



St Catherine's School & College

Specialists in Speech, Language and Communication Needs

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

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Email: general@stcatherines.org.uk

Website: www.stcatherines.org.uk

Autumn Term Week 10

21st November 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS



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

The Behaviour For Learning award has been presented to:

Fenner
Byron
Olivia
Charlie-Joe
Toby
James
Lilly



The Behaviour For Character award has been presented to:



Tim
Toby R
Roaa
Holden
Megan
Josh F
Bentley
Mia

The Principal's Praise award has been presented to:
Charlie E

Well done to all students who received awards this week!



ATTENDANCE

6AMD - 93.33%
6ILP - 100%
6JG - 98.33%
Austen - 74%
Bloom - 83.33%
Branson - 97.78%
Burton - 87.5%
Goldberg - 98%
Hopkins - 97.14%
Newton - 97.14%
Oliver - 93.33%
Packham - 100%
Radcliffe - 100%
Watson - 80%



Well done to who were here everyday this week!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

November

26th Bring your parent/carer to school day (now fully booked)
26th Cake Sale!

December

4th Christmas Carol Service
10th RE Day
13th St Catherine's Christmas Market
17th End of Term Consultations
18th Coffee Morning, End of Term Assembly and Consultations



THE GROVE AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

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

November

25th - Air Dry Clay Decs

December

2nd - Cooking
9th - Painting Decorations & Crafts
16th - Christmas Bonanza

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

We had a great Phonics lesson involving learning some new tricky words and the sound buttons. In Maths, we worked through the maths sheet and on our number bonds to 10. In PE, we practised our basketball skills by throwing the ball into the net. In Science, we have looked at materials that change in shape if squashed, twisted and stretched; materials that are re-shaped, and such things as rocks that are not able to change shape. In Music, we played with the boomshakers and did the Hokey Cokey which we all enjoyed. In OT, we made a sandwich which was very successful.

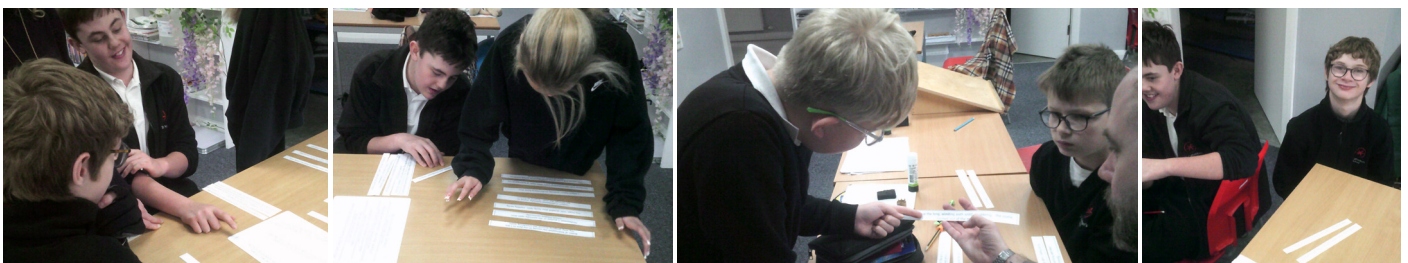
RADCLIFFE CLASS

In PSHE, we discussed the importance of sleep and why our bodies needed it. We talked about the importance of a routine before bedtime to help us sleep. In Maths, we continued learning about 2D shape and found some shapes on a 3D shape. We walked around school to try to identify any 2D shapes. We found plenty; rectangle fence, circular clock, rectangle stairs, circular drainpipe. Dougal came with us to Forest School this week, he was really interested in all the new scents in the Hut and the woodland. We spent some time listening to sounds in the woodland and found some interesting fungi.



HOPKINS CLASS

So far in DT, we have been learning the skills that we need to use when completing projects. We have learnt to cut a variety of different materials such as: creating and cutting a template from paper, transferring this to wood and then using a coping saw to cut the wood. We also practised using sand paper to smooth the edges of our cuts. For ICT, we are learning how to code and how to do touch-typing. In English, we have begun a new genre...to write a leaflet. This week, we have looked at a range of leaflets that advertise attractions around the Island and then we learnt how to identify paragraphs.



PACKHAM CLASS

In Music, we have started our new topic, we are learning all about Samba music and where it originated from. In ICT, we identified the importance of being polite online and how to identify an age appropriate website. In Humanities, we have been finding out where the Vikings came from and why they travelled great distances across oceans and through continents by river. We have been continuing to investigate magnets and their use in our everyday lives. We have found out that not all metals are magnetic, and that the planet Earth is actually a giant magnet with its own North and South poles.

OLIVER CLASS

In Science, we continued with our topic, Electricity. We had to use symbols and pictures to label circuits. In English, we are reading 'How to Train your Dragon'. We have looked at the characteristics of the different dragons and had to draw our own dragon and list them. In Forest School, we sorted our firewood ready for winter, used the bowsaw to make wood discs and started to make some Christmas decorations! In Humanities, we have looked at the Old Norse language of runes and we have written some words.

AUSTEN CLASS

In tutor time this week, we focused on anti-bullying. We completed word searches and discussed what anti-bullying meant. In PSHE, we learnt about healthy and unhealthy aspects of our lives like needing sleep, food, water and friends. In our speech group, we continued about our personality attributes and how we saw ourselves as cheeky or good friends. It was a lovely friendly discussion. In English, we talked about different words and their meaning so that we could understand parts of the book we are reading. In badminton this week, we worked on moving around the court as quickly as we could. In basketball, we practised our shooting, everyone was very supportive during this. In Humanities, we continued to learn about Vikings and how they used to live, along with why they used to travel long distances across oceans.

GOLDBERG CLASS

In assembly this week, we looked at bullying scenarios to help focus on anti-bullying week. In PSHE this week, we explored healthy eating and had a big discussion on what that looks like. In Maths, we continued looking at the time, everyone is working really hard on this. In PE, we are continuing our basketball skills and this week we practised shooting. In Humanities, we are learning about the Vikings and are really looking forward to meeting our special guests the 'Wolfguard Vikings' on the 27th November.

BURTON CLASS

In Humanities, we talked about the Vikings and how they used Danegeld to get money out of the English. We ended by acting out a poem which we thoroughly enjoyed. In Science, we carried on with our project talking about skeletons and whether we were a vertebrate or invertebrate. We got through this really well and played a matching game of food groups. In English, we have been learning about imperative verbs (bossy verbs) and adverbs (how to do something). We have enjoyed playing games to help us with our learning, especially as we have had to use our acting skills. In PSHE, we have been thinking about different ways in which we can have a healthy lifestyle.

NEWTON CLASS

In Music, we tried a group piece, revised rondo form and practised a rondo piece. In English, we have been writing about how it would feel in South Africa during Apartheid and how hard it was. In PE, we have been learning about the skills of rounders. In Science, we wired a plug, which was a challenge but fun!

BRANSON CLASS

In Music, we revised rondo form, discussed contrast and looked at treble clef notes. In Communication, we have been working on our own PowerPoints, ready to present to the class about an area that interests us. We will be presenting these in front of the class in a few weeks. In Art, we were doing some work on photography and the lines within given pieces.

WATSON CLASS

In PSHE this week, we discussed the theme of 'work/life balance' and thought about people in our families and how they manage work and leisure time to get the right balance. We imagined our perfect day, what time we would wake up and what we would do. We were able to see that everyone has a different idea of a perfect day and it's important to think about lots of aspects when thinking about our future goals. In our Communication Group, we are discussing self-advocacy and how we can do this when we transition. In English, we have been looking at our theme maps relating to Blood Brothers, and are starting to look at exam questions relating to it. In Maths, we have moved onto polygons. During Science, we have been focusing on fuses and plugs and the importance of them. We got to try using steel wool as a fuse in a circuit which was very satisfying to watch.

6JG CLASS

In PSHE this week, we have explored odd and antiquated laws. We have found out laws about suits of armour being illegal in parliament and not acting suspiciously with a salmon. In Music, we created our own rock riffs and added some lyric ideas. We also explored guitar playing techniques and did a listening task. Land Based students visited Brading Meadow to learn about caring for some of the animal residents, we handled young chickens and some wriggly rats and took the sheep for a walk.

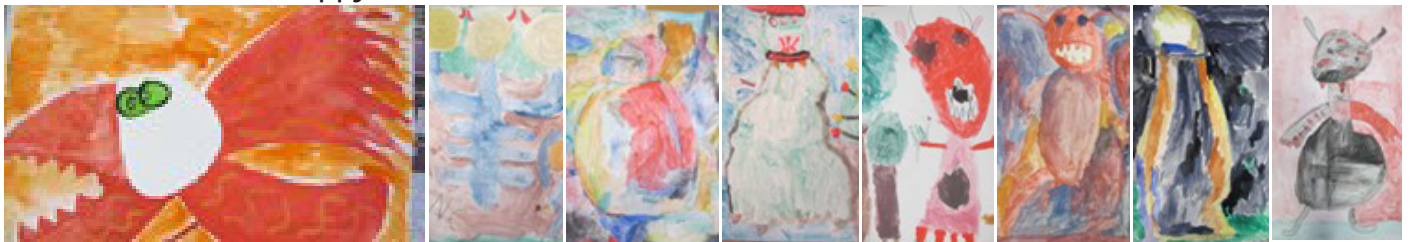


6AMD CLASS

This week, we have been learning to do straight line graphs in Maths. In Vocational, we have been doing story boards and how to plan a film. In English, we have been practising exam questions. In Music, we are learning 'ornaments' which is all about decorating your score. We also did more work on our Set Brief compositions. Land Based students visited Brading Meadow to learn about caring for some of the animal residents, we handled young chickens and some wriggly rats and took the sheep for a walk.

6ILP CLASS

6ILP has been very busy this week. We have been searching for specific products off campus in nearby Ventnor town. We realised there are lots of independent style shops and no one likes the rain. We created some interesting monster imagery using water colour paints. During Maths, we were able to measure various liquid volumes with minimal support. We were able to carry out our second full group Google Meet debate with much success. We also completed a sizable chunk of our new book 'The Happy Prince'.



SCHOOL MENU

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Chicken/ Vegetable Curry or Jacket Potato with choice of filling	Toad in the Hole/Vegetable or Plain Sausage or Tomato Pasta	Roast Beef/ Vegetable Burger or Tomato Pasta	Macaroni Cheese with a Baguette or Jacket Potato with choice of filling	Beef or Vegetable Burger/Fish Fingers 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	Artic Roll	Fresh Fruit Salad	Cookies	Pudding of the Day

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



Hi everyone!
Cake Sale
Next
Week!



The school council is running a cake sale in the **Main School dining room** on **Wednesday, 26th November** from **10am to 10:30am** to raise money for the

Donkey Sanctuary and for some things that students want to buy.



Donations of cakes to sell would also be very much appreciated! Please bring them into school on Wednesday and take them to the dining room before school. Many thanks!



St Catherine's
School & College

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CAROL
SERVICE IN
THE CHAPEL

ST CATHERINE'S SCHOOL
GROVE ROAD
VENTNOR
4TH DECEMBER 2025

TICKETS £5

DOORS OPEN 5:45PM
CAROLS START AT 6PM

TICKETS £5
INCLUDE A HOT DRINK AND MINCE PIE

CAROLS BY THE
UNDERCLIFF SINGERS

TO BUY TICKETS PLEASE EMAIL

SMITHT@STCATHERINES.ORG.UK

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



School Aged Immunisation Service

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



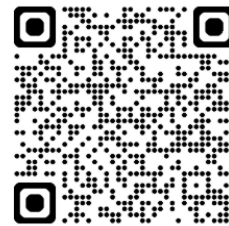
The School Aged Immunisation Service has been in school for flu vaccinations. If your child missed this but you would like them to receive it, there are community clinics available until the end of December.

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: **CW118226**

Clinics available are:

Weds 26 th November	Sandown Family Hub (opposite The Bay Secondary School)	14:30 – 16:20
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

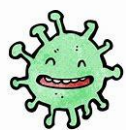
If the clinic does not appear as an option, it is full.

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.

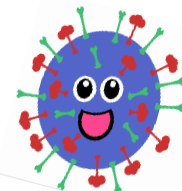
If you need any help or advice, please contact the school Aged Immunisation Service.

Email: hiowh.iowimms@nhs.net or Tel: 0300 123 5074

Prevent the



spread of flu this winter



Protect your family





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 5TH
12:30 - 14:00 (2PM)
NEWPORT FAMILY CENTRE
FURRLONGS
NEWPORT
PO30 2AX



Specialist Support for Children with Additional Needs

Our personalised care addresses your child's specific needs while building practical life skills, communication abilities, and independence.

Professional, caring support tailored to children with additional needs. Our experienced Personal Assistants help develop skills, build confidence, and enjoy life to the fullest.

Over 20 years of trusted care for children and young people up to age 25 with ASC/ASD, ADHD, PDA, SEMH, LD and other complex needs.

Personal Assistant Services

Dedicated one-to-one support and respite care

Professional Team

Experienced consultants supporting families in Hampshire, Surrey, West Sussex, Dorset & Isle of Wight

Matched Support

Personal Assistants carefully selected to meet your child's specific needs and interests

Building Independence

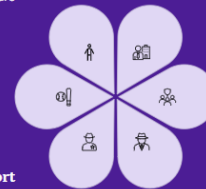
Developing confidence and life skills in line with EHCP and other desired outcomes

Tailored Family Support

Coaching, mentoring and buddy schemes, Respite

Experienced and Trained

Our staff are all experienced and trained to our mandatory standard, additional training can be sought as necessary.



Ready to learn more?

Freedom Care Support for Your Child Attending a Special Needs School

See our detailed brochure [HERE](#)
www.freedomcare.co.uk

0800 0851444

supportenquiries@freedomcare.co.uk

BRAVE ISLAND



Vol.1 – NOW OR NEVER

Share your views, ideas, and creativity through
**Photography, Artwork, Poetry,
Interviews, Creative Writing,**
or any other medium you choose!

SUBMISSION DEADLINE
4TH JAN 2026



Braveisland.uk



Celebrating 97 years of the Isle of Wight Music, Dance & Drama Festival

CALLING OUR TALENTED ISLAND CHILDREN!

7TH – 21ST March 2026

If you have NEVER sung, danced or acted on stage, our Festival is for you. Live your dream!!

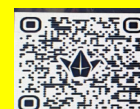
You may win a trophy or a medal. You will be given a certificate and notes on how to better your performance. Entry fee: £6.50

Any instrument, Pop, Musical Theatre, Disney, Rap, or Speech & Drama, there's a place for you to shine!

Open to children and adults. Experienced or Novice.

VENUES IN RYDE - ENTRIES OPEN UNTIL 16TH DECEMBER

USE QR CODE



OR <https://iwmdff.org.uk/>

ISLE DREAM OF A WIGHT CHRISTMAS FAYRE

30th November 2025 ❄️

❄️ 11 am - 4 pm

Medina Leisure Centre



- Over 70 stalls
- Santa Visit
- FREE Parking
- & More!



Raising Money for
AIM

Autism Inclusion Matters

Santa includes a good quality gift £6.50 per child.

Booking is advised via our FB Page or Email to
Isledreamofawightchristmas@hotmail.com



Cinnamon



First Act Present...



WONDERLAND

Tuesday 25th November
Wednesday 26th November
Shanklin Theatre

6:30pm

Adults £11 Child £8



First Act is a theatre company for adults with additional and complex needs

CHRISTMAS FOOD AND FUN

10am-2pm last entry 11am
Monday 22nd/Tuesday 23rd December
Monday 29th/Tuesday 30th December

IT'S A FREE ACTIVITY FOR CHILDREN IN RECEPTION TO YEAR 6 WHO ARE ENTITLED TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS. PARENTS MUST BE WITH THERE CHILD/CHILDREN DURING WHOLE SESSION

SLIME

SAND ART

PARTY

CRAFTS

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE FOR THE FREE EVENT PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE OR GO

EEQU.ORG/BOOK/ASPIRE-CHRISTMAS-SOFT-PLAY-FOOD-AND-FUN-WITH-ASPIRE-19690

ASPIRE
TRINITY BUILDING
RYDE
PO33 2BN

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TRACKING DEVICES

Bluetooth tracking devices like Apple's AirTag and Samsung's SmartTags have exploded in popularity, with millions sold each year. These small tools help people locate their lost items, but their discreet design has also made them attractive for more sinister purposes. From stalking to bullying, tracking devices present unique risks that trusted adults need to understand and address.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STALKING AND HARASSMENT

Because of their tiny size and unassuming appearance, tracking devices can easily be hidden in bags or clothing. They've been used to monitor individuals without their knowledge, with a lawsuit in the US labelling AirTags "the weapon of choice of stalkers and abusers". In the UK, use of tracking devices in coercive control and stalking cases reportedly rose by 317 percent between 2018 and 2023.

TOOLS FOR BULLYING

Tracking devices could allow bullies to follow or locate their targets even outside of school. This makes it difficult for children to find refuge, potentially extending the trauma of bullying into spaces – like home – that should feel safe and secure.

FALSE ACCUSATIONS

Because tracking devices are linked to user accounts, they could be misused to 'prove' ownership of someone else's possessions. Someone could, for example, plant a tracker on another person's belongings to falsely claim them as their own.

INVASION OF PRIVACY

These devices are designed to share location data with the user via other people's phones, which can unintentionally broadcast someone's movements without their consent. This makes them vulnerable to being monitored by strangers without realising.

DIFFICULT TO DETECT

Many tracking devices are designed to be discreet, but that also means they're easy to hide. Without proactive checking or the right tech to detect them, children and young people might not realise they're being tracked.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH FOR WARNING SIGNS

If a child's peers always seem to know their location – whether in person or hinted at online – it could be worth checking for tracking devices. Some, like AirTags, will eventually make a noise if separated from their owner. Listen out for a chirping sound.

CHECK LIKELY HIDING SPOTS

Common places where trackers may be planted include jacket linings, bag seams, pockets, or under bike seats. If you find one, take a photo of the serial number before disposing of it – this could help police trace the account it's linked to.

USE DETECTION APPS

Apple devices running iOS 14.5 or later will notify users of unknown AirTags nearby. Android users can install Apple's 'Tracker Detect' or the third-party app 'AirGuard' to scan for tracking devices from various manufacturers.

HAVE THE CONVERSATION

Talk to your child about what tracking devices are, what signs to look out for, and how they might be misused. Emphasise the legal consequences of using them to prank, harass, or monitor someone.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is a seasoned technology journalist with bylines in Wired, TechRadar, The Guardian, The Evening Standard, The Telegraph, and The New Statesman. He specialises in consumer tech, online safety, and emerging risks in the digital landscape.

