Quorn Burger Served with Potato Wedges 	Veggie Fingers Served with Chips 
	OPTION 3	Tomato Pasta Fresh, Homemade Tomato Sauce with Pasta  	Tomato Pasta Fresh, Homemade Tomato Sauce with Pasta  	Tomato Pasta Fresh, Homemade Tomato Sauce with Pasta  	Tomato Pasta Fresh, Homemade Tomato Sauce with Pasta  	Tomato Pasta Fresh, Homemade Tomato Sauce with Pasta  
HOT DISHES ARE SERVED WITH TWO VEGETABLES AND FRESHLY BAKED BREAD						
DESSERT		Chocolate Brownie 	Fruits of the Forest Jelly 	Banoffee Pie 	Strawberry Ice Cream 	Ginger Biscuit with Fruit 


BAKED POTATOES SERVED DAILY


With a choice of toppings  


AVAILABLE DAILY


Fresh fruit, salad, yoghurt and water


Chartwells
Schools


 Vegetarian

 Vegan

 Oily Fish

 Wholegrain

 Fruity!

 Nutritionist's Choice

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

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



Monday 6th October (AM)

Friday 17th October

Monday 3rd November

Friday 19th December

Monday 5th January 2026

Friday 13th February

Monday 23rd February

Tuesday 24th February

Cardwell & Simons School Photographer (individual & sibling photos)

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



Help & Information



Isle of Wight
Neurodiversity
Team



Parent and Caregiver Peer Support Sessions

Where: Gunville Methodist Church Hall

When:



11th September 2025 (10am - 12 noon)

6th November 2025 (10am - 12 noon)

15th January 2026 (10am - 11am)

5th March 2026 (10am - 12 noon)

7th May 2026 (10am - 12 noon)

Come along to meet with other parents / caregivers for an informal meet up and chat about your neurodiversity journey. Refreshments provided. No need to book, just turn up.

Free onsite parking.

FUN ACTIVITIES
FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES AND/OR ADDITIONAL NEEDS

SHORT BREAKS

FREE TO JOIN*

CHECK OUT THE CALENDAR ONLINE


Isle of Wight Council

FOR CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES
VISIT IOW.GOV.UK/SHORTBREAKS
*There is a small charge for most activities



Family Help & Information



 September Timetable All sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long £24 each or FREE with School Membership Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)	
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	15 Sep 10am
Supporting A Child With ADHD	15 Sep 7pm
Improving Family Communication	16 Sep 10am
Autism Improving Communication	16 Sep 7pm
Facing Defiance	22 Sep 10am
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	22 Sep 7pm
Understanding Anger	23 Sep 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	23 Sep 7pm
FREE Facing Defiance	25 Sep 7-8pm
Introduction To OCD	29 Sep 10am
What Is ACT?	29 Sep 7pm
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	30 Sep 10am
Anxiety Explained	30 Sep 7pm
Understanding The Teenage Brain	6 Oct 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	6 Oct 7pm

sands

Sands is here to save babies' lives and support anyone touched by pregnancy and baby loss.

- We provide support
- We improve bereavement care
- We save babies' lives

To learn more, get support or find out how you can get involved, visit sands.org.uk





Lift
Ryde

Lift Ryde Open Evening October 8th 4:00pm - 7:00pm

Parent Presentations 4:30pm and 5:30pm



Headteacher's



Update

Dear Parents,

I hope you have all had a great summer with your children. They have all returned full of tales about their exciting breaks including visits to Wales, Ireland, Cyprus, Norway, Netherlands and Spain as well as multiple other visits both locally and across the water.

The children have all returned happy and we have already gained two additions in Pioneers with two more to follow next week. Welcome Starlah and Teddy.

The staff have had a good week. Training days on Monday and Tuesday focused on school priorities and the importance of safeguarding. From Wednesday the staff have welcomed or welcomed back pupils to their new classes. New expectations for the year will have been set.

Mr Popple will return next Wednesday. Thank you to Miss Gorman, Mrs Sharp and Mrs Rees for providing cover during Mr Popple's absence.

We welcome Mrs Pierrepont to Pioneers. Her knowledge, skills and experience will support the school as we move forward. I'm pleased to see she has settled in very well and has enjoyed her first few days with us.

We also welcome Mrs Pike and Mrs Laverty who will be supporting Mrs Taylor during lunchtimes. This has made a difference and both staff have settled in well.

In the next few days/weeks we will provide more details of what the teachers plan to teach during the term. I know the staff are looking forward to providing lots of new and exciting events for the pupils in addition to building on previous learning of course.

Later in the year some children may be able to look forward to the proposed residential and class visits. However in the shorter term we can look forward to Harvest Festival, parent's evenings and a selection of clubs both new and old. This includes Lantern club, dance club, music/choir club, computer club and a range of sports clubs. Please encourage your children to attend but of course be aware there will be a restriction on numbers according to the club so please get in early.

Reading is an essential part of school life of course. We aim to provide more reading spaces within the school. I look forward to watching this develop to see how this enhances the existing reading opportunities.

Another change will be the timing of awards assembly. In previous years this has always been on Friday morning but I am changing to Monday afternoon at 1430. Accordingly we will now be able to celebrate a whole week of successes rather than the four days in the past.

Attendance remains a school priority this year. We hope that St Helens will stand out as an example to others with consistent and regular attendance for all pupils.

'School attendance is important because it directly improves academic achievement and long-term outcomes whilst also fostering crucial social and emotional development. Regular attendance helps children build strong academic foundations, develop social skills and friendships, form good habits like responsibility and helps to fully participate in school life. In short, every day counts. Even small absences can add up and make a big difference.'

Have a glorious weekend

Mr Wake

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

Isle of Wight
Pottery

Starts Fri 5th Sept

Kids Afternoon Pottery Club

Fridays 4pm - 5:30pm during
term time.

An exciting opportunity for your child
to learn a variety of making
techniques in our working pottery
studio. Over a 6 week period, we will
explore wheel throwing, sculpting and
modelling and follow the pottery
process through to completion.
They'll finish with a range of glazed
and fired pieces to take home.

To book visit us at:
www.isleofwightpottery.com



£108 for 6 weeks

Newport Heritage Day Free activities!

Saturday 6 September 2025



**MUSEUM
of ISLAND
HISTORY**

Open 10am to 1pm

- ♦ Discover Island history
- ♦ Newport exhibition
- ♦ New Vectis Searchers
metal detecting display

Guildhall, High Street, Newport, PO30 1TY



Free activities around the town

- ♦ Decorated shop windows
- ♦ Classic Car Show on Newport Quay
- ♦ Havenstreet exhibition at 64 High Street
- ♦ Games exhibition at Independent Arts Hub
- ♦ Tours, activities and exhibits at Newport Minster

For full details visit:
[newportminster.org/mission/
newportheritageday/](http://newportminster.org/mission/newportheritageday/)



**Isle of Wight
Council**

Supported by
Newport Minster
Newport Parish Council
Newport Business Association