



# St Catherine's School & College

*Specialists in Speech, Language and  
Communication Needs*

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Issue 164

27th March 2026

## Principal's Welcome

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we reach the end of what has been a very short but incredibly busy half term, I am delighted to reflect on the many achievements, experiences and moments of growth across our school community. I hope that you have all had an opportunity to read our Outstanding Ofsted report, which is a true reflection of the amazing support our students within the residential provision receive.

Throughout the past few weeks, students have shown fantastic engagement in their learning across all areas of the curriculum. From exploring space, habitats and the environment in Science, to developing persuasive writing, debating skills and creative storytelling in English, it has been wonderful to see such curiosity and enthusiasm in every classroom.

There have also been some fantastic enrichment opportunities. Highlights include visits to the planetarium, participation in table cricket where our students achieved great success, and a truly inspiring workshop with a visiting artist, which encouraged creativity, resilience and confidence. Students have also represented the school brilliantly in events such as the Young Enterprise Awards, where teamwork and enterprise skills were celebrated.

Across the school, we have continued to place great importance on personal development. Students have engaged thoughtfully with topics such as relationships, mental wellbeing, diversity and inclusion, demonstrating maturity, empathy and respect for one another. Events such as World Book Day, Neurodiversity Celebration Week and preparations for World Down Syndrome Day have provided meaningful opportunities to celebrate individuality and promote a strong sense of community.

It has also been pleasing to see students developing important life skills—whether through community visits, enterprise projects, cookery, or collaborative work—helping to build independence and confidence for the future.

Thank you to our staff for their continued dedication, and to families for your ongoing support. I wish you all a restful break and look forward to welcoming back all students on Monday 13th April.

Thank you for your continued support.

With best wishes

Sarah Thompson  
Principal

# 2025-2026 TERM DATES

<b>EASTER HOLIDAY</b>	
Start of Summer term	Boarders: Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026 Day Students: Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
Quarter term weekend including Bank Holiday	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> May – Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Return after quarter term weekend	Tuesday morning 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Break up for half term holiday	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026
<b>SPRING BANK HOLIDAY HALF-TERM</b>	
Return after half term holiday	Boarders: Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2026 Day Students: Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2026
Quarter term weekend	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
Return after quarter term weekend	Boarders: Sunday evening 28 <sup>th</sup> June 2026 Day Students: Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
End of Summer term for students	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> July 2026
Staff Development Day	<i>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2026</i>
<b>SUMMER HOLIDAY</b>	

# 2026-2027 TERM DATES

ST CATHERINE'S SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

## TERM DATES 2026 – 2027

Bank Holiday	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2026
<i>Staff Development Day</i>	<i>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September</i>
Start of Autumn term for students	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2026
Quarter term weekend	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> September 2026
Return after quarter term weekend	Boarders: Sunday evening 27 <sup>th</sup> September 2026 Day Students: Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> September 2026
Break up for half term holiday	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2026
<b>OCTOBER HALF-TERM</b>	
Return after half term holiday	Boarders: Sunday evening 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2026 Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2026
Quarter term weekend	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2026
Return after quarter term weekend	Boarders: Sunday evening 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2026 Day Students: Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> November 2026
End of Autumn term for students	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2026
<b>CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY</b>	
<i>Staff Development Day</i>	<i>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2027</i>
Start of Spring term for students	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2027
Quarter term weekend	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2027
Return after quarter term weekend	Boarders: Sunday evening 24 <sup>th</sup> January 2027 Day Students: Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> January 2027
Students break up for half term holiday	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2027
<b>FEBRUARY HALF-TERM</b>	
Return after half term holiday	Boarders: Sunday evening 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2027 Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2027
Quarter term weekend	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2027
Return after quarter term weekend	Boarders: Sunday evening 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2027 Day Students: Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2027
End of Spring term	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2027
<b>EASTER HOLIDAY</b>	
Start of Summer term	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2027
Quarter term weekend including Bank Holiday	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2027
Return after quarter term weekend	Boarders: Monday evening 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2027 Day Students: Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2027
Break up for half term holiday	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May 2027
<b>SPRING BANK HOLIDAY HALF-TERM</b>	
Return after half term holiday	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2027
Quarter term weekend	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> June 2027 (Summer Fair)
Return after quarter term weekend	Boarders: Sunday evening 27 <sup>th</sup> June 2027 Day Students: Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> June 2027
End of Summer term for students	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2027
<i>Staff Development Days</i>	<i>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2027</i>
<b>SUMMER HOLIDAY</b>	

Please note the above are based on the Isle of Wight Council Maintained Schools Holiday dates.

# ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS

## 100% ATTENDANCE

**Congratulations to the following students for 100% attendance this half term.**

Tristan  
Mia  
Megan  
Eddie  
Elliott  
Byron  
Fenner  
Finley  
Jaden  
Harri  
Sonnie  
Nicholas  
Charles  
James  
William

Riley  
Ted  
Tim  
Joseph  
Charlie  
Bella  
Keagan  
Jim  
Jasmine  
Luis  
Gracie  
Kaelan  
Bentley  
Junior

Charlie-Joe  
Holden  
Summer  
William  
Darcy  
Toby  
Alex  
Shaun  
Edward  
Bella  
Levi  
Maddie  
Toby  
Max

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## AMAZING ATTENDANCE

**Congratulations to the following students for amazing attendance this half term.**

Jamie  
Tanner  
Sam  
Francesco  
Max  
Seth  
Caitlin  
Elliot

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## JOHN HILSUM AWARD

William in Goldberg  
William in 6ILP

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## HOUSE AWARDS

St Christopher's

Sam

St Margaret's

Alex

St Anne's

Toby

# ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS

## BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

The Behaviour for Learning award has been presented to:

Georgia  
Packham class  
Jim  
Cameron

Millie  
Mia  
Lukas  
Jacob

Brooke  
Gracie  
Jaden  
Imogen

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## BEHAVIOUR FOR CHARACTER

The Behaviour for Character award has been presented to:

Jasmine  
Sean  
Kaelan  
Sonnie  
Newton Class

Fletcher  
Junior  
Seth  
Joseph  
Goldberg Class

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## READING AWARD

Jaden

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## PRINCIPAL'S PRAISE

Apryl

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

14th April - College Spring Fair for school students to attend at College, students to bring no more than £5.

15th May - International Day of Families, to celebrate this we would like to compile a book of the students favourite family recipes. We will provide a blank recipe page and hope you can all participate in collecting some yummy recipes that we can recreate at college, school and at home. The recipes could be a starter, main, dessert or snack.

# ST CATHERINE'S ROUND UP

I am delighted with another Ofsted outstanding social care inspection, the inspectors praised the progress and development of our students. The Board's thanks go to Kat and all the staff who work tirelessly to provide a safe, caring and supportive environment for our young people to live and learn in. The Board received our annual accounts from external auditors at our last meeting and are very pleased with another solid financial performance, this underpins our ability to continue to invest in St Catherine's for the future. The Board continue to monitor the annual improvement plan for St Catherine's and currently we have 70 actions for the year. I am pleased with progress, 18 actions are completed, 41 progressing well and 11 waiting to start. The Board have received a report from our IT manager and our major upgrade is progressing as planned, part of the work is to replace our main computer servers over the Easter break.

I hope to see some of you at Coffee morning on Friday and that you all have an enjoyable Easter break.



Graham Pengelly  
Chair of Trustees

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# ST CATHERINE'S ROUND UP

This term we say goodbye to Katie Mansbridge who is moving on to a new chapter. We will be welcoming a new Communication Support Worker (CSW) to our team in the next term. Amy Welsh joins us on 20th April and Amy brings a wealth of experience of working as a CSW and with the deaf community.

This term we have also had two new Teaching Assistants join the school, Hannah Cranshaw and Louisa Mursell. Some of you may remember Louisa who has worked at St Catherine's before, Louisa is very pleased to be back and said it feels like "coming home".

On our first day back after the Easter break, Kirsten Crosby will join us as our new Literacy Lead for the school. Kirsten is making the move from the mainland to join St Catherine's. Kirsten has many years of experience and we are looking forward to her joining the team.

# 2026 EXAM TIMETABLE

EXAM	DATE	TIME AM Start 09:00 PM Start 13:30	LENGTH	STUDENTS Students will sit exams depending on their options. If you are unsure which exams your child will be sitting, please contact their class tutor.
<b>Entry Level Certificate in English Component 1: Writing Paper</b>	Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	PM	1h00m	Year 11 Branson/ Newton/ Burton/ Goldberg students
<b>AQA English Literature Paper 1 Shakespeare and 19<sup>th</sup> Century novels</b>	Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	AM	1h 45m	Yr 11 Watson students
<b>AQA GCSE Religious Studies A: The study of religions: beliefs, teachings and practices</b>	Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	AM	1h 45m	One Year 11 student only
<b>AQA GCSE Mathematics Paper 1: Written Non-calculator</b>	Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	AM	1h 30m	One Year 11 student only
<b>IGCSE Mathematics Paper 1</b>	Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	AM	2h 00m	6AMD
<b>AQA English Literature Paper 2 Modern texts and poetry</b>	Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	AM	2h 15m	Yr 11 Watson students
<b>BTEC Applied Science - Unit 1: Principles of Science</b>	Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	AM	1h00m	6AMD Science students only
<b>AQA GCSE Religious Studies A: Thematic Studies (excluding textual studies)</b>	Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	PM	1h 45m	One Year 11 student only
<b>GCSE English Language Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing</b>	Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup> May 2026	AM	1h 45m	Some Yr 11 Watson students
<b>AQA GCSE Mathematics Paper 2: Written Calculator</b>	Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2026	AM	1h 30m	One Year 11 student only
<b>IGCSE Mathematics Paper 2</b>	Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2026	AM	2h 00m	6AMD
<b>GCSE English Language Paper 2: Writers' viewpoints and perspectives</b>	Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	AM	1h 45m	Some Yr 11 Watson students
<b>GCSE Music: Listening and Appraising</b>	Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	PM	1h30m	6AMD Music students only
<b>8300 1F AQA GCSE Mathematics Paper 3: Written Calculator</b>	Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	AM	1h 30m	One Year 11 student only
<b>Contingency Day</b>	Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	AM PM	All day	Various and pending based on any interruption to the series.

**N.B. In addition to the above timetabled exams, Functional Skills English and Mathematics examinations can be booked throughout the examination period with only two weeks' notice.**

# 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.

## BLOOM CLASS

Charlie:

This term I've enjoyed playing tag rugby and cricket in PE. I like learning how to throw the ball properly and to get the tags from each other. In PSHE, we did about feelings and in Maths, I liked that in multiplication you can swap the numbers around and the answer stays the same. I'm looking forward to chilling in the Easter holiday and I'm excited for Tennis when I get back.

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## RADCLIFFE CLASS

Tristan:

In Maths 'shapes, fold, patterns. In half and quarters'. In History, 'King Charles, he lives in Buckingham Palace, London. Wife name Camilla'. In Science, 'summer and winter, cold and summer. Put scarf and hats on in winter. In morning get up, brush hair, go to school. In night time brush teeth'. In English, 'Planetarium, space and rockets. Moon at night time. Paintings of planets'. In DT, 'bridge, house'. In P.E. 'handball, catching'.

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## HOPKINS CLASS

Shaun:

We have been writing and learning about a penguin that shows up at a person's house and we've been writing about it. In Science, we have been learning about the planets and we got to go on a trip to the planetarium. In PE, we have been doing cricket and tag rugby. I have enjoyed swimming in Friday's club time. In Art we got to make the Northern Lights with acrylic paint and a black primed canvas.

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## PACKHAM CLASS

Francesco:

In Forest School, we made log men and we went into teams to do it. They were big like a 6 year old and it was so much fun because we used them for first aid. In OT, we learned how to use a pan safely and we made bacon and sausage sandwiches and they were really tasty. I like cricket because it was fun in PE and I liked the batting and the fielding part. We did tag rugby too and that was fun because we had to wear tags on our waist and learn throwing and catching. In English with Miss Flower we did The Kapok Tree and where food comes from and I liked the parrot best out of the rainforest animals. We did animals in Science too and saw habitats and environments and did you know a whale is a mammal? It was interesting because it lives in the sea like a fish but it isn't one.

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## OLIVER CLASS

Final:

I have enjoyed Forest School this term because we made our own garlic bread. I have enjoyed PE because I can play with my other friends. I liked doing Around the World Club because I could hang out with my friends and I tried new foods. I liked English because I wrote about The Nightmare Man. I liked Science because we started to watch The Lorax.

# AUSTEN CLASS

Roaa:

I have enjoyed PE as we are doing tag rugby and cricket. In English, writing short stories about kidnapping, aliens and nightmare Nan. Doing decimals in Maths and habitats in Science. Doing clay in Art and graphics in DT. Miss Finaughty has said we were the best class at this.

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# GOLDBERG CLASS

William:

This half term we went to BAE Systems and looked at radar/technological/Lego/robotics projects that other schools and us were seeing and working on. We have been reading the book 'Holes' in English and have made exceptional progress on our newsletter on it. I have LOVED Chess Club and all the matches I played! In Science, we have been doing a survey on the lizards at our school. We spotted many large ones down near Yellow building which supposedly makes them Yellow-spotted lizards (hint to 'Holes'). We have also been working on a robot which we presented last Monday.

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# BURTON CLASS

Joseph

In Music, I have enjoyed listening to the Blues and playing the piano. In Humanities, we have been learning about the Mayans. We have learned about a game called Pok-ta-Pok. This is a ball game where you have to get the ball through the hoop to win. However, you can only touch the ball using your elbow, shoulder and knee. This game is still played today and there is a World Championship. In Science, I have enjoyed learning about habitats and I have written a report about rhinos which are endangered animals. In English, I enjoyed acting out the story of the Great Kapok Tree. I was the bee who spoke to the man.

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# NEWTON CLASS

Kayan:

We went to BAE Systems and had a look around. They had some amazing ship radars. We had fun building Lego ships. In RE day we learnt about fasting. We meditated outside for 10 minutes, which I actually enjoyed. In English, we have been writing letters of complaint. In Maths, we have all taken our Entry 3 papers which we are super proud of. The highlight of Science was setting fire to methane bubbles. Circuit training in PE has been tough... but that's the point of it, isn't



# BRANSON CLASS

Levi:

This term in English I enjoyed reading the book 'Holes'. I really enjoyed learning about space in Science. In Humanities I found out a lot about our school. I love our photography topic in Art. I enjoy PE and learning about circuit training. I am doing D of E every Friday. We practice cooking and I am looking forward to walking too.

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# WATSON CLASS

Caitlin:

This half term I have enjoyed learning about poetry in English and analysing a variety of people through descriptions. In Music, I have been learning different Blues pieces on the keyboard and showing improvement. I enjoy PE Circuit Training this term because it is repetitive and easy to follow. I am improving all the time. I enjoy Maths, this term I have been practicing exam questions. Maths is superdoopa troopa cool!

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# 6JG CLASS

Lulu:

This term in OT we have had a focus on potatoes, we have been learning to chop potatoes. Every week we have had a 'Chip Off', each making a potato item and then rating them all once we have finished. This has been great fun. In GCSE Food we have learnt about different meals for different dietary requirements including: vegan, vegetarian, pescitarian and some religious diets. In Land Based we have been growing plants in a propagator, we have taken it in turns to take on the responsibility of watering them. This term has been enjoyable.



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# 6AMD CLASS

Sharlene:

This term we have done mock exams, they were alright, they help us figure out what we need to learn. We have also been doing lots of revision. In OT, we have been doing potato stuff called the Chip off and everyone has to vote which recipe they like. We have been adding different herbs and spices to make our potatoes tasty! I've been going to The Heights for Clubs where I've enjoyed playing squash.

# 6ILP CLASS

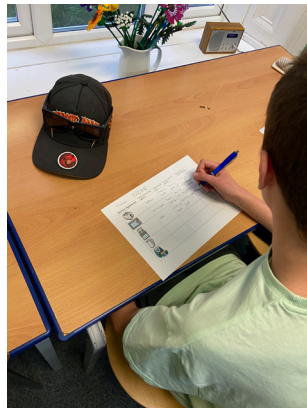
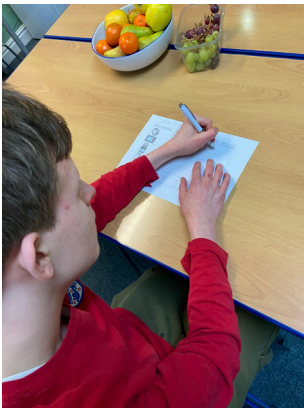
Keagan:

I have enjoyed some art lessons. I like the messy lessons rather than the more traditional drawing. I have enjoyed off-campus trips engaging with the local community, especially playing cricket yesterday in Sandown. I have enjoyed the Math lessons, I have been working on data gathering then producing digital charts. I have been reading lots of short books this term, the main one being the Happy Prince by Oscar Wilde.

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## ST CHRISTOPHER'S UPDATE

Students in St Christopher's have been busy with many different activities this term including golf at the driving range, swimming, cinema, trip on the floating bridge and a photo challenge in Sandown. The students have been working hard on developing life skills, in weekly sessions they have been working on how to use their phones appropriately, hair styling, fire prevention and mental health. Within the house students have enjoyed playing in the play lounge with Lego, trains, fancy dress, dolls and Barbies. We had an evening of arts and crafts making Mother's day coasters. As the clocks change and the weather will be improving we are all looking forward to spending more time outside and in local parks.



# ST MARGARET'S

This half-term St Margarets students have been busy working hard on their life skills, these have included house shopping, appropriate use of mobile phones, fire safety, personal care, keeping your hair clean and healthy. Looking after your mental health and who you can talk to. Cooking with staff for the house, room tidies, and bus travel to activities. Activities this half-term have been athletics, table tennis, swimming, gym and squash at The Heights, football, walks to the outdoor gym and beach. They have been to crazy golf, bowling and cinema We have also celebrated a couple of birthdays one of which was an 18th. The students spent a couple of weeks making Mothers day cards and gifts. A few of the students who stayed over for the weekend from both houses in 6th form went fishing and crabbing off Yarmouth pier and wall climbing at The Bay School which they thoroughly enjoyed. We have also had a few day students staying overnight who have enjoyed joining in with the activities



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# ST ANNE'S

St Anne's students have been busy this term, they have been to the golf range at Westridge where some students have hit 165 yards plus!! They should become professionals. We have been swimming and going to the Gym at The Heights, Sandown. Some students have attended athletics, table tennis and football clubs. Some students have been practicing their independence travel on Southern Vectis buses and the train from Shanklin to Ryde; they have done this independently by researching the timetables and creating a travel plan. St. Anne's students have really been focusing on healthy and social eating. They have been making some delicious and exciting dinners and enjoying sitting around the table together. Students in the house are developing a good sense of awareness of each other, demonstrating support and encouragement towards each other independently of staff input this is really lovely to see.



# FOREST SCHOOL

After a rather wet start to the term with lots of hut based woodwork, the weather has finally started to improve and we have been out and about more, learning and developing lots of new Forest School games and activities and enjoying outdoor cooking. One group has been working on a particular woodwork project to make articulated log people so we can use them in casualty scenarios. The students involved used lots of problem solving skills to design and build their log casualties and are looking forward to finishing them and 'rescuing' them from the woods in their next Forest School rotation. Forest School /gardening club have also been working hard to clear an area we hope to develop into a wildlife pond and sensory garden.



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## ST CATHERINE'S CHARITY SHOP

Here at the Charity Shop, we have been busy with Mother's Day, Spring and Easter! We are delighted to have a fresh influx of colour on the rails, and have lots of new Spring stock to help transition your wardrobe into a new season. I enjoyed sitting in on a lesson with students who were learning how to write a newspaper report, based on the book they were studying in class. This gave me another opportunity to get involved with students who potentially could come to the Charity Shop for work experience.

I hope students and staff have a restful and enjoyable Easter break, and if you are having a clear out, we are always looking for donations for the shop.

The shop will be open Tuesday to Saturday 9-4 in the Easter Holidays.

Thank you for the continued support.

Amanda, Charity Shop Manager



# ODD SOCKS DAY

Toby in Hopkins class won the £10 Amazon voucher for the coolest socks. He was sporting a pair of knee high running socks with a colourful landscape design. These were worn with his school shorts for the full effect. Toby was delighted with his prize. Thank you to the staff who took part today. Remember - we wear the socks because Chromosomes actually look like tiny socks under a microscope. Most people have two copies of the 21st chromosome, but people with Down syndrome have three. This is why World Down Syndrome Day is always on the 21st day of the 3rd month.

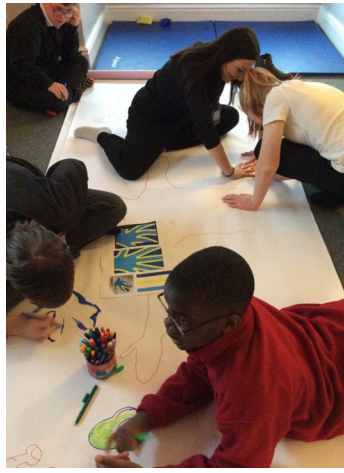


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## DEAF CREATIVE THERAPY GROUP

Four of our students have been attending a creative therapy group. They came together as a group because they are all deaf. The sessions used a mix of movement and art therapy to help students share ideas, feelings and experiences. The group worked together to create an art piece that will hang in the dining room. The artwork helps raise awareness about the experience of being deaf and also helps improve the sound in the room. The art includes important parts of deaf identity, such as the deaf flag, cochlear implants, sign language and hearing aids. Working on this project together helped students express themselves, work as a team, and now share their experiences with others in the school.





The art piece is in the style of an artist named Keith Haring, who was famous for his abstract paintings. He used bright colours, bold shapes and always outlined his pieces in thick black pen. His art was often inspired by people's energy and movement.

If any St Catherine's students would like to make any art work about neurodiversity or the deaf community for the dining room, they will receive 100 BFL points! Students can give it to their tutors when we come back after Easter holidays.



The completed art work before hanging:

# SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY

Cameron has been working on describing in his speech and language therapy sessions. He has worked so hard this term, thinking about which categories objects belong to, words to describe appearance and the functions of different objects. Partway through the term, I found a puppet theatre which is something Cameron was really enthusiastic about. We used this to help work on his therapy aim.

"In speech therapy, Eloise found a puppet theatre in her office, so we decided to do some work in therapy using it! When we made our puppets, we thought about their appearance, categories and functions. It's been fun and funny making the puppets and doing the puppet show in speech therapy. My favourite part was basically making funny bits for the show."

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## FUNDRAISING

August 10th – Wing Walk

Ready for a sky-high challenge with heart? On 10th August, you can take part an unforgettable wing walk to support St Catherine's.

Strap yourself to the wing of a vintage biplane and soar above the Isle of Wight — facing fears, ticking off a bucket-list moment, and raising funds that help St Catherine's continue its life-changing work.

Whether you're an adventure lover or looking for a meaningful way to make a difference, this wing walk is a once-in-a-lifetime experience with impact! Please use the link below to register any interest in the event.

<https://forms.gle/umjyjD3KjCX2ba3fA>

### St Catherine's

A registered Charity no. 288148

Recognised by the Department for Education (DfE)  
Grove Road, Ventnor, Isle of Wight, PO38 1TT  
T: 01983 852722 E: [general@stcatherines.org.uk](mailto:general@stcatherines.org.uk)  
[www.stcatherines.org.uk](http://www.stcatherines.org.uk)



**WINGWALK FOR  
ST CATHERINE'S**

### Fundraising Enquiries

For further information about our fundraising activities, contact our Fundraising Team on: 01983 852722 or email: [smitht@stcatherines.org.uk](mailto:smitht@stcatherines.org.uk)



April 18th – Gala

Join us for a night to remember! On 18th April, the St Catherine's Gala returns for an elegant evening of great food, entertainment and community spirit — all to support St Catherine's.

Your ticket includes a welcome drink, a delicious three-course meal, and live entertainment, plus the chance to make a real impact for students who benefit from vital education and therapy services.

Whether you're looking for a lovely night out or a meaningful way to give back, this is the perfect way to support local children and young adults in reaching their full potential — all while enjoying an unforgettable evening.

### April & May - Abseil

Join the St Catherine's Abseil challenge and test your nerve on an adrenaline-fuelled descent to raise vital funds for St Catherine's

Ready to step outside your comfort zone for something truly meaningful? Join the St Catherine's Abseil Challenge and experience the thrill of descending from new heights — all while raising vital funds for St Catherine's.

This exciting event is your chance to do something unforgettable while supporting the specialist education and therapy that helps children and young people with speech, language and communication needs thrive. Whether you're conquering a fear or simply love a challenge, ever step down makes a life-changing difference.

Be brave. Go over the edge. Make an impact.

## Abseil The Spinnaker Tower for St Catherine's School



Dates available throughout April and May 2026

For more information or to book a space  
please email  
smiht@stcatherines.org.uk

Fundraising Target of £300

# EASTER HALF TERM-WHAT TO DO

The following pages are provided for information -  
St Catherine's does not endorse any of these activities



**EASEL PEASELS**  
**EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB LIVE!**  
Bembridge Primary School

**All Welcome**  
10am - 3pm  
Thursday 2nd  
Tuesday 7th  
Wednesday 8th  
Thursday 9th

Can I come again tomorrow!  
Best day Ever!

Scan to book

[www.easelpeasels.co.uk](http://www.easelpeasels.co.uk)  
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AT THE ISLE OF WIGHT SALVATION  
ARMY CHURCH 72 PYLE STREET,  
NEWPORT, PO30 1UJ

On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April from  
3:15pm - 6pm



EMAIL: ISLEOFWIGHT@SALVATIONARMY.ORG.UK  
TEL: 01983 526312



**Children's  
Easter  
Egg Hunt**

**The  
Fighting  
Cocks**

**Tuesday 31st March 10am**  
**£3 per child**  
**Bring your own basket**



**TOMBOLA** **EASTER EGG HUNT** **ROMAN VILLA CAFE OPEN ALL DAY**

**STALLS** **CHARACTER MEET AND GREET** **VINTAGE RIDES**

**FACEPAINTING** **HUXLEY MAGIC** **BONNET AND EGG COMPETITION**

**BRADING ROMAN VILLA**  
**SATURDAY 4TH APRIL**  
**11.00 - 4PM**

**ENTRY £1 PER PERSON**  
**CASH ON DOOR ON DAY**

**EGG HUNT £5 A CHILD**

**FIND THE BUNNY FEET WIN A PRIZE**

**PRE BOOK YOUR EGG HUNT TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT**  
**11-1 PM SLOT**  
**1PM-3PM SLOT**  
**AT WWW.TICKETAAILOR.COM/EVENTS/CHARACTEREVENTS**

IN AID OF DAISY CHAINS IW 1156801

**EASTER POTTERY CLASS**  
**MON | WED | FRI**  
**30th March – 10th April**  
 10am – 12pm & 2pm – 4pm

- Perfect for beginners
- Full tuition throughout
- Adults & children welcome
- All glazing & firing included
- Pottery wheel
- Sculpting & handbuilding
- Painting
- Make your own fabulous Easter themed creations

**£27.50**  
[www.isleofwightpottery.com](http://www.isleofwightpottery.com)

*Easter at Goddards*  
 Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April 11-4pm

VEHICLE SHOWCASE      EASTER HUNT FOR THE KIDS

Market Stalls      TAPESTRY DUO 3-5PM

FREE ENTRY · FREE PARKING  
 EVERYONE WELCOME!!

THE GREAT RAILWAY

**Easter Hunt**

kids go free\*  
\*SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS

HAVENSTREET RAILWAY

**ISLE OF WIGHT STEAM RAILWAY**

An unforgettable adventure through time

**29<sup>th</sup> MARCH**  
**12<sup>th</sup> APRIL**

**Calling all Chocolate Detectives!**  
 It's time to make like Sherlock and visit the Isle of Wight Steam Railway at Havenstreet, for our Great Railway Easter Hunt.

- Giant Easter egg hunt around the Steam Railway
- Solve the clues to claim your chocolate
- Easter bonnet parade and juggling on Easter Sunday
- Steam train ride through the picturesque countryside

Visit [iwsteamrailway.co.uk/events](http://iwsteamrailway.co.uk/events) for more information

Brighstone Christmas Tree Festival are holding a

# Bunny Drive

to raise funds for

## Brighstone Library

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April, 7pm at Wilberforce Hall

Easter Bonnet Competition

Refreshments to purchase

Bunny Drive £2.50 each

Raffle £1 a ticket

... Phone / text Diane to book 07581 230341 ...

**VENTNOR CARNIVAL**

# EASTER

## Craft and Window Spot

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2026

Carnival Hub, 12 High Street

**Window Spot**  
forms available for £1 from the Carnival Hub, 12 High Street, Ventnor from 10am on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>. Prize for completed forms.

**Pop in Crafts** available from 10am-3pm

Ile of Wight Community Club

Hop on over for our

# EASTER Egg hunt

MEET THE EASTER BUNNY

Join us on **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 11am-2pm**

for some egg-citing fun!

Colouring Competition

Easter Bonnet Competition

Booking Only limited spaces

Happy Easter

To book, please call 01983 292238 or pop into the bar

**KITCHEN OPEN**

2<sup>nd</sup> Cowes St Mary's Sea Scouts 302131

Raising money for 4 Scouts of 2<sup>nd</sup> Cowes St Mary's Sea Scouts for an International Trip in 2027!

# Easter Fayre

Stalls & Refreshments

Raffle & Tombola

Glitter Tattoos

Easter Hunt & Lots More!

**Sat 21<sup>st</sup> March**  
11am - 2pm

2<sup>nd</sup> Cowes St Mary's Sea Scouts,  
Smithards Lane, Cowes

Scouts

Ventnor Tennis Club

# CHILDRENS EASTER TENNIS



**GAME, SET, MATCH!**

**TUESDAY  
31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH & 7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**

**RED BALL 9:30 - 11:00**

Age 6-10yrs  
Club Members: £12  
Non Members: £14

**ORANGE/GREEN BALL 11:00 - 13:00**

Age 11-14yrs  
Club Members: £15  
Non Members: £17

Groups are chosen based on age and ability. Please contact Linda:  
LJLouise@icloud.com / 07971298367  
For more information/reccomendations.

## FAMILY EASTER DROP IN



Please join Isle of Wight SEN Support for  
Easter themed activities, crafts and peer support.  
Children and young people welcome.

**TUESDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH**

**11.30 AM - 1 PM**

**CHURCH ON THE ROUNDABOUT,  
COPPINS BRIDGE, NEWPORT, PO30 2BX**



# HALF-TERM COLOURING

HAPPY

EASTER



# NATIONAL ONLINE SAFETY

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about STREAMING SERVICES

Streaming services are platforms that allow users to watch cartoons, documentaries and movies online immediately (often referred to as SVoD: streaming videos on demand). Ofcom reported that children and young adults prefer streaming services to traditional TV. With two-thirds of UK households subscribing to at least one streaming service, parents must understand how to manage screen time, set age restrictions and ensure safe viewing.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### COSTLY

Subscription services can be costly. As the main source of entertainment, most households have at least one streaming platform, and each platform has its own monthly subscription fee. Services are charging more for ad-free viewing, and better quality and resolution; however, there is a cheaper option with adverts. Due to price increases, Netflix and Disney+ reported a sharp increase in users subscribing to their ad-supported tier in 2025.

#### ILLEGAL STREAMING

Sharing passwords or using modified Fire Sticks to access streaming content without permission is illegal. Most streaming services have now put measures in place to detect account sharing. When account sharing is identified, platforms will offer an opportunity to pay for an added member or will ask the user to verify who they are.

#### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most streaming platforms allow users to set up a profile for each family member, with the option of putting specific restrictions in place. These include adding a profile lock or PIN, controlling autoplay of previews and next episodes, and limiting content based on age ratings. Nonetheless, these restrictions aren't foolproof. Content which is rated as suitable for an age group may still include themes, language, or images which children and families find inappropriate.

#### EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Excessive screen time contributes to sedentary behaviour and can negatively impact physical and mental health. Ofcom found that 4- to 15-year-olds averaged 2.5 hours per day across all video-sharing platforms, not including gaming. The vast range of content available, combined with features such as autoplay, makes it easy for children to watch for extended periods of time.

#### BINGE WATCHING

Features such as autoplay make it easy for viewers – especially young people – to continue watching episodes without a break. This can foster unhealthy and addictive patterns, such as consuming a vast amount of content in one sitting. With binge watching come a lack of social interaction, lack of physical exercise, and often late nights and sleep disruptions which impact their mental and physical wellbeing.

#### HARMFUL STEREOTYPES

Many platforms track viewing habits, time consumed, and preferences, and generate recommendations to encourage your child to keep watching. This results in your child being in a 'loop' whereby they think the 'recommended' shows would be something they would enjoy rather than thinking critically for themselves. This can shape their beliefs, values, and understanding of the world from a young age without even realising it.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### SET UP INDIVIDUAL PROFILES AND ADD PINS

Almost all streaming services allow users to set up individual profiles where each family member can have age restrictions put in place for the content they can view. Adult profiles can be protected through the use of PIN. Keep this private. Use the options of putting specific restrictions in place such as controlling autoplay of previews and next episodes, and limiting content based on age ratings.

### MONITOR AND TALK OFTEN

Discuss with your child what they are watching, find out which programmes are trending, and watch them yourself. Have a little look at their watch history to check the content of what they're watching. Some platforms have been known to recommend or autoplay older or graphic content after a child's movie has been played. While some tv shows or movies may have a suitable age rating, your child may still find the content scary, or it may explore themes you don't want to explore with your child yet.

### TALK ABOUT ALGORITHMS

Talk to your child about how streaming services track what they watch, and base adverts and recommended shows/movies on previous viewing. Encourage them to critically think about whether the recommendations are suitable and how they want to spend their time. Discuss stereotypes with your child and challenge them to think about what they watch and how this may influence their beliefs.

### SET TIME RESTRICTIONS

Many streaming services offer the opportunity to buy movies, or add additional features to your subscription such as sports channels, as well as play games. This can increase the amount of time young people spend sitting idly in front of the screen. Some platforms (e.g. Apple TV+) allow you to set screen time restrictions. If the streaming service doesn't allow you to set screen time limits, set a family rule and stick to it.

### 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.



See full reference list on our website

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#WakeUpWednesday

The National College