



St Helens Primary Newsletter

Friday 28th November 2025



Attendance

Week from: 17/11/2025 to 21/11/2025



Class	Attendance	Late Arrivals	Minutes Lost Through Lateness	Unauthorised Absences	Authorised Absences
Explorers	97.1%	0	0	0	3
Adventurers	92.7%	1	25	6	13
Discoverers	97.6%	1	15	4	4
Pioneers	94.6%	1	25	2	12

Although we strive for 100%, our whole school attendance for this week was **95.4%** 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



This Week's Awards



<u>Class</u>	<u>Worker of the Week</u>	<u>Star of The Week</u>
Explorers	Eli	Reef
Adventurers	Fin	Tate
Adventurers	Ocean	Ronnie
Discoverers	Luke	Amelia H
Discoverers	William Tr	Alfred
Pioneers	Lottie	Ria
Pioneers	Cai-Wyn	Charlie



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



24th - 30th November

Hollie age 9

Arabella age 7

Mr Andre

Mrs Lee





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



AUTUMN/WINTER 2025 MENU		WEEK 2 W/C 1/9/25, 8/9/25, 15/9/25, 22/9/25, 29/9/25, 6/10/25, 13/10/25				
		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT DISHES	OPTION 1	Macaroni Cheese	Pork Sausages with Mashed Potatoes and Gravy	Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken and Vegetable Korma with Wholegrain Rice	Fish Fingers with Chips
	OPTION 2	Veggie Burrito with Wholegrain Rice	Vegetarian Sausage with Mashed Potatoes and Gravy	Sweet Potato, Chickpeas and Herb Roast with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Pasta Salad	Quorn Dippers with Chips
	OPTION 3	Tomato Pasta, Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta	Tomato Pasta, Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta	Tomato Pasta, Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta	Tomato Pasta, Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta	Tomato Pasta, Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta
HOT DISHES ARE SERVED WITH TWO VEGETABLES AND FRESHLY BAKED BREAD						
DESSERT		Chocolate Caramel Crunch	Flapjack with Fruit	Chocolate Brownie	Raspberry Jelly	Strawberry Ice Cream

BAKED POTATOES SERVED DAILY
With a choice of toppings

AVAILABLE DAILY
Fresh fruit, salad, yogurt and water

Vegetarian
 Vegan
 Oily Fish
 Fruity
 Wholegrain
 Nutritional's Choice

Menu is subject to change. Please be aware that our nutritional data and allergen information will be subject to change.

Chartwells Schools



MAIN MENU WEEK 2

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Macaroni Cheese	Pork Sausages With Mashed Potato and Gravy	Roast Chicken With Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken and Vegetable Korma With Wholegrain Rice	Fish Fingers With Chips

Internal

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 Nettlestone kitchen.



Dates for Your Diary



Thursday 4th December

Thursday 4th December

Friday 5th December

Friday 5th December

Tuesday 9th December

Wednesday 10th December

Friday 12th December

Wednesday 17th December

Thursday 18th December

Thursday 18th December

Friday 19th December

Monday 5th January 2026

Friday 13th February

Monday 23rd February

Tuesday 24th February

Chocolate Mufti Day for the Chocolate Tombola

Music Group visit to The Elms, Bembridge

Flu Immunisations 2nd session

Sportshall Athletics competition, The Bay

KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal 2pm

KS1 Nativity Performances 2pm & 5.30pm

Christmas Fayre 3-5pm

Christmas Parties - Early Years/KS1 - A.M.
KS2 - P.M.

Father Christmas visit

Chartwells Christmas Dinner

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

ST HELENS PRIMARY SCHOOL

 **Christmas** 
FAYRE

FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER

3:00~5:00PM

NAME THE REINDEER & WIN THEM FOR LIFE
WINE OR WATER?
WIN A SACK FULL OF PRESENTS!
FACE PAINTING
CHRISTMAS SONGS WITH A LOCAL ENTERTAINER
PORTRAITS (BY A TALENTED YR 6 ST HELENS PUPIL)
CHILDREN ONLY GIFT ROOM
GAMES - FIND THE REINDEER NOSE/ HOOK THE SOLDIER/
PIN THE NOSE ON THE REINDEER/ GUESS THE NUMBER OF
SWEETS
WINTER WONDERLAND
RAFFLE
CHOCOLATE TOMBOLA
CAKES GALORE
BRIC-A-BRAC STALLS & SEAGLASS GIFTS

JOIN US FOR A FUN AFTERNOON FULL OF GAMES, ACTIVITIES
AND TREATS!

Please share our event with your families & friends!

Don't forget:

Thursday 4th December - Mufti Day for a donation of chocolate for the Chocolate Tombola



Thursday 11th & Friday 12th December - donations of cakes & bakes please for sale at the Fayre





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 journey. Refreshments provided. No need to book, just turn up. Free onsite parking.



Family Help, Information & Activities



LEAP (Local Energy Advice Partnership) offers **free** home energy visits to households on the Isle of Wight. The service is designed to help families stay warm, safe and well over the winter months while reducing energy bills.

During a LEAP home visit, a trained energy advisor will:

- Give tailored advice on reducing energy costs
- Check for damp, mould and ventilation issues
- Install free small energy-saving measures where needed (such as LED bulbs, draught-proofing and radiator reflector panels)
- Help eligible families access further support such as grants and discount schemes (including energy vouchers)

The service is completely free, and many families qualify.

Families can apply online:



<https://applyforleap.org.uk>

Or call **0800 060 7567** (freephone).

New Carnival Presents

Merry & Bright Festival of Light

Fri 5th Dec
5-8pm

FREE

Late Night Shopping
Entertainment
Music
Craft Market
Illuminations
Activities

RYDE TOWN

Lantern
Parade
6-7pm



SCAN FOR PROGRAMME:

www.newcarnival.co.uk





Dear Parents,

We have had another very good week with the cinema trip a highlight for many.



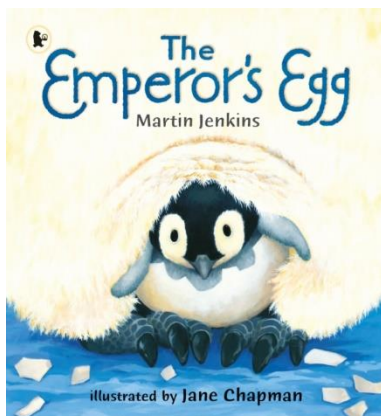
Clubs have been well attended and enjoyed. Please remember that our personal development is a real strength and I ask you to encourage your child to attend those clubs which are appropriate and available.

In Explorers, they have been writing and using the u sound. I enjoyed my visitations from some of the children who were even able to tell me some words that used the letter such as umbrella, and under. Thank you Nancy, Billie, Franklin, Eli and Jessica.

They have also been enjoying their first nativity practices.

In Adventurers they have been doing 'easy' and 'hard' maths counting up to and before 50. Some children showed how to work out fractions of amounts using arrays and knowledge of their multiplication facts. This included $\frac{1}{2}$ of 20, $\frac{1}{4}$ of 12 and $\frac{1}{5}$ of 20. Thank you Eleanor, Betty, Arabella and Isabella.

They are looking forward to reading their new book, *The Emperor's Egg* by Martin Jenkins



An award-winning picture book about the Emperor penguin's parenting. The Emperor penguin is the only large animal to remain on the Antarctic mainland throughout its bitterly inhospitable winter.

Once the female has laid her egg, she heads back to the sea, leaving the male to incubate it.

He then spends two months standing on the freezing cold ice with the egg on his feet! This is his story.

I enjoyed a lesson observation on letter writing with Miss McDonald. The children had a great recall of key skills associated with sentence structure and now it is the 'simple' matter of putting these skills to practice..

In Discoverers they have been using acute, obtuse and right angles as well as 3D shapes.

Emily presented an outstanding knowledge of the names and characteristics. They have also moved onto a new book on the Egyptians.

In Pioneers they have completed some baseline assessments in order to highlight the strengths and any gaps in their learning. This is very useful as it provides teachers a good insight in what key skills require further focus.

Attendance is good for the majority of children. However there are one or two children who are keen to improve their attendance in the future. Please see below for support.

Where to access support

How to improve your child's school attendance and where to get support

mediaofficer, 3 January 2024 - Attendance, Schools



This article has been updated on 29 February 2024 to reflect the latest information.

For most pupils, the best place to be is in school, surrounded by the support of their friends and teachers.

This is important not just for your child's learning, but also for their overall wellbeing, wider development and their mental health. The Chief Medical Officer has written a letter to schools explaining why [regular attendance](#) is vital to the life chances of children and young people.

Feeling anxious or worried

It's normal for children to feel a little anxious sometimes. They may get a tummy ache or headache, or have problems eating or sleeping.

Avoiding school can make a child's anxiety about going to school worse. It's good to talk about any worries they may have such as bullying, friendship problems, school work or sensory problems. You can also work with the school to find ways to help them.

If your child is still struggling and it's affecting their everyday life, it might be good to talk to your GP or school nurse.

[Find information and advice about how to help children with anxiety](#)

Coughs and colds

It's fine to send your child to school with slight [cough](#) or [common cold](#) symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat or headache, as long as they're otherwise well and do not have a high temperature.

But if they have a high temperature, keep them off school until the temperature has gone.

Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

Chickenpox

If your child has [chickenpox](#), keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over.

This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.

[Education Hub LINK HERE](#)

Next week we reach December already. Clubs will of course continue in earnest and we build up to the joys of Christmas.

In preparation for the Christmas Fayre the following week, we are having a Mufti Day on Thursday 4th December. Mrs Hall will then take over as she prepares the goodies for a very popular fayre stall by attaching raffle tickets to all of the chocolate bars – a job she looks forward to every year. Please give generously as there will be many interested parties bidding for a chance to win some chocolate if previous years is anything to go by..

Thank you to all the volunteers who will be helping with the stalls. We have plenty of new stalls available this year to keep everyone interested, including a sack already full of present's worth over £70, wine or water where you have a chance to win a bottle of your favourite tippie, win a reindeer or an elf, guess the right crackers and win £5 or £ 10, a range of sea glass memorabilia for sale, the child-only present room and the winter wonderland with opportunities to have a photo taken. If there is interest, we may be able to offer a print for a small charge.

Have a glorious weekend

Mr Wake



This Week's Class Updates



Explorers

Well, this week Explorers have been absolutely fantastic, topped off by a fabulous trip to the cinema where their behaviour was exemplary. The children are working so hard in their nativity play, remembering their words for the songs and where they have to stand on the stage. We have learnt some more letters this week; /e/, /u/, /r/ and /h/ and have been reading increasingly long sentences.

In Maths, the children have looked at some shapes and identified the number of edges and corners. They have been using vocabulary like 'straight' and 'curved'. We have been continuing our knowledge of numbers too, thinking about numbers in order and counting with 1:1 correspondence and finding ways to arrange objects to make sure we don't miss any when we count, or count some things twice!

The children have been trying some different fruits this week that they may not have experienced before. They were shocked that the flesh inside some of them was so different to the outside!

Some children thought they wouldn't like the taste, but were surprised to find they did!

Explorers have done some great work in PE this week too; balancing along benches and using some good hand eye coordination with bean bags and rackets with Mrs. Royal.





Adventurers

Another busy week in Adventurers,

We have finished a little project in writing based on the book *The Emperor's Egg*. Ending in a life cycle type write of the process of the male penguin looking after the egg until the female returns. Then Miss McDonald led the class in a letter to Santa. We will finish them on Monday.

In Maths we have focused on sharing amounts into equal groups with some children focusing more on the fractions side of this. Looking at halves and unit fractions.

The class behaved brilliantly during the cinema trip. I'm sure they have told you all about the film.

Have a great weekend



Discoverers



What a wonderful week.

We have been so impressed by how mature some of our class have been this week. We've had a lot to do and Thursday saw us off of timetable, which can always be tricky. The class behaved beautifully and did a fantastic job of travelling to the cinema, watching the movie and writing their reviews in the afternoon.

Reviews included; Arlo's fantastic sketch of a scene in *Dogman* and Rosie & Luke's great reviews.

For the rest of the week; the class explored angles and the characteristics of 2d and 3d shapes in maths. Using protractors has been a challenge for many! But we have quite a resilient class at times.

In English, the class have started our new text 'The Story of Tutankhamun'. Where they have begun to cross curricular writing activities with a factual report about the life of Tutankhamun. Which will eventually be published in ICT.

In Art the class have produced lovely sunset Egyptian backgrounds with watercolour and shadows.

Lunch time has been a bit tricky, it would be great if we could all remember to think about using gentle hands and kind words (even if we are in KS2) as it never hurts to remember these!! We've had to have a fair few conversations about this this week.

We're still short on pringles tubes and yogurt pots for canopic jars and I don't think I can physically eat any more yogurt or pringles, we really need these for an art project before Christmas, if you have any spare please send them in.



Pioneers

This week, Pioneer's class was quite busy with lots of lessons.

In English, we have been preparing for our formal piece of work from the point of Feodora from 'The Wolf Wilder'.

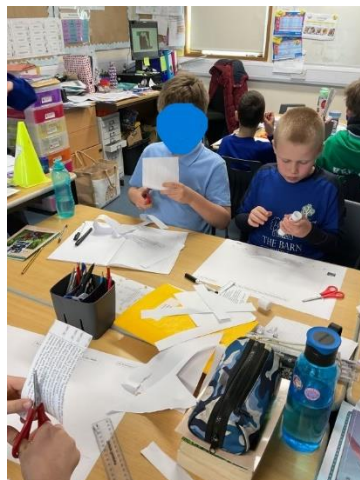
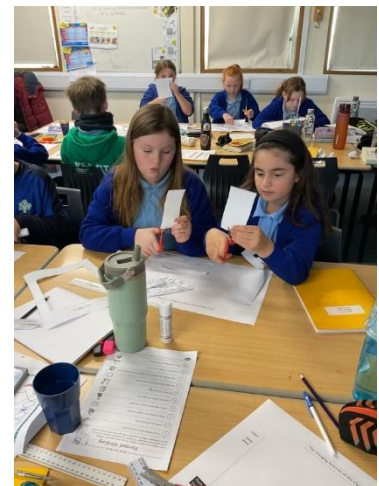
Starting a new topic in Maths, year 5 and 6 were learning mental division, for example- 54 divided by 9 is 6.

In Art, Pioneers were creating patterns inspired by William Morris, the pattern artist, using things that we found in nature.

During science, we were testing out a circuit, which could light up lightbulbs.

In PE, we have been learning some tag rugby skills, focusing on our reaction timing.

In conclusion- I'm sure this week's learning has been very fun and interesting for year 5 and 6 (including the lovely trip to Cineworld in Newport)!



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