



# Mr Kirby's Weekly News

Dear Dover Park Family,

I hope you have all had a fantastic, restful half-term break and have managed to enjoy the beautiful Island with your families. It is hard to believe how quickly the week has flown by!

As we look forward to a busy new term, it is the perfect time to reflect on how our core values of Enjoy, Belong and Believe continue to guide everything we do. Please find our latest school updates below.

### Our Governing Body

We are incredibly fortunate to have a full complement of 12 school governors, making us one of the only schools on the Island to be in this position. For those who may not be aware, our governors play a vital role in ensuring that every child can belong to a safe, nurturing, and ambitious learning community. They act as "strategic friends," meeting at least half-termly to review school performance, oversee financial management and continually support our ongoing school development.

Our governors share our passion for excellence and regularly visit the school to monitor the work we are doing. This past half term has been no exception, with governors conducting vital monitoring visits to thoroughly check our safeguarding processes and procedures, alongside reviewing a range of curriculum subjects. Their dedication ensures we have the right foundation for our children to believe in their potential and achieve their very best. Thank to our amazing team of governors for their ongoing commitment.

### Freeze Pop Fridays are Back!

As the weather warms up, we are delighted to announce that 'Freeze Pop Friday' is returning for this half term!

Beginning this coming Friday, children are welcome to buy a freeze pop to share a treat with their friends at breaktime. If your child would like to join in, please send them into school with 50p in a sealed envelope or wrapped in a piece of paper. All profits raised from this will go directly into our Children's Fund and the school council will be thinking about how they would like to use these funds.



## Disco and Fundraising

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our recent school disco. It was a fantastic success, and the children really enjoyed themselves, dancing the afternoon away and creating wonderful memories together. Thanks to your generosity, the event raised a brilliant **£689**.

This money will be used to purchase new sensory equipment, ensuring that all of our pupils feel supported and to further develop our inclusive environment. Looking ahead, our School Council will be meeting soon to discuss how future fundraising money might be allocated, empowering our pupils to lead the way because we believe in the power of their voices.



### Attendance Hero Challenge: Every Day Counts

This week, we start our Attendance Hero Challenge. We know that children who attend school regularly are significantly more likely to achieve higher attainment levels and develop stronger social bonds, so we want to support children being in school in any way we can.

Every child who achieves 'HERO' status for a full week will be awarded a **raffle ticket**. These will be entered into a grand prize draw at the end of the academic year. We look forward to seeing who our lucky winners will be!

## Sing-Up

On the final day of the half term, we celebrated the joy of music with our community. We were proud to host the collaborative 'Sing Up' event, where we welcomed children and staff from The Priory, Greenmount Primary, Gatten and Lake Primary, and Nettlestone Primary. It was a beautiful reminder of how wonderful it is to belong to a wider community of schools as we all joined together in song.

The children performed brilliantly, showing us just what they can achieve when they believe in themselves. A special thank you must go to Mrs. Grub for arranging this wonderful opportunity and to her fantastic band for providing the live music to accompany our young singers. The atmosphere in the hall was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

## Food Bank



We would like to remind you that we are an official food bank distributor. We understand that times can sometimes be challenging, and we are here to help.

Any family that requires some short-term support can access a food bank voucher through us. Please feel free to speak to Mr Kirby or Mrs. Roberts or alternatively, you can email Miss Jackson at [cflo@doverparkpri.iow.sch.uk](mailto:cflo@doverparkpri.iow.sch.uk). We are always here to help.

## School Nursing Team

If you're unable to attend one of the in-school drop in sessions to see the school nursing team, they are available to arrange meetings outside of school. For more information, please see the information below

### **School Nurses – How Can We Help?**

School Nurses can support with any of these health concerns:

- Growth, including underweight and overweight
- Support around diet i.e. fussy eating
- Unmet physical health needs that are having an impact upon school attendance
- Toileting - including daytime and night-time wetting, constipation, soiling
- Sleep support
- Support around oral hygiene
- Self-care support
- Puberty/body changes

Contact the team on: 0300 123 5224 or email: [hiowh.iowschoolnursing@nhs.net](mailto:hiowh.iowschoolnursing@nhs.net)

# LEARNING

Reception enjoyed their visit to Ryde library where they got to choose a book to bring back to school and listen to a story read by the librarian.



Year 1 had made their end products for design technology in the last week. After carefully selecting the fruits they like, thinking about which go well together, they made their fruit salads. They have also evaluated their fruit salads, some were too juicy and went soggy and others were a tasty mix of various fruits! The overall feeling was very happy



with skills choices, well as full mies!



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ing

Year 2 enjoyed a busy and enjoyable day at the Mary Rose Museum at the Portsmouth Historic Dockyard this week. Travelling via the Wightlink Catamaran after walking down the pier, they enjoyed a workshop about the lives of the officers and crew on board Henry VII's favourite ship. We explored the museum and were amazed and excited to see the remains of the Mary Rose right before our eyes - bringing local history to life.



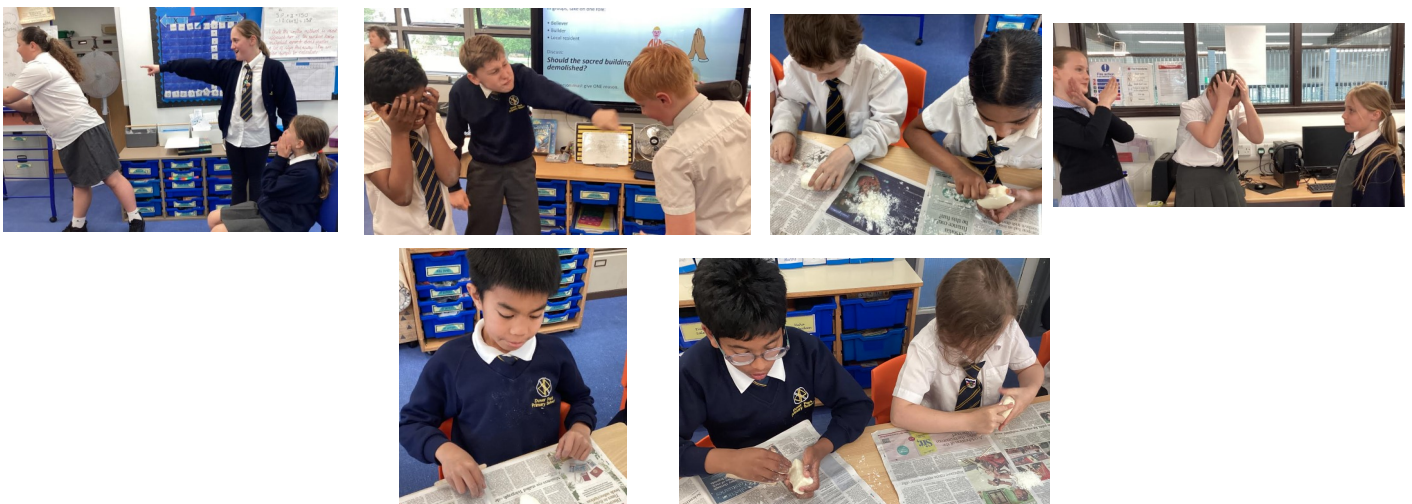
Year 3 have been exploring the artwork of Frank Bowling, and have produced their own collaborative work inspired by his style. They drew something of importance to them, then used bright colours and different textures using a variety of art medium to create artwork they are very proud of!

# LEARNING

Year 4 had a lot of fun this week combining their DT and Science skills whilst making their own torches.



This week, Year 5 have been busy stretching their imaginations in all directions! We have been moving shapes across grids using coordinates like puzzle-solvers, while our stories have grown richer and more atmospheric as we worked hard to build tension and transport readers into new worlds. Our soap-carved Big Bugs are really beginning to spring to life with texture and character, and the classroom became a stage as children explored different viewpoints through drama and role play. Our UK world tour videos and editing skills are really coming along too, and we are growing in confidence playing different rhythms with different hands on the keyboard. A wonderfully creative week in Year 5!



Year 6 had a fantastic time on Wednesday preparing the gardening beds for the rest of the school. They were supported by Mrs Armitage, who very kindly came in to help.



## Reader of the Week

Year 1— Sofia

Year 2— Charlie

Year 3— Arabella

Year 4— Reggie

Year 5— Vaishnav

Year 6— Max



Cloakroom Award

Half Termly Attendance

## Diary Dates

1st June Children return to school

5th June — Year 3 Parent Workshop

8th June—Year 5 Music Workshop (please note change of date)

17th-19th June— Year 6 residential

19th June— Whole School Teddy Bear Picnic 12:15-1:00

22nd June—School Development Day (School closed to children)

24th June—KS2 Sports Day (parents will be welcome in the afternoon, details to follow)

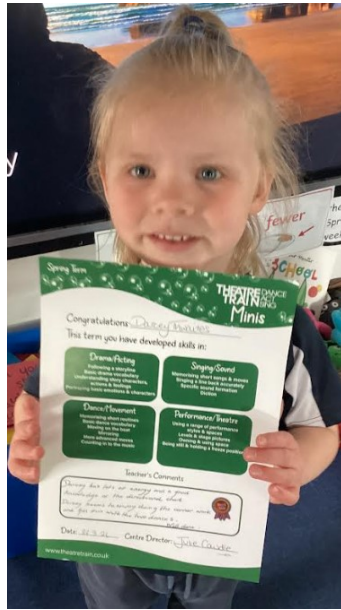
25th June—Reception & KS1 Sports Day (parents will be welcome in the afternoon, details to follow)

23rd July—Last day of term for children

Friday 24th July—Inset day STAFF ONLY

Monday 27th July—Inset day STAFF ONLY

## Awards from Home



Children across the school have been recognised for their talents. This week's awards include sponsored walks, swimming, theatre skills and football. Well done all!



Supporting and informing the families and friends of people who use drugs and alcohol.

*Is your son, daughter, partner or friend using drugs or alcohol*

*Does this affect their daily family life?*

*Are you looking after them?*

*Would you like to talk to someone about the support we provide?*

*If so the Family & Friends Service could be for you...  
Contact the 24/7 telephone line*



**023 8039 9764**



# 1:1 or 1:2 RELATIONSHIP SUPPORT SESSIONS



Informal & practical tools inviting you to experience a closer & more satisfying relationship



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BOOK  
HERE



The Gottman Institute

A RESEARCH-BASED  
APPROACH TO  
RELATIONSHIPS

“youth trust”

# SNACK & CHAT

For Young People Aged 11-15  
Fortnightly on Thursdays  
15:00- 17:00

Dates:  
9<sup>th</sup> April  
23<sup>rd</sup> April  
7<sup>th</sup> May  
21<sup>st</sup> May  
4<sup>th</sup> June  
2<sup>nd</sup> July  
16<sup>th</sup> July  
30<sup>th</sup> July



Join us for a fun hangout with snacks, games and a chance to make new friends! Perfect if you are looking to build new connections and be yourself in a safe space.

This activity is funded by



Snacks provided by



youth trust

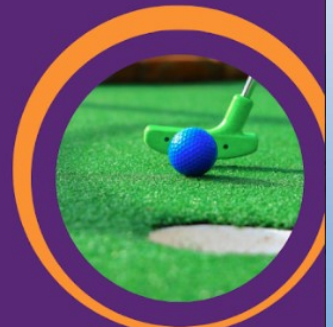
## DAY OUT WITH THE IW YOUTH TRUST TASKFORCE

10:00 on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2026

14-25? Team up with the Taskforce for an experience at the IOW Rare Breeds, a free lunch and then crazy golf.

Book your place using the QR code. Numbers are limited.

If you would like to travel in a free minibus from Newport please email [wellbeing@iowyouthtrust.co.uk](mailto:wellbeing@iowyouthtrust.co.uk)



Follow -US- @iowyouthtrust

GSK x The Kings Fund 2025 GSK IMPACT Awards Overall Winner

This activity is funded by COMMUNITY FUND

SCAN ME eventbrite TO SIGN UP



# Bringing Baby Home



The Gottman Institute  
A RESEARCH-BASED  
APPROACH TO RELATIONSHIPS

A 5 week series of webinars for  
parents with babies to stay  
connected in this time of change

## What will you learn?

- What "successful" couples do to keep love alive after children
- How to grow in friendship
- Practical ways to manage stress
- How to regulate conflict so you grow together & not apart
- Nurturing intimacy & Creating your unique family



*"A couple's emotional connection provides the  
foundation for a child's development"*



John Gottman

Fully Funded & Online  
To book scan QR code or email:  
lovemattersiow@gmail.com

**Book Now**



**LOVE  
MATTERS**

REAL RELATIONSHIPS  
CONNECTION & CARE

A **not-for-profit** organisation  
supporting **all** relationships at **all**  
stages. Providing **workshops & 1:1**  
**support** for parents, children,  
**families, couples**

The NHS Occupational Therapy Team will be running monthly parent advice sessions. These sessions are open to any families which don't have an existing referral.

The sessions will be with an Occupational Therapist and an Assistant.

The team will be able to give advice, signpost to other services / charities and support with completing a full referral to Occupational Therapy if it is felt the needs discussed require a full assessment.

The team will be able to support with advice around:

- Self Care tasks - e.g. washing, dressing, using cutlery, toileting
- Fine motor skill development
- Play skills
- Preschool / school readiness



### **Session Dates for 2026**

(more dates and locations may be added if required):

15 Jan, 19 Feb, 19 March, 16 April, 21 May and 18 June.

Slots will be available at 9am, 10am and 11am.

Appointments will last for 45mins.

To book, contact the department on **01983 534520** or via email to **[iownt.paediatric-ot-mailbox@nhs.net](mailto:iownt.paediatric-ot-mailbox@nhs.net)**

Sessions will take place at the Childrens Therapies Department,  
St Mary's Hospital, Newport, Isle of Wight



Family Assist  
Solent



Hampshire and  
Isle of Wight Healthcare  
NHS Foundation Trust

# Helping to keep your child healthy

The Isle of Wight 0-19 Team is made up of Health Visitors, School Nurses, Community Nurses, Associate Practitioners and Administrators.

We use our skill mix team to ensure that all families are offered mandated health contacts for needs assessment, advice and support.

**Please see Family Assist for additional support information.**



If you have any questions or would like to speak to a Health Visitor or School Nurse, please ring the 0-19 duty desk on **0300 123 5224**



**24  
HOUR  
Telephone  
contact line  
023 8039 9764**



Supporting and informing the families and friends of people who use drugs and alcohol.

An independent group of parents and others, who through our different experiences are aware of the anxieties and sense of isolation, illegal drug use can cause

**023 8039 9764**

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*We value your views and opinions*

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**FAMILY & FRIENDS SUPPORT SERVICE**

*Is your son, daughter, partner or friend using drugs or alcohol?*

*Are you looking after them?*

*Does this affect your day to day life?*

*Would you like to talk to someone about support for yourself?*

If so the Family & Friends Service could be for you... Contact the 24/7 telephone line



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**FAMILY & FRIENDS SUPPORT SERVICE**





**PLEASE  
DON'T PARK**

**ON DOUBLE  
YELLOW LINES**