



St Catherine's School & College

Specialists in Speech, Language and Communication Needs

St Catherine's
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Autumn Term Week 5

3rd October 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS



The Reader of the Week award has been presented to:

Charlotte

The Behaviour For Learning award has been presented to:

Tim
Max
Tristan
Lulu



The Behaviour For Character award has been presented to:

Cosmo
William
Bella
Charlotte
Fletcher

The Principal's Praise award has been presented to:

Sharlene
Mia
Charlotte



Well done to all students who received awards this week!



ATTENDANCE

6AMD - 100%

6ILP - 100%

6JG - 92.59%

Austen - 95.56%

Bloom - 86.79%

Branson - 98.77%

Burton - 81.94%

Goldberg - 100%

Hopkins - 100%

Newton - 100%

Oliver - 88.68%

Packham - 90.74%

Radcliffe - 98.15%

Watson - 100%



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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

October

10th Mufti Day for World Mental Health Day

17th Mufti Day for DLD Day

17th Students break up for half term

November

3rd Student return to school

15th Isle of Wight College Open Day
10am-1pm



THE GROVE AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

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

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

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



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

Registered Charity No. 288148
Company Limited by Guarantee No. 1757474



BLOOM CLASS

This week in PSHE, we talked about being safe in our home and when we are out and about. We looked at different scenarios and decided whether we thought they were safe or unsafe. In English, we started our new book 'Superworm'. We looked at the different characters within the story and identified who, what doing and what like within sentences. In Maths, we continued with our place value and this week focused on comparing numbers within 100 and counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. We have been continuing with our minibeast topic and in Art we made some wonderful minibeasts using our fingers.



RADCLIFFE CLASS

During our PSHE lesson, we discussed keeping safe when we are out and about. We talked about crossing roads and how we need to stand by the kerb and not on it! In English, we sorted the characters into 'good' guys and 'bad' guys. We had fun talking about who was bad and why. This week in Maths, we are learning about addition and subtraction. We worked practically and had lots of photographs of our work taken. Our Art lesson was really fun because we painted our fossil type clay models of minibeasts. We used gold paint. We also made bees using cardboard rolls. They look fabulous in our reading corner.



HOPKINS CLASS

This week in PSHE, we talked about being safe at school and considered how rules help to keep us safe in lots of different situations. In English this week, we have shown Miss Cook our dictionary skills as we have been looking up difficult words and their meaning. Next, we are going to sequence the main events of the class text 'Superworm'. For Science, we are looking at flightless minibeasts and creating our own to make a display.

OLIVER CLASS

In PSHE, we watched a video about a young man called Ethan who has specific challenges in his life. We discussed how he overcomes these challenges and what strengths he has to support him with this. We then explored our own strengths, and considered some of the challenges we have in our own lives and how we can overcome them. In Science, we have been investigating electromagnets. In Music, we have continued our work on 'Instruments from Around the World' and have been enjoying playing the ukulele. In Humanities, we have been looking at the symbols used on ordnance survey maps. In Art, we have continued our work on printing. We have examined the work of the artist Orla Kiely and produced prints of our own using potatoes and found objects.

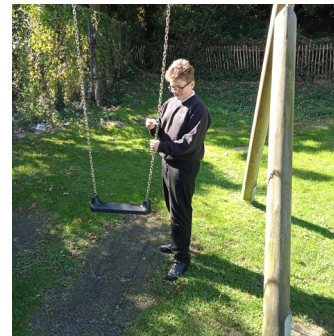
PACKHAM CLASS

In PSHE, we have been learning about how to keep ourselves safe. We learnt about trusted adults, thought about who our trusted adults are, and why they are our trusted adults. In Humanities, we started to learn about lines of longitude and latitude and their importance for navigation. We also learnt they are to do with time and time zones. We looked at the different times around the world and how many hours ahead or behind a country was according to where it is on the globe. We are continuing reading our book 'Gulliver's Travels' and are creating a diary entry for a day in Gulliver's life.



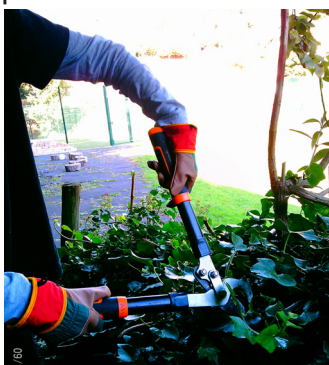
AUSTEN CLASS

In PSHE, we talked about safety and what risks were at the beach for example and how we could keep ourselves safe in the surroundings we are in. In SaLT we talked about characteristics and how we describe someone and we finished the lesson by playing a 'Guess Who' game. Science was very engaging as we furthered our investigations into how objects are and are not magnetic. In Maths we are looking at averaging numbers to work the sum out; Eric did particularly well. In English we practiced writing in the present and past tense using Shape Coding and we read more of 'Gulliver's Travels'. In English we are also studying a couple of books and looking into how different books are laid out. In Music we continued with our topic, 'Music Around the World' and in PE it was lovely to be in the sunshine and play team games.



GOLDBERG CLASS

This week in PSHE we have been looking at what rights and responsibilities we have, and we started to look at what laws are in place that prohibit young people from doing things until they reach a certain age. In OT, we made fruit smoothies which were delicious. In English, we have been learning about similes, personification and expanded noun phrases and using them in sentences. In PE, we continued practising our volleyball skills. We had a fab Forest School session this week, clearing paths in the woodland, storytelling and making a wattle wall. In Science this week, we we looked at different electrical components and had some fun creating different series circuits and parallel circuits.



BURTON CLASS

In English, we have planned our 'Missing Person' poster about Gulliver. We had to write a description of Gulliver using expanded noun phrases. In Humanities, we recapped our knowledge of continents and oceans. We then looked at longitude and latitude and used these to locate countries on a world map. In Science, we looked at magnets and how we use them in everyday life like in a hairdryer. We then carried out tests to find out which objects around school were magnetic and non-magnetic. We sorted our results into a table. In PE, we have enjoyed playing basketball and continue to improve our ball skills. During group work we looked at decision making and made various choices about food, activities and what we liked to do. This turned out to be a fun game and Issie expressed her love for dolls and Seth for food.

NEWTON CLASS

During Science, we learnt about magnetism and we enjoyed testing out lots of different magnets to see how many paperclips they could hold using a paperclip chain. In English, we are learning about what information we need to write in a diary and are getting ready to write our own diary in relation to Shackleton's Expedition. We are still really enjoying learning about different basketball Skills in PE. During PSHE and Communication Group, we have been talking about Mental Health and what we can do if we start to feel sad. In Speech Therapy, we worked on our team building exercises.

BRANSON CLASS

In PSHE, we were given an emergency and had to think how we could help and which emergency service we would need to call. During our English lesson, we have been writing our own sentences from Ice Trap using fronted adverbials. In Science, we started to look at magnets. They have a positive and negative side. We used each magnet to see how many paper clips they held. In DT this week, we have finalised our designs for our design movement clocks.

WATSON CLASS

In PE this week, we continued with basketball and we practised our throwing techniques. In Science we have been doing circuits, making potato batteries. In Art, we have been researching visual elements and using cameras to take photos of lines in our environment. In PSHE, we discussed stereotypes and how being stereotyped can affect people. In English, we are reading the book Blood Brothers and being introduced to the characters. In our communication lesson we have been discussing positive and negative relationships.

6JG CLASS

In PSHE, we continued our focus on careers and have been adding our qualifications to our Vocational Profiles. This week in Photography, we have been looking at painting with light. We have looked at shutter speeds, ISO and aperture. We were able to take some brilliant photos using these techniques. During Vocational in our 2D Art session, we have been looking at a second artist each and we have created copies of one piece of their work.



6AMD CLASS

This week in Land Based, we continued to learn about guinea pig care with some practical hands-on experience. We are researching common illnesses and diseases guinea pigs suffer and how regular health checks help keep our animals healthy and happy. We took some time out on the allotment to do some general maintenance work and reflected on our wellbeing, noticing how we felt calmer and had more energy after the session. In Music, we have been practising our solo pieces.



6ILP CLASS

In OT, we have been practising road crossing and discussing what might distract you from safely crossing the road. We are working on a module about emotions, we are finding pictures of people in the newspaper that show different emotions like sad, happy and cross. During work on routines we got to fill in a timetable with all the things we would like to do in lessons and our dream break time and lunch food. We visited Ventnor town to continue our independence off campus adventures and to improve our understanding regarding the true value of money. We were presented with the below certificate and cash prize from the Unique arts awards. We were very pleased with the massive self portrait project we created and it would appear so did the judges. Well done 6ILP. We are already making plans for next year's submission.



St Catherine's Half Term Holiday Club October 2025

For young people aged 9 - 16 with additional needs

Crafts Fun and Games

10:30am
Till
3:00pm

Dates:
30th October
31st October

St Catherine's School,
Grove Road,
Ventnor

£15
a Day

To book please call 01983-852722 or
email holidayclubbooking@stcatherines.org.uk

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SCHOOL FLEECES

We will be placing an order for school fleeces on Monday 13th October. If you would like to order a fleece, please email Kieran on waltersk@stcatherines.org.uk

MUFTI DAYS

On Friday 10th October, we will be taking part in a free Wear Yellow for World Mental Health Day.

On Friday 17th October, we will be taking part in a free mufti day for DLD day. See the poster on the next page for more information.

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY – CREATIVE PSYCHOTHERAPY TASTER SESSIONS

From 6th–9th October, St Catherine’s School and College will be marking World Mental Health Day (10th October). All students will be offered a one-hour creative psychotherapy taster session with their tutor group. These sessions are designed to introduce students to creative approaches that support wellbeing, explain how therapy can be accessed in school, and raise awareness of the services available to help manage mental health.

The sessions will be led by Rheanna Berryman (Dance Movement Psychotherapist) and Sarah Kinsey (Art Psychotherapist).

If you would prefer your child/young person not to take part, please contact Sarah Kinsey by phone or email to opt out.

Further information about this provision is available on the school website.

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

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



Thank you to everyone who has donated so far!

**ST CATHERINE'S ARE SUPPORTING AND RAISING
AWARENESS FOR**

DEVELOPMENTAL LANGUAGE DISORDER DAY

ON FRIDAY 17TH OCTOBER 2025

We are inviting staff and students to join in a free mufti day for DLD day.

This year's theme is 'You can't see DLD'. Staff and students are encouraged to wear purple and yellow which represent the colour of this awareness day or camouflage reflecting DLD being a 'hidden' disability.



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.

You can't see

DLD

Developmental Language Disorder (DLD)
affects 1 in 14 people.



**STARTED TO TALK LATER
THAN HIS SIBLINGS**

**HAS DIFFICULTIES
LEARNING NEW WORDS**

**NEEDS LOTS OF REPETITIONS
TO FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS**

**STRUGGLES TO JOIN
ACTIVITIES & DISCUSSIONS**

**Support #DLDday on
Friday 17th October 2025**



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School - College - Post 19

Learn more at RADLD.ORG



Pumpkin Patch Playtime for Little Pumpkins

Join us on Friday mornings for a
special Pumpkin Patch Playtime session

for Little Pumpkins.

Fridays 10am - 12pm

Tickets cost £10 per child and include:

Entry to the pumpkin play patch

Hot chocolate and storytime

Pumpkin crafts

Patch scavenger hunt

Goody bag

To book: <https://westover-farm-pumpkins.sumupstore.com>

WESTOVER
FARM PUMPKINS
@WestoverFarmIW

Westover Farm, Calbourne, IW. PO30 4JW

Patch may close in bad weather, updates are posted on social media.

WESTOVER FARM PUMPKINS

PICK YOUR OWN PUMPKIN PATCH

Hot & cold refreshments

Free entry & parking

Photo opportunities

Kids scavenger hunt

Play area

Pumpkin carving

Face painting

Pick your own sweetcorn

October 2025

4th - 5th

10th - 12th

17th - 19th

22nd - 26th

29th - 31st

@WestoverFarmIW

www.westoverfarm.godaddysites.com

Westover Farm, Calbourne, IW. PO30 4JW

Please note: Patch may close in bad weather, updates are posted on social media.
Friday mornings are ticket only-payable in advance.



ST CATHERINE'S SCHOOL CHRISTMAS MARKET

SATURDAY 13TH DECEMBER

10:30am till 4pm

St Catherine's Church

Church Street, Ventnor

LOCAL CHRISTMAS STALLS

SPIDERMAN, ELSA AND THE GRINCH

REFRESHMENTS, RAFFLE

LIVE MUSIC THROUGHOUT THE DAY



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EA SPORTS FC 26



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Our guide looks at the risks surrounding EA Sports FC 26 and our top tips to minimise them. This marks the third year since EA left the FIFA licence, and the game is mostly unchanged from last year. While Kick-Off mode is great for playing with friends and Career Mode allows players to fulfil long-term ambitions as a manager or player, Ultimate Team remains the main draw for many players – and it can get out of hand in terms of how much money players can invest.

AN ANNUAL RELEASE SCHEDULE

As was the case with the last two EA Sports FC games and the FIFA series before it, the franchise rolls out once a year with updated squads and new features. This can make it expensive to keep up with, particularly when so many dedicated players are keen to get their hands on the latest edition.

VOICE CHAT

Voice chat can be enabled across all platforms, meaning young people can speak to anyone they play with or against. While it can be switched off, some children will no doubt want to speak to their friends while they play. This also means they may encounter strangers much older than them, which can expose them to inappropriate language or behaviours.

IN-GAME PURCHASES THROUGH ULTIMATE TEAM

Ultimate Team is the big draw for EA Sports FC, letting players spend real money on packs that they can open to build a squad of the world's best players. They're not always easy to obtain, and new, improved versions of players will be regularly added as limited-time offerings. Young people could feel pressured into spending money and experience fear of missing out.

SCAMMERS IN ULTIMATE TEAM

Ultimate Team is managed by EA itself, but that hasn't stopped scammers from looking to dupe players out of money and in-game coins. Some scammers sell their accounts, which is a violation of EA's terms of service, while others will 'sell' coins – something the developer is still working to crack down on. Some try to gain access to others' accounts, potentially giving them access to payment information.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

While EA Sports FC is potentially addictive, thanks to its fast-paced gameplay and mirroring of the real-world skill and glamour of football, Ultimate Team's focus on limited-time rewards and the lottery of winning packs can make it feel closer to gambling than gaming, which may lead to addiction and impulsive spending of money.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PREPARE FOR ANOTHER GAME IN A YEAR

The annual-release cadence aligns with the return of the school year, and can be a great way to incentivise good behaviour at the start of term. If children are applying themselves and preparing for a new year of school, or were particularly well behaved in the summer, EA Sports FC 26 could make a great reward.

LIMIT SPENDING

If you're worried about children accidentally spending real money in Ultimate Team, whether in game or on the EA Sports FC companion app, don't link a payment card to their account. Reclaiming funds can be a mountain to climb, and the dopamine hit of opening flashy packs with slick animations means one purchase can lead to another very quickly. It's also worth adding a prepaid card if you'd prefer them to make their own choices with their budget.

MONITOR VOICE CHAT

As in-game chat is open, be sure to adjust the settings in EA Sports FC 26 to lock it down. If children want to chat with their friends while they play, consider setting up a safe space for them to call, to allow them to play without fear of outsiders.

BE VIGILANT

As with last year, there are ways to keep scammers at bay. Ensure passwords are locked down, and consider using a password manager application to keep them secure. EA will never contact players through the game itself, so be vigilant with incoming messages, and block and report suspected spam. EA will contact players by email if needed, but they will never ask for usernames or passwords. Players should also avoid buying in-game currency from unofficial websites – doing so can lead to accounts being banned and could cost players money in the process.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/ea-sports-fc-26>