



St Catherine's School & College

Specialists in Speech, Language and
Communication Needs

St Catherine's
Grove Road
Ventnor
Isle of Wight
PO38 1TT

Tel: 01983 852722

Email: general@stcatherines.org.uk

Website: www.stcatherines.org.uk

Spring Term Week 9

14th March 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS



The Reader of the Week award has been presented to:

William in Minghella Class

The Behaviour For Learning award has been presented to:

Gracie and Millie in King Class

Fenner in 6AMD

Oran and Lily in 6TMH

All of Hendrix Class

Liam in Tennyson Class

Luis, Seth and Cosmo in Grylls Class

Henley in Hendrix Class



The Behaviour For Character award has been presented to:

Olivia and Harrygeorge in Grylls Class

The Principal's Praise award has been presented to:

Selene in Hendrix Class



Well done to all students who received awards this week!

ATTENDANCE



6AMD - 88.89%

6BW - 100%

6SF - 95.56%

6TMH - 93.33%

Darwin - 100%

Grylls - 100%

Hendrix - 96.83%

Jupitus - 85.71%

Keats - 100%

King - 100%

MacArthur - 98.41%

Minghella - 91.36%

Mountbatten - 98.61%

Tennyson - 100%



Well done to all classes who were here everyday this week!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

March

27th RE Learning Day

April

2nd Virtual End of Term Consultations

3rd End of Term Coffee Morning/
Assembly/Consultations

3rd Students break up for Easter holiday

4th Staff Development Day

22nd Students return to school

THE GROVE AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

We are holding 'The Grove' after school club every Tuesday 3:30pm - 5:00pm.

March

18th - Lego/Arts & Crafts

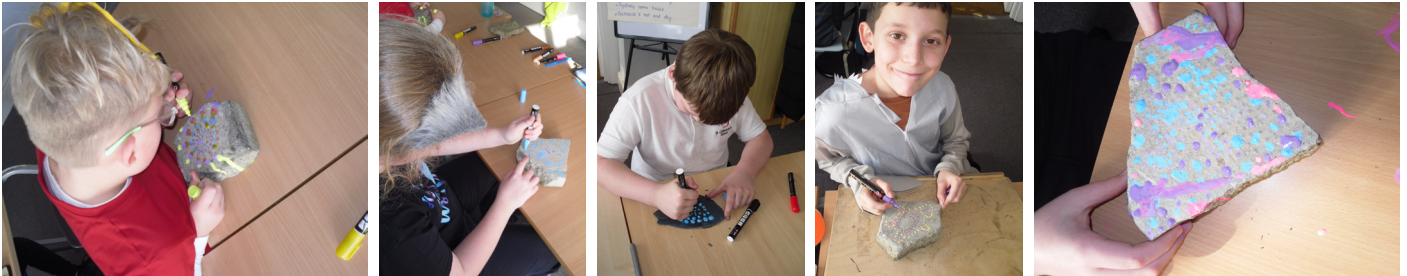
25th - Mother's Day Crafts

All activities are weather dependent. If the weather is not suitable for an outside activity, an indoor alternative will be arranged. Sessions have to be booked in advance and parents/carers are able to book block sessions. If you have any queries or would like to book, please contact The Grove Team on: the-grove@stcatherines.org.uk

Transport must be arranged by parents. £2 per week.

DARWIN CLASS

Darwin class had another fantastic week! In Maths, we focused on division and sharing groups equally. We used cubes to support the practical aspect of this topic. We have been continuing with our topic Australia which tied in nicely to our Science lesson this week as we learnt about how as the earth rotates it gives us daylight and night time. We talked about where Australia is and how they have night time when we have daylight. In Art, we have been busy doing Aboriginal prints on natural objects. We used our knowledge of Aboriginal art work to find objects and create effects on them. In English this week, we are researching and becoming experts about kangaroos in Australia!! We then started writing a report about them to show our learning. See if your child can remember any key facts about kangaroos!



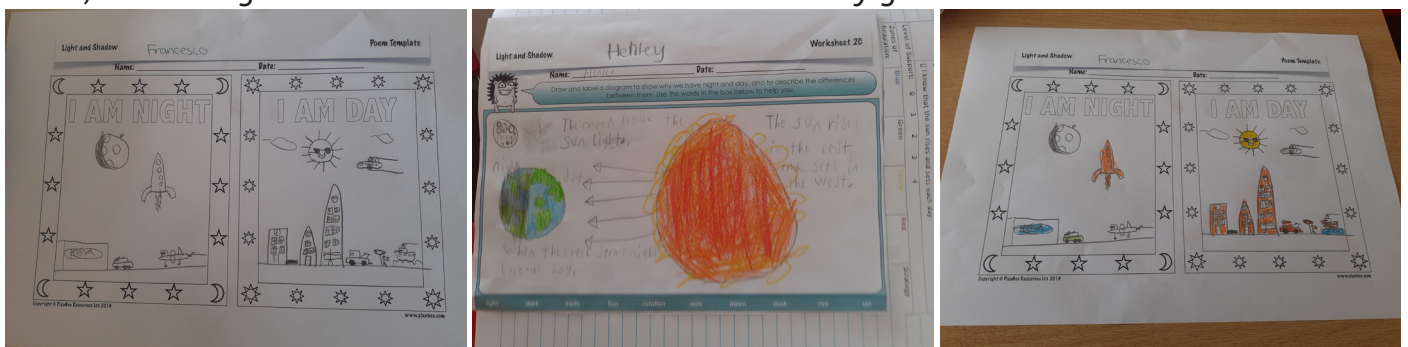
KING CLASS

In DT, we pencilled our Aboriginal designs onto our carpet roll didgeridoo. It was quite hard to draw the shapes much bigger than in our design books, the designs look really good and will look fabulous when we paint them. In ICT, we learnt how to edit text. We made the font different, changed the colour of the font as well as the size. Finally we made a page border, choosing different styles, colours and thicknesses. It made the text much more interesting. In Maths, we are beginning to learn about division. We know that groups need to be equal. We are practising sharing an amount on paper plates.



HENDRIX CLASS

Last week in Science, we learnt about light sources, both natural and manmade. We drew some lovely diagrams showing how the sun gives us day and night. We also learnt about dawn and dusk. In Phonics, we have been reading a book about a knight who has his own dragon. He tells us in the book how to look after a dragon if you have one as a pet. For English, we are learning about the features of a non-chronological report so we can be confident at creating our own reports in the near future. All of us have really impressed Miss Cook by understanding that non-chronological means 'not in order of time'. In Therapy Group, we talked about what things help us in the classroom and what makes it more tricky for us. Some of us like it to be quiet, some like task planners and others like to keep instructions short. In PE, we have been acting out movements to go along with the story, 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. We are counting how long each movement takes, then doing this to music. We have found we are really good at it.



GRYLLS CLASS

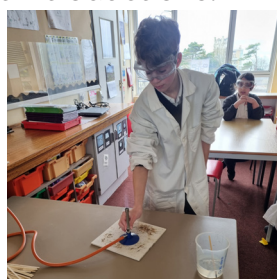
During Assembly this week, we learnt about how it is currently 'Ramadan' and how this period is celebrated. We discovered that Muslims fast during the days of sunlight and focus on praying and carrying out good deeds. It made us all think about how hard it would be, to go all day without food. In English, we enjoyed our weekly 'My News' and began our formal letter of persuasion based on our class novel, 'Letters from the Lighthouse'. We are writing a letter to try and stop the lighthouse from being dismantled. During Science, we focused on nutrition including the 5 main food groups and what each one provides for the body. In Humanities, we finished our work on 'VE day' which also brought our topic of 'World War 2' to an end. We were all sad about that, as we have all found this subject very interesting. During PE, we started our new topic, orienteering, and in the Communication Group, we resumed our work on 'My Happy Minds.' This entails learning about different parts of the brain, what they do and what makes everyone different, including various character strengths.

KEATS CLASS

In Music, we have continued with our Greek music topic and learnt about minor scales. We practised them on keyboards, learnt the proper Greek name for them and began a composition to go with the Greek story of the 'Minotaur'. In English, we are continuing our work on 'Kensuke's Kingdom' and have been sequencing the story and looking at how the character's mood changes. We have plotted this on a 'mood graph' using the zones of regulation to help us. In Science, we have been classifying animals. We have sorted vertebrates into their 5 different groups: birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and fish. In Humanities, we have continued to look at some European countries. This week, we have learnt about life in Switzerland and Russia.

JUPITUS CLASS

We have had a busy week carrying on with fractions in Maths and doing our news flash in English. In Science, we did an experiment to do with gases. We started with the table and talked about the atoms. We then moved onto the bunsen burners where we blew a balloon up and popped it. The students enjoyed lighting the Bunsen burner and we had a discussion on safety. Lab coats and safety goggles were worn. Caiden particularly enjoyed this. In Humanities, we talked about Europe and what counties and rivers were in it. In PE, we are finishing our dance routine around the gardening theme to do with the growing of a plant. In PSHE, we discussed germs and how they travel from your hands to everything we touch. We showed this with glitter and it was quite an eye opener for some of the students to talk about how often we should wash our hands. In animation club, Eli is using his dinosaurs to initiate a fight and all are really learning about editing and showing it as a film. Tanner is particularly good at introductions.



MINGHELLA CLASS

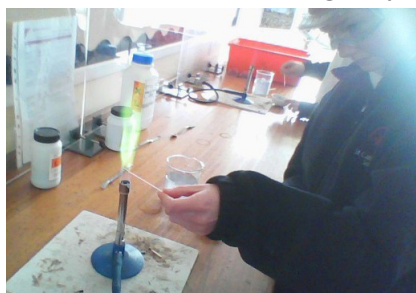
In Music, we watched George Formby play banjolele while standing at a lamp post singing about waiting to see a lady that he was admiring. We talked about how they recorded it straight onto record. Mr Thompson brought out his banjolele for everyone to try which showed how the notes vibrated on the drum skin. We played some simple tunes on ukulele and participated in a listening activity. During PE, we worked in pairs to show a dance routine around the jungle and different animals. We had to work in unison and mirror our movements. This was good fun and the music helped keep a rhythm. In Art, we carried on with artists and researched various artists and printed them to show what different art work they studied. We did have a practice fire alarm which showed great listening and organisation for Minghella. Levi has settled very well into the class and it is nice to see them all working as a team. In Science, we learnt about atoms and what was good and bad nuclear power. William sang the song of the periodic table and amazed us all with how knowledgeable he is.

MACARTHUR CLASS

During PSHE this week, we looked at skills that people may be good at, we discussed these and also looked at whether being good at something also meant that we enjoyed it, sometimes we found that this was not the case. We then thought about ourselves and looked at skills that we feel we are good at. In Maths we assessed on indices, we all did really well. In the second part of the week we began looking at substitution. In Science, we looked at the pros and cons of nuclear energy and how energy is released from the central nucleus of an atom. During OT, we have continued to work on our life skills of going shopping and paying for our food by ourselves.

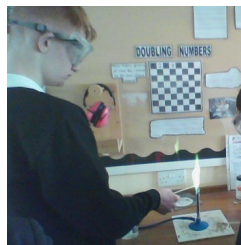
TENNYSON CLASS

This week it is British Science Week and in our Science lesson we have been conducting experiments. We carried out flame tests looking at different metal compounds and we also had a chromatology challenge. In English, we are writing a persuasive letter as a character from our topic book, 'Private Peaceful' explaining why Tommo has to go to war. In Art, we are glazing our ceramic buildings. In PE, we are continuing to plan and perform a contemporary dance.



MOUNTBATTEN CLASS

In Music, we completed some ensemble group evaluations we have performed this term for WJEC Music coursework. Then we played some simple tunes on ukulele. In PE, we've been having a great time in dance, making up movements to various sounds. Science has been very fun this week. As part of British Science Week, we have tested metal compounds to see what colours the flames go and we carried out a chromatology challenge. In Maths, we've been learning how to add percentages. In English, we made a presentation about volunteering.



6SF CLASS

In Life and Living this week, we have been making stained glass windows and painted transfers. We have put these up in the library windows and they look fantastic. In Land Based, we have been looking at taking cuttings from plants. We have also looked at hanging baskets and planters. We have been researching different plants and herbs and designing our own hanging blankets.

6AMD CLASS

This week in Science, we have enjoyed British Science Week. We did an experiment called ink chromatography. We drew a pattern on chromatography paper then we put a hole in the middle of the bit of paper. We then made a small cone out of another piece of chromatography paper and put it into the hole. We then put the cone into a beaker of water. After leaving it for a bit it separated the different colours and made a tie-dye effect. In Photography, we have been putting our lighting, framing and action photos onto contact sheets and we have been editing some of our photos too. In English, we have been practicing mock reading papers in preparation for our exams. We have also recapped African drumming in GCSE Music, played an African style piece with improvisation and completed more of our student song compositions. In Maths, we focused on fractions and exam preparation.

6BW CLASS

6BW have been very busy this week. We have created clay sculptures based upon abstract art as we considered how art can be functional as well as beautiful. We were able to complete the art safety section for our Life and Living course. We were able to talk about work experience. We considered why it is very important to embrace new activities and determine if a certain job role might be something we would embrace as a future career. During our English sessions we continued with our 'Animal Farm' reading, as well as how to use past and present tenses in our writing.



6TMH CLASS

In Music this week, we have focused on revising Indian music and Bhangra. We covered all the features, did listening skills for both and tried a group Indian piece with melody, improvisation, rhythm and a drone. We have also finished our student song briefs to go with our recordings. As part of British Science Week we carried out a chromatography challenge, separating the colours making up ink. In Maths, we are working through past papers in preparation for our summer exam. In ICT, we are researching how companies use digital animation and some of us are beginning the next task, researching graphics. In Vocational Studies, some of us have been drawing a plan of the common room in preparation for an event we are hosting in the summer term.



PE STARTING NEXT WEEK

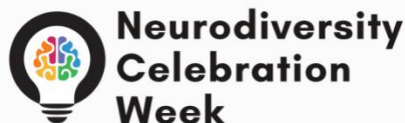
Starting from next week, Darwin, King, Hendrix, Grylls, Keats and Jupitus classes will be participating in outdoor activities during PE. Please ensure your child brings a coat and trainers to school.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS ARE HERE!!

All students have been given the opportunity to join the student council, we had a special assembly to explain the role of a school council member and what an election involves. The keen students filled in an application form and wrote an election speech to persuade the whole school, including staff, that they should vote for them. We will be practising the speeches this Friday, ready for the Election on Monday. Good luck to all the nominees.

UNWANTED FANCY DRESS

Our younger residential students would love to use any fancy dress costumes you no longer need! If you have any to donate, please bring them to the school.



**Neurodiversity
Celebration
Week**



St Catherine's

*Specialists in Speech, Language and
Communication Needs*

School - College - Post 19

March 17 - 23, 2025

www.neurodiversityweek.com

SCHOOL MENU

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pasta/Quorn Bolognese or Jacket Potato with choice of filling	Jumbo Sausage/Cheese & Onion Roll or Tomato Pasta	Roast Lamb/ Vegetable Burger or Jacket Potato with choice of filling	Pizza with Wedges or Tomato Pasta	Battered Cod/ Fish Fingers/ Quiche with Chips or Jacket Potato with choice of filling
Salad Bar Tuna or Mackerel	Salad Bar Cheese & Egg or Mackerel	Salad Bar Ham or Mackerel	Salad Bar Tuna or Mackerel	Salad Bar Cheese or Mackerel
Fresh Fruit Platter	Rice Pudding	Fresh Fruit Salad	Fairy Cake	Pudding of the Day

Fresh vegetables and salad are available with all main meals. Fresh fruit and yoghurt are always options for dessert.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ROBLOX

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
7

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGbible.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College