

ad sciurus THE SQUIRREL



Words,
in my humble opinion,
are the most
inexhaustible
source of
magic
we have.

**Whole School
Attendance**

since 5th
September
97.25%



The children did exceptionally well in the heat last week and the curriculum was adapted to make sure that they were using the outside areas in the shade and the mile run was early in the morning when it was cooler. However on Friday you could see how tired the children were from having a week of such heat, so I hope they have rested well over the weekend as it was much cooler and it looks as though it is going to stay cool this week too. We had a wonderful Hindu Day last Monday with our visitors from London. The children thoroughly enjoyed learning all about Hinduism, the beliefs, their way of life and their beautiful traditional dress. In India at this time of year some regions are over 40 degrees heat and the children were intrigued to hear about that and how they live in the extreme heat. We have also planned another RE day for 4th July when we have the Imam from Newport mosque coming in to talk to the children. I will give you more information next week when we have met with him and we know what the children are going to do.

Also last week, we had our second Carnival Day and again the children were bubbling with excitement as they made their costumes, learnt their songs and dances for the afternoon. There has been a letter sent home to Year 2 families about the Mardi Gras day itself, which is this Saturday 1st July. Unfortunately I am on the mainland and can't attend but I am looking forward to hearing all about it and seeing lots of photographs. It doesn't look to be too hot for the weekend so I imagine it will be very successful (this time last year it was the Shakespeare Parade and it absolutely poured with rain and they had to cancel it!) So fingers crossed for a nice day, sunny but not too hot and the children can have a wonderful, wonderful time.



Our Mums Coffee Morning happens on Tuesdays at 9am. We have had a few parents join Reverend Amanda to talk about anything and everything – if you do want to pop along we welcome all Mums (and Grandmums!) to come and meet other

Mums for a coffee and a chat. Those who already attend really do value it. Year 6 had visits to Cowes Enterprise College last week for lunch, and also to the new CECAMM building for Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) workshop which was just fabulous. There is a STEM session coming up for Year 5 soon too, which I am sure they will really enjoy. We had Cowes Cluster athletics and the children participated really well. This was followed by a Year 5 and 6 triathlon in the afternoon and again the children did very well, We are very proud of all of you. I saw some lovely photographs of the sailing; it was super to see the children challenging themselves and doing something they wouldn't normally do.

This week in school, Year 5 families are invited to lunch all week. Please remember to book with the office. Reverend Amanda held our assembly this morning and spoke all about 'words'. I have had Llyn Codling from Portswood Teaching Alliance visiting me today to further plan our Teaching School.

We were very lucky to visit Llyn's school last week and we talked about how this may look for us here on the island. Once we have an action plan in place I will share with you what we are going to be doing. This week our biggest things happening are our transition days. We have a new intake parent meeting for our new September children at 6.30pm tomorrow night (Tuesday 27th) where we will tell you all about the transition days and what will happen. On Thursday and Friday Year 6 children will go to their new secondary schools. Our transition days also take place on these days. **On Thursday morning all the children will go to their regular classes (the classes they are in now).** We will then have an assembly where I will introduce the new teachers and then the children will go off with their new teachers to their new classes for the day. **Please pick up your children from their NEW classrooms at the end of the day.** These new classrooms were detailed on the map on the transition letter sent home a couple of weeks ago. **On Friday morning please could the children go to their NEW classes.** I asked on Class Dojo if children could bring in a **smooth pebble** (around 10cm long) for Thursday. I did manage to buy some at a garden centre at the weekend but it would be great if children could also bring some in so that we have enough for each child. It is for a whole-school project we are doing on self esteem and being themselves, ready for transition. I am sure the stones will look beautiful once they have been painted.

TRANSITION

Cowes Enterprise College have their parent information evening on Thursday. Do pop along if your child is going to CEC in September, there will be lots of help and advice on offer. On Friday we have Celebration Assembly for current Years R, 1, 3 and 5, swimming for Year 2 and Watersports for Year 5, and that brings us to the end of another busy week which will then be only three and a half weeks to go! Oh my goodness, it is going to go so, so quickly.

HERO

You may have noticed on last week's newsletter 'Hero Week' for Monday 3rd July. Whilst I was visiting Hunnyhill Primary school I saw had a super initiative – Hero stands for Here, Every day, Ready, On time. I am always up for a bit of 'maggie-ing' great ideas so I thought we would try this here next week. So, from Monday 3rd July if all the children can be here, on time, each day they will receive a raffle ticket. The more days here on time, the more raffle tickets and the greater the chance of winning! At the end of the week we will have some super prizes to be won. I hope it will be a successful as it was at Hunnyhill. I will let you know.

Next week Year 6 families are invited for lunch, we have our third whole school transition on Thursday. Year 5 are attending a STEM workshop, Year 6 have a life skills beach safety trip. Celebration Assembly NEXT Friday 7th July will be for Years 2, 4 and 6 which will mean by then we will only have two and a half weeks left until the end of term! Goodness me, time really is flying.

IMPORTANT NEWS OVERLEAF:

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IMPORTANT NEWS!



Last week we had our Full Governing Body meeting and I am pleased to inform you that the Governing Body have **agreed to the proposed changes to the Christmas holidays and to the five development days.** We had a discussion

around changing our term times and we know the difficulties this brings to working parents and those with children in other schools. We also want to support our children and families for the 21st Century and this does mean looking at our term time and how it works best. Over the next 12-18 months we will have a look at this and see how people feel and what we can do. I know there is an island consultation on this as well and hopefully we will have some island-wide news which would be the best outcome, that the whole island looks to change their term times to benefit families and our children.

I am sure you will have heard that Mr Platt lost his case last week. **Family holidays** are a very contentious issue and we all want our families and children to experience wonderful family holidays together. However, these need to be taken during school holidays and at the moment, with putting our five development days together, we have fourteen weeks of school holidays so I would really encourage all our families to take advantage of the school holidays rather than taking their child out of school. It really does impact. I do understand the experiences of a holiday are wonderful but what we see in school is children who are unsettled and it does impact on their learning, especially when coupled with absences due to sickness. As governors, we looked at this across the school and we were quite shocked at the attainment of children with lower attendance. Please support us and support your children and try your very best to **book holidays during school holidays.**

I will send out an updated school calendar for next year for our school, and I ask that you please share this with family members just for awareness of when we are in school and when we are not. I often have requests from families whose lovely Mums and Dads and grandparents have booked holidays without knowing the school calendar so if the dates can be shared with all members of your family, and friends, this will really help. How exciting! It is great to be able to make positive changes for all.



Also at the Full Governing Body meeting we talked about monies owing in school. The amount of time that we waste chasing debts and forms is huge and we do it because we

want your children to be able to participate in all the activities we offer. However, we have a rising debt. We had a long discussion about what to do when families don't pay and we have come up with what we hope will be a positive way forward:



If you owe money for a previous school trip, we are saying that we will not put your child's name down on the next trip unless all debts have been cleared. This will have an impact on some families and some children. We are asking you all to clear any monies outstanding because the first

trip this will impact on will be Harry Potter. If you owe money to school and you have put your child's name down for the Harry Potter trip I will be writing to you, because if you have not paid by the end of the school year, in September I will offer your child's Harry Potter place to another child on the waiting list. If all payments are up to date we will happily put your child on the trip list and secure the place, however if you owe money for a previous trip we will not be putting your child's name down to go. This makes me very sad because I want all children to participate, but it is no different to if you went to a shop or to a restaurant – you have to pay for these things there and then. We have to pay for the trips there and then, and it is only right and proper for families to pay what is owed because it does impact on what we can do in school.

Thank you for your support in this. We do try and give lots of notice for our trips when we are asking for payment to give you as long a time as possible to budget. **If you have any questions or concerns please come and talk to me because I can arrange payment plans and I can help in certain situations.**



I am sure you have also heard about the road closure that is happening in a week or so. **Mill Hill Road is being closed.** I am in talks with Island Roads because I understand how difficult this is going to be for staff and families getting to school! As soon as I have some news I will let you

know, but as it stands the road will be closed all day so it will mean parking away from the school and walking.

It is a cooler week in school and we hope the children have a great week. Thank you for coming to school every day. Thank you for supporting us. We are just going from strength to strength and it is wonderful to be the school of choice.



Have a good week.

Caroline Sice



FOR YOU



DEVELOPMENT DAYS 2017:

Monday 5th June
 Tuesday 6th June
 Wednesday 7th June
 Thursday 8th June
 Friday 9th June



Year 6 FRANCE

Please remember your child **must have** an EHC card. They are **FREE** – if you need any help applying please ask!

Parent Lunches

We love inviting you in for lunch with your children, but **PLEASE** remember to **BOOK** your meal with the office! Thank you.

SUN SAFETY

PLEASE apply sun cream to your child before school and ensure they have a water bottle and sun hat during this hot weather. ☺

<p>Star Awards Year R Miss Hopkinson</p> <p>Maths Compassion Star Work 'Yes I Can' Star Work</p> <p>Charlie Pinder Annabelle Taylor Elodie Ironman Amelia Verstraeten Riley Peacey</p> 	<p>Star Awards Year R Miss Wren</p> <p>Team-ability Teach-ability Citizenship Maths</p> <p>Fiyin Adebanjo Lily Volp Riley Baker Pearl Salter</p> 	<p>Star Awards Year 2 Miss Poulton</p> <p>Maths Maths Star Work poetry</p> <p>Amelia Courage Layla Hanna Louis Ashley</p> 
<p>Star Awards Year 2 Ms Coppen</p> <p>Teach-ability Change-ability</p> <p>Scarlett Thomas Kira Early</p> 	<p>Star Awards Year 2 Miss McQueen</p> <p>Improved Literacy Bounce-ability</p> <p>Poppy Thomas Alfie Brett</p> 	<p>Star Awards Year 4 Miss Garry</p> <p>Star Work Handwriting Compassion</p> <p>Marcia Holmes Riley Ruddock Alex McMahon</p> 
<p>Star Awards Year 4 Miss Barton</p> <p>Presentation Star Work Bounce-ability Citizenship</p> <p>Kiya Ilett Bailey Tillbrook Shanice Harrison Lola Murray</p> 	<p>Star Awards Year 6 Mrs Wylde</p> <p>Citizenship Change-ability</p> <p>Jack Cole Georgia Morey</p> 	<p>Star Awards Year 6 Mrs Proctor</p> <p>Improved Presentation Pride-ability</p> <p>Tim Thomas India Munt</p> 

CAN YOU HELP?

**Indian Street Market
Friday 14th July**

We want to make our own instruments and build a giant 3D Taj Mahal! WOW!

We will need the following:

Milk containers (with lids), cardboard, yoghurt pots, cereal boxes, Sellotape, parcel tape, string, elastic bands.

Please bring in your items ASAP! Also do you have any 'Indian themed' dress up clothes you no longer want or that we can borrow for the children? Thank you in advance for your support ☺

Are you the Parent/Carer of a child with Special Educational Needs and or disabilities?

Parents Voice IW are holding a **coffee morning on Tuesday the 4th July at the Riverside Centre between 0930 and 1230.**

You are welcome to pop in when you can and there will be FREE tea and coffee and support from other parents. Please pop in and find out more about support in our local area and meet other parents.

Congratulations

*Lillie Newson
 Nathan Proctor
 Ella Holden
 Eli Pedder*

On completing the evening walk on Saturday for 'Challenge the Wight' Well done!



**Ella Brown
 Winner!**

Photography and smart phone video competition
 'The Spirit of Cowes'
 Well done Ella ☺



Attendance week ending 23rd June 2017

Esio Trot	98.1%
The Giraffe, the Pelly & Me	96.9%
The Magic Finger	100%
The Twits	99.5%
James & the Giant Peach	99.0%
George's Marvellous Medicine	98.9%
The Enormous Crocodile	97.5%
Charlie Chocolate	99.2%
Charlie Glass Elevator	92.6%
The BFG	97.6%
Matilda	98.3%
The Witches	98.9%
Danny, Champion of the World	98.9%
Going Solo	96.0%
Boy: Tales of Childhood	86.1%
Whole school	97.0%





DATES

Summer Term 2017: 'India'



JUNE

Mon 26th Year 5 parents invited to lunch all week, £2.95, please book!
 Mon 26th Reverend Amanda assembly 8.45am
 Mon 26th School nurse in all day
 Tue 27th Mums coffee Morning 9.00am
 Tue 27th PC Justin Pringle BEATS surgery Year R and for parents after school
 Tue 27th Parent Meeting for new September intake 6.30pm
 Wed 28th Parent Forum Meeting 9am
 Wed 28th Cricket Festival Years 3&4 10.00am
 Wed 28th Cricket Festival Years 5&6 1.00pm
 Thu 29th Whole Island Transition Day 1
 Thu 29th New intake transition 9.30am/12.30pm
 Thu 29th Parent Information evening @ CEC
 Fri 30th Whole Island Transition Day 2
 Fri 30th New intake transition 9.30am/12.30pm
 Fri 30th Celebration Assembly Years 1, 3 & 5 @ 8.45am
 Fri 30th Year 2 swimming week 7
 Fri 30th Year 5 Watersports week 3

JULY

Mon 3rd **HERO WEEK**
 Mon 3rd Year 6 parents invited to lunch all week, £2.95, please book!
 Mon 3rd Reverend Amanda assembly 8.45am
 Tue 4th Mums coffee Morning 9.00am
 Thu 6th Whole school transition day 3
 Thu 6th Pupil Council Mr Cooper 8.40am
 Thu 6th Fire Drill 10.30am
 Thu 6th STEM @ IW College Year 5
 Thu 6th Y6 Life Skills beach safety trip
 Fri 7th Celebration Assembly Years 2, 4 & 6 @ 8.45am
 Fri 7th Year 2 swimming week 8
 Fri 7th Year 5 Watersports week 4
 Tue 11th Mums coffee Morning 9.00am
 Wed 12th Parent Meeting for new September intake 6.30pm
 Thu 13th Whole school transition day 4
 Fri 14th Celebration Assembly @ 8.45am Years 1, 3 & 5
 Fri 14th Year 5 Watersports week 5
 Fri 14th Island Games – Archery 4pm-6pm
Fri 14th Indian Street Market 5pm-7pm
 Tue 18th Mums coffee Morning 9.00am
 Wed 19th Families invited in for book collection and Pupil Progress Reports
 Thu 20th Full Governing Body meeting 6.15pm
 Fri 21st Celebration Assembly Years 2 & 4 @ 8.45am
 Fri 21st Year 6 to France!
 Fri 21st Year 5 Watersports week 6 (last one)
 Mon 24th Year 6 return from France
 Tue 25th Leavers Breakfast 7.45am
 Tue 25th Leavers Assembly 9.00am approx



Ventnor Rugby Football Club
Training time:
 03/08/2017 - 29/08/2017
Main Contact:
 Joshuabarlow@rfa.com
 Current y6 - y7



Developing children through rugby.
 Kids First Rugby helps children get to grips with the game at their own pace, in a safe supportive environment, while making sure they have plenty of fun.
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LEARN TO DANCE, ACT AND SING LIKE THE STARS!

7TH-11TH AUGUST - 10^{AM}-4^{PM}

NEWPORT CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

WE ARE OFFERING A VARIETY OF DANCE, SINGING & DRAMA WORKSHOPS WITH OUR INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS AND GUEST TEACHERS!
 - TAKE PART IN A MINI SHOWCASE! -

PLEASE CONTACT US FOR MORE DETAILS: [INFO@THESTARLIGHTBOUTIQUE.CO.UK](mailto:info@thestarlightboutique.co.uk)
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