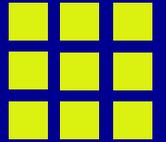


# NINE ACRES NEWS

'Striving for Excellence'

Friday 2nd February 2024



Nine Acres Community Primary School, South View, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 1QP  
www.nineacrespri.iow.sch.uk 01983 522984 Head teacher: Mrs E. Dyer BA Hons QTS, NPOH



Dear Families of Nine Acres,

As we step into the month of February, we have an exciting line-up of events and activities planned at Nine Acres School. Here's a glimpse of what's in store for the upcoming week:

**\*\*Nine Acres Valentine's Disco:\*\***

Get ready to groove and celebrate love at our Valentine's Disco next week! Children in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 who are attending the disco should bring in their party clothes to school in a named bag to change into in their classrooms. They will be taken to the disco with their teacher. Their teacher will dismiss the children to you from the EYFS exit at 4:15pm. KS2 children should arrive all ready in their party clothes at 4:30pm on the front playground. Their teacher will dismiss the children from the front playground to you at 5:30pm. *Please note we cannot allow children to walk home unaccompanied by an adult at this time.* If your child is being collected by someone else please let our Office Team know.

**\*\*Assessment Week:\*\***

Next week marks Assessment Week at Nine Acres. During this time, our pupils will be participating in various challenges to help us assess their progress and plan for their future learning goals. We will share detailed insights from these assessments during our upcoming Parents' Evenings scheduled for March. Please keep an eye out for sign up details.

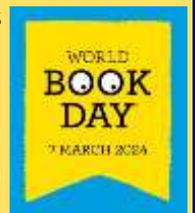
**\*\*Year 1 Beauty and the Beast Ball Preparation:\*\***

Our Year 1 pupils are eagerly practicing their dance moves in preparation for their upcoming Ball on Wednesday 7th February. It is always such a lovely event and we have a special visitor coming to join us. We hope to see you there!



**\*\*World Book Day Celebrations:\*\***

Mark your calendars for World Book Day on Thursday 7th March. This year, our theme is 'Colourful,' and linked to the text The Colour Monster by Anna Llenas. We encourage children and adults alike to dress in their most vibrant and colourful outfits for the occasion. We'll embark on our traditional trip to Waterstones bookshop in Newport, followed by an exciting reading session at school at 2:45 pm. We warmly welcome one adult per child in each class to join us for this activity to come in and share the pleasure of reading.



We're looking forward to a month filled with love, learning and literary adventures at Nine Acres School! Have a lovely weekend,  
Mrs Dyer

## Development Days

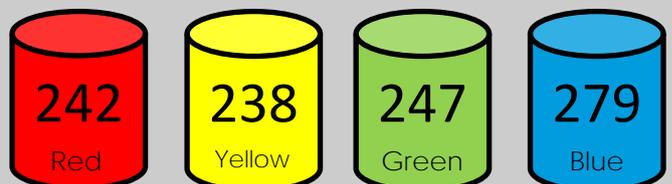
- Friday 1st September 2023 – DEVELOPMENT DAY—
- Tuesday 2nd Jan 2024 – DEVELOPMENT DAY—
- Friday 21st June 2024 - DEVELOPMENT DAY
- Friday 26th July 2024 - DEVELOPMENT DAY

1 more Development Day to be allocated.



### House Points Totals

Well done to **BLUE** house who received the most House Points for this week!



# PE DAYS

Week Commencing Monday 5th February 2024

All children should come to school in their Nine Acres PE kits on their allocated day.

## PE Days for each Year Group

- EYFS - Monday
- Year 1 - Monday
- Year 2 - Thursday
- Year 3 - Wednesday
- Year 4 - Tuesday
- Year 5 - Friday
- Year 6 - Tuesday

Please ensure your child has a Nine Acres PE kit and sensible footwear for PE lessons. Please ensure your child has a water bottle in school everyday. Please remove all earrings before your child comes to school and ensure that long hair is tied back.

## End of day procedures

If someone different to usual will be collecting your child at the end of the school day, please notify the school office by 2.30pm. You can notify the office by calling 522984 or by emailing [office@nineacrespri.co.uk](mailto:office@nineacrespri.co.uk)

## Nine Acres Valentines Disco

We will be holding our 'Nine Acres Valentines Disco' on Thursday 8th February. Every child is allocated a ticket and these are on sale at the school office £2.00 per ticket.



## PE UNIFORM REMINDER

When you chose Nine Acres Primary for your child you also chose to adhere to the Nine Acres Uniform Policy including PE.

Therefore, a reminder:

- All children must wear the Nine Acres PE top.
- All children must have suitable trainers.
- PE hoodies are for PE only. Children must have a Nine Acres jumper for other days.
- Children must have blue or Black jogging bottoms.

*If you need any support in ensuring your child has the right uniform, we are here to help.*



## The Art of Gratitude

Today, we want to shine a spotlight on someone truly exceptional – Mrs. Chandler, our Speech and Language Support LSA and LSA for Year 4.

In the realm of education, some individuals go beyond the call of duty, and Mrs. Chandler exemplifies this ethos with unwavering dedication and passion. Her commitment to our pupils extends far beyond her job description, as she consistently demonstrates a level of care and expertise that leaves us in awe.

Mrs. Chandler's support isn't just about fulfilling tasks; it's about building meaningful connections with each and every pupil she encounters. Her patience knows no bounds, her encouragement lifts spirits, and her guidance ignites the spark of confidence in our children's hearts.

Whether it's helping a pupil overcome speech challenges, providing extra assistance with language comprehension, or simply being a compassionate listener, Mrs. Chandler's presence is nothing short of transformative.

Her tireless efforts behind the scenes don't go unnoticed. From creating personalised learning plans to collaborating with teachers to ensure every child receives the support they need, Mrs. Chandler's dedication is truly remarkable.

Thank you, Mrs. Chandler, for being the beacon of guidance and support for our Nine Acres pupils. Your unwavering commitment to their growth and well-being does not go unnoticed.



## Nine Acres Community Primary School



Biggleswade  
Amelie - Science

Corfe  
Robyn - Science

Balmoral  
Milah - PSHE

Windsor  
Jamie - Science

Arundel  
Maddox - Computing

Bamburgh  
Luna G - RE

## Explorer Awards



Kendal  
Robanna - RE

Warwick  
Thomas - RE

Edinburgh  
Hope - RE

Stirling  
Kayleigh - Languages

Durham  
Joy - Geography

York  
Theo - Geography



Well done everyone!!

## HELPING HANDS PTA



Tickets for Valentine's Disco next Thursday 8th February are selling well but please don't worry as there are enough spaces for everyone who would like to come. Tickets cost £2.00 each, which will include squash, sweets and a glow stick – so no spending money will be needed on the night!

To guarantee enough tickets this event will be children only (supervised by staff and Helping Hands committee) and will be run as 2 discos...

3.30 – 4.15pm = EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 children

4.30 – 5.30pm = Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 children.

Children attending the first disco will be able to bring their party clothes and get changed after school in class before going to the hall accompanied by staff. Children from the first disco will leave through the EYFS doors while the KS2 children will enter and leave through the main office entrance. Tickets on sale NOW!

### Our Next Meeting

Next Meeting will be Friday 1st March 8.45am, meeting at front foyer by the office. If you would like to know more, please contact us via email on [helpinghands@nineacrespri.co.uk](mailto:helpinghands@nineacrespri.co.uk) or leave a message for us at the school office.

Thank you for all your continued support.

*Helping Hands*

### Open Door Inclusion: Drop in Sessions for Parents.

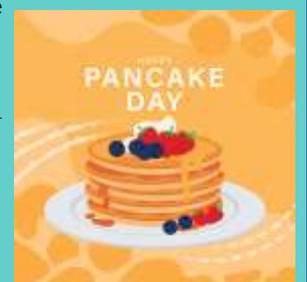
Got concerns or questions about Inclusion? Come on in and let's talk!

- ◆ Our team is here to listen, understand and collaborate. Your voice matters.
- ◆ Join us on Monday 5th February between 9-11am.
- ◆ Pop into the school office to book your slot.
- ◆ Together we make Inclusion our priority.

## Pancake Day

On Friday 9th February 2024 our kitchen will be serving Pancakes as the dessert for the day.

Dinners are £2.60.



# February Half-Term Fun

## Swimming lessons 5 day week £36.50

### Learner Pool

0900-0930 - Stage 1 - Non-swimmer - Happy to go in the water in armbands.  
0930-1000 - Stage 2 - Ready to swim without armbands.  
1000-1030 - Stage 3 - 5-10m - Water confident, can swim 5-10m on front and back.

### Main Pool

0900-0930 - 10m+ Can swim 10m on front and back and happy to put face in water.  
0900-0930 - 25m+ Can swim 25m on front and back using a recognisable stroke.  
0930-1000 - 50m+ Can swim 50m using good front crawl, back crawl and breaststroke.  
0930-1000 - 100m+ Can swim 100m using good front crawl, back crawl and breaststroke.

## Monday 12th February

**Kayaking** - 1000-1100 - 8-11 years - £8 - An introduction to kayaking through fun and games. Must be able to swim at least 25m.

**Climbing** - 1300-1400 - 7-12 years - £15 - A fun session suitable for all abilities. Waiver form will need to be completed.

**Climbing** - 1400-1500 - 7-12 years - £15 - A fun session suitable for all abilities. Waiver form will need to be completed.

**Youth Football** - 1800-1900 - 13-15 years - £4 - Opportunity to play football under the guidance of an FA coach.

## Tuesday 13th February

**Snorkelling** - 1000-1100 - £5.50 - Must be able to swim at least 25m and be happy under the water.

**Climbing** - 1200-1300 - 7-12 years - £15 - A fun session suitable for all abilities. Waiver form will need to be completed.

**Climbing** - 1300-1400 - 7-12 years - £15 - A fun session suitable for all abilities. Waiver form will need to be completed.

## Wednesday 14th February

**Raft Racing** - 1000-1100 - 6yrs + - £5.50 - Fun and games in teams racing on our specially built rafts. Must be able to swim at least 50m.

## Thursday 15th February

**Youth Pickleball** - 0930-1030 - 10-15 years - £5.50 - Try this growing paddle sport that combines elements of badminton, tennis and table tennis.

**Diving** - 1000-1100 - £8 - Must be able to swim at least 25m, be happy underwater and be able to perform a head first entry into the pool.

**Climbing** - 1500-1600 - 7-12 years - £15 - A fun session suitable for all abilities. Waiver form will need to be completed.

**Climbing** - 1600-1700 - 7-12 years - £15 - A fun session suitable for all abilities. Waiver form will need to be completed.

## Friday 16th February

**Soft Archery** - 1000-1100 - 7-11 years - £5.50 - An introduction to archery through games, using soft arrows.

**Mermaids Main Pool** - 1000-1030 - £5.50 - Must be able to swim 25m+ and happy under the water.

**Mermaids Small Pool** - 1030-1100 - £5.50 - Must be able to swim 10m+ and happy under the water.

**Rookie Lifesaving** - 1000-1100 - 8-12 years - £8 - Must be able to swim at least 50m and tread water. Teaches self-rescue and casualty rescue techniques. Bring an old t-shirt to wear in the water over normal swimwear.

## Open Swim Sessions

No lanes, diving boards in use - great for a family swim session.  
Adults £5.50.  
Children/under 20s £3.  
Mon 12th-Sun 18th February  
- 1400-1500

## Fun Hours

Fun and floats in our pool.  
Under 8's MUST be accompanied in the water. £4.  
Mondays- Fridays - 1100-1200  
Saturdays and Sundays - 1000-1100

## Attendance Focus Fortnight Update!



We're thrilled to share an exciting update from our Attendance Focus Fortnight! Over the past two weeks, a whopping 323 children have maintained an outstanding attendance record of 97% and above!

We're incredibly proud of each and every one of our pupils for their commitment to being present and engaged in their learning journey.

Your dedication does not go unnoticed! As a token of appreciation, all these pupils who have achieved 97% and above will have their names entered into a special raffle, with the chance to win some fantastic prizes!

The drawing will take place on Monday, so stay tuned for the big reveal!

Let's continue to prioritise attendance and 'Strive for Excellence' in everything we do. Together, we can achieve amazing things!

Due to the incredible success of our Attendance Focus Fortnight, we're thrilled to announce that we'll be running another one in the Summer Term!

#AttendanceFocus #FortnightUpdate #Dedication #Commitment #PupilSuccess  
#ProudSchoolCommunity



# Diary Dates 2023/2024



## FEBRUARY 2024

Fri 2nd Feb 2024 - Helping Hands Meeting - Meet in the foyer at 8.45am.

Tues 6th Feb 2024 - Safer Internet Day.

Wed 7th Feb 2024 - Year 1 'Be our Guest' Ball.

Thurs 8th Feb 2024 - Valentines Disco.

12th Feb - Fri 16th Feb 2024 - February Half Term.

## MARCH 2024

**NEW** Fri 1st March 2024 - Helping Hands Meeting - Meet in the foyer at 8.45am.

Mon 4th March 2024 - Parents' Evening.

Wed 6th March 2024 - Parents' Evening.

Thurs 7th March 2024 - WORLD BOOK DAY.

**NEW** Wed 20th March 2024 - Year 6 Ventnor Botanic Gardens Trip.

Thurs 28th March 2024 - Early closing at 1.00pm.

Fri 29th March 2024 - Good Friday - School closed to pupils.

## APRIL 2024

Mon 1st April 2024 - Bank Holiday Monday - School closed to pupils.

Mon 1st April - Friday 12th April 2024 - Easter Holidays.

Tues 16th April 2024 - Swimming for Arundel Class will begin.

Thurs 25th April 2024 - Year 4 Winchester Science Centre & Planetarium Trip.

Fri 26th April 2024 - Year 1 Marwell Zoo Trip.

## MAY 2024

Mon 6th May 2024 - Bank Holiday - School closed.

Wed 8th May 2024 - Year 5 London Trip.

Week commencing 13th May 2024 - KS2 SATS.

Week commencing 20th May 2024 - KS1 SATS.

Mon 27th May 2024 - Bank Holiday - School closed.

Mon 27th May - Fri 31st May 2024 - May Half Term.

## JUNE 2024

Wed 5th June 2024 - Year 2 Roald Dahl Trip.

Tues 11th June 2024 - Swimming for Bamburgh class begins.

Thurs 20th June 2024 - Summer Fayre.

**Fri 21st June 2024** - **DEVELOPMENT DAY**

Mon 24th June & Tues 25th June 2024 - Year 6 Leavers Trip.

## JULY 2024

Thurs 4th July 2024 - EYFS & KS1 Sports Day.

Fri 5th July 2024 - KS2 Sports Day.

**Fri 26th July 2024** - **DEVELOPMENT DAY**

Mon 29th July 2024 - Fri 31st Aug 2024 - Summer Holidays.

*New dates will be added - Please check the box for **NEW** to see any added dates.*

# Enrichment Clubs

Enrichment Clubs are in full swing for Spring Term 1. The club form for Spring 2 was emailed to families and spaces have been allocated. Families have been informed of club spaces by text.

Please send an email to [enrichmentclubs@nineacrespri.co.uk](mailto:enrichmentclubs@nineacrespri.co.uk) to book spaces. Thank you.



# Social Media

Do you follow us on Facebook? Scan the QR code to see our page on Facebook!!



SCAN ME

# Boom Reader (Go Read)

Please continue to log your child's reading on the Boom Reader (Go Read) app. It is an expectation that all children in Years EYFS – Year 6 should be reading at home at least 3 times a week.



# We are a nut free school!

Please may we remind you that Nine Acres is a nut free school.

Nuts and nut products should not be brought into school.



# NINE ACRES PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM

Our Nine Acres Uniform is available from Kids and Co in Ryde. Please ensure your child has the correct uniform and PE kit and sensible black school shoes.

## EYFS - Year 4

### Autumn/Spring/Summer Term

School Logo White Polo Shirt  
(Blue for EYFS only)  
Navy Blue Jumper/Cardigan with School Logo  
Charcoal Grey Trousers or Grey Skirt  
Grey or White Plain Ankle Socks  
Black Sensible School Shoes - No Boots or Fashion Shoes/Trainers

### Summer Term

School Logo White Polo Shirt (Blue for EYFS only)  
Charcoal Grey Shorts or Skirt/Blue Summer Dress  
Grey or White Ankle Short Socks  
Black Sensible School Shoes - No Boots or Fashion Shoes/Trainers

## Year 5 and Year 6

### Autumn/Spring/Summer Term

Navy Blue Jumper/Cardigan with School Logo  
Plain White Shirt (Long or Short Sleeve)  
School Tie  
Charcoal Grey Trousers or Skirt  
Grey or White Ankle Short Socks  
Black Sensible School Shoes - No Boots or Fashion Shoes/Trainers

### Summer Term

Plain White Shirt (Short Sleeve)  
School Tie  
Charcoal Grey Shorts or Skirt  
Grey or White Plain Short Socks  
Black Sensible School Shoes - No Boots or Fashion Shoes/Trainers

## PE Kit (All Years)

Lime Green Logo Polo Shirt  
Navy/Black Shorts  
Trainers  
White Plain Short Ankle Socks  
Navy Blue or Black Tracksuit Bottoms & a Navy hooded top for Sports activities  
Drawstring PE Bag



# FOODBANK VOUCHERS



Many families are struggling more than ever with rising household costs and we want to be able to support you however we can. We continue to provide our families with vouchers to the Island's Food Banks. If you would like some more information or are in need of a voucher, please speak to Mrs Hussey. Referrals can be made to any of the Island's Food Banks for your convenience or confidentiality. There are currently Food Banks in Newport, Freshwater, Cowes, Ryde and Shanklin.

# Autumn/Winter School Dinner Menu

Chartwells		WEEK 2				
		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
AUTUMN/WINTER 2023	NOT SPECIALS	Chick and Potato Pie w/ served with Creamed Spinach	Salmon and Potato Pie w/ served with Whipped Cream	Beef and Potato Pie w/ served with Creamed Spinach	Chicken and Potato Pie w/ served with Creamed Spinach	Beef and Potato Pie w/ served with Creamed Spinach
	JACKET POTATOES	Beef and Potato Curry w/ served with Whipped Cream	Meat and Potato Curry w/ served with Whipped Cream	Chicken and Potato Curry w/ served with Whipped Cream	Vegetarian and Potato Curry w/ served with Whipped Cream	Chicken and Potato Curry w/ served with Whipped Cream
	DESSERT	Carrot, Orange and Sultana Slice	Cranberry Chocolate Slice	Chocolate and Vanilla Mousse Cake	Sweet Cake	Strawberry Ice Cream
All meals include a drink of water and a glass of milk.						
AVAILABLE EVERY DAY Vegetarian, Dairy Free, Gluten Free, Halal, Kosher, Vegan, and more!						

Week Commencing  
Monday 5th  
February 2024  
Week 2

For children in Year 3 and above the school dinner price is **£2.60** per meal.

The cost for a weeks dinners is **£13.00**.



Helping Hands  
 Nine Acres Primary PTA



**Valentine's Disco  
 Children only!**



**Thursday 8th February**  
 3.30-4.15pm - EYFS, Y1 & Y2 children  
 4.30 - 5.30pm - Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 children

Tickets available from school office.  
 Price £2.00, which includes drink, sweets  
 and a glow stick.

**Parentkind**  
 Member Association



World Book Day  
Thursday 7th March 2024

This year, our theme is 'Colourful,' and linked to the text 'The Colour Monster' by Anna Lenas. We encourage children and adults alike to dress in their most vibrant and colourful outfits for the occasion.



ISLE OF WIGHT HELP WITH THE  
**COST OF LIVING**

**01983 823134** [iow.gov.uk/costofliving](http://iow.gov.uk/costofliving)

**General help and support**  
 Citizens Advice IW can give free help with money issues and much more.  
 ☎ 0800 144 88 48 or Textphone on 18001 0800 144 8884  
 🌐 [www.citizensadviceiw.org.uk](http://www.citizensadviceiw.org.uk)

**Debts and paying bills**  
 Citizens Advice Money team.  
 ☎ 01983 823898 ext: 2825  
 🌐 [www.citizensadviceiw.org.uk/money-advice-team](http://www.citizensadviceiw.org.uk/money-advice-team)

**Buying food**  
 🌐 [www.iow.gov.uk/costofliving](http://www.iow.gov.uk/costofliving) and tap on 'food' for more information.  
 Join a community pantry and for £5 a week, receive over £15 worth of food.  
 ☎ 01983 296592 East Cowes Community Pantry  
 ☎ 07961 959003 Ventnor Community Pantry  
 ☎ 01983 563732 Ryde Community Pantry  
 ☎ 07300 329610 Newport Community Pantry  
 ☎ 01983 248170 Pan Community Larder  
 ☎ 01983 716020 Mobile Community Pantry

**connect4communities**  
 Supporting organisations to help Islanders. Includes food vouchers, energy efficient appliances, garden items, clothing for school children and more.  
 🌐 [www.connect4communities.org](http://www.connect4communities.org)

 Isle of Wight Council

**Warm Welcome Space**  
 Find an Isle of Wight Warm Welcome Space.  
 🌐 [www.iow.gov.uk/warmspaces](http://www.iow.gov.uk/warmspaces)

**Benefits**  
 Check whether you are getting all the benefits you can.  
 Citizens Advice Help to Claim line.  
 ☎ 0800 144 8444  
 🌐 [www.gov.uk/benefits-calculators](http://www.gov.uk/benefits-calculators)

**Energy bills, energy efficiency and grants**  
 ☎ 01983 822282 The Footprint Trust  
 🌐 [www.footprint-trust.co.uk](http://www.footprint-trust.co.uk)  
 ☎ 07865 075832 Green Isle of Wight  
 🌐 [www.greeniow.org.uk](http://www.greeniow.org.uk)

**Pension Credit**  
 If you are of State Pension age you may be entitled to Pension Credit. If you get Pension Credit you can get other benefits.  
 ☎ 0800 99 1234 or Textphone on 0800 169 0133  
 🌐 [www.gov.uk/pension-credit](http://www.gov.uk/pension-credit)

**Paying for broadband and mobile phone**  
 Social tariffs are available if you're on a low income.  
 🌐 [www.ofcom.org.uk/cheap-broadband](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/cheap-broadband)

**Feeling lonely**  
 The Living Well and Early Help Partnership works on the Island to connect people.  
 ☎ 01983 240732  
 🌐 [www.lweh.org.uk](http://www.lweh.org.uk)

**In a crisis**  
 If you have no money for food, gas and electricity you may be able to get emergency help.  
 ☎ 01983 823859  
 🌐 [www.iow.gov.uk/HelpThroughCrisis](http://www.iow.gov.uk/HelpThroughCrisis)

**Other useful contacts**  
 🌐 [www.helpforhouseholds.gov.uk](http://www.helpforhouseholds.gov.uk)  
 🌐 [www.islefindit.org.uk](http://www.islefindit.org.uk)

# Educational Visits

Wednesday 27th/Thursday 28th March 2024

Year 4 Overnight Space Camp

Payment due by Friday 1st March 2024



Space Camp

Thursday 25th April 2024



**WINCHESTER  
SCIENCE CENTRE  
AND PLANETARIUM**

Year 4 Winchester  
Science Centre  
and Planetarium Trip.

Deposit Payment due by Friday 9th Feb 2024

Full payment due by Monday 4th March 2024

Friday 26th April 2024

Year 1 Marwell Zoo Trip.

Deposit Payment due - Friday 9th

February 2024

Full payment due by Friday 12th

April 2024



Wednesday 8th May 2024

Year 5 London Trip.

Deposit Payment due - Friday 2nd

February 2024

Full payment due by Friday 19th

April 2024

Wednesday 5th June 2024

Year 2 Roald Dahl Trip.

Deposit Payment due - Friday 1st

March 2024

Full payment due by Friday 17th

May 2024



Monday 24th & Tuesday 25th June 2024

Year 6 Chessington Leavers Trip.

Deposit Payment due - Monday 6th

November 2023

Full payment due by Monday 3rd June 2024



Please ensure deposits and full payments are made on time using ParentPay. Barcodes letters to pay via Paypoint in a local shop are available on request at the office.

Keep checking this box for further trips being announced in the coming months. Lots of exciting opportunities to look forward too!!



# School Attendance

Whole school attendance target 97%.

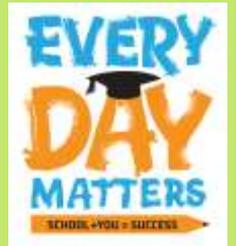
Dates: 26/01/2024 - 01/02/2024

	Attendance	Lates
Carisbrooke:	96.67%	1
Yarmouth:	97.00%	0
Biggleswade	92.12%	7
Corfe	98.52%	1
Balmoral:	95.00%	1
Windsor:	97.33%	1
Arundel:	98.21%	0
Bamburgh:	95.33%	4
Kendal:	97.00%	2
Warwick:	99.00%	3
Edinburgh:	93.00%	1
Stirling:	95.67%	1
Durham:	92.42%	1
York:	95.17%	2

Well done **WARWICK CLASS!!**

Whole school attendance this week is: **95.90%**

Good attendance ensures that children can develop at the right pace, gain confidence as they make progress, and ultimately enjoy school as they see themselves succeed.



ParentPay is our only method of making payments.

Are you signed up to ParentPay? We no longer accept cash at the office. All items that require payment will be available on ParentPay.

**Nine Acres  
School Car Park**



Please do not use the school car park unless you have a school permit. We will continue to share the license plates in our newsletters and ask our community to also let us know if they see families using the car park without a school permit.

This is to support us in helping all our dedicated staff get to school on time to teach your children!

**I.W. STORY FESTIVAL** **DON'T MISS THIS FUN FAMILY FESTIVAL DURING FEBRUARY HALF TERM! Thursday 15th to Saturday 17th February**

**JANUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER**

**Come and meet me at Quays Arts in February!**

Tickets are now on sale for the I.W. Story Festival at Quays Arts during February half term from [www.iow.gov.uk](http://www.iow.gov.uk). It's a chance to meet well-known performers and writers like the creator of the *World Heavy* stories, **Francesca Simon** (pictured on the left), who will be with us on Saturday 17th Feb.

**Did you enter our Charles Dickens short story competition? Hear the winners, read by his great grandson, Friday 16th Feb!**

**There is so much to do at the I.W. Story Festival!**

44 different events over three days!  
A chance to meet your favourite authors, and some new ones too! Including:

**Kos Grey, Nazneen Ahmed Parthok, Aislinn Bookoff-King, Geron Lurwood, John Reilly, Noel Layton, Kira Weston and Simon Whitworth.**

There are performances too: **Meredee Theatre** returns with an adaptation of Jules Verne's *Swiss Family Robinson*, and **Pink Cowpods Youth Theatre** is back with a funny new production for younger children. We also have the interactive *Enchanted Cinema*, Asian dance and a fun opera based on *The King's Pavilion*.

**EXTRA PERFORMANCE ANNOUNCED!**

Tickets for creator of *Madara Moon*, **Harriet Manchester** on 17th Feb, sold out so quickly, we've had to arrange a special talk at 4.30pm. Don't miss out, buy yours soon!

**SOME QUESTIONS YOU MAY WANT TO ASK...**

Q: Do I need to get my tickets in advance?  
A: It's a good idea - they're selling fast! Go to [www.iow.gov.uk](http://www.iow.gov.uk) to buy yours now.

Q: How much are tickets?  
A: Some are **TOTALLY FREE**, others cost 44 to 46.

Q: Is it just for people who like reading?  
A: No! The I.W. Story Festival isn't just about books! As well as storytellers, live music and theatre shows, we've got lots of hands-on activities for you to try - from graffiti art and fabric books to songwriting and handie make-ups, among many other things.

**More information from: [www.iowstoryfestival.com](http://www.iowstoryfestival.com)**

Registered charity number: 108004

## ARE YOU ENTITLED TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

Have your circumstances changed? Could you now be entitled to Free School Meals?

Families of children in Year 3 and up are required to pay for school Dinners unless you are entitled to benefit related Free School Meals.

To apply online please go to:  
[www.iow.gov.uk/council/OtherServices/Free-School-Meals/Key-Stage-1-and-2](http://www.iow.gov.uk/council/OtherServices/Free-School-Meals/Key-Stage-1-and-2)

# SOCCER CAMP

**13TH, 14TH, 15TH FEBRUARY**

**RECEPTION - YEAR 6**

**10:00 - 2:45 PM**

**ST MARY'S, RYDE**

**£12 A DAY**

**ALL OF OUR COACHES ARE FULLY FA QUALIFIED COACHES WITH FIRST AID TRAINING AND ARE DBS CHECKED.**

☎ 073688 86639

📷 LJR COACHING

📌 LJR COACHING

✉ LJR COACHING97@GMAIL.COM

[HTTPS://LJR COACHING.CLASS4KIDS.CO.UK](https://ljrcoaching.class4kids.co.uk)

## Our Mental Health Mission Statement

We believe having a mentally healthy community is not about being happy all the time, but about working together through the challenges and sharing the celebrations; feeling supported, heard, accepted, valued and empowered.

This week we want to focus on 'the importance of healthy sleep'.

<https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/information-support/children/relaxation-tips/>



## School Transport Policy

The Isle of Wight Council is seeking residents and stakeholders view on proposed changes to the School Transport Policy (previously called the 'Home to School Transport Policy'). The School Transport Policy sets out the legal responsibilities that the Council has in order to provide assistance with transport to school or another education setting for children and young people living in the local authority area.

The Council is required by law to consult on any changes to its School Transport Policy. In addition, the council is consulting in relation to post 16 travel arrangements. Although there is no automatic entitlement to local authority funded school or college transport once a student is over the age of 16, Isle of Wight Council makes discretionary funding available in certain circumstances.

If approved, changes to the policy will be applied to new applications from September 2024.

The consultation is open now and will close at 11.59pm on Wednesday 13th March 2024.

Before giving your views via the online response form we ask that you read the Consultation Information Packs, both of which can be accessed via the consultation webpage [www.iow.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.iow.gov.uk/consultations). If you require a paper copy of the consultation pack or response form please email, [transport.info@iow.gov.uk](mailto:transport.info@iow.gov.uk).