ST MARY'S Catholic Primary School Newsletter

2nd July 2026

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Ampthill Road, Ryde, Isle of Wight. PO33 1LJ 01983 562000 www.stmaryspri.co.uk

Celebration of the word

This week, we have learned about the gospel of Matthew 16:13-19 that is a pivotal biblical passage in which Jesus establishes His identity as the Messiah and commissions Peter as the foundational leader of the Church. It sets the stage for the creation of the Christian community and outlines its spiritual authority

Dear families,

We have had a wonderful week at St Mary's! On Monday a group of our year 5 and 6 children met with artswork and the cultural education partnership team to plan their very own film! This project was called can you hear us, where the children's views about living on the Isle of Wight and what they think needs to improve. The children were amazing and them team were really impressed with their ideas and this will be made into a short film tomorrow! We will share the final version when this is completed.

Another exciting piece of news is our fabulous woodland room team have been awarded the level 3 gardening award! This is such an amazing achievement and shows their hard work and care to grow and nurture fruits and vegetables has really paid off. Well done everyone for achieving this accolade.

Year 5 had a brilliant time tree climbing today, where they worked hard and using their gross motor skills and team work to undertake climbing enormous trees!

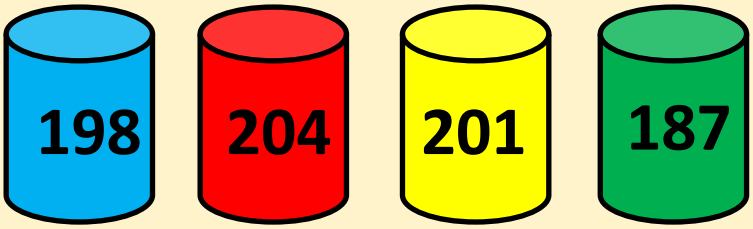
Next Tuesday is our whole school transition day, where children will meet their new teacher. We will move the children to their new classes during the school day so the drop off and pick up places will be as normal.

Just to clarify, sports days will take place on 13th and 14th July. These will begin at 9am and finish between 10.30-11am, depending on how fast the children race! Children will then return to their classrooms as normal for the rest of the day.

Have a wonderful weekend
Mrs Broome

House Point Totals

Well done to **St Josephine's house** who were the winning house this week!



Our School Lottery

Support our school and buy your chance to win here -

https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/st-marys-catholic-primary-school.

LIVE LOVE BELIEVE

Attendance and Lateness

School target 96%

This weeks whole school attendance 93.04%

EYFS = 99% 2 lates

Year 1 = 95.14% 1 late

Year 2 = 97.62% 4 lates

Year 3 = 96.43% 3 lates

Year 4 = 92.13% 4 lates

Year 5 =91.35% 2 lates

Year 6 = 91.83% 3 lates

Well done Year EYFS!

Don't forget, each class that is 96% or above will receive a celebration party!

Diary Dates 25-26

NEW DATES WILL BE ADDED IN RED

Monday 6th July—Year 3/ 4 singing performance @ 2.15pm

Monday 13th July—EYFS/KS1 sports day (AM) 9—11am

Tuesday 14th July—KS2 sports day (AM) 9—11am

Wednesday 22nd July—Whole school mass @ 9am

Friday 24th July—Year 6 leavers assembly @ 9.15am—Year 6 parents only

Monday 27th July—Development day—school closed

Medical Appointments & Leave of Absence Requests

If your child has a hospital/dental appointment, please ensure you have notified the school office of the time and date and handed in a copy of the medical letter or appointment card.

Leave of absence request forms for holidays/ funerals etc. are available upon request at the school office.

Compass

We are a cashless school and only accept payments through Compass. Please contact the office if you need to set this up. Please use this service to pay for:

School dinners

After school clubs

Trips and visits

Free parking!

Free parking permits are available from the school office for the local canoe lake car park.

We urge all parents that need to drive to and from school to use this service as parking around the school site is limited and our local residents still require access to their property at all times.

Meet our FLO (Family liaison Officer)

I am Ellie Obbard and I am the family liaison officer for St Mary's. I currently work on a Thursday at school and I can offer support to families for the following:

Friendly support — Someone you can talk to about any worries, big or small. FLOs listen, understand and help you find a way forward.

Help with attendance — I can work with you to understand any barriers to getting your child into school and help improve attendance in a supportive, non-judgemental way.

Behaviour and wellbeing guidance — I can offer ideas to support behaviour at home, emotional needs, or refer you to Early Help or health services if needed.

Signposting to services — I connect families with local and national support such as housing, debt advice, welfare, bereavement services, parenting courses or adult learning.

Practical help — Support with form-filling, online applications, secondary transfer, or understanding school policies and procedures.

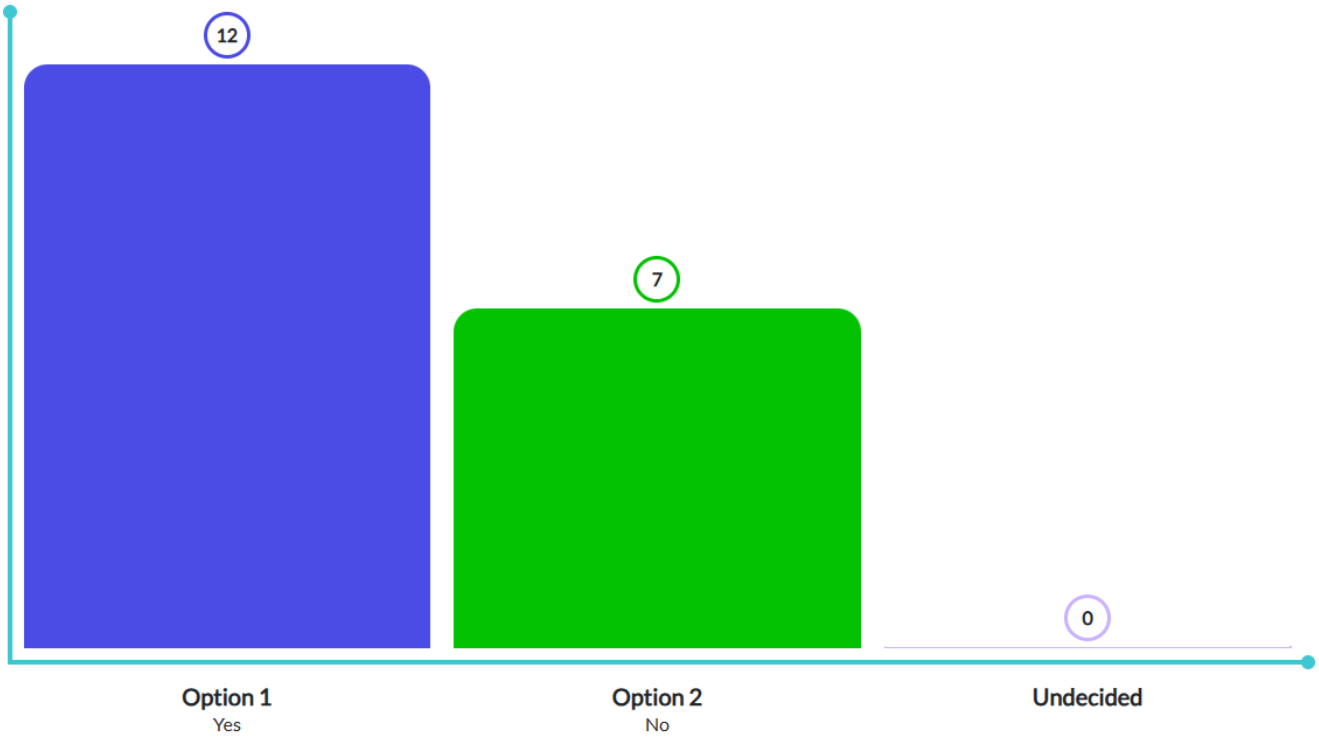
Support during challenges — I can meet with you 1:1 and advocate for your family when working with school staff or other agencies.

Help with financial barriers — Advice or signposting for help with costs such as clubs, trips or uniforms

If you feel that I can help you or your family, please pop into the office and leave a message and I will get in contact and arrange a meeting.

Our Weekly debate

Prime minister Sir Keir Starmer has announced plans to ban under-16s from TikTok, Snapchat and Instagram. Is a full social media ban for young people the right decision?



School dinner menu

SPRING/SUMMER 2026 MENU

WEEK 1

W/C: 13/04/2026, 04/05/2026, 01/06/2026, 22/06/2026, 13/07/2026

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT DISHES	OPTION 1	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges	Beef Bolognese with Wholewheat Pasta	Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	I.O.W Pork Sausages with Mashed Potato and Gravy	Fish Fingers with Chips
	OR					
	OPTION 2	BBQ Vegetable Wrap with Wholegrain Rice	Vegetarian Bolognese with Wholewheat Pasta	Roast BBQ Quorn with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Macaroni Cheese	Quorn Dippers with Chips
	OR					
	OPTION 3	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Wholewheat Pasta	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Wholewheat Pasta	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Wholewheat Pasta	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Wholewheat Pasta	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Wholewheat Pasta
	HOT DISHES ARE SERVED WITH TWO VEGETABLES AND FRESHLY BAKED BREAD					
DELI	OPTION 4	Baguettes Choice of either Ham, Cheese or Tuna	Baguettes Choice of either Ham, Cheese or Tuna	Baguettes Choice of either Ham, Cheese or Tuna	Baguettes Choice of either Ham, Cheese or Tuna	Baguettes Choice of either Ham, Cheese or Tuna
	DELI DISHES ARE SERVED WITH MIXED SALAD					
DESSERT		Chocolate Brownie	Oat Cookie	Strawberry Shortcake Mousse	Vanilla Slice with Melon Wedges	Chocolate Ice Cream

BAKED POTATOES SERVED DAILY
With a choice of toppings

AVAILABLE DAILY
Fresh fruit, salad, yoghurt and water

Chartwells Schools

V Vegetarian · Vegan · Oily Fish · Fruity! · Wholegrain · Nutritionist's Choice

Our menu is subject to change. Please be assured that all notified medical diets and allergy requirements will be safely catered for.

SPRING/SUMMER 2026 MENU

WEEK 2

W/C: 20/04/2026, 11/05/2026, 08/06/2026, 29/06/2026, 20/07/2026

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT DISHES	OPTION 1	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges	Beef Burger with Potato Wedges	Roast Gammon with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken and Vegetable Korma with Wholegrain Rice	Fish Fingers with Chips
	OR					
	OPTION 2	Tex Mex Vegetable Fajita with Wholegrain Rice	Beany Vegetable Burger with Potato Wedges	Bean and Cheese Pastry Turnover with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Macaroni Cheese	Quorn Dippers with Chips
	OR					
	OPTION 3	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Wholewheat Pasta	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Wholewheat Pasta	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Wholewheat Pasta	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Wholewheat Pasta	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Wholewheat Pasta
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	DELI DISHES ARE SERVED WITH MIXED SALAD					
DESSERT		Banana Oat Bite	Lemon Cookie	Caramel Mousse	Chocolate Brownie	Strawberry Ice Cream

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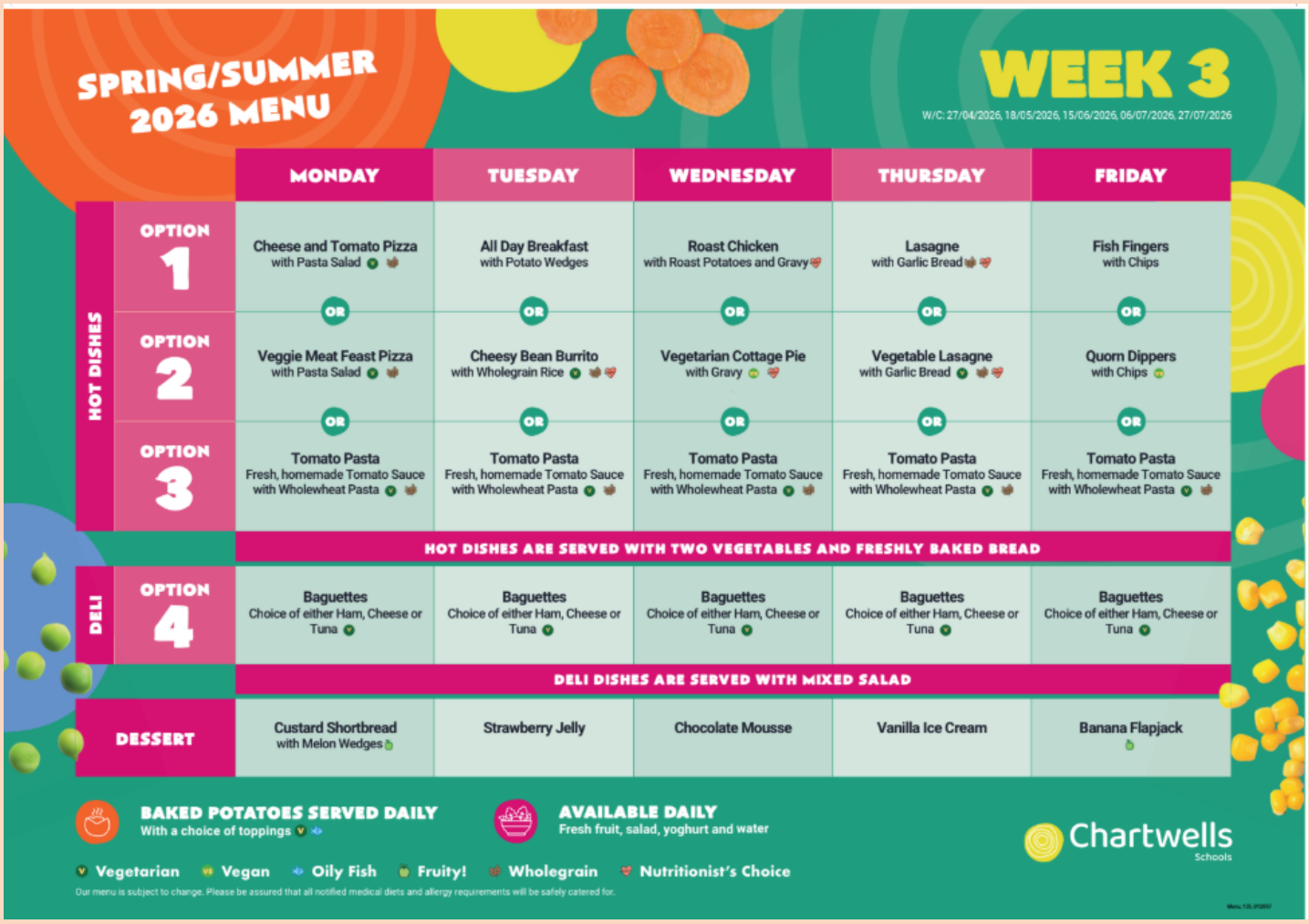
School dinner menu



Are you entitled to free school meals?

If you receive any of the following, you can claim free school meals and the school can access additional funding too!

- Income support
- Income based jobseekers allowance
- Income-related employment and support allowance
- Guaranteed pension credit
- Support under part 5 of the immigration and asylum Act 1999
- Universal credit (with an annual net income of no more than £7,400)
- Child tax credit, provided the parent is not entitled to working tax credit and have an annual income, as assessed by HMRC, which does not exceed £16,190.
- Where a parent is entitled to working tax credit run-on (the payment someone receives for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for working tax credit)

Registering for free school meals could raise and extra £1320 to fund valuable support like extra resources, additional teaching staff or after school activities. This is why it is so important to sign up! We have forms to complete to make this happen, so please come and fill one in!

Uniform Expectations

St Mary's Catholic Primary School Uniform

For all pupils:

Navy polo shirt with logo

Navy round neck sweatshirt

Navy cardigan
(Jumpers and Cardigans may be worn without a logo if wished. However, if you wish to you can purchase them from Kids and Co. with a logo or take the item bought elsewhere to Kids and Co. who for a small fee will add the school logo.)

Warm navy-blue tracksuit bottoms (not shiny or branded ones)

These items may be worn in warm weather but you always need to bring in the tracksuit bottoms so we can access the woods easily

Grey knee length skirt
Grey knee length pinafore
Grey shorts
Blue and white checked dress

White or grey socks / tights

Black shoes – the shoes need to be robust so that when the children are outside at lunch or break time as well as when outside learning their feet are supported. Ballet style shoes or ill-fitting shoes do not provide this support and should not be worn.
The shoes must be plain black with no decoration. They may be trainer styled shoes.

PE Kit

School PE Logo top
Navy shorts/skorts
Plain black trainers (Please provide non-laced ones until your child is able to tie their own laces)
Navy tracksuit bottoms
Navy sweatshirt/hoody

Hair

The children should wear their hair simply. This means no extreme haircuts including sculpting or shaved designs. No colour in hair. Hair bands and clips should be plain and small.
One small pair of earrings may be worn – if the child is not able to take them out they will be covered in tape during PE

Temporary tattoos, make up, other jewellery, nail varnish and festival bands should not be worn at school.

All uniform may be purchased from Kids and Co in Ryde - https://www.kidsandcodirect.co.uk/

Finally, please name all items. If you use pen to name the items, you will know that you need to write the name again several times throughout the year as it does wash out.

After school clubs

St Mary's Catholic Primary School After School Clubs – Monday 1st June – Friday 24th July All clubs finish at 4pm unless otherwise stated Your child will NOT be offered a place until payment in full has been received, together with consent. All clubs are offered on a first come first served basis.	
Monday	**Skateboarding (KS2)** Run by John Cattle's Skate Club C.I.C **Minimum 8. Starting 1st June (8 sessions).** **£4 per session.** **To book please go to your Compass Portal** **Homework Club (Yrs 2 - 6)** Run by school staff Free to attend **To book please go to your compass portal**
Tuesday	
Wednesday	**Art Club** (Years 2-6) Run by Portraits with Fleur **Starting 3rd June (8 sessions) £5.50 per session (£44 in total).** **To book please go to your Compass Portal** **Carnival Club** (All Years) Starting 3rd June (8 sessions) **£30 in total** **To book please go to your compass portal**
Thursday	**Football Club** (Years 1-6) Run by LJR Coaching **Minimum 5 children. Starting 4th June (8 sessions)** **£32** **To book:** https://ljrcoaching.classforkids.io/info/246
Friday	**Llama Drama** (Years R-3) **3:00pm-4:00pm** **Starting 5th June (6 sessions).** **£30.** **To book:** https://llama-drama-iow.classforkids.io/info/206 --- **Llama Drama** (Years 4-6) **4:00pm-5:00pm** **Starting 5th June (6 sessions).** **£30.** **To book:** https://llama-drama-iow.classforkids.io/info/205

School Development Days 2026-27

Monday 1st September 2026

Friday 15th October 2026

Monday 26th July 2027

Tuesday 27th July 2027

Wednesday 28th July 2027

Community News

Community News

Community News

Families of Faith

✝ July ✝

Prayer Corner

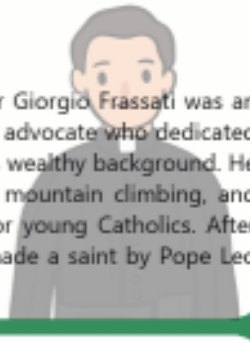
Dear Jesus,
Thank You for coming to Mary and Martha's home.
Martha worked hard to get everything ready, and Mary sat and listened to You.
Please help me to be like both of them - to work and help others when it's needed, but also to stop and listen to You with my heart.
Amen.

***

Dear Jesus,
Please help me to be like Pier Giorgio - to smile even when things are hard, to help others with love, and to always put You first in my life.
Amen.

Saints to Inspire

29 July - Saints Martha, Mary of Bethany, and Lazarus
Saints Martha, Mary of Bethany, and Lazarus were close friends of Jesus. Martha is known for her active service and hospitality. Mary is celebrated for her devotion and for anointing Jesus' feet with expensive perfume. Lazarus is famous for being raised from the dead by Jesus. Together, they are recognised for their love for Jesus, and their feast day is celebrated on July 29.



4 July - Pier Giorgio Frassati
"Jesus is with me, I have nothing to fear". Pier Giorgio Frassati was an Italian Catholic youth activist and social justice advocate who dedicated his life to helping the poor and sick despite his wealthy background. He was known for his joyful personality, love of mountain climbing, and strong faith, and he is considered a model for young Catholics. After dying from polio at age 24 in 1925, he was made a saint by Pope Leo XIV in September 2025.

Family Faith in Action

- Invite a friend to dinner
- Make the tart of St Martha
- Spend time with your brothers and sisters
- Exercise
- Pray a walking rosary
- Call a family member to say they love them
- Make a rice crispie chocolate mountain using Fairtrade chocolate

Good News from the Gospel

6th July - Matthew 11:25-30
Jesus invites everyone who feels tired or has worries to come to him for rest. He teaches us that being gentle and humble brings peace. *When do I need to rest in Jesus' love?*

12th July - Matthew 13:1-23
God's Word is like a seed: when we hear it with open hearts, it can grow and bear lots of good fruit in our lives. *How can I make my heart good soil for God's Word?*

19th July - Matthew 13:24-43
The Kingdom of God might start small or hidden, but it grows into something amazing - we are invited to be part of it. *How can I help goodness grow in the world?*

26th July - Matthew 13:44-52
The Kingdom of Heaven is a treasure worth giving everything for; when we truly find it, we joyfully accept and live in it. *What treasures do I want to find in my life with God?*

World Chocolate Day - 7th July

Enjoy a Fairtrade bar of chocolate

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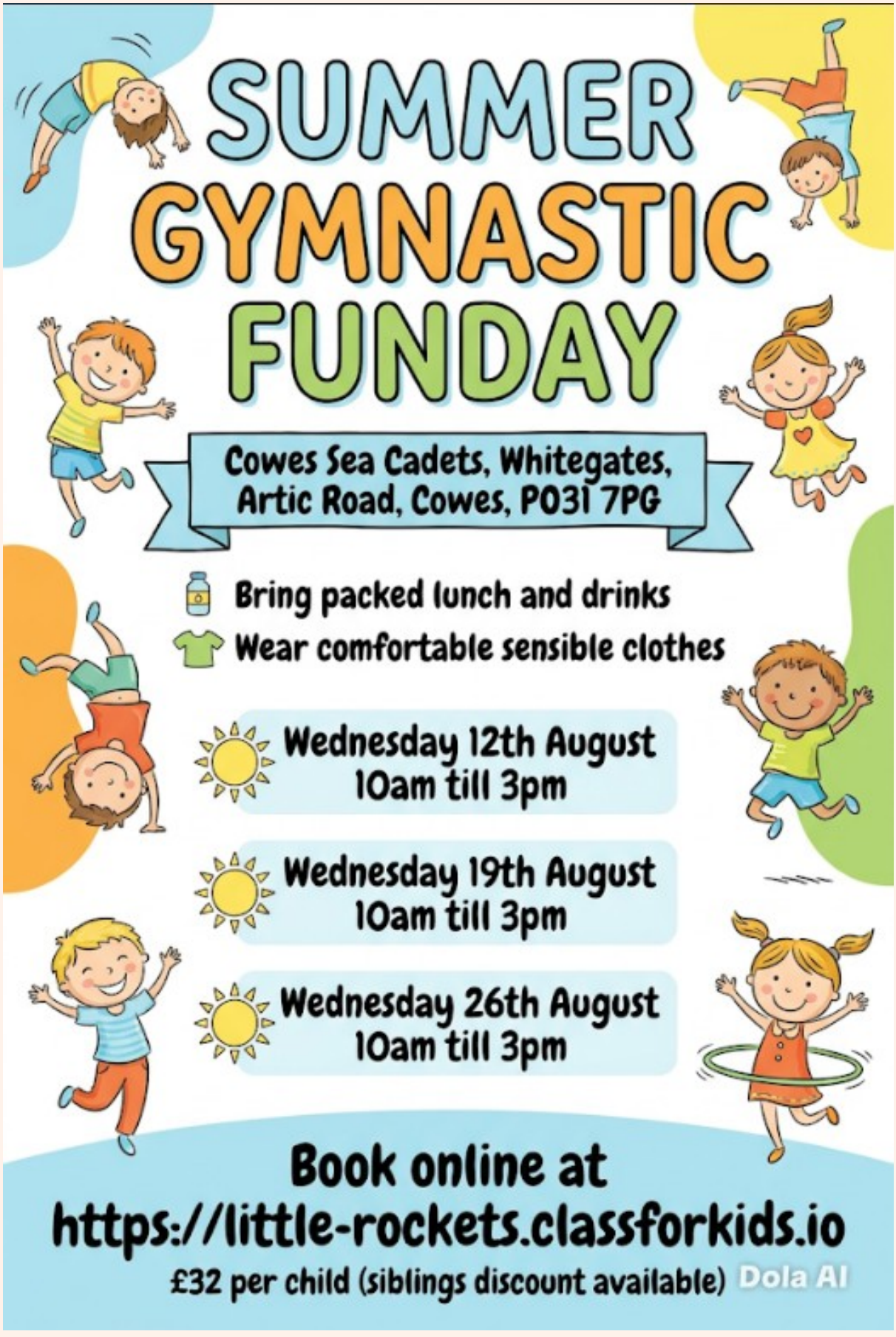

Community News

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THE CRISIS AND RESILIENCE FUND

6693PH 06/26 CJ

Help for people on low incomes in England who are facing a financial crisis

- Financial support services
- Housing payments
- Crisis payments

- www.iow.gov.uk/CRF
- Crisis payment applications: (01983) 823660
- Housing payment applications: (01983) 823950

Funded by UK Government

Crisis and Resilience Fund

Isle of Wight Council

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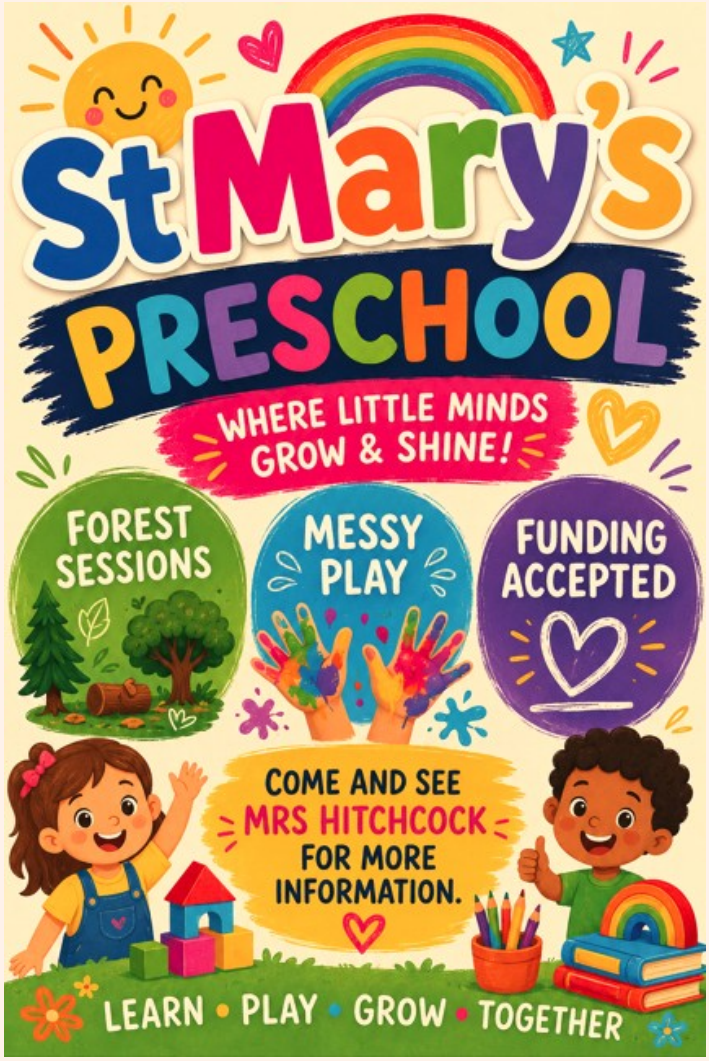

Community News

Help your child discover the joy of reading this summer!

This summer, give your child the chance to fall in love with reading! The **Summer Reading Challenge** in Isle of Wight Libraries is a FREE fun-packed way to keep children reading and learning all summer long.

This year's theme is **Read to the Beat!**, celebrating music, storytelling and creative self-expression.

Why Join?

- It's FREE! Available in all island libraries
- Earn a medal and certificate and other fun rewards
- Free magazine for all children taking part!
- 95% of children said they read more after joining
- Children choose their own books to read over the summer, which can really help with reading motivation and enjoyment. Any type of book counts!
- The main challenge is for children aged 4 and over, but there's a mini-challenge for little ones, too.
- Libraries have loads of things for grown-ups, too, so come as a family and enjoy the library together.

The challenge starts on Saturday 4 July.

Visit your local library to get started.

Help your children start their reading adventure today!

Illustrations © Harry Woodgate. Read to the Beat © The Reading Agency 2026

Community News

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Isle of Wight Secondary Colleges and 6th Form
2026-27 Open Day/Evening dates
(as at 1/6/2026)

School/College	Date	Time
Carisbrooke College	29 September 2026	Year 6 open evening: 5-8pm
Christ the King College	17 September 2026 11 November 2026	Year 6 open evening: 5.30-7.30pm 6th Form open evening: 5.30-7.30pm
Cowes Enterprise College	15th October 2026 9 November 2026 – 11 December 2026	Year 6 open evening: 5-8pm 6th Form Open Month
Island Free School	19 October 2026	Y6 open day: 09.30-1pm Headmaster's Talks at 10am, 11am and 12noon
Medina College	22 September 2026 29 September 2026 8 October 2026 13 October 2026	Year 6 open evening: 5-8pm } Open mornings 9.30-12noon
Lift Ryde	7 October 2026 10 October 2026 18 November 2025	Y6 & Y5 Open Evening Quiet School Tours and meet the Headteacher sessions 6th Form Open Evening
Ryde School	3 October 2026	Y6 and 6th Form Open Morning: 10-12.30pm
ST George's School	7 October 2026	Open event: tours at 1.15pm (limited spaces during the school day) Y6 and 6th Form 3.30pm and 4.30pm Please note that the child MUST have an EHCP as an admissions criterion **Please call St George's to book a place**
The Bay CE School	1 October 2026	Y6 Open Evening: 5-7.30pm
The Island VI Form	12 November 2026	VI Form open evening: 5-8pm
The Isle of Wight College	17 September 2026 7 November 2026	5-7pm Open Evening 10am-1pm Open Day
The Priory School of our Lady Walsingham	n/a	Don't hold open days. Ring up to make an appointment for a show round. Tel: 861222 or email: mail@prioryschool.org.uk

Community News