



St Helens Primary Newsletter

Friday 12th December 2025



Attendance

Week from: 01/12/2025 to 05/12/2025



Class	Attendance	Late Arrivals	Minutes Lost Through Lateness	Unauthorised Absences	Authorised Absences
Explorers	97.2%	1	20	0	3
Adventurers	89.6%	1	20	10	17
Discoverers	95.2%	3	63	10	6
Pioneers	93.1%	3	107	4	14

Although we strive for 100%, our whole school attendance for this week was **93.3%** 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 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	Kevyn	Noah
Adventurers	Albie	Charlie
Adventurers	Marley	Nathanael
Discoverers	Arlo	Raif
Discoverers	Jude	Bogosi
Pioneers	Arlo	Ria
Pioneers	Teddy	Clara



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



8th - 14th December

Mae age 6

Tilly age 7

Miss Gorman

Mrs Ashdown



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



AUTUMN/WINTER 2025 MENU		WEEK 1 W/C 02/11/2025, 04/11/2025, 15/12/2025, 16/12/2025, 09/02/2026, 09/03/2026				
HOT DISHES	OPTION 1	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	OPTION 2	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges 🌱	Beef Bolognese with Wholewheat Pasta 🌱	Roast Pork with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken and Vegetable Pie with Potato Wedges	Fish Fingers with Chips
	OPTION 3	BBQ Vegetable Wrap with Potato Wedges 🌱	Vegetarian Bolognese with Wholewheat Pasta 🌱	Roast Quorn with Roast Potatoes and Gravy 🌱	Cheesy Vegetable Hotpot 🌱	Quorn Dippers with Chips 🌱
	DESSERT	Tomato Pasta Freshly, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta 🌱	Tomato Pasta Freshly, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta 🌱	Tomato Pasta Freshly, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta 🌱	Tomato Pasta Freshly, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta 🌱	Tomato Pasta Freshly, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta 🌱
HOT DISHES ARE SERVED WITH TWO VEGETABLES AND FRESHLY BAKED BREAD						
BAKED POTATOES SERVED DAILY With a choice of toppings 🌱		AVAILABLE DAILY Fresh fruit, salad, yoghurt and water				
VEGETARIAN		CHARTWELLS SCHOOLS				
VEGAN		Vegetarian 🌱 Vegan 🌱 Oily Fish 🐟 Fruity 🍌 Wholegrain 🌾 Nutritionalist's Choice 🥗				
OILY FISH		Dietary requirements: please advise your child's diet and food allergies in advance with your child's care plan.				



MAIN MENU WEEK 1

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Cheese and Tomato Pizza With Potato Wedges	Beef Bolognese With Wholewheat Pasta	Roast Pork With Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken and Vegetable Pie with Potato Wedges	Fingers and 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



Wednesday 17th December

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

Thursday 18th December

Father Christmas visit

Thursday 18th December

Chartwells Christmas Dinner

Friday 19th December

School closes at 3:00pm for Christmas holidays

Monday 5th January 2026

School reopens at 8:45am for Spring term

Friday 13th February

School closes at 3:00pm for half term

Monday 23rd February

Staff Development Day-school closed to children

Tuesday 24th February

School reopens at 8:45am for Spring term



Family Help, Information & Activities



Family Hubs
Isle of Wight

Pop in and Play session

with Breastfeeding support

Children of all ages welcome



Pop in to play and meet other parents with some fun activities and an opportunity to speak to our lovely Barnardo's team

On Tuesday 23rd December and Tuesday 30th December At Newport Family Hub between 10am until 11.30am

Please note the last Health Visitor drop-in clinic is the Friday 19th December 2025 Health Visitor drop-ins return the Monday 5th of January 2026

If you have any questions or would like to speak to a health visitor outside of these times, please ring the 0-19 duty desk on 0300 123 5224

Newport Family Hub - PO30 2AX
01983 529 208
Welcome To Isle Of Wight Family Centres : Isle Of Wight Family Centres

BARNARDOS Changing childhoods. Changing lives.
BEST START IN LIFE
Isle of Wight Council

Family Hubs
Isle of Wight

Scan for our Padlet's and information



Additional Information and Services


We have created a number of Online Notice Boards, known as Padlet's, full of information and guidance on a range of topics, including:

- Best Start in Life
- Early Language
- Oral health
- Infant Feeding Support
- Neurodiverse Information, Resources and Services
- Toileting
- Nutrition and Healthy Eating
- School Readiness
- Health Visitor Drop-in Clinics

BARNARDOS Changing childhoods. Changing lives.
BEST START IN LIFE
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School Aged Immunisation Service NHS Hampshire and Isle of Wight Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO PROTECT YOUR CHILD AGAINST FLU




The School Aged Immunisation Service has been in school for flu vaccinations. If your child missed this but you would like them to receive it, there are community clinics available until the end of December.

Please complete a consent form to book in.

To access the consent form, use the link:
<https://www.hiowhealthcareimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu>

or this QR code:



Your school code is: CW118169

Clinics available are:


Weds 17 th December	East Cowes Medical Centre (next to Waitrose)	13:30 – 16:00
Thurs 18 th December	Ryde Family Hub (at entrance to Co-Op Car Park)	13:30 – 16:00
Mon 22 nd December	West Wight Sports Centre (the Meeting Room)	10.00 – 12.00
Tues 23 rd December	Newport Family Hub (next to Barton Primary School)	09:30 – 11.30

If the clinic does not appear as an option, it is full.

If you do not wish your child to be vaccinated and do not want to receive any further reminders this season, please use the link or QR code and select 'NO' on the consent form so that your child's record can be updated.

If you need any advice or help completing the form, please telephone the school Aged Immunisation Service on 0300 123 5074 or Email: hiowh.iowimms@nhs.net


Prevent the



spread

of flu this

winter



Protect your

family



Family Friendly Festive Weekend at the Isle of Wight Donkey Sanctuary - Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 December

Celebrate Christmas with magical, affordable fun at the Isle of Wight Donkey Sanctuary! Meet over 100 donkeys and ponies and enjoy a unique Santa's Grotto experience inside our barn.

Find out more on the [Isle of Wight Donkey Sanctuary website](#)

Santa's Grotto

Come and meet Santa in his festive grotto, all weekend from 10.30am to 3pm. He'll be with his elves and our donkeys for a very special Christmas experience.

From £5 per child (includes a festive goodie bag).

[Book online](#) or book in on the day (subject to availability)

New for 2025: **Quiet Time with Santa** on Saturday 20 December, 10.00 to 10.30am.

If your child would love to meet Santa but would prefer a calmer, more relaxed experience, this session is just for them.

From £5 per person, including a festive goodie bag.

Spaces are limited and must be [booked in advance online](#).

Other activities on over our Festive Weekend include:

- Pony & carriage rides - £5 per person (weather dependant)
- Free reindeer trail – search for the reindeers hidden around our site – everyone gets a sweet treat!
- Seasonal music in the barn
- Mulled wine and festive treats in our café
- Christmas shopping ideas
- Isle of Wight Gin Company tasting – mums, dads and grandparents only!

Find out more on the [Isle of Wight Donkey Sanctuary website](https://www.isleofwightdonkey.com/).



Sandown Soccer - Isle of Wight

SANDOWN SOCCER
at The Bay CE Secondary

FOR CHILDREN AGED 5-11

XMAS WORLD CUP DAYS!
22nd and 23rd December

Mini-Soccer camp for children. Aiming to provide a **fun and enjoyable** environment whilst **developing** and **improving** players footballing ability!

10AM - 3PM

- ★ FA Qualified coaches with enhanced DBS and up to date first aid and safeguarding training.
- ★ Fun football games to develop agility, balance, coordination and speed!
- ★ Take part in the Sandown Soccer World Cup where one team will be crowned **WORLD CHAMPIONS!!!**

Text your child's name and year group to 07594389531 to secure your place today!

FESTIVE FOOTBALL FUN!

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- Saturday 20th December
- 12-3pm
- Barton School
- 5-a-side fun tournament
- Girls only, Years 4-7
- £5 donation - all proceeds to Isle of Wight Youth Trust (www.iowyouthtrust.co.uk)

To book:
<https://ucanplay.classforkids.io>
info@ucanplay.org
www.ucanplay.org

UCanPlay
ucanplay_sports

iw STORY FESTIVAL

NO BATTERIES REQUIRED
Gift-giving problems solved

Draw along with Rob!

THE LAST WOLF
ROB BIDDULPH

Stuck for present ideas?

Brighten up the gray days of February Half Term by ordering tickets for the iw Story Festival!

A fantastic line-up of authors and performers will be visiting our Island from Thursday 19 to Saturday 21 February 2026. Tickets for this whole-family event are available now at iwstoryfestival.com or directly from the Box Office at Quay Arts, Newport.

Inspire your young readers and writers by meeting:

Joseph Elliott Lucy Strange Emma Carroll Philip Reeve

NORA
JOSEPH ELLIOTT
CBeebies, CBBC and Horrible Histories

The Island at the Edge of Night
LUCY STRANGE

DRACULA'S DAUGHTERS
EMMA CARROLL

BRIDGE OF STORMS
PHILIP REEVE
Mortal Engines 25th year celebrations

Add a Christmas book by one of these icons of children's fiction.

Have your book signed at the Festival

Get the NATIONAL YEAR OF READING off to a GREAT START with the iw STORY FESTIVAL

Available from Medina Books Coves, Waterstones Newport, and online retailers.

Proud to support The National Year of Reading 2026.

GO ALL IN.

iwstoryfestival.com

*Coffee, Cake & Christmas
Cricket Cheer!*

IN AID OF ST HELENS CRICKET CLUB

Don't be caught out, swing by for festive fun!

Cakes • Raffle • Hot Drinks • Festivities

Saturday 20 December
10.00am – 12.00pm
St Helens Sports Pavilion

Everyone welcome. Come and support your local club!

ADULT LEARNING

Spring 2026

Isle of Wight Council

Adult Community Learning are delighted to share their new programme of workshops and courses, for adults 19+ years. Whether it is ICT, English or maths, art, craft, health and wellbeing or careers advice, we have something for everyone. Check out what's on offer and book at www.iow.gov.uk/ACLcourses, or call us on 817280. Come and learn something new in a relaxed and informal setting, at The Learning Centre, Westridge, Ryde.

Team St Helens Sports News



On Friday 5th December, Mrs Royal took a team from Years 4, 5 & 6 to take part in the Sportshall Athletics event at The Bay Secondary School. Each participant gave their all and should be proud to have finished 5th out of 7 teams against very strong competition. Well done !



Headteacher's



Update

Dear Parents,

We had a very busy week penultimate week as you can imagine.

Thanks to Mrs Sharp for her extra support this week.

The nativity was as spectacular as usual. The children in Adventurers and Explorers excelled with some children having to cover absence at the last moment. Reggie, Rowan and Harvey stepped up to support their younger friends to ensure the performances ran smoothly.

Thanks also to all the adults involved for helping put together a great show. Great work everyone.

Well done to all the children who participated in the sports hall athletics. Some excellent performances including a first place to Teddy.

On Friday we had the Christmas Fayre which was well attended. Thanks to everyone who

supported. A more detailed report will follow on Friday.

This week is the countdown to Christmas with our special visitor on Thursday, Christmas parties and the very popular Christmas lunch.

I look forward to a great week and hope everyone recovers from their various bugs that seem to have spread to Discoverers and Pioneers in particular.

Please remember that hand hygiene is paramount and to follow the catch it, bin it, kill it motto.

Although, I always hope for excellent attendance and children do not need to have a day off for a minor symptoms, parents know if their children are unwell of course and will make the right choices to prevent the germs from spreading further.

Have a healthy week

Mr Wake



This Week's Class Updates



Explorers & Adventurers

Well done to all the children (and grown-ups) for three wonderful performances of Whoops-a-Daisy Angel. Here are a few photos for your enjoyment!







Dear Parents and Carers

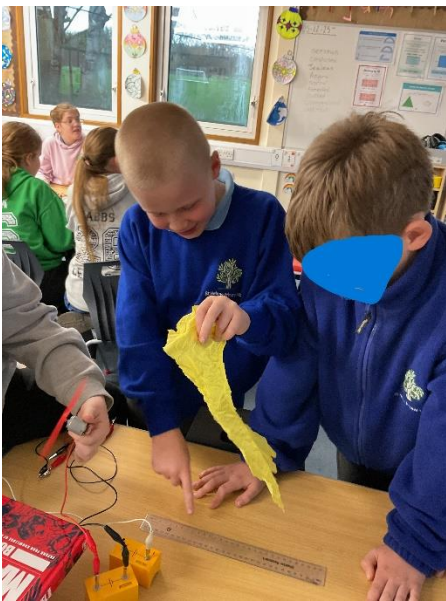
In English, we have been writing a story on a topic of our choice, because there is a competition in Style of Wight. The prize is more books for school and £150 in book tokens for the winner.

In Maths, we have been working on fractions. For example, if there were six pizzas and three and a half were eaten, there would be two and a half left. We have been learning to write this as a mixed number or an improper fraction.

In PE, we have been playing tag rugby and working in teams of five.

In Art, we have been making Christmas cards and experimenting with shadows.

In Science, we carried out an investigation with a rotor. We laid down a ruler, held paper in front of it, and measured how far the paper moved back. Then we added another battery, which made the motor go faster, and we measured how much faster it went by looking if the paper moved further.



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