



# St Catherine's School & College

Specialists in Speech, Language and Communication Needs

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Autumn Term Week 8

7th November 2025

## ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS



The Reader of the Week award has been presented to:  
Brooke

The Behaviour For Learning award has been presented to:

Ashton  
Caiden  
Darcy  
Megan  
Lydia  
Caitlin  
Kristen  
Charlie-Joe  
Olivia

Mr Esdale-Pearson's English Class  
Newton Class

The Behaviour For Character award has been presented to:

Jamie  
Luis  
Maisey  
Holden  
Fletcher  
Henley  
Packham Class

Well done to all students who received awards this week!



## ATTENDANCE

6AMD - 96.3%  
**6ILP - 100%**  
6JG - 68.52%  
Austen - 80%  
Bloom - 94.44%  
Branson - 95.06%  
Burton - 98.61%  
Goldberg - 97.78%  
**Hopkins - 100%**  
Newton - 88.89%  
Oliver - 87.04%  
Packham - 88.89%  
Radcliffe - 98.15%  
Watson - 83.95%

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

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### November

14<sup>th</sup> Mufti Day (bring a tombola prize)  
15<sup>th</sup> Isle of Wight College Open Day  
26<sup>th</sup> Bring your parent/carer to school day

### December

10<sup>th</sup> RE Day  
13<sup>th</sup> St Catherine's Christmas Market  
17<sup>th</sup> End of Term Consultations  
18<sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning, End of Term Assembly and Consultations  
(more information to follow)



## THE GROVE AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

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

### November

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.



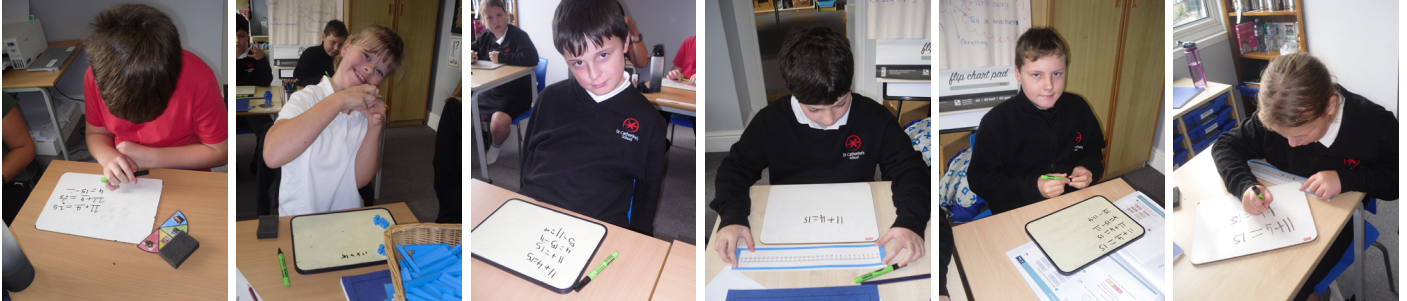
Artsmark  
Silver Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England

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



## BLOOM CLASS

In PSHE this week, we looked at the green cross code and made a leaflet helping people to cross the road safely. In Maths, we moved onto addition and focused on number bonds to 10 and 100, fact families and related facts. In PE, we started to learn to play badminton. We learnt how to control the racket and hit the shuttlecock over the net. In English, we continued with our Superworm story. We planned and wrote a character description of our own choice using adjectives, full stops and capital letters. In Science, we started the new topic everyday materials. This week, we looked at identifying different uses of everyday materials. See if your child can recognise what materials items around your home are made of!?



## RADCLIFFE CLASS

This new term started with PSHE, discussing healthy and unhealthy food. We discussed whether cheese and butter were healthy and decided that they are good for us but not too much. We are making our own housing brochure as part of our English topic (Houses and Homes) and went to visit Hose Rhodes Dickon in town. We asked lots of questions to find out more about their job. We are learning about shapes in Maths this term and designed a 3D model village, discussing the different types of shapes. In Forest School, we learnt how to be safe around the fire circle and made some natural material mandalas.



## HOPKINS CLASS

It's been a busy first week back and we've been learning about lots of new topics. In PSHE, we looked at what makes a healthy lifestyle and thought about this regarding our physical, mental and emotional health. In English, we have begun looking at firework poems and learning that not all poems rhyme. For PE, we are beginning to learn the skills to play badminton and basketball. In Art, we started to think about perspective and form and we had to try and draw our front doors from memory. We need to check at home to see if we actually got our drawings right!

## PACKHAM CLASS

In OT this week, we made pancakes. We had to carefully measure our ingredients and then cook them independently. They were very tasty! In Science, we have been investigating with magnets. We went out around the school finding magnetic and non-magnetic objects and working out what they were made from. In PSHE this week, we found out about the many types of jobs people do and thinking about the things we might like to do when we are older. In Humanities, we started our new topic which is the Vikings. We looked at the new vocabulary we would be using and started to learn a bit about their lives.

## **OLIVER CLASS**

In PSHE this week, we had discussions about the career we would like to pursue. We matched our skills and hobbies and started to match them to careers we would like. In our English group, we are exploring dragons as we are starting our new class text of 'How To Train Your Dragon'. We are drawing and making a dragon this week so we can use our own dragon to write our own dragon saga. We are starting our new history topic this week in which we are learning about the Vikings. In Music, we will be learning a Viking chant and singing a Viking song. In Forest School, it was great to get back into the woodland, we noticed how the season is changing with leaves changing colour and some trees losing leaves. We experimented on ways to move logs with rope and enjoyed building dens.



## **AUSTEN CLASS**

In PSHE this week, we discussed what different careers there are. We looked at different skills and qualities you may need for certain jobs. In PE, we began learning how to play badminton. We focused on serving this week. During Speech and Language Therapy, we talked about personalities and how we described our qualities. In English, we have started a new book called 'Journey to Jo'burg' and talked about the front covers and what we thought it was about. The next lesson was very vocal with examples of behaviours in the book. Some very interesting views. In Science, we are learning about food groups and in Maths we are looking at time, seeing how many minutes in various occasions.

## **GOLDBERG CLASS**

In English this week, we have started a new book called 'Journey to Jo'burg', we looked at the front cover and had a group discussion on what we thought the book would be about. In Maths, we are looking at time, we got to look up our favourite films online, looked at how many minutes they went on for and then converted it to hours. In PE, we have started to learn about basketball, working on our dribbling and passing skills and are all looking forward to playing an actual match. Everyone seems happy to be back at school.

## **BURTON CLASS**

We started our week with PSHE, discussing 'public and private' and keeping ourselves safe. In PE, we demonstrated some fantastic skills whilst playing football rounders. We found this really fun! In English, a very mysterious object was delivered to our classroom! The object, which we decided was some kind of egg, came with a note and a set of instructions on how to care for it until it hatches. One of the instructions was to talk to the egg. Much to our surprise, the egg answers back! We are looking forward to finding out what is inside - we will keep you posted! In Science, we are looking at 'Animals including Humans'. We have been reminding ourselves of the food groups, healthy eating and what each food group does for our bodies. In Humanities, we have started a new topic on Vikings. This week, we have discovered where they came from and created a time line of all the Kings.

## **NEWTON CLASS**

In Maths, we have been looking at Algebra. It has been quite tricky, but winning prizes has been fun! In Science we dissected a sheep heart as a Halloween special. In PE, we have been doing basketball. Art was fun as we designed our art folder covers.

## BRANSON CLASS

In PSHE, we thought about what we want to do after we leave St Catherines. We worked in pairs using the computer to find out where we could go, including St Catherine's College, IOW College and HTP Apprenticeship College. We also tried to find out what qualifications we would need. We had a great Art lesson. We had to design our front cover for our art folders. We all drew something that we are interested in. These ranged from guitars, drums, Stitch and dancing. In one of our English lessons, we had a debate using for and against reasons. We are getting more confident doing this.

## WATSON CLASS

In PSHE, we looked at career possibilities and watched some career stories and decided if we liked or disliked the idea of the job. Next week, we will look at local jobs to see what skills they look for and what is available.

## 6JG CLASS

In PSHE, we began a class presentation on democracy in the UK. In Photography GCSE, we have been exploring 'Depth of Field' through changing apertures on the camera. This means making the opening bigger or smaller so that more or less light can get in. With shallow depth of field one thing is in focus, with a wide depth of field the whole photograph is in focus. In Vocational, we researched apprenticeships.

## 6AMD CLASS

It has been a good start back after the half term break and we have got straight back into our learning. In PSHE, we have been learning about the law and what you can do at different ages. In Landbased, we are just starting our animal care assignments. In Music, we started a new topic on the classical period. In Maths, we are studying coordinates to help with direction.

## 6ILP CLASS

6ILP have been very focused, they got straight down to hard work after the half term. We have widened our vocabulary considering emotions with some new important words. We have been able to vocalise what makes us angry or sad and what strategies might turn those frowns upside down. We have taken part in the first stage of Dragon's Den. We were pretty nervous, but we rose to the challenge. Each student spoke clearly detailing our business proposal as well as answered a range of challenging questions. During Mathematics, we focused upon measuring daily healthy foods. We were able to create some pleasing print work based upon the poppy plant.



## RAFFLE TICKETS

Students have been given two books of raffle tickets which can be bought or sold to others. If buying some tickets, please return the tabs (filled in) and the money. If you do not want to buy or sell the tickets, please return them back to school. Raffle tickets are £1 each. The raffle will be drawn at the Christmas Market at 3pm on Saturday 13th December 2025, taking place at St Catherine's Church. For extra raffle tickets, please email Tanya on [smitht@stcatherines.org.uk](mailto:smitht@stcatherines.org.uk). Thank you.

## DLD DAY

On Friday 17th October, St Catherine's students and staff participated in raising awareness for Developmental Language Disorder day. On the evening of Friday 17th, St Catherine's was lit up purple, one of the colours of the DLD charity, for 'Light up for DLD day.' The lighting was courtesy of NDL Event Power Solutions. We also would like to thank Crave ice cream parlour, who supported us by making a DLD theme ice cream.



## HAVE YOUR SAY ON SCHOOL TRANSPORT

The local authority is reviewing its school transport services for children who are eligible for free travel to and from mainstream schools. Parents and carers are invited to share their views to help improve future arrangements. Please take a few minutes to complete the questionnaire here: <https://bit.ly/47tA8Wp>

More information about the procurement can be found here: <https://bit.ly/43UxN4i>

Please complete the questionnaire by Monday 24th November 2025.

## FOREST SCHOOL WINTER CLOTHING GUIDE

As the weather is getting colder, here is a guide to clothing. Having suitable clothing helps students stay comfortable outside, protects from weather, scratches and stings and helps them to access outdoor sessions comfortably.

We have a selection of waterproof trousers, jackets and wellies for student use, but if you have any problems accessing suitable clothing please don't hesitate to contact me

on:

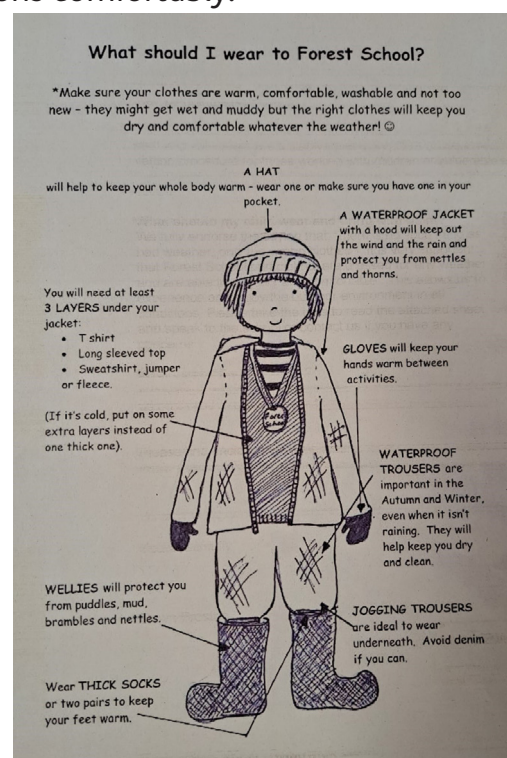
[atkinsa@stcatherines.org.uk](mailto:atkinsa@stcatherines.org.uk)

Alison Atkins (Forest School Leader)

### Suggested Autumn/Winter Clothing List

- Layers of clothing, vest/t-shirt/jumper or fleece
  - Jogging bottoms/leggings
    - Socks
  - Sturdy shoes/trainers/wellies
    - Hat/gloves
    - Waterproof jacket

Classes doing Forest School this term:  
**Oliver, Radcliffe, Packham**



# 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.

## 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!**

ST CATHERINE'S

SCHOOL

CHRISTMAS MARKET

SATURDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

10:30am till 4pm

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St Catherine's Church

Church Street, Ventnor

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LOCAL CHRISTMAS STALLS

SPIDERMAN, ELSA AND THE GRINCH

REFRESHMENTS, RAFFLE

LIVE MUSIC THROUGHOUT THE DAY





YOU'RE INVITED TO A

# A Slice of SEN.



INFORMAL ISLE OF WIGHT SEN SUPPORT MEET UP.

TO CHAT ,  
HAVE A SLICE OF CAKE ,  
MEET OTHER PARENTS/CARERS,  
MEET SOME OF THE IWSS TEAM,  
A FRIENDLY SAFE SPACE FOR CHILDREN AND  
ADULTS, ALL WELCOME WITH OR WITHOUT  
CHILDREN/YOUNG PEOPLE.  
TOILETS,  
SENSORY TOYS,  
PRIVATE ROOM.

DECEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>  
12:30 - 14:00 (2PM)  
NEWPORT FAMILY CENTRE  
FURRLONGS  
NEWPORT  
PO30 2AX



The Isle of Wight  
College

Your Future Starts Here

EXPLORE | DISCOVER | DECIDE



# OPEN DAY

## SATURDAY 15 NOV

### 10am - 1pm

Explore and discover vocational  
courses, T Levels, apprenticeships  
and adult programmes

**BOOK YOUR  
SPACE NOW**



[iwcollege.ac.uk/events/november-open-day](http://iwcollege.ac.uk/events/november-open-day)

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## GUIDING YOUNG VOICES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Bullying impacts the lives of many young people. In the UK, one in five pupils aged 10 to 15 report being bullied. The effects can be long lasting, affecting mental health, school attendance and self-esteem, and can impact long-term development into adult life. Adults play a key role in building young people's confidence to speak out, support one another, and stand up to unkind behaviour. This guide offers ways to help youngsters make a positive difference.

### 1 CELEBRATE DIFFERENCES



Help young people value diversity by showing that what makes us different is also what makes us strong. Encourage them to learn about different cultures, identities, and abilities through books, films, and conversations. By appreciating uniqueness in themselves and others, children can grow into open-minded individuals who build inclusive and welcoming environments.

### 2 MODEL RESPECT

Children watch and learn from how adults behave. Use respectful language, show patience in disagreements, and treat others with fairness – especially in front of children. By modelling inclusive behaviour and challenging unkindness, adults set a lasting example that respect should be part of every interaction, whether online, at school, or at home. Be the change you want to make.

### 3 SPOT THE SIGNS



Adults and young people should learn how to recognise signs that someone may be experiencing bullying. This might include withdrawal from friends, hobbies or interests, changes in mood, reluctance to go to school, or unusual injuries. Helping young people recognise these clues ensures that support can be offered sooner and problems do not go unnoticed.

### 4 VALIDATE FEELINGS



When a child shares something that worries them, it's important to listen carefully and validate how they feel. Respond with empathy – not judgement – and let them know it's okay to feel upset or confused. Offering reassurance and understanding helps young people feel safe about opening up, and builds the trust needed to talk again in future.

### 5 TEACH ALLYSHIP



Show children how to stand up for others in safe, respectful ways. Allyship might look like sitting next to someone who's been excluded, reporting hurtful behaviour, or speaking up when they witness bullying. By practising these responses together, you're helping children develop the courage to be kind and to take action when it really counts.

### 6 PROMOTE REPORTING



Ensure young people know how to report bullying and feel confident that they'll be taken seriously. Talk to them about who they can speak to and what to expect when they do, such as reporting school incidents to teachers, and out-of-school bullying to parents or teachers. Reassure them that reporting is a brave and helpful choice – not tattling – and that it plays a vital role in keeping everyone safe.

### 7 ENCOURAGE KINDNESS



Everyday acts of kindness can make a big difference in creating safer, happier spaces. Encourage children to look out for one another by being helpful, saying kind words, or including someone who feels left out. These small actions set a strong example that kindness matters, and that it can be a powerful response to bullying.

### 8 USE YOUR VOICE



Encourage young people to speak up for themselves and others. Whether through storytelling, school campaigns, or peer-led projects, children can learn that their voice has power. Support them to express themselves confidently and safely, helping them understand that sharing experiences can challenge injustice and inspire real change in their communities.

### 9 BUILD COMMUNITY AND BELONGING



Children thrive when they feel supported. Help them build strong friendships, join clubs or teams, and connect with trusted adults who care. These networks offer comfort, encouragement, and protection – particularly during challenging times. Remind children that they don't have to face difficulties alone and that support is always within reach.

### 10 SUSTAIN THE CONVERSATION



Bullying awareness shouldn't be limited to one week each year. Create regular opportunities to talk about kindness, respect, and inclusion. Use books, news stories, and personal experiences as conversation starters. Embed anti-bullying initiatives into the school, and make tackling bullying a shared, ongoing commitment.

## Meet Our Expert

Robert Allsop is an experienced pastoral and safeguarding practitioner, specialising in tutorials, behaviour interventions, and attendance management. A recipient of the Diana Award for Anti-Bullying, he has helped raise standards and improve Ofsted outcomes in some of the country's most challenging schools and colleges.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website.

X @wake\_up\_weds

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yt @wake.up.weds

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