

ST GEORGE'S GAZETTE

Friday 30th January

Dear Students, Families, Staff and Governors,

As always, we have been busy at St George's and St George's Studio. Students have been working hard and it has been a pleasure to observe some great lessons across both sites where students are actively engaged in meaningful learning, which will support their aspirations.

Key Stage 4 interviews for 6th Form places have taken place this week and we have been very impressed with the maturity our students have shown during the interviews. Key Stage 4 students at St George's Studio have had meetings with Island Futures to discuss their aspirations and next steps beyond Year 11.

I received an email this week commenting on how polite and supportive a group of students from St George's were over the weekend whilst attending a birthday party. It is always wonderful to receive such positive feedback from members of the public.

The teaching staff received some high-quality training linked to EHCP's at our Newport site whilst all staff, who regularly teach at St George's Studio, participated in PRICE training. This will enable staff to support young people effectively when they are dysregulated and ensure students and staff are safe.

I hope you all have a good weekend and we look forward to seeing the students return to school on Monday (apart from 6th Form students, as The View will be closed for staff training).

Best Wishes

S.J. Gleeson

Steff Gleeson
Headteacher



Dates for Your Diary / Events Programme

DEVELOPMENT DAYS

Monday 22nd June

Monday 27th July

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

February Half Term:
Last day of Term
Friday 13th of
February

Monday 23rd February:
Students to return to school

Monday 2nd February & Monday 9th February
The View will be closed for staff training



Telephone:
01983 524634
www.stgeorges-school.co.uk

The Studio

It has been another productive and purposeful fortnight at The Studio School, with our young people continuing to demonstrate strong practical skills and growing confidence across the curriculum.

In Design Technology, students have made excellent progress in both electrical work and woodwork. They are developing a secure understanding of tools, materials, and safe working practices, while applying their learning to real, meaningful projects. Notably, students have successfully completed practical tasks such as repairing and fixing cabinets, showcasing problem-solving skills, teamwork and pride in producing high-quality outcomes.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers to drive slowly when entering and leaving the school site. The safety of our students, staff, and visitors is paramount. We also ask that everyone continues to respect our neighbours by parking considerately and keeping noise to a minimum. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and helps maintain positive relationships within our local community.

Looking ahead, we are pleased to announce that drum lessons will be available from next half term, expanding our music offer further. It is also wonderful to see a growing number of young people taking up the guitar, reflecting an increasing enthusiasm for music and creative expression across the school.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Michelle Barnes
Head of School
St George's Studio School
Grange Rd, East Cowes PO32 6EA
Tel: 01983 524634

Aspiration Respect Perseverance Independence

The Courtyard Garden

It was lovely to have students from the Sixth Form working in the Courtyard Garden as part of their Religion and Worldview lesson on Plant Care. They planted nearly 100 bulbs ready for spring, reminding us that patience really is a gardening skill. Many of these students played a key role in creating the Courtyard Garden last year, so it has been especially nice to see them continuing their legacy and checking in on their hard work.



The garden has done well over the winter, with evergreen plants and shrubs continuing to provide colour and life through the colder months. The courtyard remains a calm and welcoming space for students and staff, even when warmer weather still feels a little way off.

We are now excited to be expanding the Courtyard Garden further. If anyone in our school community can support us through donations of pots, plants, woodchip or even a little time, it would be gratefully received. Every contribution, big or small, helps us continue to grow a space our students can enjoy, take pride in and occasionally get their hands dirty 😊.

Thank you and have a lovely weekend.
Kat Montagu



Community News and Events

Registered charity number 1198024



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

GO ALL IN to reading
with the

IW STORY FESTIVAL

DURING FEBRUARY HALF TERM

Thurs 19 to Sat 21 February 2026

Tickets: iwstoryfestival.com or visit the Quay Arts Box Office in person.

Meet inspiring authors; watch relaxed performances; join in with hands-on activities; listen to stories. Be inspired, make time, get comfortable – all in an accessible central Island venue with subsidised buses and some free parking (Saturday only).

Coppice Theatre company presents: **How to Catch a Book Witch** Friday 20th Feb 10am

An open hearted show aimed at children aged 4+ about not judging people, saving libraries, working together, being brave. The show features live music, puppetry, storytelling, Key-Word Signing and captions. All shows are relaxed.

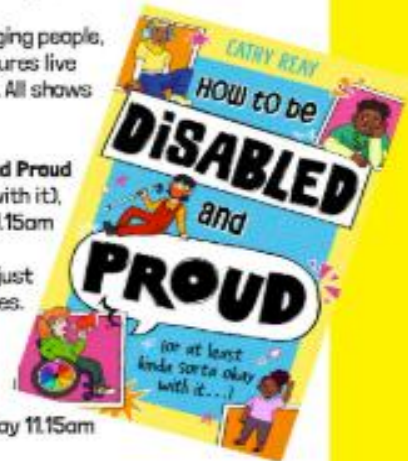
How to be Disabled and Proud

(or at least kinda sorta okay with it),
Cathy Reay Sat 21st Feb 11.15am

Cathy examines the challenges faced by disabled children and what to do when people just don't get it, with comforting and practical advice to help readers through tough times.

These author talks have BSL signing (provided by Mary Connell):

- **Dungeon Runners** Kieran Larwood 11am Thurs 19th Feb
- **So You Think You Know About Vampires?** Emma Carroll 3.15pm Friday 20th Feb
- **How to be Disabled and Proud** (or at least kinda sorta okay with it) Cathy Reay Saturday 11.15am
- **The Island at the Edge of Night** Lucy Strange 12pm Sat 21st Feb



Free parking for ticket holders
in the council car park behind
the magistrates court park
(only Sat 21st Feb)

Subsidised Day Rover
bus fares for ticket holders

Accessible venue with lift to first floor.

Not only authors but also:
Draw along with Rob Biddulph or Jules Marriner
Learn new moves with the Shree Dance Academy
Listen to tales of sea monsters and mermaids with Holly Medland
Laugh at the antics of the Astrasours with Steve Cole
Write your own poems with Adam Gaterell, Kathryn Rossati or Lottie Begg
Meet the Pugs of the Frozen North with The Foundry Group

THERE'S NOTHING QUITE LIKE SHARING A STORY

BUY TICKETS NOW!

iwstoryfestival.com





NHS
Isle of Wight
NHS Trust



COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR

MONDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2026
THE RIVERSIDE CENTRE, NEWPORT
1PM - 4PM

Join the Isle of Wight NHS Trust Community Health Fair -
Discover hospital services, connect with local organisations,
and explore charities that benefit our community.

EMPLOYMENT
ADVICE



DISCOVER LOCAL
SUPPORT
NETWORKS



MENTAL
HEALTH
GUIDANCE



For more information, please contact Isobel on
isobel.irwin@nhs.net



CW+



NHS
CHARITIES
TOGETHER

NHS
England

THE ISLAND'S GOT *Talent*

**COWES
FRINGE**

East Cowes Town Hall

Sunday 1st March 2026 | Time TBC

HOSTED BY

CHRIS QUINTON

JUDGES

NIGEL HARTLEY | ROB DA BANK

HANNAH BREAR & *Jam ROKI*

WIN YOUR MOMENT TO PERFORM AT THE
COWES FRINGE MOUNTBATTEN GALA NIGHT IN MAY
OPEN TO TALENTED PERFORMERS AGED 8+ TO ADULTS

Applications & Ticket Details available at www.cowesfringe.com





Funded by
UK Government



Household
Support Fund



Isle of Wight
Council

January 2026

Dear Parents / Carers

Isle of Wight Council invites eligible families to sign up for free activities this February Half Term as part of the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme.

The HAF programme is funded by the Department for Education so that we can offer healthy food and enriching activities in the school holidays to children who receive income-based free school meals. For February half term we have partnered with the Household Support Fund (HSF) to offer half term HAF.

To check your eligibility please see the following webpage: <https://www.iow.gov.uk/schools-and-education/schools/free-school-meals/>

A small number of places are also available on a discretionary basis : please click the following link to see if you are eligible <https://www.iow.gov.uk/children-and-family-support/holiday-activities-and-childcare/holiday-activities/holiday-activities-and-food-programme-haf/>

For this half term only- due to our partnership with the HSF, we can also offer a number of discretionary funded places to families in receipt of universal credit but not eligible for income related free school meals. Please book using the link below-tick 'other' under the eligibility criteria and type universal credit in the box- the HAF team will then contact the booker to confirm eligibility.

The HAF Team often receives requests for Half Term activities and we are delighted to be able to provide these popular activities for this February Half Term.

- Activities will run from Monday 16th February-Friday 20th February
- Bookings open Wednesday 21 January at 10am
- All activities include a healthy nutritious meal for children and young people attending

Activity Provider	Venue	Type of Activity
Aspire Ryde	Soft Play, Aspire Ryde, Dover Street, Ryde, PO33 2BN	Soft play, crafts and group activities for the family
	Creative Hub, Aspire Ryde, Dover Street, Ryde, PO33 2BN	Music, crafts and digital media based activity
	Creative Hub, Young Persons & Family Centre, Sibden Road, Shanklin, PO37 7LY	Music, crafts and digital media based activity
Connect IOW	Connect Centre, 7 Bowling Green Lane, Newport, PO30 1RR	Specialist SEND Activity
Football Fun Factory	Lift Ryde, Pell Lane, Ryde, PO33 3LL	Football based activity including inflatables
The Holt	136 Pyle Street, Newport, PO30 1JW	Specialist SEND Activity
Island Riding Centre	Island Riding Centre, Staplers Road, Newport, PO30 2NB	Horse riding activity including horse care and yard/stable maintenance
LJR Coaching	Broadlea Primary School, Newport Road, Sandown, PO36 9PE	World Cup football days and multi sports
	Holy Cross Catholic Primary School Millfield Avenue, East Cowes PO32 6AS	coaching days

Premier School Sports Coaching (PSSC)	Barton Primary School, Furlongs, Newport, PO30 2AX	Sports activity days including basketball camp at Barton Primary and gymnastic and dance days (see individual listings for exact dates each activity runs)
	Dover Park Primary School, Dover Street, Ryde PO33 2BN	
	Lanesend Primary School, Love Lane, Cowes, PO31 7ES	
	Nine Acres Community Primary School, South View, Newport PO30 1QP	
	St Francis Catholic and Church of England Primary Academy, Newport Road, Ventnor, PO38 1BQ	
IOW Rare Breeds (including specialist SEND activity and child only days)	Isle of Wight Rare Breeds, Oaklea Farm, Alverstoke, PO36 0EX	Family farm-based activities including meeting animals, scavenger hunts and crafts
Scallywags Fun Club	Oakfield CE Primary School, Appley Road, Ryde, PO33 1NE	Fun filled and challenging activities in a safe and inclusive environment
Fun Club - West Wight Nursery	West Wight Nursery, Summers Lane, Totland, PO39 0HQ	Multi-Activity Club including drama llama

How to book:

You can use the following link [IW Family Information Hub \(HAF\) \(iow.gov.uk\)](https://www.iow.gov.uk/family-information-hub) to search for activities and contact local providers directly or access this webpage using the QR code below.



Please contact the HAF Team on holidayactivities@iow.gov.uk if you have any questions.

Kind regards



Rhea Martin
HAF Delivery Officer