

ST GEORGE'S GAZETTE

FRIDAY 28th November

Dear Students, Families, Staff and Governors,

It's hard to believe we are already more than halfway through this half term, with only three weeks left until we finish for the Christmas break.

Things are, as always, busy in life at St George's and students across both sites are working hard.

The weather is turning more wintery now, so please ensure your young person brings in appropriate clothing with them as a lot of learning still takes place outside.

As you will see, our Christmas Fayre catalogue is now live and students have been putting a lot of time and thought into what they are going to make. Please get your orders in soon so that we can get everything made in time for Christmas.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best Wishes

Sarah Tolfrey
Deputy Head



Dates for Your Diary / Events Programme

DEVELOPMENT DAYS

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Wednesday 17th
December:**
Christmas Dinner &
Christmas Jumper
Day

**CHRISTMAS
HOLIDAYS**
Friday 19th December:
Last day of Term

Monday 5th January:
Students to return to
school



Telephone:

01983 524634

[www.stgeorges-
school.co.uk](http://www.stgeorges-school.co.uk)

Diwali



3VN have been exploring Diwali as part of their RaW learning, particularly Rangoli patterns. We have been comparing Diwali celebrations to our celebrations at Christmas and Birthdays. They have been creating their own Rangoli patterns using coloured rice.

The Studio

It has been a wonderfully productive time at The Studio School, and I am delighted to share some highlights.

Our students have enjoyed a series of successful swimming sessions, showing great confidence, resilience, and enthusiasm in the water. It has been fantastic to see so many pupils challenging themselves and celebrating their achievements.

This week also saw school photos taking place. Our students represented the school beautifully, and we look forward to sharing the finished photographs with families soon.

As part of their RAW lessons, students have been actively engaging with our local community. These trips have provided valuable opportunities for real-world learning, connection, and personal development and we are incredibly proud of the maturity and manners they have shown when visiting local cafes and shops.

There is also a growing sense of excitement as classes begin preparing products for our upcoming Christmas Fayre. Creating hand crafted items, students are working creatively and collaboratively to produce these. Their teamwork and entrepreneurial spirit have been wonderful to see.

Our Key Stage 4 students have also been focusing on their futures, taking part in dedicated careers advice sessions. They have shown great engagement as they explore potential pathways, develop their employability skills, and consider their next steps beyond school. Alongside this, students are beginning preparations for upcoming work experience sessions and placements. This is an exciting opportunity for them to gain real-world insight, build confidence and experience life in a professional setting. We are proud of the mature and thoughtful approach they are bringing to this important stage of their journey.

A gentle reminder that school uniform should be either full St George's uniform or plain black. As the weather has turned colder, please ensure that students come to school with appropriate coats and winter attire.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to sharing more celebrations with you as we move through the term.

Michelle Barnes
Head of School
St George's Studio School
Grange Rd, East Cowes PO32 6EA

St George's Lottery

Welcome to St George's School lottery. This lottery has been set up specifically to raise money and make a difference for our children!

It's a fantastic way to bring Parents, Carers, Teachers and the wider community together, in partnership with our school, and at the same time give something back. We hope to raise funds that can support and enrich the education of our children - we aim to provide a new minibus for the students to be able to go out and access the community.

Your support is greatly appreciated and we wish you good luck!

Best wishes

Mairi



Virtual Christmas Fayre 2025



This year, The 6th Form Environment Team have organised the Virtual Christmas Fayre.
It will be in the form of a catalogue, which you will be able to access on our website.



The order forms will be sent home with each of our students.

Please can you fill them in and return to school by Friday 5th December 2025.

Payments will be accepted in the form of cheques, cash or online using your Scipay account. Please make cheques payable to St George's School.

If you have yet to set up a Scipay account or need help to access it, please contact the office at;
office@stgeorges.iow.sch.uk

We are all looking forward to producing your fantastic Christmas goods, so get your orders in quick to avoid disappointment!

Any queries, please do not hesitate to email me - keri.peckham@stgeorges.iow.sch.uk

The Christmas Fayre catalogue will be available on the school website.

If you cannot access the document, please contact the school office and we will provide a hard copy for you.

The Enterprise Team

School Photos

The school photos, for the students at the main Newport site, are now ready to order from Cardwell & Simons!

Please ensure to order them before **Thursday the 4th of December**, using the access code provided. After this date, you can still order, but with direct home postage only.

The View 6th Form

If there are any Key Stage 4 parents/carers who were not able to make the 6th Form open day this year, but would like to come and have a tour, please contact keri.peckham@stgeorges.iow.sch.uk to arrange a convenient date and time.

Many Thanks

Do you need support after a Bereavement?

My name is Shelley, and I am a Bereavement Services Officer with the Isle of Wight Council, based at the Isle of Wight Crematorium. I have worked within Bereavement Services, primarily as the Cemeteries Officer, for twelve years. Shortly before the Covid pandemic, the Council invited staff to volunteer as Autism Ambassadors, a workplace initiative run by the National Autistic Society.

As both my teenage son and daughter are autistic, I was keen to take part. From our own experience, we found that there was very little support available for the neurodiverse community when facing the death of a loved one. Navigating the expectations surrounding bereavement, such as arranging and attending a funeral and processing the grief that follow, can be especially challenging for autistic individuals and their families.

Although the pandemic delayed initial plans, I am pleased to say that we are now working hard to make the service we provide more accessible and accommodating. Our aim is to ensure that those who find these life events particularly difficult are met with understanding, compassion and practical support.

We are able to offer tours of our Crematorium Chapel and other public areas, prior to a funeral, by appointment. These visits can provide reassurance, give you the opportunity to ask any questions, and allow us to put in place any measures that may help make attending the funeral easier to manage.

In addition, we are currently developing a booklet designed for neurodiverse adults, young people, and children. This resource aims to provide guidance and support during what can be a very challenging time. We would greatly value all feedback and suggestions to help us improve the service we provide.

If you would like to get in touch, please contact us by email at bereavement.services@iow.gov.uk or by telephone on 01983 882288. Your call will be answered by colleagues in the Isle of Wight Council Contact Centre, and you can ask to be put through to me, Shelley. If I am unavailable, any member of the team will be happy to assist you. Should we not be immediately available, the Contact Centre will take your details so that we can return your call or email.



THE VIEW GAZETTE

Friday 21st November

Dear Students, Families, Staff and Governors,

I hope this new edition to the newsletter finds you well. My name is Valerie, and I am excited to introduce myself as the new and first founder Sixth-Form Newsletter Creator at St George's School. I am thrilled to get this opportunity and look forward to contributing positively to the newsletter for Sixth-Form.

In this newsletter, there will be things that Sixth-Form classrooms have been up to, recent events or information.

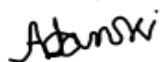
Starting with The View 2, On every Thursday we go to The Congregational Church in Newport as a part of our voluntary community work. In the church we do all kinds of jobs like reorganising and cleaning their "Kindness Carboard", preparing foods like soups, salads and fruits, setting up the county hall for Lego Club, restocking donated bakery goods from Isle of Wight organisations into their community fridge.

Not long ago, we took part in an art project they were doing which was making and painting a giant tree and a door to go on at the bottom of the tree, designing colourful leaves with people's names on it. Inside the tree, its dark but don't worry there are fairy lights, pillows and blankets, it's a place for when the kids attend Lego Club to chill out. Now, when you walk or drive past the church you can see the masterpiece displayed in the tower window of the church!

Last week in The View, we had a coordinator called Bryony Willett come in from IOW College Pathways to present and talk to us about what they do in Pathways. They are open 3 days a week to develop knowledge and skills across topic areas of Life skills, Work skills, Maths & English and Wellbeing. Pathways got an opportunity to work offsite to gain work experience. They got an Accessible Kitchen to cook a variety of food, Sensory Room to chill out in, Movement Studio to sing and dance and a Common Room to play pool or ping pong, eat lunch and talk to friends. After she told us what Pathways do, she shown us all the different courses that the IOW college have if we go to Foundation Learning or Mainstream. The teachers and Bryony were impressed with the number of good questions we have asked, well done Sixth-Formers!

I hope you all have a great weekend.

Kind Regards,



Valerie Adamski
Sixth-Form Newsletter Creator
The View



Dates for your Diary / Events Programme

DEVELOPMENT DAYS

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 26th
November:
Cinema Trip to watch
Wicked!

Wednesday 17th
December:
Christmas Dinner &
Christmas Jumper
Day

Friday 19th December:
Last Day of Term &
Christmas Holidays!

Monday 5th January:
Students return to
School



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Community Information

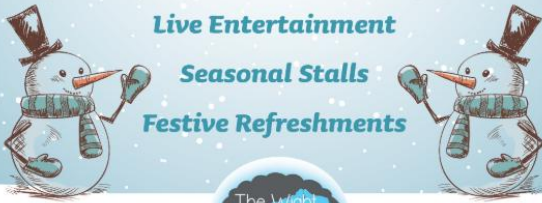
**The Wight Brainy Bunch
Christmas Market
at Ryde Fire Station**

Saturday 6th December 10am - 4.30pm

**Magical Grotto • Kids Craft Corner
Inflatable Snow Globe**

Turning on of Ryde Fire's Christmas Lights at 4.30pm

**Live Entertainment
Seasonal Stalls
Festive Refreshments**



Knowing what to do or where to turn to when you separate can be difficult. If you're a parent, you'll want to make sure you do what's right for your children.

And if you're a friend or relative of someone going through a breakup, you'll probably be looking for ways you can help.

The F.I.R.S.T Hub team advises on a range of separation issues which can help you decide what support you need, and make your own plan to meet the needs of you and your children.

We are a child-focused, impartial service, which puts the needs of the children first.

www.firsthub.org

144 High Street Ryde
IOW PO33 2HT 07898 893449
hello@firsthub.org



**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



You Are Not Alone - Free Parent Online Drop-In

Parenting an autistic child can feel amazing, confusing, and overwhelming, sometimes all in the same day. That's why we host our **no-cost monthly online drop-in sessions for parents and carers.**

Normally we run the monthly drop-ins on the 1st Tuesday of the month but in **DECEMBER we run 5 drop-in sessions from Monday 1st December - Friday 5th December.**

First Tuesday of every month
7pm - 8.30pm
Platform: Zoom



Erik Wagter - host of the drop-in

What these sessions are all about:

We've created a safe, non-judgemental space where parents can bring their questions, share worries and connect with others who 'get it'.

Topics often included:

- Understanding and responding to challenging behaviour
- Making sense of autism on a deeper level
- The ups and downs of family relationships and dynamics
- Working with schools and professionals
- Meeting like-minded parents and realising you are not alone



What parents say:

'Thank you so much for the group this evening. I can't tell you how grateful I feel, and I really do feel less alone and more validated. My hope is back'

Who runs the sessions?

I'm Erik Wagter, co-founder of Autism Family Support Service. Alongside being a social worker, trainer and Solution Focused family coach, I also bring over two decades of personal lived family experience of autism. Sometimes my wife Sally will join in as well.

If you would like to join please send an email to sallywagter@gmail.com and we will send you the Zoom link.

Autism Family Support Service
www.autismfamilysupportservice.com



Parent and Caregiver Peer Support Sessions

Where: Gunville Methodist Church Hall



When:

11th September 2025 (10am - 12 noon)

6th November 2025 (10am - 12 noon)

15th January 2026 (10am - 11am)

5th March 2026 (10am - 12 noon)

7th May 2026 (10am - 12 noon)

Come along to meet with other parents / caregivers for an informal meet up and chat about your journey.
Refreshments provided. No need to book, just turn up.
Free onsite parking.

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: **CW118227**

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**



Oak Gall Ink Workshop

We were hugely fortunate to be able to welcome local artist, Jo Kori, for two workshops with our VI Formers in which she told them how to make Oak Gall Ink and a little about its history.

This is the same ink that was used to write the Magna Carta and that Da Vinci used in his notebooks.

Students followed the process to create their own Oak Gall ink and had plenty of time to experiment with using different inks and different means of putting it onto paper. It was a fantastic experience for all concerned and we will definitely be using our new knowledge to make our own Oak Gall Ink in the future. Many thanks to Jo for her kindness, time and expertise and a big thank you to all the students who attended for being so fabulous.

Guy, Rachel and Zoe



Newport Minster "Follow the Star" Installation

We are very excited to share with you that Sunflower students and Friday 6th Form Art Options students have been busy decorating 19 stars for public display at Newport Minster "Follow the Star" Installation over the festive period.

Reverend Abbie Lynch has invited students and families to see the stars at Newport Minster's Christmas market on the 6th December 10:00 – 16:00.

Rachel, Guy and Zoe

St George's Art Department



Recipe Book 2025!

Dear Parents/Carers

Our stunning 2025 recipe book is now available to order. The students are working incredibly hard on the artwork for the book this half term. Their work takes inspiration from impressionist and post-impressionist artists.

The students have been making these recipes in our Food Tech lessons and they are very excited to share them with you!

Please see the form below to complete and return to the office. Please indicate that you do or do not give permission for your student's photo to be included in the Recipe Book and if you wish, order your own copy, which will be sent home on Friday, 12th of December.

Payments for the recipe book can be made online, via ScoPay, or cash in a named and labelled envelope. Recipe books cost £5 each.

The deadline for orders is Monday 8th December. All payments must be made by Monday 1st December.

Please do contact me if you have any questions about the recipe book, you can contact me via my email address: michelle.quinn@stgeorges.iow.sch.uk.

Kind regards

Michelle Quinn

Food Tech Instructor

Student Name.....

Student Class:

Number of recipe books required:.....

I have enclosed £

I have paid using the online payment system

I give/ I do not give permission for use of my young person's photo in the recipe book

Signed Parent/Carer.....