



# St Catherine's School & College

Specialists in Speech, Language and Communication Needs

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Autumn Term Week 3

19th September 2025

## ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS

The Reader of the Week award has been presented to:



Max N  
Maisey

The Behaviour For Learning award has been presented to:

Roaa Harri  
Sonnie Gracie  
Final Maddie  
Caiden



The Behaviour For Character award has been presented to:



Lukas Holden  
Charlotte Emilia  
Toby T Apryl  
Toby K Fletcher  
Jim Bailey

Well done to all students who received awards this week!

## ATTENDANCE



6AMD - 96.3%  
6ILP - 96.43%  
**6JG - 100%**  
Austen - 97.78%  
Bloom - 87.04%  
Branson - 92.41%  
Burton - 78.87%  
**Goldberg - 100%**  
**Hopkins - 100%**  
Newton - 90.48%  
Oliver - 98.15%  
Packham - 96.3%  
**Radcliffe - 100%**  
Watson - 97.22%



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

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### October

17th Students break up for half term

### November

3rd Student return to school



## THE GROVE AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

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

### September

23rd - Boat Sailing  
30th - Ventnor Park

### October

7th - Pizza Making  
14th - Pumpkin Carving

### November

4th - Basement Games  
11th - Seaglass Art  
18th - New Age Curling  
25th - Air Dry Clay Decs

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](mailto:the-grove@stcatherines.org.uk)  
Transport must be arranged by parents. £2 per week.



Artsmark  
Silver Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England

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## BLOOM CLASS

In PSHE this week, we looked at keeping healthy and talked about different self-care techniques and ways to keep clean. We continued with place value in Maths and this week we focused on the value of a two digit number. We used the tens and ones to help us with our learning. In PE, we started our new topic, gymnastics, and focused on different movements and stretches. In Art, we continued with our self portraits. In Humanities, we continued looking at local areas and settlements. This week, we looked at aerial maps and identified key features on an aerial view photograph.



## RADCLIFFE CLASS

During PSHE, we discussed the roles of people in the community who help and support us. We named many different jobs and how important their jobs are. Our English lessons continued to be the book, 'Superworm'. We spent the week focusing on vocabulary. We used dictionaries and learnt about syllables. We researched the words, 'honeycomb' and 'magic'. Our Maths lessons were recognising numbers with the greatest and smallest value. We practised making groups of objects and talked about 'more than' and 'less than'.

## HOPKINS CLASS

This week, we have been learning about many different minibeasts in English. In Science, we have been looking at flying minibeasts and flow-charts of the animals. During Music, we got to learn all about Boomwhackers and how they sound different against different surfaces. Maths at the moment has been all about place values and how to use different resources to support us. During PE, we have been looking at different team-building skills. In Art, we decided on a minibeast and then went outside to find natural resources to create them. We had snails, spiders, bees, a butterfly and a crane fly!



## PACKHAM CLASS

In Music this week, we looked at different instruments and we had to sort them into different groups. In Science, we are exploring forces. We have learnt that there are three forces; pushes, pulls and twists and we have investigated how we use these forces everyday. In Music this term, we are learning about different instruments from around the world. We even had a try with a Didgeridoo! In PE, we have started learning about team-work and team-building.

## OLIVER CLASS

In Music, the topic we are looking at this half term is instruments from around the World. We listened to music from Northern India, Japan, China, Australia, Africa and the Caribbean. We all tried to play a Didgeridoo. In ICT, we started our WJEC exam work and our first task was learning how to make a spreadsheet.

### **AUSTEN CLASS**

This week, we have enjoyed learning about shape, we also started to read 'Gulliver's Travels'. In Maths, we are learning about rounding numbers and odd and even numbers. In PE, we are really enjoying team building and started to learn about playing volleyball. Some of us are eager to play a match. We played instruments from around the world and particularly enjoyed playing the castanets in Music. In Science, we walked around the school learning about friction and different floors that reduce impact. All in all we are bonding as a class and really enjoying being part of Austen.

### **GOLDBERG CLASS**

In PSHE this week, we were looking at different qualities we each have and qualities others think we have. In OT, we used carrots to make our own soup which was fun. We continued to read 'Ice Trap' in English and learnt about Sir Ernest Shackleton's incredible expedition across Antarctica. In PE, we did some team building activities which was good fun. In Science, we are learning about friction, we used toy cars to see how different surfaces reduce impact. In Music, we are looking at different instruments from around the world. Another great week for Goldberg.

### **BURTON CLASS**

In PSHE this week, we have been learning how to recognise when we feel unwell, how to describe this and who to ask for help. The class was able to make excellent suggestions. In English, we have been reading our new book 'Gulliver's Travels.' We have answered questions about the text, sequenced the story and written sentences using different connectives. In Science, we learnt about friction and tested different surfaces around school to see which created the best friction. We decided that this was the carpet in our classroom. In Humanities, we have been learning about the seven continents and used a song to help us remember them. In PE, we are team building and going through the volleyball techniques.

### **NEWTON CLASS**

In English, we have been asking questions about 'Ice Trap'. It's real - which is exciting. In Science, we made a switch; this was OK but tricky. Some of them worked! In Maths, we looked at negative numbers and calculator practice. In Art, we drew out our portfolio covers. They look amazing. We're looking forward to basketball in PE.

### **BRANSON CLASS**

In English, we finished a book we were reading, 'Ice Trap'. It was about Sir Ernest Shackleton and his crossing of the Antarctic, where his ship got caught in ice and they had to abandon ship and camp on the ice with their sled dogs. In DT, we were completing our research into our chosen design movement or artistic styles in preparation for our clock project designs, which we will be starting next week. In PE, we played basketball, learning the rules and the different ways to throw and pass.

### **WATSON CLASS**

In Maths, we have been looking at practice papers. In English, we are looking at Blood Brothers and what it could be about. During Science, we are exploring circuits and what each part of it does, even down to the electron. In Art, we are continuing our learning about photography and the different elements with pictures such as line, shape and form. Humanities is very exciting as we are learning about the history of the school. We had some old photos of the school and then went round and had to find the area which the picture was taken in. During PE, we have been looking at basketball and the different skills linked to it. In Music, we have been learning to play the songs 'Skye Boat Song' and 'Catch a Falling Star'.

### **6JG CLASS**

In Photography, we took photos from different viewpoints, made contact sheets, chose our four favourites and started presenting them on black sugar paper. We then annotated these photos and said why we liked them and what we could do to develop our ideas. In Land Based Studies, we have been starting to look at risk assessments. We have been writing risk assessments for working with animals.

## 6AMD CLASS

In English, we are working on suffixes and prefixes. We are finding the root words then adding 'ing', 'ness' and 'ed'. We are getting on really well with this and could then put these words into sentences. In Science, we started our assignment for our BTEC chemistry unit. We were looking at The Periodic Table and properties of the elements. In Music, we have continued to study Baroque music, starting a project researching the harpsichord and listening to identify features of the music.

## 6ILP CLASS

Another very busy week for the students of 6ILP. We continued with our Maths adventures by independently using correct measuring devices for specific tasks. We were able to use a range of measuring units also. We were inspired by our upcoming trip to the beach by creating some fossil style paintings. We were inspired by the bright colours of Andy Warhol. During English, we were able to consider sentence structure as well as select our new reading books. We are all eager to find out if our artwork has won a prize with the Unique Arts Awards ceremony on Friday. Good luck to all our budding artists.



## OFCOM ONLINE SAFETY

Children in the UK will be able to live a safer life online under new Ofcom protections, which set ambitious new safety standards for tech firms. To read the guide, please follow the link:

<https://bit.ly/3K9NzkX>

## KOOTH RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

Kooth is an online platform to help young people with their mental health and wellbeing. It's a welcoming space for your child to safely explore their feelings. Follow the link to view their free resources for families:

<https://connect.kooth.com/for-families>

## PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION

The Department of Education statutory guidance for supporting pupils at school with medical conditions, states clearly:

"Schools should only accept prescribed medicines if these are in-date, labelled, provided in the original container as dispensed by a pharmacist and include instructions for administration, dosage and storage."

Please be aware that our school will not be able to administer any prescription medication that does not meet the above criteria and may ask parents/carers to come into school to administer. We would like to take the opportunity to thank all our parents/carers for their support in this matter.

# THE GROVE AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

In The Grove this week, we enjoyed making boats. We are hoping to visit Ventnor Park next week to sail them. The club runs every Tuesday from 3:30pm - 5pm and costs £2.00 per session. Please email Hayley for further information.

[the-grove@stcatherines.org.uk](mailto:the-grove@stcatherines.org.uk)



*"I loved making a pinata and then bashing it with a stick" - JD*



*"I enjoy making stuff and having fun with other people" - CB*



*"I really like the arts and crafts we do in The Grove" - J*



*"Thankful for the activities and generally all the fun I've had over the years!" - TD*

# SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos will be taken on Wednesday 1st October 2025.

## CAN YOU SUPPORT OUR CHAPEL PROJECT?

Our school chapel has a special place in the heart of our community. Over the years it has been the hub of school celebrations as well as a place of reflection and contemplation. We are looking to raise £10,000 to improve the space, retaining the chapel's original features but adapting it to ensure it can best meet the needs of our students. In particular, the aspects that we would like to improve are:

- Replace the current pews with more comfortable seating, which are more suited to our students' needs
- Install a sound loop to support our students with hearing impairments
- Restore the chapel to its original glory by cleaning the stained glass windows and redecorating the floors and walls

If you are able to support this project then please visit our fundraising page:

[https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/stcatherinesschoolchapel?utm\\_medium=CA&utm\\_source=CL](https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/stcatherinesschoolchapel?utm_medium=CA&utm_source=CL)

Any donations over £100 will feature on our thank you wall in the chapel.



**Thank you to everyone who has donated so far!**

## SCHOOL MENU

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Sweet & Sour Chicken/Quorn or Tomato Pasta	Meatballs/ Quorn Balls or Jacket Potato with choice of fillings	Roast Turkey/ Vegetable Burger or Tomato Pasta	Lasagne/ Quorn Lasagne or Jacket Potato with choice of fillings	Battered Cod/ Fish Fingers/ Vegetable Burger with Chips or Jacket Potato with choice of fillings
Salad Bar Tuna or Mackerel	Salad Bar Egg & Cheese or Mackerel	Salad Bar Ham or Mackerel	Salad Bar Tuna or Mackerel	Salad Bar Cheese or Mackerel
Fruit Platter	Jelly	Fresh Fruit Salad	Tray Bake	Pudding of the Day

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

# DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Last Friday, we were extremely pleased to be able to present six of our students with their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. The students have taken a whole school year to complete the four sections to gain the award. The four sections are:

**Volunteering** - they made Christmas decorations and bird houses which they sold at the Christmas Fair and raised £70.00 towards the Sixth Form library.

**Skills** - they learnt how to cook and served an afternoon tea to the school's trustees. They also learnt how to cook 'Friday Night Film Food'.

**Physical** - Lots and lots of walking and map reading.

**Expedition** - the students walked 15 miles over two days, camped out overnight and cooked their own meals on camping stoves.

Many of the students learnt new skills and gained new experiences. We have some excellent chefs, painters, natural leaders and tent pitchers. Some of the students had never stayed away from home before or hadn't experienced camping. Very well done to all of you. We are very proud of you and you should be very proud of yourselves!



## 'EYES-WIDE'

**Child Criminal Exploitation, Gang & Youth Violence Awareness,  
FREE Workshop for Isle of Wight Parents and Carers**

**Sat 27 Sept  
10:30am – 12:00pm**

(Please arrive promptly for start of the session)

This workshop is about street crime, including language, signs and symptoms of gang involvement.

Do you want to find out more about County Lines, CCE (Child Criminal Exploitation) and knife crime?

Then come along to this informative, proactive session for awareness.

**Isle of Wight College, Medina Way,  
Newport, PO30 5TA**

(Please enter via main entrance. Free parking on site.)

Run by Urban Pure Solutions  
For more info please visit [urbanpuresolutions.com](http://urbanpuresolutions.com)



**The Isle of Wight  
College**

Your Future Starts Here

SCAN ME TO BOOK TICKETS

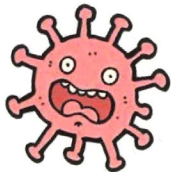
There will be an opportunity at the end of the main information session for parents/carers to ask questions or get advice.

**School Aged Immunisation Service**

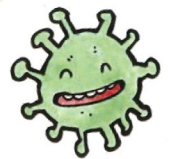


Hampshire and  
Isle of Wight Healthcare  
NHS Foundation Trust

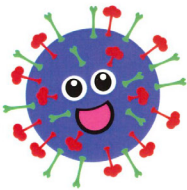
Protect your family



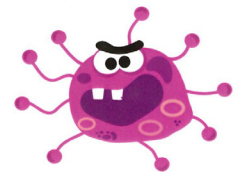
Prevent the spread  
of flu this winter



# Flu Vaccine



**Children aged 4 - 16  
(Year R - Year 11)**



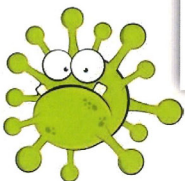
School code: **CW118226**

Use the QR code to

## BOOK NOW

Complete the online form as soon as possible to secure a place for your child to be vaccinated in school.

Alternatively, contact our service to book into a local community clinic.



**NEED HELP?**

Email: [IOW.SAI@solent.nhs.uk](mailto:IOW.SAI@solent.nhs.uk)

Phone: 0300 123 5074

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAP STREAK

97

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

# SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION  
13+

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.



### SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 🔥 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.



### SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.



### SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.



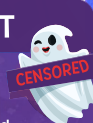
### ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.



### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.



## Advice for Parents & Educators

### ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.



### ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.



### BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.



### USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.



### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat>

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@wake.up.weds

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