

ST GEORGE'S GAZETTE

Friday 27th March

Dear Students, Families, Staff and Governors

We have had a busy couple of weeks leading up to the Easter break, it has been a short half-term which always makes it feel busier.

Students on both sites have been engaging well with their learning and enjoying the improved weather.

As we move into the summer term, please be mindful that more learning opportunities, including PE lessons, will be taking place outside so please ensure your young person is equipped with appropriate clothing, plastic water bottles and, as the weather gets warmer, sun lotion.

We are all looking forward to the Easter break and very much look forward to welcoming students back to school for the summer term on Monday the 13th of April.

I hope you all have a good break and are able to spend time with your families and loved ones.

Best Wishes,

S. Tolfrey

Sarah Tolfrey
Deputy Head
St George's School



Dates for Your Diary / Events Programme

DEVELOPMENT DAYS

Monday 22nd June

Monday 27th July

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Easter Holidays

Last day of Term:
Friday 27th March

**Students Return to
school:**
Monday 13th April

SPORTS DAY:
Thursday 4th June



Telephone:
01983 524634
[www.stgeorges-
school.co.uk](http://www.stgeorges-school.co.uk)

Poppy



Dear Students, Families, Staff and Governors,

We have had a sad week at St George's with the sudden loss of Poppy our wonderful Pets as Therapy dog, who has been with us since September 2015 as an 8-week-old puppy. Her last day with us was Thursday 19th March 2026. She died at home in her sleep on Friday afternoon, 20th March.

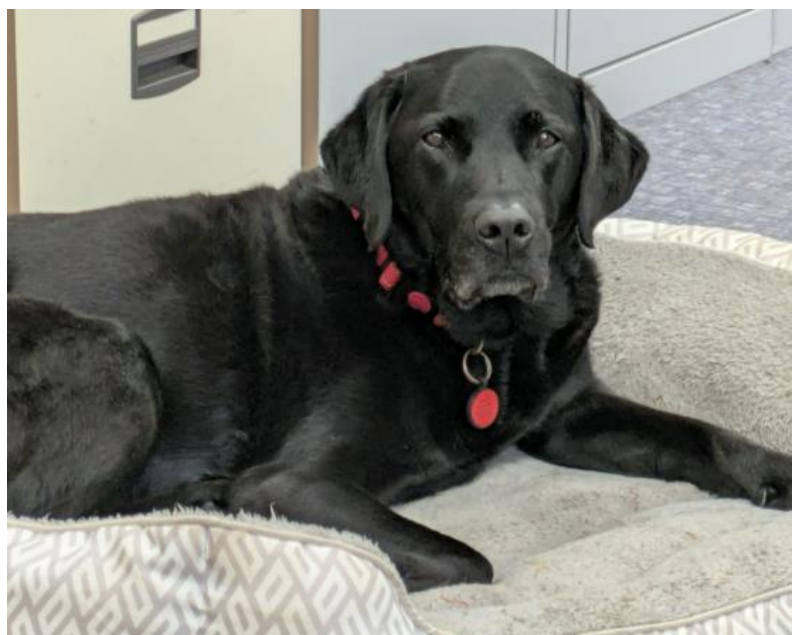
Poppy touched the lives of many students, and staff, over the last 11 years and her impact is immeasurable. She was always so tuned into emotions and had a natural ability to support students and help them regulate at school, in the community and on many residential.

As a family, and school community, we are devastated by her loss.

Best Wishes

S.J. Gleeson

Steff Gleeson
Headteacher



The Studio

As we move further into the academic year, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all our parents and families for your continued support. Your encouragement and partnership play a vital role in the success and wellbeing of our students, and it is greatly appreciated by everyone at the Studio School.

It has been a particularly positive period for student attendance, which continues to improve. This reflects the commitment many of our young people are showing towards their education, and we are proud of the effort being made across the school community.

We are also delighted to celebrate the wide range of achievements through AQA Unit Awards. Students have engaged enthusiastically in diverse and creative topics, from Dungeons and Dragons to entomology, demonstrating curiosity, collaboration, and a willingness to explore new areas of learning. Alongside this, we have seen some fantastic accomplishments in art, with students producing thoughtful and expressive work.

A special mention must go to Phoebe, whose beautiful artwork is now proudly displayed in reception. It is a wonderful example of the creativity within our school, and I hope you enjoy seeing it when you visit.

In addition, students have been working hard towards their qualifications, in both PE and Design Technology. These achievements reflect not only skill development but also resilience and dedication to their studies.

As we look ahead to the summer term, I would like to remind families about expectations around uniform. Students should attend in either St George's uniform or appropriate all-black attire that is suitable for a school environment. Maintaining these standards helps foster a sense of pride and belonging within our community.

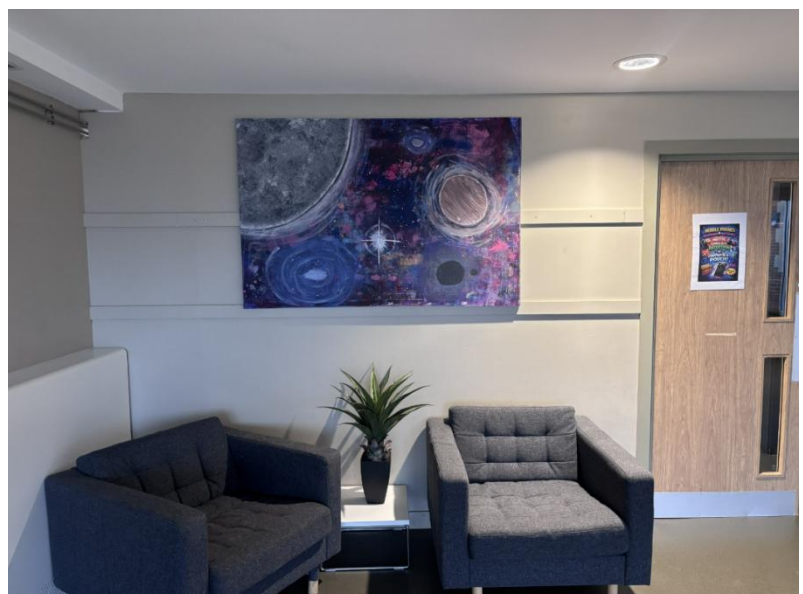
A further reminder to all visitors and families: please approach the school site with care and be mindful of speed, keeping to under 20 miles per hour. The safety of our students is always our top priority.

Finally, we are looking forward to the warmer, brighter months ahead. The summer term always brings a sense of energy and opportunity, particularly as we support our Year 11 students through their final weeks with us. It is a significant time in their journey, and we are proud to be part of it.

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*



World Book Day

We had a fantastic response to World Book Day on the 5th of March. The students made a great effort with their character costumes and embraced the day!



Collection Times

Could we please remind all parents/carers that, unless prior arrangements have been made, or your young person has an appointment, pick up time is no earlier than 2:50pm.
Many Thanks

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!



Enter our Super Draw
WIN A HOME ROBOT BUNDLE
OR £1,000 CASH PRIZE

St George's School

- Tickets cost just £1 a week
- Chances to win up to £25,000
- Play weekly, or just play the Super Draw!
- Support our fundraising this spring

YOUR SCHOOL LOTTERY

PLAY NOW:
Go to
www.yourschoollottery.co.uk
Search for: St George's School

18+ GambleAware

For website for Terms & conditions. Enter by 28/03/26.

St George's School – #Beewell Survey Update

At St George's, we are committed to understanding and supporting the wellbeing of every student. One of the keyways we do this is by participating in the #BeeWell Survey — a large, region-wide wellbeing programme designed to hear directly from young people about their experiences, mental health, and what matters to them. The survey helps schools identify strengths, celebrate successes, and focus on areas where further support may be needed.

This year's #Beewell results provide a positive and encouraging picture of our students' wellbeing, while also highlighting an important area for development. In many areas of wellbeing, St George's students scored in line with national and SEN averages, indicating they feel similarly to their peers across the region.

Highlights from This Year's #Beewell Findings

☀️ Students are happier with their attainment

St George's students report higher-than-average happiness with their marks and academic progress. This suggests our students feel proud of what they are achieving and confident in their learning.

☀️ Students feel exceptionally well supported by staff

One of the most outstanding findings is that our relationships with staff score is the highest of ALL comparable non-mainstream schools.

This is a huge credit to our teaching and support teams, who build meaningful, positive relationships that help students feel safe, understood, and encouraged every day.

☀️ Self-esteem is among the highest of all SEN students

Our students rated their self-esteem as one of the highest across all SEN settings, showing that they feel valued and confident in who they are.

While the survey highlights significant strengths, it also reveals one key wellbeing priority:

😴 Nearly a third of our students feel they do not get enough sleep.

This is by far the most prominent area where our students differ from wellbeing recommendations. Sleep plays a vital role in learning, emotional regulation, concentration, and overall health — In order to support better routines, raise awareness, and work with families to improve sleep habits across the school community, please see the following links for advice for you and your young person in supporting them having a healthy Sleep routine.

[Home - Teen Sleep Hub](#)

[Sleep routines for young people and teenagers](#)

[Tips to improve your sleep - for 11-18 year olds | Mind](#)

We are proud of the strong relationships, positive self-esteem, and high academic satisfaction reflected in the #Beewell results. These findings confirm that St George's continues to provide a safe, nurturing, and supportive environment where students can thrive.

Thank you to our students for taking part and to our staff for their continued commitment to wellbeing.

Wishing you a Restful Spring Break.



Lorna Battista

Key Stage 4 Lead Senior Mental Health Lead

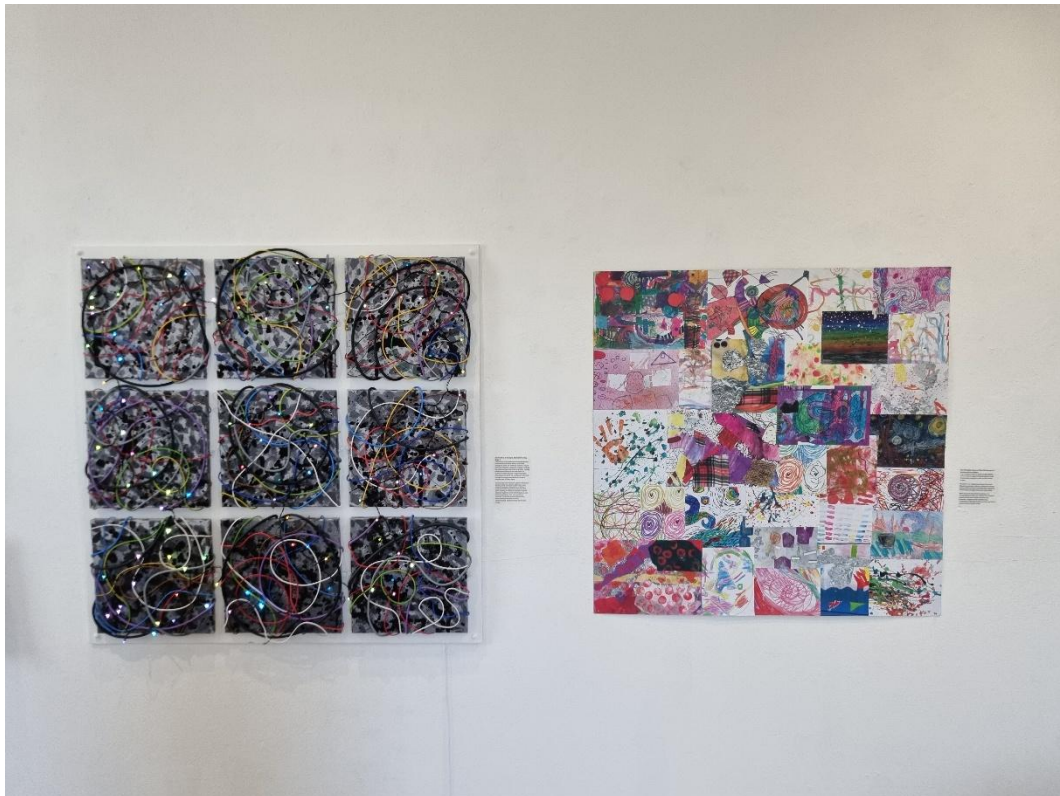


Visit the PEACH Exhibition “ENERGY” at Quay Arts Gallery 28 March – 26 April 2026

We are excited to invite all students, families, and members of our school community to visit PEACH's new exhibition, ENERGY, at Quay Arts Gallery in Newport.

This inspiring showcase celebrates creativity, wellbeing, and youth voice. Featuring artwork created by students from across the Isle of Wight, including two powerful collaborative pieces produced by our very own students from Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4.

The exhibition runs from **28 March to 26 April 2026**, and we warmly encourage families to visit and celebrate the imagination, individuality and hard work of our students.



‘Our Energetic Frame of Mind’

A vibrant collection celebrating individual style and artistic exploration.

This artwork brings together pieces by 27 Key Stage 4 students inspired by famous artists such as Vincent Van Gogh, Wassily Kandinsky, Giacomo Balla, and Jackson Pollock.

Students explored how these artists expressed mood, movement, and emotion through line, colour, pattern, and energetic mark-making.

Some students re-imagined iconic paintings in their own style, while others experimented freely with mixed media techniques.

Their original artworks were photocopied and arranged as a collective piece that pulses with colour, individuality, and expressive energy.



'Illumination'

A collaborative mixed-media installation exploring the flow of emotion.

Illumination investigates how emotions connect, overlap, and move through us, just like electrical currents or neural pathways. The 15 Key Stage 3 students used a dynamic mix of acrylic paint, black ink, repurposed coloured electrical wires (kindly donated by local company Heatstar), and painted LED fairy lights to create a vibrant emotional "circuit."

Each LED shines in a colour chosen by a student to express an emotion. The wires represent layered, tangled, and intertwined emotional pathways, while the painted canvases reflect bursts of internal energy.

The nine canvases that are displayed together as one collective installation a powerful visual metaphor for how emotional experiences are shared, connected, and illuminated by creativity.



Exhibition Details

PEACH: ENERGY
28 March – 26 April 2026
Quay Arts Gallery, Newport
Free entry · 09:00 – 16:00

Your visit will help to recognise the incredible achievements of our students and encourage them to continue exploring their creativity with pride.

You'll feel inspired by how we used art to explore feelings, identity, and energy.

Rachel, Hannah and Zoe
Art Department

Community News and Events



WE WANT YOU!

Looking for a friendly & fun club to play cricket? Just starting out and want to give it a go?

Everyone welcome

ECB trained coaches, equipment & great opportunities.






For more information please contact us at  07368937817

www.facebook.com/arretoncc

- All-stars age 5-8
- Dynamo age 8-11
- U11 teams
- U13 teams
- U15 teams
- Girl's teams
- Men & Women

Easter Fun

Isle of Wight Donkey Sanctuary

28 March to 12 April

Free Easter Egg Trail
Grab a trail card, spot the eggs around the sanctuary, then claim your treat!

Decorate an egg competition
Decorate a donkey-themed egg for a chance to win a donkey adoption!

Free guided tours - daily
Join our behind-the-scenes guided tour. Limited availability - book online to secure your spot.

Even more to enjoy
Springtime walks, live music Easter Sunday, treats in the café, beautiful gift shop, animal adoptions and more...






Find out more:
iowdonkeysanctuary.org



NEWPORT ROMAN VILLA



Celebrating 100 Years of Newport Roman Villa

Open day

Saturday 28 March, 10am to 2pm

Special discounted entry, just £1!

Guided tours at 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm, and 1.30pm

Explore the ruins and get hands on in the activity room



Image courtesy of the Isle of Wight County Press

iow.gov.uk/museums ☎ 01983 529720/823433

✉ museums@iow.gov.uk

📍 Cypress Road, Newport, IW, PO30 1HA



Isle of Wight Council



Messy Easter

AT THE ISLE OF WIGHT SALVATION ARMY CHURCH 72 PYLE STREET, NEWPORT, PO30 1UJ

On Tuesday 7th April from 3:15pm - 6pm



ACTIVITIES



DINNER



STORIES



CRAFTS



GAMES

FREE

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

Parent and Caregiver Peer Support Sessions

11th June 2026 (9am – 11am) Cowes Family Centre

16th July 2026 (9am – 11am) Carisbrook & Gunville Church

16th September 2026 (9am – 11am) Ventnor Family Centre

16th October 2026 (9am – 11am) Sandown Family Centre

18th November 2026 (9am – 11am) Carisbrook & Gunville Church

13th January 2027 (9am – 11am) Carisbrook & Gunville Church

10th February 2027 (9am – 11am) Carisbrook & Gunville Church

Isle of Wight
Neurodiversity
Team

Drop in for a chat, a cuppa and shared experiences

No booking needed



Cowes Family Centre –
Love Lane, Cowes PO31 7ET
Carisbrook & Gunville Church
Gunville Road, Newport
PO30 5LS
Ventnor Family Centre
Albert Street, Ventnor PO38 1EZ
Sandown Family Centre
The Fairway, Sandown PO36 9EQ

Drama Taster Sessions

Dear All,
StoneCrabs Theatre is partnering with the National Saturday Club to offer **free drama taster sessions** across the Isle of Wight.

The club is FREE and will give participants access to masterclasses as well as a trip to London

More info: <https://saturday-club.org/club/stone-crabs/>

Interested?

Just reply or email franko@stonecrabs.co.uk with a suitable date/time.

Or please help spread the word to your students:

- **Ages:** 13–16
- **When:** Saturdays (May–July) | 10:00–12:00
- **Where:** Quay Arts, Newport
- **Cost:** Free (limited spaces)
- **No experience needed**

The club offers fun, confidence-building drama workshops and the chance to take part in national events, including a London showcase.

Thanks so much, and I hope we can work together.

Best wishes,

Franko

StoneCrabs Theatre

franko@stonecrabs.co.uk



Franko Figueiredo (they/them)

Artistic Director

+44(0)7877077552



Cineworld have advertised movies for juniors being shown through the half term – keep an eye on their website for the updates every Tuesday!

www.cineworld.co.uk/movies-for-juniors

Sporting Opportunities Isle of Wight needs the community help!

Island youngsters and some former students at St George's School are hoping to be being given the amazing opportunity at sporting opportunities to take part in The Special Olympics Great Britain 2026 National Summer Games in Birmingham. Sporting opportunities are organising many quiz and raffle nights to raise funds in the coming months.

The athletes have the talent and the heart, now, we need the funds to get them across the Solent and onto the podium. As a volunteer-run charity, we rely on our community to make these dreams a reality. Your donations will fund Travel- Ferry crossings and mainland transport for athletes and coaches. Accommodation: A safe, accessible home base for the 5-day event in Birmingham. The New Kit: Professional, high-quality gear so our team can represent the Island with pride.

We are looking for local business partners to join us on this journey. This is a unique opportunity to align your brand with inclusive sport and support a team that is already proven to be medal-winning material.

We have several sponsorship tiers available for our 2026 National Games Kit:

Tier 1: The "Kit Partner" (Limited Spots)

Have your company logo featured prominently on our official 2026 competition kit.

- Back-of-Shirt Sponsorship: High visibility during track events and football matches.
- Shorts Sponsorship: Supporting our athletes with every stride.
- Includes: Featured "Shout-outs" on social media and a framed team photo with your logo in action.

Tier 2: The "Travel Partner"

Help us bridge the gap between the Island and the mainland.

- Your brand featured on our website and social media throughout the 2026 campaign.
- Mention in our local press releases and community updates.

Interested in Sponsoring? If you'd like to see your brand on our new kit or want to discuss a bespoke partnership, please contact us on: [01983866177](tel:01983866177)

How You Can Support Us Today

1. Donate Individually: Every pound counts toward our travel fund.
2. Corporate Match: Does your workplace match-fund? Let us know!
3. Spread the Word: Share our story with Island businesses who love supporting local talent.

Thank you for supporting inclusive sport on the Isle of Wight. Let's get Team IOW to Birmingham!



If you feel you can donate anything for this opportunity, please feel to donate on the go fund me page. Every penny counts!

<https://gofund.me/0a6e4d83f>

More information can be found at

<https://soiw.org.uk>