



Mr Kirby's Weekly News

Dear Dover Park Family

It has been another fun-packed week of learning, adventures and community spirit at our school, and I am delighted to share some highlights with you.

NSPCC Kindness Week

During our assembly on Tuesday, we not only celebrated kindness but also ensured our pupils understood the importance of seeking help if they are worried about anything. We took time to discuss the Childline number, reinforcing our commitment to pupil welfare and support. The children have then engaged in activities and discussions throughout the week—focusing on how kindness can bring joy to others and often costs nothing!

Parent Evenings

Last week's parent evenings were exceptionally well attended. I hope you found your conversations with our dedicated staff valuable and gained insights into how well your child has settled into their new classes. These discussions are crucial in understanding the next steps we can collectively support at home. If you haven't been able to attend, please contact your class teacher via Class Dojo to arrange a suitable time to meet, as it's extremely important to work collaboratively to support your children.

Times Table Rockstars

Our mathematics celebration continues to inspire. Mr Rowson, our maths leader, has been dedicating significant personal time to recognising pupils' achievements in Times Table Rockstars (TTRS). He deserves special recognition for collating information, creating certificates and motivating our pupils. In fact, he has now initiated an exciting Rock Star Battle between Year 5 and Year 6, challenging them to accumulate the most points over the half-term period. As we always emphasise, times tables are fundamentally important to mathematical understanding and we encourage all children to practice regularly. Our year 6 children will testify to their importance as they utilise their timestable knowledge as they multiply and divide multi digit numbers (long multiplication and division), recognise factors, multiples and primes numbers, simplify fractions (using common factors and multiples), covert decimals and percentages to fractions, find and use ratios and scaling, converting measurements, calculating areas and using algebra to solve problems... and much more!



Author Visits

Literary excitement has also been high this week. We were privileged to host two authors - Nicholas Allen for our Year 1 and 2 pupils, and Andy Stanton for Years 5 and 6. These visits provided wonderful opportunities to inspire a love of reading and engage pupils with the magic of storytelling.



Go Yellow Day

Our Go Yellow Day was a resounding success, with pupils embracing creativity and compassion. From banana costumes to minion outfits, yellow was everywhere! Your generous donations have resulted in £200 raised for Mountbatten Hospice - a remarkable achievement that demonstrates our school's community spirit.

Thank you so much for supporting this event!



A few important reminders for your attention:

- The school disco is on Monday - I hope our pupils are looking forward to it!
- Our harvest festival assembly is on Friday. We would warmly welcome donations of long-lasting foods (tins, drinks, packets) which will be donated to Aspire to support those in need.
- Please note that Monday, 3rd November, is a whole school development day. Pupils will not be in school on this day.

LEARNING



This week Reception class has been discussing the special people in their lives. They made lots of different representations of their families. Here the children used natural objects to make family members. They then talked about who they were and why they were special to them.

In ICT, Year 1 have been doing bee bots and algorithms! The children have experimented programming the bee bots around their bee bot worlds and will begin to give explicit instructions shortly.

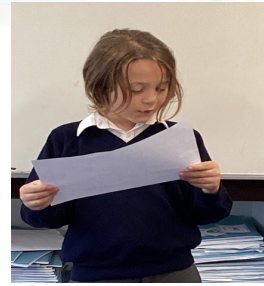


In DT year 2 have been finding out about wheels and axles. They explored lots of wheeled toys finding the axle and discovering how they work. They spent some time drawing the wheeled toys and labelling the different parts. Can they tell you what an axle is and find some at home?



LEARNING

This week in RE after learning about the Christian and Hindu story of creation, the children, in Year 3, had a go at using their creativity and imaginations to make their own creation story. Then some brave volunteers read their story out loud.



This week the children in Year 4 enjoyed tasting different fruits and vegetables in DT.



Spotted: Year 5 scientists hard at work... with Oreos! They've been learning all about moon phases in the tastiest way possible. Meanwhile, in PSHE, they've been tackling healthy and unhealthy relationships — a topic just as important (if a little less delicious!).



Year 6 had a fantastic afternoon on Thursday when the author Andy Stanton came in to talk about his Mr Gum series of books. He was really entertaining and really inspired the children to get writing



Hot Chocolate Friday

Year 1— Beatrice
Year 2— Torben
Year 3— Lily
Year 4— Delilah
Year 5— Sophia S
Year 6— Logan C



Reader of the Week

Year 1— Violet
Year 2— Teddy
Year 3— Logan
Year 4— Hugo
Year 5— Dakota
Year 6— Sophie



Cloakroom Award

Year

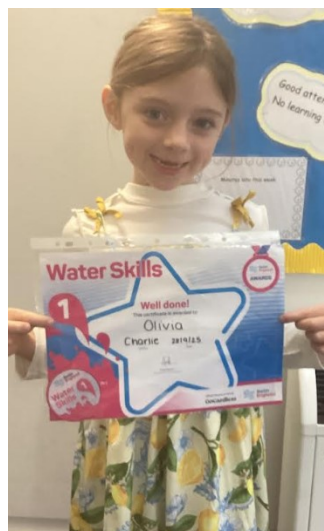
Attendance Award

Year

Sports Award

Emily W—for some amazing saves
in the girls football match on


Well done to Vaishnav and Olivia
who have both been working
hard in their hobbies outside of
school.






Diary Dates

- 13th October — School Disco—**CHANGE OF DATE**
- 17th October— Last day of school before half term
- 3rd November—Staff Training Day—School closed to pupils
- 4th November—Start of Autumn 2—Children return to school
- 5th November — Year 6 DT Workshop
- 18th November — Year 5 DT Workshop
- 20th November — Year 3 Assembly
- 22nd November — Christmas Sing Up at Medina Theatre
- 8th December — Year 1 Art Workshop
- 9th December — PJs and Popcorn Fundraiser
- 11th December — Christingle Service
- 12th December — Reception Christmas Craft Workshop
- 30th January —Year 3 Music Workshop
- 9th February —Year 4 Art Workshop
- 13th February — Year 2 Assembly
- 4th March —Year 6 Music Workshop
- 12th March —Year 2 DT Workshop
- 16th March — Year 4 Music Workshop
- 18th March —Year 5 Assembly
- 20th March — Easter Egg donation — Dress Down Day
- 26th March — Year 1 Assembly
- 27th March —Easter Egg Tombola
- 4th May —Year 5 Music Workshop
- 14th May — Year 4 Assembly
- 20th May — Year 1 Music Workshop
- 21st May — School Disco
- 29nd May — Reception Music Workshop
- 5th June — Year 3 Parent Workshop
- 19th June— Whole School Teddy Bear Picnic 12:15-1:00
- 25th June — Year 2 Music Workshop

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- Pumpkin light trail in the town
 - Sweets
 - Bouncy Castle
 - Face painting and Glitter Tattoos
 - Crafts and Activities
 - Food and Cakes

Light Party

FREE FAMILY FUN



Everyone is welcome! We would love to see you!

Friday 31st October 2025 3.30pm -5pm

St James's Church, Market Street
Ryde

2025/26 Webinar Schedule (Autumn Term)

Navigating Neurodivergence	Breakthrough Behaviour	Feel without Fear	Re-establishing Routines	CPVA (Child to Parent Violence and Aggression)	Sleep	Accepting Adolescence	Seasonal Sensory Awareness
4th September 9:30am	9th September 9:30am	11th September 9:30am	16th September 9:30am	18th September 9:30am	23rd September 9:30am	25th September 9:30am	
30th September 9:30am	2nd October 9:30am	7th October 9:30am	9th October 9:30am	14th October 9:30am	16th October 9:30am	17th October 9:30am	17th October 11:30am
4th November 9:30am	6th November 9:30am	11th November 9:30am	13th November 9:30am	18th November 9:30am	20th November 9:30am	25th November 9:30am	27th November 9:30am
2nd December 9:30am	4th December 9:30am	9th December 9:30am	11th December 9:30am	16th December 9:30am	18th December 9:30am	19th December 9:30am	19th December 11:30am

Please email katrina.austin1@iow.gov.uk to join any of the webinars noted above. All webinars are delivered online via Teams. A link to the webinar will be sent to you 24 hours prior.

Isle of Wight Neurodiversity Team



NHS
Hampshire and
Isle of Wight Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

Occupational therapy Parent advice sessions

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 2025

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

15 May, 19 June, 17 July, 18 September, 16 October, 20 November

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

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

gloji | Isle of Wight

Play netball for weight loss

A free 12-week programme at your local sports centre

Complete a specialist digital weight loss programme alongside weekly netball sessions designed to help you reach your fitness goals in a fun, supportive environment.

Scan me to Sign up!

Join our next programme:

Date: Thursday 2nd October, 2025

Time: 6-7.30pm

Location: Ryde School, PO33 3BE

support@gloji.co.uk 0800 054 1190 www.iow.gloji.org.uk

Suicide First Aid

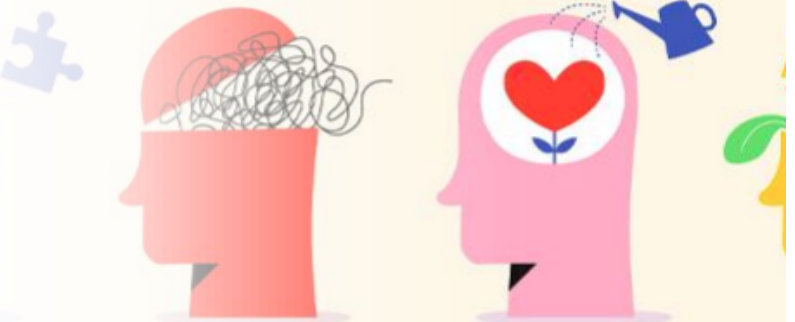
This FREE full day course provides learners with the foundational knowledge and practical skills needed to effectively intervene in situations where someone may be contemplating suicide.

Designed for individuals across various professions and community roles, this programme equips learners with the tools to recognise the signs of suicide, initiate life-saving conversations, and connect at-risk individuals with appropriate resources.

Whether you're a healthcare professional, educator, HR personnel, or concerned community member, this programme empowers you to make a real difference

30th September 2025 09:30am–4.30pm at The Learning Centre, Westridge, Brading Road, Ryde, Isle of Wight, PO33 1QS

Isle of Wight Council employees should book via the [course page](#) on the Learning Hub. External delegates can see more information [here](#) and book by completing the [online application form](#)





Drop-in Sessions

For parents of Early years children with emerging



SEND

Please scan the QR code for more information and to book

Come and join us for a friendly and informal drop in session, designed to provide support, advice, and a chance to connect with other parents and carers.

We often have Occupational Therapists and Speech and Language Therapists available to offer specialist advice.

10th September- Newport Family Centre

17th October- Sandown Family Centre

7th November- Ryde Family Centre

9th December- Newport Family Centre

9.30am - 10.30am or

10.30am - 11.30am



Isle of Wight
Council

NHS
Hampshire and
Isle of Wight Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust



**PLEASE
DON'T PARK**

**ON DOUBLE
YELLOW LINES**