Issue 20 06/06/25

Queensgate Newsletter

A newsletter for the pupils, families and staff of Queensgate Primary

INSIDE, WE ALSO TALK ABOUT:

Out & About - Pg10, Pg11 & Pg12

Menu - Pg13

Attendance - Pg14

Eco Day

Dear families,

Eco Workshop

Yesterday (Thursday 5th June) we were fortunate enough to have Ella from Island Waste working with Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 throughout the day. Details of the children's activities and photos of the day can be found on page 9.

Staffing News

As previously announced we appointed Miss J Mennell as a new classroom teacher for September. As promised, on page 5 you will find a brief bio and photo introducing Miss Mennell.

In further staffing news,Mrs Marshall has decided to retire at the end of year. Mrs Marshall has worked at Queensgate in the Nest (formerly the Den) for since 2010 and has also supported many children through her ELSA work in the afternoons. I'm sure many children, and parents, will want to thank her for all the support she has offered along the way. She has helped many children who have struggled socially and emotionally to become more confident in themselves. She will be greatly missed by everyone.

As you will have seen the governors have decided to delay the interviews for a new Head Teacher, therefore I will (ably supported by Mrs Grant, the rest of the SLT and the entire teaching team at Queensgate) continue as Acting Head until in the Autumn term until a suitable candidate is found. Mr Genari's letter can be found on page 4

The bears at Wildheart Sanctuary

The children have been very excited to see that the bears, Benji and Balu, have arrived at their home at the Wildheart Sanctuary. Some classes have logged onto the live webcams https://wildheartanimalsanctuary.org/webcams/ and also watched the video shared on the County Press of the bears entering their enclosure. The children were immensely proud that they had contributed to this through the MUFTI day last term - thank you again for supporting this.

Year 6 Residential

The Year 6 children have been having a great time at Runways End in Aldershot. I hope you have managed to keep up to date with photos shared on our socials. Thank you to the staff on the trip and also Mrs Tilling who updates the socials on a daily basis. A big thank you to Mrs Wiper who has looked after the children that didn't attend the residential. We look forward to the Year 6's return so we can hear about their adventures! I have added some photos and details of some of the children's activities on pages 6, 7 and 8.

School Council Meeting

The school council met on Thursday 5th June and were tasked, among other things, to discuss our rewards system. The majority of the feedback that our reps gave from the rest of the children is that they are bored with the physical rewards and much prefer whole class rewards like time in the Patch, sensory area, extra break and receiving good news cards. Interestingly, they felt that it was too easy to get rewards and felt that rewards should only be given when reaching 50, 100 and 150 before then still working towards 200 and a book. Generally they liked Dojos. The staff and SLT have also had their say and we will combine the ideas to change the system for the new academic year.

Busy week for Year 1 and Year 4

Next week, Year 1 will be sitting the Phonics Screen, they will do this on an individual basis with the class teachers and it is an opportunity to show everyone how well they are doing with the sounds and early reading. This is a National screen and results will be shared at the end of year with parents of those children in Year 1 through their school reports, and as a total percentage to the rest of the community.
Year 4 will be sitting the Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) next week. This is a National check and each child will individually, on a laptop, answer multiplication and division questions in a timed scenario.

Dates for the Summer term

The second half of the summer term is a mammoth eight weeks! Here are some keys dates for your diaries

June 6th - Year 6 at UKSA

June 12th - Vocal Prom at Carisbrooke Castle - 4.00pm

June 23rd - School Closed - Inset Day

June 25th - Class Group and Leavers' Photos

July 4th - Queensgate Summer Fayre - 2.00pm

July 8th - Move up morning and Year 6 Transition Day

July 14th - KS1 Sports Day - 9.00am

July 15th - Year 1 Trip to Appley Beach

July 16th - School Disco's - From 3.15pm

July 17th - Key Stage 2 Sports Day - 9.00am

July 22nd -Year 6 Production to parents - 1,30pm & 6.00pm

July 24th - Attendance Award trip - 9.00am

July 25th - Year 3 trip to Robin Hill

July 28th - Year 6 leavers assembly and clapping corridor - 1.30pm

July 29th - School closed - Inset Day

Queensgate Foundation Primary School

Beatrice Avenue, East Cowes. Isle of Wight. PO32 6PA Tel: 01983 292872
Acting Head: Robin Chubb B.Sc (Hons) NPQSL
Acting Deputy Head: Clare Grant B.Ed (Hons)
Assistant Head: Peter Tilling B.Sc (Hons) NPQSL

3rd June 2025

Dear Teachers, Staff, Parents and Guardians,

Re : School Head Teacher Recruitment

Firstly apologies that it has taken some time to update you. The board panel along with our Local Authority Advisors continue to work hard to find the ideal person who will be the right fit for our fantastic school.

With this in mind we have decided, given the time of year, that it is going to be best to postpone interviews until after the school year in order to give us the time to find that right person. We anticipate that final interviews will now take place in September 2025.

We are very thankful and appreciative of all the tremendous support and hard work from Mr Chubb and the school Senior Leadership Team, as well as the teachers and staff as a whole, this continues to enable us to take the time in finding the right person and not rushing a decision.

During this time Mr Chubb will continue in his role as Acting Head Teacher with the support of the amazing team we have.

As soon as we have confirmed dates for final interviews we will let you know.

We thank you all for your support and understanding.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

Mr P Genari

Chair – Board of Governors

Working together for a successful future

Miss J Mennell

Hello there! My name is Miss Mennell and I am so delighted to be joining the team at Queensgate in September as an Early Careers Teacher. This will be my first year with my own class, though I have previously worked as an LSA and a Supply teacher. I am so thrilled to be starting the next chapter of my career.

Just a little about me: I LOVE the great outdoors! Whether that be going on walks (that's me in the picture on a hike in the Lake District), pottering around my garden and growing veg, or taking my camera out and snapping some landscape photography shots. I'm also a bit of a book worm; I love a fantasy novel and I'm currently making my way through the Terry Pratchett books.

I am very much into learning about history; this is a passion that grew more as I entered adulthood. I commonly visit National Trust or English Heratage sites and I love learning about how normal people used to live throughout history and imagining how their lives would've been. This is part and parcel as to why I love teaching, because learning can and should be exciting!

I'm looking forward to meeting my new class and getting to know everyone around the school. See you September!

Year 6 Residential

On the first day of the residential trip groups 1,2 and 3 took on the team challenges and the egg 'water balloon' drop. They worked brilliantly as a team - problem solving and learning strategies as they went. The children showed great resilience, teamwork, logical thinking and communicated effectively, especially when having to do one of the challenges silently!
Groups 4 and 5 took on shelter building and canoeing. Two of the groups decided to see how cold the water was when they very elegantly found their way into the canal. All children have had an excellent first day.

Working Together for a Successful Future

After SOME sleep the children starting with a cooked breakfast ready for a full day of activities including climbing, caving, fire lighting, archery along with more canoeing and shelter building.

Working Together for a Successful Future

Eco Day

On Thursday, as part of our Eco Schools project, we were visited by Ella from Island Waste.
Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 were treated to a short talk from Ella about our Island waste and how we can be more mindful of the environment before throwing our rubbish away. The children discovered you should never put your batteries in the bin, they should be placed in a bag on top of your black bin because they can explode when they go into the dustcart and that our Isle of Wight recycle plant recycles plastic, glass, tin, paper and card.

Then they took part in a workshop involving games using recycled products.

All the children enjoyed the experience and even the adults present learned something new they didn't know before.
A huge thank you to Ella

Queensgate Out & About

The rain didn't stop our Reception Out and About children having fun at the beach on Tuesday morning! The children had a great time collecting water in the pools, hunting for crabs under rocks and creating some tasty looking cakes and ice-creams in their sand café. Some of the children made their own "aquariums", making habitats in containers for the tiny shrimp, fish and crabs they had found! The children were all amazingly confident and keen to hold the little crabs. Before the group headed back to school, they were excited to see all the goslings near the Boating Lake.

On Tuesday afternoon our soggy, Year 3 Out and About group walked through Newport, following the River Medina, to tie in with their recent Geography topic on Rivers. The children made comparisons between the Western Yar (from their last Out and About session) and the Medina; noting the urban location, industries along the river, pollution and how the traffic moves over the river at Coppins Bridge.

Our Year 1 children will be learning about Grace Darling and Lighthouses this half term. This week the Out and About group enjoyed a walk along the coast of Niton to see St Catherine's Lighthouse. The children sketched the octagonal structure and listened to stories about lighthouses whilst having their snack. They took great care with their drawings, showing real attention to detail.

The Year 2 Out and About team visited Firestone Copse on Wednesday afternoon. The children have been learning about deciduous and evergreen trees and used their leaf identification charts to name different trees around the woodland. The group were very enthusiastic and keen to take it in turns to lead the walk. They spotted lots of wild spotted orchids too!

Queensgate Out & About

Out and About next week...

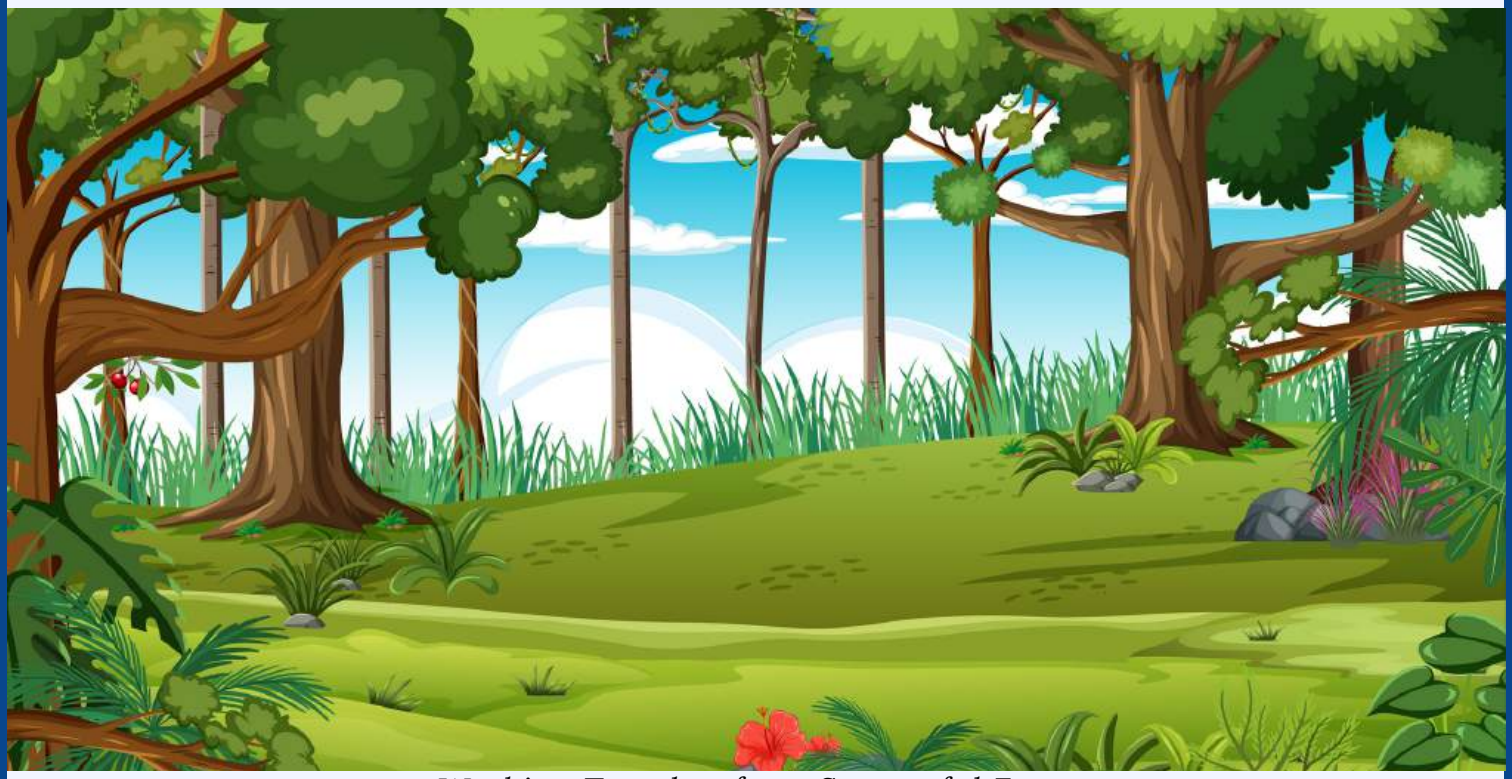
Please send your child to school wearing old play-clothes, suitable footwear, a sunhat and waterproof coat. We will be going out whatever the weather so please ensure your child is dressed appropriately and has suncream applied at home. Many thanks in advance for your support.

Tuesday 10th June am - Reception- RLM
Beach
Ryder, Evie, Rafe, Freddie, Alf, Myah, Nia, Aurelia, Stanley, Teddi, Finley, Freya and Alfie.

Tuesday 10th June pm - Year 3
River Medina walk
Elijah, Figgy, Amelia-Lily, Seb, Leo, Kendall, Mia, Jesse, Joe, Harry, Charlie, Jimmy and Gracie-Mai.

Wednesday 11th June am- Year 1 - 1CE
St Catherine's Lighthouse walk
Jason, Kaden, Owen, Eden, Rosey, Amelia, Coen, Elizabeth, Molly, Theo, Lyla and Louie.

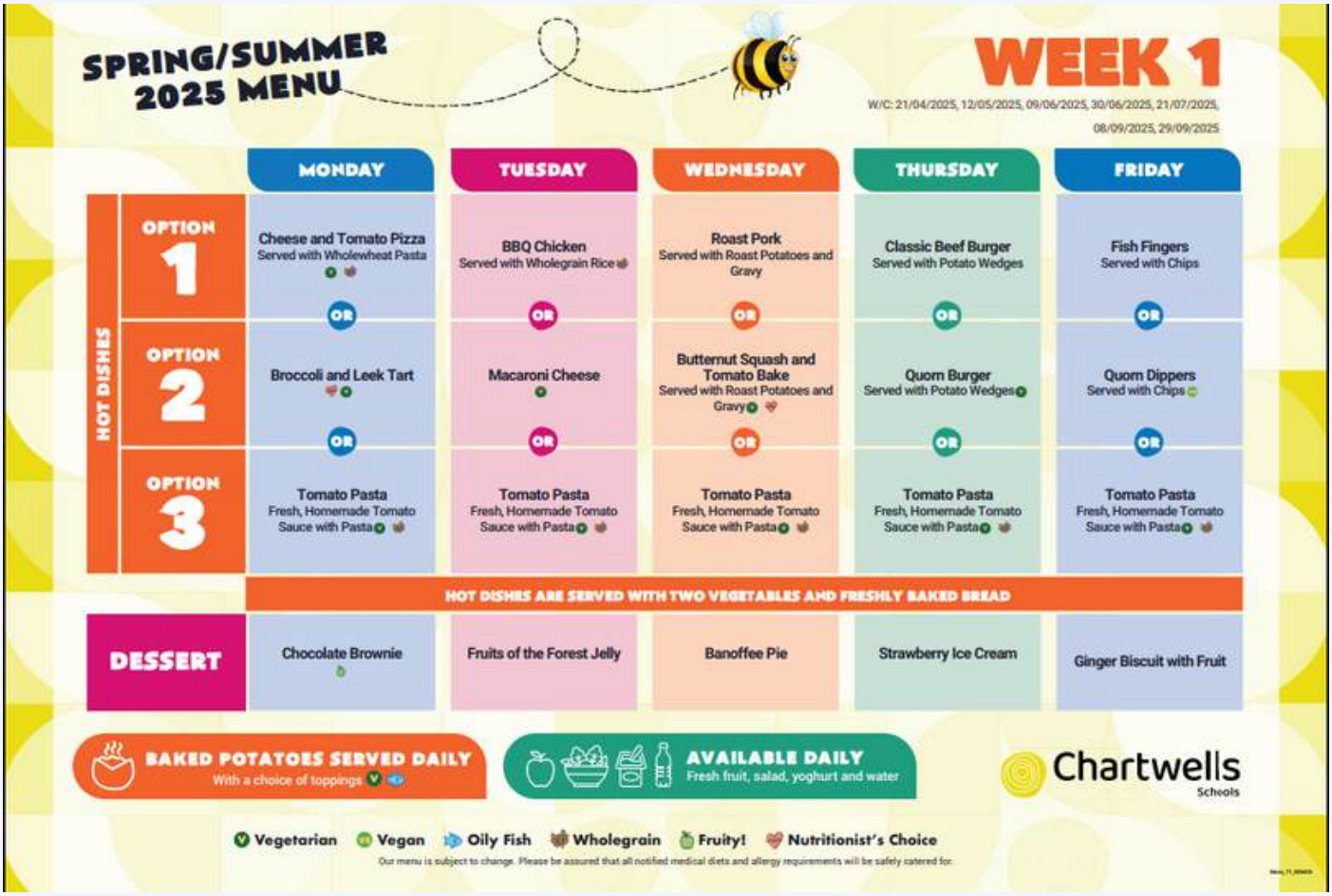
Wednesday 11th June pm- Year 2 - 2KA
Firestone Copse
Bowie, Jasper, Rudy, Marnie-Rae, Evelyn, Jack, Max, Daniel, Vienna, Arthur, Isabelle, Jake, Elsie-Mae and Harry.



Ability Dogs for Young People IOW

Our collection of milk bottle tops has been passed on to Ability Dogs for Young People IOW; they were collected by Yogi and his owner on Tuesday.

What's for lunch next week ...



SPRING/SUMMER 2025 MENU

WEEK 1

W/C: 21/04/2025, 12/05/2025, 09/06/2025, 30/06/2025, 21/07/2025, 08/09/2025, 29/09/2025

HOT DISHES	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
OPTION 1	Cheese and Tomato Pizza Served with Wholewheat Pasta	BBQ Chicken Served with Wholegrain Rice	Roast Pork Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Classic Beef Burger Served with Potato Wedges	Fish Fingers Served with Chips
OR	OR	OR	OR	OR	OR
OPTION 2	Broccoli and Leek Tart	Macaroni Cheese	Butternut Squash and Tomato Bake Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Quorn Burger Served with Potato Wedges	Quorn Dippers Served with Chips
OR	OR	OR	OR	OR	OR
OPTION 3	Tomato Pasta Fresh, Homemade Tomato Sauce with Pasta	Tomato Pasta Fresh, Homemade Tomato Sauce with Pasta	Tomato Pasta Fresh, Homemade Tomato Sauce with Pasta	Tomato Pasta Fresh, Homemade Tomato Sauce with Pasta	Tomato Pasta Fresh, Homemade Tomato Sauce with Pasta
	HOT DISHES ARE SERVED WITH TWO VEGETABLES AND FRESHLY BAKED BREAD				
DESSERT	Chocolate Brownie	Fruits of the Forest Jelly	Banoffee Pie	Strawberry Ice Cream	Ginger Biscuit with Fruit

BAKED POTATOES SERVED DAILY
With a choice of toppings

AVAILABLE DAILY
Fresh fruit, salad, yoghurt and water

Chartwells Schools

Vegetarian · Vegan · Oily Fish · Wholegrain · Fruity! · 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.

Working Together for a Successful Future

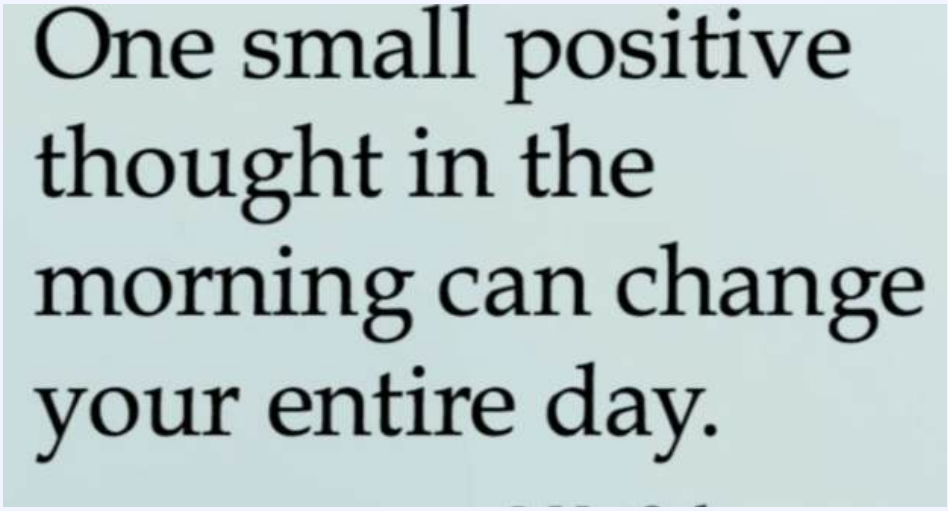
Attendance

Whole School Attendance since September is 94.33%

Whole School Attendance this week is 93.79%

KS1 Class with best attendance this week is 2KG with 98.12%

KS2 Class with best attendance this week is 6LR with 97.51%



Have a lovely weekend, let's hope we get some better weather!

Best wishes,

Robin Chubb
Acting Headteacher

Working Together for a Successful Future

NHS 111 Online & Local Pharmacies

NHS 111 online and local pharmacies can help you get the right care

People with urgent but non-life-threatening medical needs are encouraged to use NHS 111 online to get quick advice and be directed to the most appropriate care, especially over the bank holiday weekend when services are expected to be busy.
NHS 111 online is a fast and easy-to-use alternative to the NHS 111 phone service. It can provide help for people 5 years and over by assessing symptoms, giving advice on what to do next, and connecting people to local services without having to wait on the phone.
Whether you need help with a minor injury, mental health support, advice about dental pain, or emergency medication, NHS 111 online is available 24/7. It's especially useful if you can't get a GP appointment or your surgery is closed.
Sophia from Newport recently searched 111.nhs.uk for help when she woke up with red, itchy insect bites after a family BBQ. When they started getting worse, she used NHS 111 online for advice and was directed to her local pharmacy. The pharmacist recommended a cream and gave her tips on managing the symptoms including what to do if the bites got worse.
Sophia said: "I was glad I went online first. A friend suggested I go to hospital but that didn't feel right for a few bites. The pharmacy was exactly what I needed."
You can access NHS 111 by:
Visiting 111.nhs.uk
Using the NHS App
Calling 111
Lee Haward, IW Ambulance Service Head of Clinical Coordination Centre, said: "If you've got access to the internet, NHS 111 online is a really quick and easy way to get help. It works just like calling 111, but you can do it all online, anytime, day or night. Just go to the NHS 111 website or use the NHS App, answer a few questions about how you're feeling, and it will guide you to the right care. It's really easy to use and there when you need help."

Pharmacies can help with minor illnesses - Your local pharmacy is also a great source of expert help for minor conditions. As part of the Pharmacy First scheme, many community pharmacies can now offer clinical advice and treatment for common illnesses without the need to see a GP:
Sinusitis
Sore throat
Earache
Infected insect bites
Impetigo (a bacterial skin infection)
Shingles
Uncomplicated urinary tract infections (in women)

Pharmacists are qualified healthcare professionals who can provide advice, reassurance, and treatment options, often with no need for an appointment. Many pharmacies will remain open over the bank holiday weekend. You can find a list of pharmacies online

Classorama

News from Naturezones June '25

10 for Free

July Special

We are NOW taking bookings on a first come basis

Limiting the number to 10 means a more satisfying experience for the participants and, no cost. We can extend to 16 but there would we be a charge of £60 and the group must be accompanied by 2 appropriate adults.

The group of 10 children must be accompanied by an appropriate adult. Either the class teacher. Or teaching assistant.

You may wish to bring the Eco group, special achievers, or children that would benefit from a nature-therapy experience.

Length of visit 2 hrs

An exploring activity will be provided

Times. Wednesday or Thursday 10.30am — 12.30pm or 12noon—2pm

Morning Assembley Presentation

An introduction to Naturezones and what your learning visit will entail

Includes short film

From Reception Class to Yr 6

To book, Email Vicky

naturezones@outlook.com

Reception Class Special

2 hr visit for just £78.00

Children (max 30) should bring with them their favourite soft toy to take on a Bear Hunt

They will make a habitat for their little friend. They will collect natural items to make a paper mounted nature museum

They will listen to bird song and be read a story. The session will end with soft drink and fruit

Make it a morning session, bring a packed lunch and stay a little longer

NOW £50

NATURE'S TABLE

Planning your Spring/Summer Class visit?

Bring your science lessons alive at Naturezones

Covering Food and Life cycles, food sources and emergence of new life, plants, habitats and climate effects.

Led by our experienced workshop leaders.

For years 1,2 3,4, 5 and 6

Sessions commence 10 am —2.30 pm'ish

Max 30 children normally £220/session

currently £75/session

Numbers are limited to 30 because Naturezones is a sensitive area to be protected.

We recommend planning two smaller group visits for large cohorts

Heritage Fund

ISLE of WIGHT

NATUREZONES

Isle of Wight SENDIASS — Drop in Sessions

- Free impartial and confidential advice relating to SEND for 0-25 years.
- Peer support, talking to others who may be experiencing a similar journey
- Free beverages and biscuits

10 JUNE
12:30 - 14:30 Newport Family Centre PO30 2AX
16:00 - 18:00 Cowes Family Centre PO31 7ET

25 JUNE
09:30 - 11:30 Ryde Family Centre PO33 2JF
12:30 - 14:30 East Cowes Family Centre PO32 6PA

17 JULY
12:30 - 14:30 Newport Family Centre PO30 2AX
16:00 - 18:00 West Wight Family Centre PO40 9XH

26 AUG
09:30 - 11:30 Sandown Family Centre PO36 9EQ
11:30 - 14:30 Ventnor Family Centre PO38 1EX

No booking required

Any questions email: info@iowsendiass.org.uk

A huge thank you to Barnardo's Family Hubs for the use of their family centres for our in-person sessions across the island

Family Hubs

Reduced Fees School Visits 2025

The Heritage Lottery Fund has awarded Naturezones Wildlife Education Trust (NWET) a grant to support Scientific and Natural History educational visits to it's dedicated 10 acre site for primary school children on the Isle of Wight.

We can also accommodate some small-groups visits for free.

PEACH NEWS

Supporting Physical Activity and Emotional Health and Wellbeing

What we can offer at Naturezones is in fact interlinked.

Physical outdoor activities in nature, such as tree planting, hay making, raking, digging a pond, clearing a ditch, orienteering, dancing in the meadow, play acting, chasing butterflies, breathing in the air, creating some nature based art is actually connecting with nature as a form of green-prescribing. Connecting with nature rather than just being in nature brings about a state of quality mindfulness.

Green Prescribing - max no 16 children. £60

How to Book:

Have two date options available

Email: angela.hewitt@btclick.com

stating which option you want to book..

Green Prescribing
Assembly visit
Reception Class Special
Nature's Table
Ten for Free

We will also need to know
Year group and subject you want covered if booking Nature's Table
We will check availability and get back to you asap

Nature Notes in Brief

Bumble bees are not the same as Honey bees

Bumble bees are wild bees. They live in small colonies or even on their own (solitary bees) in tiny holes in the ground - often previously made and abandoned by a mouse or in a tree hole. Bumble bees only live for a year. The queen bee once mated, will hibernate for the Winter. The other bees die having done their job. The queen emerges in early Spring looking for pollen and nectar to feed her larva now in a cocoon. The larva emerge as female worker bees bringing back more pollen to the nest. The queen lays more eggs which will hatch into new queens and male bumble bees. The newly mated queens feed on nector and pollen ready to overwinter in an underground burrow. The rest of the bumblebees in the colony die as the weather begins to turn colder.

www.naturezones.org.uk

A bunch of meadow flowers sends a buzz through the air

Greenmount—Activities were fun and informative. Instructors knowledgeable and enthusiastic

Wootton—Great, children kept busy and engaged throughout. Instructors, top quality, clearly experienced

Gatten and Lake—Better than expected. We have had an amazing time

Arreton—The flower/tree detective activities were very scientific and covered a lot of our objectives.

Do you have a child in need of NHS dental care?

We have an opportunity at CHURCH STREET DENTAL PRACTICE VENTNOR to take on children for NHS dental care.

Please contact our team on 01983 853721

You can also visit our practice at 4, Church Street, Ventnor PO38 1SW to make an appointment.

Do you have any:

broken plastic toys

unwanted mechanical items

small damaged electrical goods ?

Year 3 want them!

We have an art project coming up that requires some extra resources. So, if you want to clear some space and get rid of broken items send them in! All donations will be gratefully received.

ISLAND TENNIS COACHING

RYDE MEAD LTC COACHING SCHEDULE

TOTS TENNIS AGES 2-5

Monday 0930-1015
Thursday 0930-1015

MINI RED/ORANGE AGES 5-9

Thursday 1020-1115 (Home Ed)
Thursday 1545-1640
Saturday 0900-0955

MINI ORANGE/GREEN AGES 9-14

Thursday 1120-1215 (Home Ed)
Thursday 1645-1740
Saturday 1000-1055
saturday 1100-1155 (all ages welcome)

ADULT BEGINNERS AGES 14+

Monday 1130-1225
Thursday 1445-1540
Friday 0930-1025

ADULT ADVANCED AGES 14+

Tuesday 1700-1815
Saturday 1200-1315
Sunday 1130-1245

TENNIS FITNESS ALL AGES

Thursday 1345-1440

PICKLEBALL ALL AGES

Monday 1230-1325
Thursday 1245-1340

https://bookwhen.com/islandtenniscoaching

Isle of Wight County Press

Help Your Local School WIN EQUIPMENT!

Get ready to participate in our exciting token collect competition and help your school stand a chance to win amazing prizes.

Collecting Tokens Here

Drop your tokens to reception!

Collect tokens printed in the County Press from Monday 2nd June until Friday 11th July 2025.

Terms and Conditions: Newsquest terms and conditions apply. Visit Newsquest Prize Competition Rules and Newsquest Privacy Policy for more information. No Photocopies Accepted: Only original tokens will be counted. Only registered schools can enter, and no two schools can combine their token collections. Prizes are non-transferable and no cash alternative is available.

EAST COWES
QUEENSGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL
BEATRICE AVENUE
PO32 6PA
WEDNESDAYS AT 5:30PM
CALL HELEN ON 07771 641951

real food, real support, real results

*When you commit to 6 or 12 weeks of group support **between 25th May and 14th June 2025**. Price shown is RRP. Terms and conditions apply, visit **slimmingworld.co.uk/offers** for more information.

Slimming World
touching hearts, changing lives