



# Queensgate Newsletter

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



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## **Have a great break!**

Dear families,

### **Staffing News**

I am very pleased to announce that we appointed Miss J. Mennell as a new classroom teacher for September. Miss Mennell is a newly qualified teacher and we are very excited to be welcoming her to the team. I have asked her to write a short bio about herself and will share this with you after the half term break.

After the half term break, I will be speaking with all members of staff to ask them where they would like to work during the next academic year. Along with the other senior leadership team, I will use this information to build the staffing structure. It is possible that there could be some changes within the team, but I will let you know the structure after the move up morning on 8th July. The Senior Leadership Team will also discuss whether any classes should be mixed up before the new academic year. It is always a difficult decision and we put a lot of work into ensuring that all children are in the right class.

## **Target Children Check in**

I have enjoyed speaking to teachers about how the children are getting along. It was great to hear that lots of the children are making good progress towards their targets. After half term there will be the final assessment week, where children will be able to show what they learned this year. These tests are used by the teachers to inform their assessment of each child in their class. These levels will be shared with you in the end of year summer report.

## **Cake Sale**

Thank you to everyone who supported our PTFA cake sale. The PTFA took £100.50 and after costs made a profit of £50.00.

## **Junk Modelling Family Event**

Thank you to everyone who attended the Reception classes junk modelling afternoon. It was amazing to see so many parents in the dining hall. I hope the models didn't get too wet in the downpours after school!





## MUFTI Day

Thank you for supporting the school council's MUFTI day in aid of the bear enclosure at Wildheart Animal Sanctuary.

It was great to see so many animal themed costumes. A grand total of £255.60 amount was raised.



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# Year 6 Seafront Activity Day

Following the completion of their SATs, Year 6 children were treated to an activity day at East Cowes Seafront on Friday 16th May. The children played in the woods and park. Some chose to sit and relax, while others read and played traditional games such as noughts and crosses and giant Jenga. We introduced a game called 'Capture the Flag' which the children loved with 6LR winning one game and 6TM winning the other – we are sure there will be a rematch on the residential! After lunch, the children chose from a range of activities including tennis, handball, basketball, pickleball, crabbing or relaxing with their friends. During this time, everyone enjoyed an ice-cream in the sunshine. The children were a huge credit to Queensgate.





# Year 6 Production

Following the final SATs paper on Thursday, Year 6 children were introduced to the production they will be performing this year. There was a real buzz of excitement as the children read the scripts and decided which parts they would like to audition for. We cannot wait to see the characters brought to life over the next few weeks. We held auditions on Tuesday 20th May and Thursday 22nd May with the parts being revealed on Friday 23rd May.



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# Sports News

## Tag Rugby

On Monday afternoon a Year 4 and Year 5/6 team headed to Wootton to take part in the Jason Robinson Foundation tag rugby tournament. This was a great opportunity for the children to meet a world champion rugby player and play lots of games. Although the Year 4 team lacked experience, they listened well to the coaching points given during each game and made great progress winning their final games. The Year 5/6 team was a mix of experienced Year 6 and some less experienced Year 5 players. All players stepped up and had to quickly learn the discipline and self control required in rugby. The team pulled together and were unbeaten in their matches. All players left with a medal and the Year 5/6 team were presented with a winners trophy. Well done both teams



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# Basketball

On Wednesday 21st May, a team of children from Year 6 travelled to Southampton Solent University to take part in the Hampshire Basketball Finals, along with 15 other qualifying schools.

The schools were split between two halls to compete in the group stages. Our team faced seven games against some very tough competition. We finished the morning with four wins and three losses - an excellent achievement. At this point everyone went off for lunch and a well earned break.

After lunch, all of the schools were called back into the main hall to hear the results of the groups. We placed fourth in our group, putting us in the top tier of the play offs for the afternoon. This was an even higher level of intensity and we had to really dig deep for these matches.

We had three games; the first two we lost by a small margin of goals and the third we won with a result of 7-4.

This meant we came seventh overall, not only out of the 15 schools competing on the day but out of the whole of Hampshire. This is a huge achievement for our children and for Queensgate as a whole. Our team on the day; Brooke, Ellie, Halle, Sophia, Artem, Denys, Jonny and Lucas stepped up in all areas. They showed, resilience, hard work and impeccable behaviour throughout the day.

Lastly a special mention to the rest of the team who we were unable to take to the mainland; Harry, Tom, Evie and Hayley.

Well done Queensgate!





# Queensgate Out & About

On Tuesday morning, our Reception Out and About group had the chance to ride the train. The children have been learning about different types of transport so were super excited to catch the train from Ryde Esplanade to Brading. They were all very sensible waiting on the platform and loved travelling up and down the pier (over the sea!), going under the ground through a tunnel and under bridges.



The children in Year 3 are continuing their topic on rivers. This week our Out and About children walked along the River Medina, from Seaclose towards Shide. The children made comparisons between the Western Yar and the River Medina, noting the concrete banks, how the river flows under Coppins Bridge and the industrial surroundings.





On Wednesday morning, the Year 1 Out and About team went to visit St Catherine's Lighthouse, in Niton (in readiness for next half-term's topic). The children enjoyed learning about the history of the lighthouse, looking at the octagonal shape of the tower and counting how many seconds between the flashes of light. The group continued walking along the coastline to Watershoot Bay, where they were lucky enough to see two seals playing in the bay!



Our Year 2 Out and About group went on an adventure around Firestone Copse, on Wednesday afternoon. The children had fun identifying different leaves and trees using their leaf ID charts. They discussed which trees are evergreen and which are deciduous. The children were all keen to find a good walking stick and liked finding dens within the woodland. They were all polite and well-mannered when speaking to members of the public, out walking their dogs, a credit to the school- Well done!



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# Queensgate Out & About

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

Tuesday 3rd June am- Reception- RJB

Beach

Ethan, Rafferty, Zia, Loui, James, Alex, Oscar, Clover, Cece, Darcie, Rosie and Ada.

Tuesday 3rd June pm- Year 3

River Medina walk

Daisy, Pippa, Noah, Henry, Marleigh-Rose, Eli, Tyler, Lena, Lacey, Jack, Arlo, Harry H and William.

Wednesday 4th June am- Year 1- 1SC

St Catherine's Lighthouse

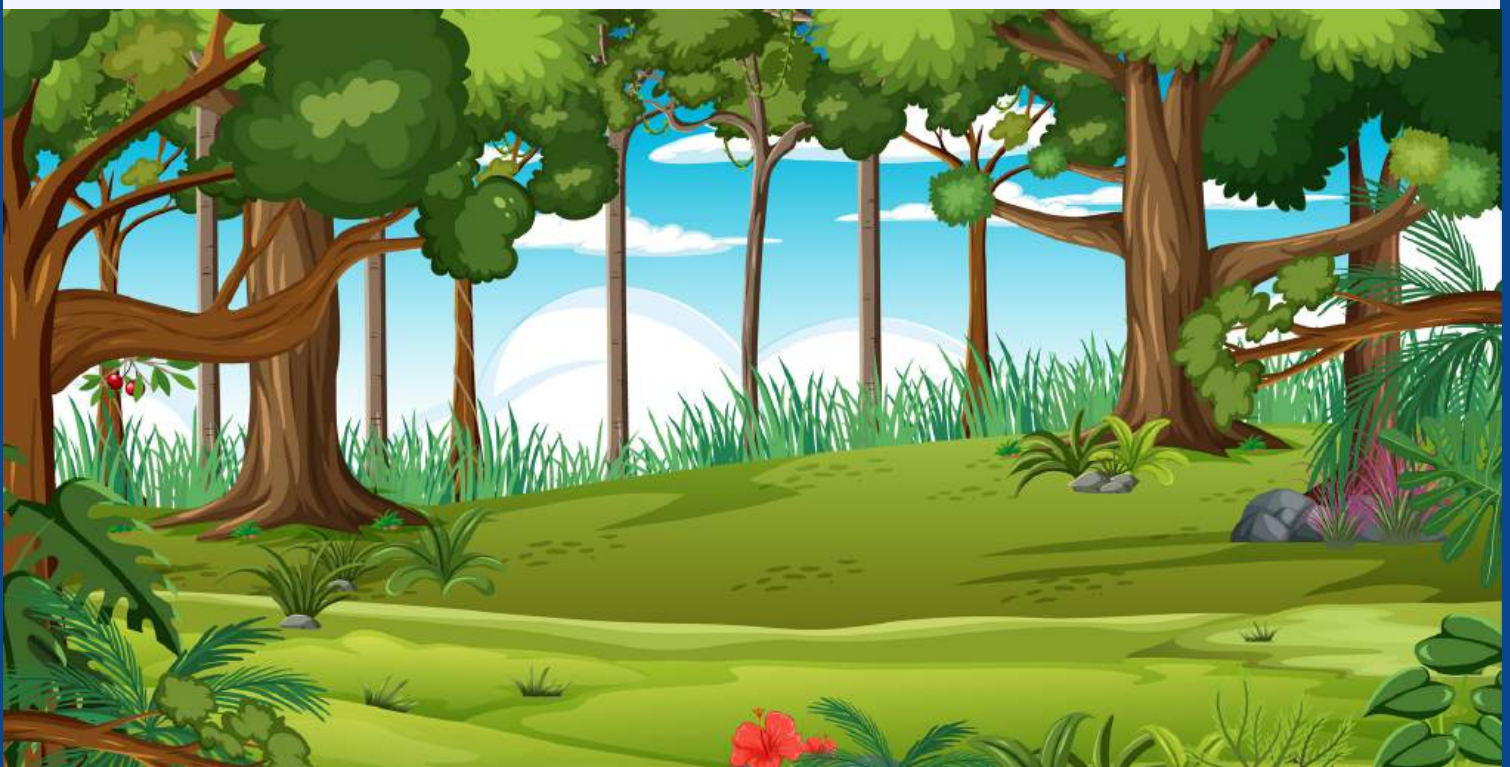
Jacob, Ronney, Nova, Blake, Riley, Harper, Clayton, Dylan, Hunter, Archer, Emily, Niamh and Eliza.

Wednesday 4th April pm- Year 2- 2KG

Firestone Copse

Ellis, Alfred, Freya, Roman, RJ, Mollie Matteo, Cassidy, Sophie, Poppy, Peyton, Marley, Charlie and Sully.

\*Please bring wellies
































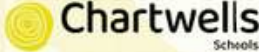
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# What's for lunch next week ...



SPRING/SUMMER 2025 MENU		WEEK 3									
		W/C: 05/05/2025, 02/06/2025, 23/06/2025, 14/07/2025, 01/09/2025, 22/09/2025, 13/10/2025									
HOT DISHES	MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		
	OPTION 1	Cheese and Tomato Pizza Served with Wholewheat Pasta  	OR	Sausage Hot Dog Served with Potato Wedges	OR	Roast Chicken Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	OR	Oat Crusted Chicken Served with Wholegrain Rice  	OR	Fish Fingers Served with Chips	
		OPTION 2		Chilli No Carne With Crispy Tortilla Served with Wholegrain Rice  		Veggie Sausage Hot Dog Served with Potato Wedges 		Roast Quorn Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy 		Meatless Shepherd's Pie Served with Gravy  	Quorn Dippers Served with Chips 
				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  
HOT DISHES ARE SERVED WITH TWO VEGETABLES AND FRESHLY BAKED BREAD											
DESSERT		Flapjack 		Peach and Ginger Pudding 		Oatie Cookie with Fruit 		Vanilla Ice Cream		Crunchy Chocolate Mousse	
 <b>BAKED POTATOES SERVED DAILY</b> With a choice of toppings  		    <b>AVAILABLE DAILY</b> Fresh fruit, salad, yoghurt and water									
Our menu is subject to change. Please be assured that all notified medical diets and allergy requirements will be safely catered for.											

## Music at Queensgate



At Queensgate we are delighted to be able to offer peripatetic music lessons with our fully qualified music tutors.

**Shirley Camfield** offers lessons on piano, violin and **NEW!** Small group lessons on recorder.

15-minute lesson = £8

20-minute individual lesson = £10 (violin and piano)

20-minute group lesson = £8 (recorder)

**John Sharpe** from Wight Music Tuition offers group lessons on the guitar.

20-minute group lesson = £8

Children will need access to an instrument to practise on at home. School can help you with this, we have spare violins, keyboards, recorders and a lovely set of new guitars with carry cases available for free loan.

To sign up with **Shirley** for piano, violin or recorder please email her direct at: [shirleycamfield@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:shirleycamfield@yahoo.co.uk)

To sign up with **John** for guitar lessons please sign up on: [iwmt.org.uk/apply-online/](http://iwmt.org.uk/apply-online/)



If you sign your child up for instrumental lessons please encourage them to practise regularly at home. It only takes ten minutes a day to make great progress!

## Attendance

**Whole School Attendance since September is 94.83%**

**Whole School Attendance this week is 93.94%**

**KS1 Class with best attendance this week is 2KG with 94.83%**

**KS2 Class with best attendance this week is 3AH with 97.86%**

Being told you're  
appreciated is  
one of the  
simplest, yet  
most incredible  
things you can  
● hear.

**READ**

**Chat**

**Play**

Have a lovely half term break and I look forward to welcoming all the children back to school on Monday 2nd June

Best wishes,



Robin Chubb  
Acting Headteacher



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# 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.

## Classorama

News from Naturezones April' 25

### 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 its dedicated 10 acre site for primary school children on the Isle of Wight.

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

#### Curriculum subjects Naturezones can cover

Everything Plants  
Habitats & Micro Habitats  
Insects  
Life Cycles  
Food Chains  
Observation and Surveys  
The Soil  
Carbon sequestration and Light  
Bird Migration  
Arts and crafts with natural materials

#### Planning your Spring/Summer Class visit? Bring your science lessons alive at Naturezones

Led by our experienced workshop leaders  
In Brief  
Nature Table - For years 1,2,3,4 and 5. Sessions commence 10 am - 2.30 pmish. Max 30 children normally £220/session now £75/session

Reception Class Special - 90 min visit. £80 now £50. Make it a morning session, bring a packed lunch and stay a little longer

Ten for Free - Normally in July. Suitable for the Eco group, special achievers, children that would benefit from an outdoor experience in nature.

Reduced prices are available until the grant is exhausted 1 session/school or 2 if there are 2 cohorts/yr 1 discounted visit per school



**Greenhouse**—Activities were fun and informative. Instructors knowledgeable and enthusiastic.



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



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



**Arretton**—The Rosebush detective activities were very scientific and covered a lot of our objectives.

#### TO BOOK Your visit

Summer Term bookings are being taken on 1st May. Please supply 2 preferred date options.

We need to know year group. Number in class (max30), curriculum subject to be covered.

Visit details are on the next page



MAY 2025

## WHAT'S ON THIS HALF TERM

THE ULTIMATE WHAT'S ON GUIDE FOR FAMILIES TO FIND THINGS TO DO ON THE ISLE OF WIGHT

[www.isleofwightrocks.co.uk](http://www.isleofwightrocks.co.uk)



### FIND HALF TERM FUN

Half-term fun made easy! The Isle of Wight Rocks website is packed with family-friendly activities, from exciting parks and scenic walks to our holiday club guide. And to make things even simpler, we've added a handy button to help you find it all in a flash!

**HALF TERM FUN**

**PARKS & WALKS**

**HOLIDAY CLUBS**

### OUR FAVOURITE HALF TERM ACTIVITIES

- **SHAUN THE SHEEP FARMATHLON LIVE!** - at Tapnell Farm Park
- **TICKET TO RYDE** - at Ryde Beach
- **PLAYFEST** - at Godshill Play Park



[www.isleofwightrocks.co.uk](http://www.isleofwightrocks.co.uk)



### Introduction

Our 10 acre Nature Reserve at Blackwater is designed to support primary school education on natural

history subjects including the environment with links to literacy, numeracy, creativity.

The scientific study of habitats, woodlands, ponds and meadows.

The study of life cycles and food chains.

Discovering natural materials, textures, colours and shapes



### Numbers

We can take a class or group of up to a max of 30 children/visit during the school day 10am—2.30 pm

**Cost Sept 24—May 25**

**A £220. We require a deposit of £100 to confirm the booking**

We have a booking form on our website or email [angela.hewitt@btclick.com](mailto:angela.hewitt@btclick.com)

[www.naturezones.org.uk](http://www.naturezones.org.uk)

### About Us

- Naturezones provides a safe environment for your children
- Our instructors are CRB checked and have 15 years experience in running school visits at our Field Study Centre
- We are fully public liability insured
- We work with children from reception to Yr 6
- Although we are an outdoor activity centre we have an indoor education pavilion should it rain. But, we don't let rain put us off and recommend that children come prepared for all weathers.
- Toilet facilities

**A typical visit** will commence with the coach dropping your children at the bus stop opposite Blackwater Mill car home where we will meet them and conduct a nature walk along the cycle track to our centre. Energy expended, children will be ready to have a really good learning experience.

After our safety talk children will either be split into 2 groups or groups of 6. Activities will be divided and after a hot chocolate/squash break in our woodland circle, groups will swap over.

We will return to the barn approx' 12.30 where they will eat the packed lunch that they have brought with them. After lunch there will be a short playtime. We will go over what the children have learnt and then do an art activity (Day Diary) before returning along the cycle track to catch the coach back to school.

**The Journey:** Coming by mini bus? You can drive right up to the centre. We have a small car park. It can be arranged for parents to collect children from Naturezones at the end of the day. We have a small car park so we encourage car sharing. Please ask parents to turn off engines while waiting. (CO2 emissions initiative)

**Pocket Money:** Optional, recommend £2/3 spend.

**Note to Schools:** Attending school staff will be acting Loco Parents

So as not to waste the day please ensure children go to the toilet before setting off.

Please take any rubbish away with you. Thank you



Find us on Facebook

Naturezones Wildlife Education Trust





Naturezones

Wise Owl Holiday Club

8 - 14 yrs



Come and have a great time outdoors! Go on a nature safari, look for wildlife in our ponds, woods and meadows. See if you can charm worms out of the ground. Get creative in our guided art sessions and try some crafts using willow and other natural materials. Play games based around wildlife and tackle a challenge! Various different fun activities during each session.

Half Term 29th May 10am - 1.30 pm

£5 (bring packed lunch)

Funded by Heritage Lottery

**MUST BOOK** - Limited places

Full details on booking form

Where: Blackwater

[www.naturezones.org.uk](http://www.naturezones.org.uk)



East Cowes Heritage Centre presents:

# TREASURES OF THE HERITAGE CENTRE

EAST COWES TOWN HALL

**Saturday May 24th to Monday May 26th**

10.00 am until 4.00 pm

Special film showings

**FREE ADMISSION**

Refreshments available

A rare chance to see the history of East Cowes, through items from the Heritage Centre, some on display for the first time.

**Please pop in to have a look, browse the displays and watch films on the large screen.**



**SERIES 2 IS OUT NOW ON**

**itvX**

Thanks to everyone who took part!

Watch the show to see if you (or anyone you know) made it onto the show!



## 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](mailto: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.





PLACES MUST BE BOOKED IN  
ADVANCE.

CLUB MEMBERS-£12  
NON MEMBERS-£14



# MAY HALF TERM TENNIS

RED BALL AGE 6-10YRS

TUESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> MAY 9:30AM-11:00AM

ORANGE/GREEN BALL AGE 11-14YRS

TUESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> MAY 11:00AM-13:00PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

LINDA JONES-07971298367  
LJLOUISE@ICLOUD.COM  
ALL EQUIPMENT PROVIDED

VENTNOR TENNIS CLUB

wildheart  
animal  
sanctuary



ONLY £2.50  
PER PERSON

# FOCAS FEST

28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> June

Focus on Conservation and  
Science Festival  
at the Wildheart Animal  
Sanctuary

## A weekend of learning and FUN

- Wicked science show from Winchester Science Centre
- 20+ incredible exhibitors from RSPB to Naturezones
- Activities and games at each stall
- AND SO MUCH MORE



Book HERE



**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.



# IWN AIM HIGH NETBALL SESSIONS YEAR 5/6

Tuesdays 6-7pm  
@Cowes EC Sports Hall  
3rd June - 8th July  
£2 per session



ISLE OF WIGHT  
NETBALL

Scan QR For Form  
Contact: Ann Selby - easelby47@gmail.com  
07765750266