



# Mr Kirby's Weekly News

Dear Dover Park Family

As always, it's been a busy week at Dover Park Primary School and I'd like to share what's been happening and to provide details of some upcoming events.

### Pupil Voice

Listening to our pupils is a fundamental aspect of our educational approach and this week has been a testament to that commitment. On Friday, we embarked on an engagement initiative where children from years 1 to 6 participated in focused discussions with our subject leaders.

These small group conversations provided a unique opportunity for our pupils to share their perspectives on their learning experiences. During these discussions, children articulated what they most enjoy about different subjects and offered thoughtful suggestions for potential improvements. They enthusiastically showcased work they are particularly proud of, which not only boosted their confidence but also provided our subject leaders with invaluable insights. These conversations are crucial in helping us develop a curriculum that is both engaging and responsive to our pupils' learning needs.

### **PJ and Popcorn Movie Night**

British Values, which we teach the children about as part of our curriculum, include the rule of democracy. Our school council help children to understand democracy by providing opportunities to be heard and by having votes in classes. This week, the school council have been entrusted with an important task: selecting the films for our upcoming Christmas PJ and Popcorn Movie Night. This event will take place immediately after school on 9th December, with tickets priced at £3, which includes popcorn and a drink. We will provide more detailed information once the film selection process is complete.



## A Christmas Celebration

An exciting musical opportunity is also on the horizon. On 22nd November, our school choir, along with additional pupils, will be joining other schools in a concert with the Isle of Wight Symphony Orchestra. Parents of children involved should ensure they complete and return the necessary forms. For families interested in attending, tickets are available from the Medina Theatre through their website: <https://www.medinatheatre.co.uk/events/a-christmas-celebration/>



## Reception Library Trips

Our youngest learners in Reception have also been experiencing exciting opportunities beyond the classroom. On Friday, they embarked on their first trip to Ryde library, an important early experience in developing a love of reading and exploring the world beyond our school walls.

## Christingle Service

Following the fantastic success of the Christingle Service last year, Dover Park will be heading to All Saints Church again for an evening full of Christmas joy, singing and smiles. Reception Class will recreate the nativity scene, while the rest of the school provide a stunning accompaniment, as they retell the nativity story through song.

It would be absolutely amazing to have each and every child in the school singing again with their families supporting. What better way to celebrate Christmas than with our incredible school community filling the largest church on the Isle of Wight!

The service will be at All Saints Church and will start at 5.30pm on Friday 12th December.

Let's fill the church with the Dover Park Christmas spirit!

Finer details will follow nearer the time.

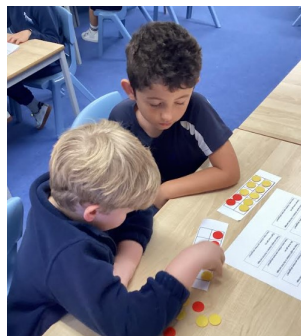


# LEARNING

As part of our People Who Help Us topic Reception had a visit from two postal workers who told the class about their job and how they help people in the community. The class then took part in lots of activities including role play post office, making maps and looking at past and present uniform.



This week Year 2 embarked on the epic journey of 'bridging 10' when adding and subtracting in maths. We used rehearsed sentences, gestures and actions, and tens frames to talk about 'partitioning' numbers and then 'making 10' to cross ten boundaries.



The children in Year 4 have been looking at the Bayeux tapestry in Art and have created pages in their sketchbooks, trying to use similar colours and images.



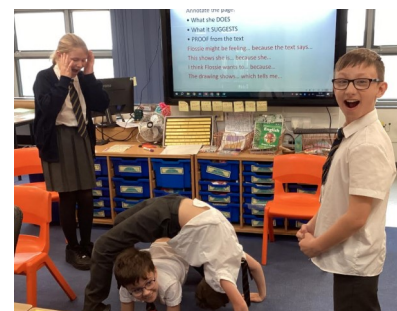
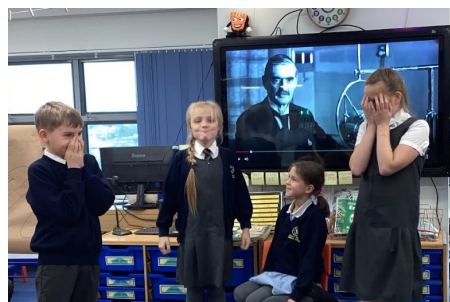
# LEARNING

This week, Year 6 have continued to work on their cars in Design Technology. The focus has been on adding the wheels and axels. The next step will be to add a propeller in order to make it go forward.



Year 1 have been learning about primary and secondary colours. We have mixed primary colours to make secondary colours and found out how to make the colour brown! Using our painting skills, we put these into a colour wheel.

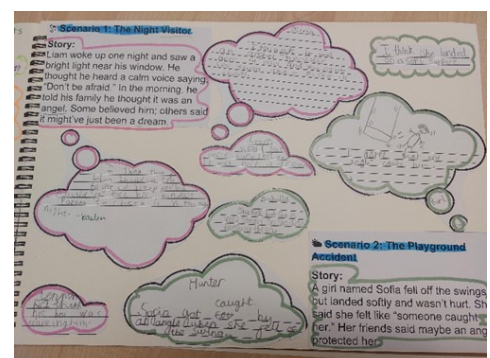
This week, Year 5 have been stepping back in time with *My Secret War Diary*, creating dramatic freeze frames as we listened to the announcement of war! The children also threaded our way into sewing—mastering knots, running stitches, and the fine art of not tangling ourselves in the process (still a work in progress!)



Year 3 have really enjoyed learning about 'angels' for RE this term. They have worked really hard on thinking about others thoughts and their own opinions through different scenarios, and drawing what they think an Angel looks like.



looks like.



## Hot Chocolate Friday

Year 1— Koda

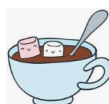
Year 2— Leo

Year 3— Kaelen

Year 4— Aleksandra

Year 5— Morris

Year 6— Max B



## Reader of the Week

Year 1— Ellie

Year 2— Lorenzo

Year 3— Robert

Year 4— Isabelle

Year 5— Dakota

Year 6— Gabby



## Cloakroom Award

Year 3

## Behaviour Points

Green House



In celebration assembly today, we congratulated lots of children on their achievements outside of school. Max achieved a silver award from scouts, Kodey was player of the week for his football team, Raine achieved a medal in gymnastics, Ellie worked hard to get her swimming award and Phoenix shared the book her writing got published in. Well done all!



## Diary Dates

- 18th November — Year 5 DT Workshop
- 20<sup>th</sup> November — Year 3 Assembly
- 22nd November — Christmas Sing Up at Medina Theatre
- 8th December — Year 1 Art Workshop
- 9th December — PJs and Popcorn Fundraiser
- 12th December — Christingle Service—**Please note change of date**
- 12th December — Reception Christmas Craft Workshop
- 30th January —Year 3 Music Workshop
- 9th February —Year 4 Art Workshop
- 13<sup>th</sup> 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
- 14<sup>th</sup> May — Year 4 Assembly
- 20<sup>th</sup> 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
- 2nd July — Reception Assembly



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**





# SANTA DASH



20  
25

**PROUDLY RAISING MONEY FOR ISLAND CHARITIES!**

### OFFERS:



- **Unlimited Bowling for £18 a person till 3pm (subject to availability)**
- **£5 per person per game for all attendees (subject to availability)**

**11:00AM** **DECEMBER 07, 2025.**

**Starts and ends at Ryde Super Bowl and Laser Quest, The Pavilion, Esplanade, Ryde, Isle of Wight.**

**01983617070** | **<https://rydesuperbowl.com>**



RYDE & DISTRICT ROUND TABLE PRESENTS

# SANTA DASH

2025



2 km or 5 km  
7th December at 11am  
Start / Finish at Ryde Superbowl

Book tickets now at [isleofwight.com/santadash](http://isleofwight.com/santadash)  
Children: £10° | Adults: £20 | Family of 4: £50

PROUDLY RAISING MONEY FOR ISLAND CHARITIES



\*Children must be under 18 - Booking fees apply - Entry on the day will incur slightly higher fees - Only 1 dog per adult/ family.  
See Facebook page or ticketing website for all event details. Santa suits are provided.

**Superbowl**<sup>Ryde</sup>  
Isle of Wight.com



**snap** 24/7  
**fitness**  
ISLE OF WIGHT



- Free impartial advice relating to SEND for 0-25 years.
- Confidential sessions not recorded.
- Peer support, talking to others experiencing a similar journey.
- A dedicated session with an experienced support worker

**13  
NOV**  
**09:30**

Responding to a draft  
EHCP

If you are in that critical  
time frame having  
received your draft

**18  
NOV**  
**10:00**

Appeals to SEND Tribunal

A step-by-step guide  
through the appeals  
process

**21  
NOV**  
**10:00**

Ordinarily Available  
Provision and SEN Support

Looking at support  
available for those who do  
not have an EHCP

**24  
NOV**  
**13:00**

Considering an EHC Plan?

Independent and  
impartial information to  
guide you through the  
process

**25  
NOV**  
**10:00**

Responding to a draft  
EHCP

If you are in that critical  
time frame having  
received your draft

**26  
NOV**  
**12:30**

Alternative Provision

What constitutes as a  
suitable education in  
relation to section 19 of  
the education act

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:iownt.paediatric-ot-mailbox@nhs.net)

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

# 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.

**10<sup>th</sup> September- Newport Family Centre**

**17<sup>th</sup> October- Sandown Family Centre**

**7<sup>th</sup> November- Ryde Family Centre**

**9<sup>th</sup> 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

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month but in **DECEMBER we run 5 drop-in sessions from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:sallywagter@gmail.com) and we will send you the Zoom link.**

Autism Family Support Service  
[www.autismfamilysupportservice.com](http://www.autismfamilysupportservice.com)



**PLEASE  
DON'T PARK**

**ON DOUBLE  
YELLOW LINES**