



# Freshwater & Yarmouth C.E. Primary

The purpose of the Federation of the Church Schools of Shalfleet and Freshwater & Yarmouth is to educate children in an atmosphere of Christian love where all achieve the very best they can, now and throughout their lives.

<http://fosay.co.uk>

Headteacher: Mrs. E Grainger

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs. G Westhorpe

RESPECT • RESILIENCE • RELATIONSHIPS

## Attendance Matters



## ATTENDANCE

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

#### ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year. The Government states that every pupil's attendance should be at least 95%.

How do YOU measure up?

| Attendance | Days Absent | Weeks Absent | Lessons Missed |
|------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|
| 95%        | 9 Days      | 2 Weeks      | 50 Lessons     |
| 90%        | 19 Days     | 4 Weeks      | 100 Lessons    |
| 85%        | 29 Days     | 6 Weeks      | 150 Lessons    |
| 80%        | 38 Days     | 8 Weeks      | 200 Lessons    |
| 75%        | 48 Days     | 10 Weeks     | 250 Lessons    |
| 70%        | 57 Days     | 11.5 Weeks   | 290 Lessons    |
| 65%        | 67 Days     | 13.5 Weeks   | 340 Lessons    |

89% & Below  
Drastic effect on  
academic achievement

95%-90%  
Cause for  
concern

100%-96%  
Excellent



## Attendance

Over a school year, we are due to open for 190 days which equates to 380 sessions with registration in the morning at 8.35am and after lunch in the afternoon.

**Attendance is affected if a pupil is not present at school for any whole session including registration.**

**Attendance Target**

**100%**

**Attendance for the last week**

**94.55%**

**Attendance This Year**

**93%**

## Important Information

### Dates for your Diary

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March** – Ocean Class Sharing Assembly  
**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March** – River Class to Dinosaur Isle  
**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March** – Beach Class to Amazon World  
**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March** – Solent Class to Dimbola Lodge  
**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March** – Comic Relief – Red Muffin Day  
**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March** – Community Connector Drop In service with Adam Tucker 9am – 12pm  
**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March** – Cove Class to Owl and Monkey Haven  
**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March** – Solent Class Sharing Assembly  
**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March** – Parent Forum  
**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April** – Easter Worship  
**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April** – Last Day of Term  
**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April** – Bank Holiday  
**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April** – Children return to school

### Development Days

Our last remaining development days will be on

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> July

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July

School will be closed on these days

### Menu for the week ahead

#### Week 3

**Monday** – Macaroni Cheese or Cheesy Bean Burrito

Flapjack with Fruit

**Tuesday** – Classic Beef Burger or Quorn Burger

Apple Crumble with Custard

**Wednesday** – Roast Gammon or Roast Quorn

Strawberry Frozen Yoghurt

**Thursday** – BBQ Chicken Pizza or Cheese and Tomato Pizza

Raspberry Jelly

**Friday** – Fish Fingers or Veggie Fingers

Chocolate Brownie

**Jacket potatoes and pasta are available every day.**

**Baguettes are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays**

For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.

Song of Solomon 2:11-12

# Our Mission Statement

We value and respect everyone within an atmosphere of Christian love. Our welcoming community builds strong relationships and is dedicated to supporting everyone to flourish academically, emotionally, socially and culturally through an excellent and engaging curriculum.

## Values

Our three R's are incredibly important to us. They represent qualities we believe everyone can identify with, regardless of age or role in our conscious community. They are the backbone to the conscious community as a whole.



**RESPECT**



**RESILIENCE**




**RELATIONSHIPS**

## Attendance

We prioritise the attendance of all children at our school and recognise the very strong link between attendance and academic success,

When you register your child at our school, you have a legal duty to ensure that your child attends every day that the school is open except in a small number of circumstances such as being too ill to attend or being given permission for an absence in advance (not holidays).

We will work together to help overcome any attendance issues.



The Federated Church Schools of  
Skelton, Freshwater & Yarmouth

# The Conscious Community

**What is the conscious community?**



Every person in our federation – including you and all adults – has an important responsibility. That is to be the best you can be. To do this you need to be aware of all that you do and feel; you also need to be aware of what others are doing and feeling too. This is what being in a conscious community is all about.

**Conscious = Aware**

**Community = All together**

**How do I make sure I am part of this?**

By thinking about both your actions/feelings and the actions/feelings of others through 3 important values:

| <b>Respect</b>   | <b>Resilience</b>   | <b>Relationships</b>  |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Celebrate your skills and talents</li> <li>- Recognise what makes you great</li> <li>- Be proud of what you achieve</li> <li>- Celebrate other people's skills and talents</li> <li>- Recognise what makes other people great</li> <li>- Be proud of what other people achieve</li> </ul> |  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Making mistakes are great</li> <li>- It's how we grow </li> <li>- It is important we always respect them and learn from them</li> <li>- Ask yourself these questions about your actions or the actions of others...</li> <li>- Why do I/they feel this way?</li> <li>- Did I/they handle that situation in the best possible way?</li> <li>- What could I/they do to improve the situation?</li> <li>- Did I/they do the best I/they could?</li> <li>- What can we learn from this situation?</li> <li>- How can we move forward positively?</li> </ul> | <p><i>Show a good understanding of yourself and others by knowing what inspires you both, what you want, your beliefs, your needs and what can cause you and them to feel a certain way.</i></p> <p><i>In situations ask yourself and others...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What is my/their point of view?</li> <li>- What are my/their reasons?</li> <li>- How am I/they feeling?</li> <li>- What am I/they bringing to this situation?</li> </ul> |

***In a conscious community...***

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <p><i>We are open</i></p> <p><i>We ask questions</i></p> | <p><i>We are honest</i></p> <p><i>We speak up</i></p> | <p><i>We listen</i></p> <p><i>We respect privacy</i></p> |
|--|---|--|

## Wellbeing

We acknowledge that mental health and wellbeing is of central importance and intrinsic to our lives.

We believe having a mentally healthy community is about being able to work together through any challenges and that everyone is feeling supported, heard, accepted, valued and empowered.

It is of paramount importance that if there is anything you feel is affecting your child's wellbeing or educational experience that you get in contact with us.

### Comic Relief 2025

Comic Relief will be held on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March.

Your child may come to school wearing red mufti for a donation.

Suggested donation £1

### Outstanding Payments

We are coming to the end of the financial year, please log on to Scopay to check for any outstanding balances that may be due.

Please make sure that all monies owing to school are paid in full. If your child will continue to have school dinners, please make sure you have put enough credit on the account to cover any future payments.

If you are experiencing financial difficulties, please do contact the office. All calls will be dealt with in the strictest of confidence.

### Rotary on the Wight Easter card competition

Your child has come home with an Easter card to decorate for the Rotary on the Wight Easter Card Competition. The design must be in the form of an Easter greeting card. Please see the rules which were sent on Dojo.

All entries need to be handed into school by Monday 1st April.

If you have any question, please contact the school office

Good Luck!



### Sports Round up

Last week the u9's football team travelled to St Blasius, some had never played football before so it was a nice experience for all. On a sloped pitch, St Blasius took 4-1 lead in the first half, with Ronan scoring for Freshwater & Yarmouth.

Second half, and Paddy came out on field and changed the game; he scored two further goals ably supported by Tommy who got a fourth for us. St Blasius managed to get two more goals, with the final score being 6-4 to them.

Everyone gave it their all and were a credit to the school

### Mr Westhorpe's joke of the week

Just realized it was Pancake Day this week

That creped up on me!

### Upcoming Sports Fixtures

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March – U11's Girls V Gatten and Lake



## LAST WEEK'S GOLD AWARD WINNERS WERE:

**Beach Class:** Talliah, Ava, Iliya, Norah, Leonardo, Archie and Jasper

**Cove Class:** Orin, Marlee, Theos, Thea Co and Sophia

**Bay Class:** Evie, Archie, Zac, Isambard, Daisie, Isla and Vera

**River Class:** Whole Class, Grace and William

**Coast Class:** Freddie, Ronan and Mla

**Solent Class:** Octavia, Odin and Pearl

**Ocean Class:** Charlie, Eliza and Isaac



### Class Attendance last week

Well done to **Bay Class** for receiving **95.86%** attendance for last week.

Well done everyone!



### **Birthdays**

**3rd March – 9th March**

**Polly**

**Happy birthday to you!**

### Outdoor learning Golden Welly

Well done to **Lacey** for winning last week's outdoor learning golden welly.

Keep up the good work!



### Sports Tokens

**Osbourne - 25**

**Lifeboat - 73**

**Needles - 43**

**Lighthouse – 59**

Well done to **Lifeboat** for collecting the most tokens this week.

Well done!



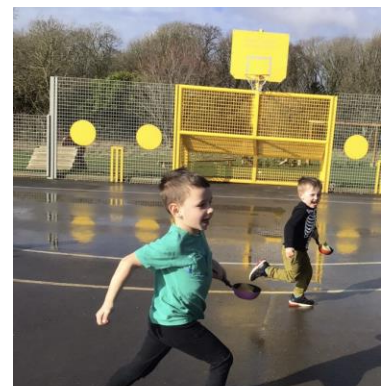
## What have Little Stars Pre School been up to!

We have frog spawn which has been a huge fascination of the children's this week! Already the children have spotted some changes to the frog spawn and our first tiny tadpole has emerged! Of course, this has led to us sharing some great stories about frogs such as Harry's Hungry, Big Bad Fish and Teeny Tiny Tadpole. The lifecycle of a frog is always a popular interest of the children's and we can tell that over the next few weeks they are going to be super excited watching the frogspawn transform. As I'm sure you could guess at the craft table frogs have been a topic of conversation with some of the children choosing to make themselves frog masks!

A little abandoned nest was discovered, the children were intrigued to see how the little bird had used animal fur and moss to construct the nest. After looking at a book all about birds the children decided the nest belonged to a 'small bird', 'like our robin'. We have a rather brazen robin who taps on our door at Little Stars that the children like to feed :)

Whilst out on a walk the children used their handmade binoculars to do some bird spotting!

Other things we have been up too: practicing some pancake races ready for Shrove Tuesday, making cups of tea, collecting worms and setting up our Little Stars wormery, planting cress seeds, balancing and dancing with bean bags and lots more!





## School Details

Email – [yarmouth@fosay.co.uk](mailto:yarmouth@fosay.co.uk)

Phone – 01983 7603456

Website – [fosay.co.uk](http://fosay.co.uk)



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**Scouts**  
1st Freshwater/  
Totland

**Aged 6 to 10 and  
looking for  
adventure?  
Then let's go!**

Come check out the awesome world of Beavers and Cubs with the 1st Freshwater/Totland Scout Group, and see how you can join the adventure!

Get ready for a whirlwind of activities that'll teach you shiny new skills, sprinkle in some fun, and kickstart your epic adventure with the Scouts!

Don't forget to bring an adult with you so we can talk to them about next steps!

When? Thursday 6th March 18:30 - 19:30

Where? Totland Recreation Ground, The Broadway, PO39 0AS

Any questions? Email Mandy on  
[mandy.holloway@isleofwightscouts.org.uk](mailto:mandy.holloway@isleofwightscouts.org.uk)

Sign up here!



#SkillsForLife

## WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL

Please can we remind you that we are a nut free school.

Please do not give your child any nut containing products for their snack or in their lunch box. This includes Nutella or any other chocolate nut spreads and Kinder Bueno bars.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](http://nationalcollege.com).

## 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

### USING TECHNOLOGY TO BOOST READING SKILLS

The way we engage with text has changed dramatically over the years. Whether reading captions on social media, instructions in a video game or an e-book on a digital device, technology plays a major role in modern literacy. While traditional books remain invaluable, digital tools can enhance reading skills by making text more accessible, interactive and engaging.

#### 1 CHOOSING THE RIGHT TYPE OF TEXT

Before integrating technology, consider the types of text that a child engages with. If they need help on occasion, digital reading pens can assist by scanning and reciting words or sentences. These tools are especially useful for students with reading difficulties, and can even be used in exams if they're part of their routine learning process. Proper training and practice are required, but they can be a great help when tackling printed text.

#### 2 READING ON SCREEN

Many devices now allow users to customise text for better readability. Adjusting font type, size and background colour can significantly enhance comprehension. For many readers, white text on a black background is the easiest to see, whereas other styles – such as dyslexia-friendly fonts – are designed to help those who are struggling. Teaching children how to personalise text settings on their devices empowers them to read more comfortably and with greater confidence.

#### 3 ACCESSIBILITY TOOLS

Most modern devices include built-in tools designed to support readers. These features can be found in Settings under Accessibility and may include text-to-speech, speech-to-text and screen magnification functions. Enabling these tools can make digital reading more user friendly, especially for children with learning difficulties or visual impairments, who might have an easier time with spoken language than the written word, or who might simply require a closer look at the text.

#### 4 INTERACTIVE READING PROGRAMMES

Many digital reading devices, such as Kindle and other e-readers, offer features like word highlighting, adjustable text speed and built-in dictionaries. These tools help learners to break down complex words and phrases while maintaining an appropriate reading pace. Some programmes even allow users to track their progress, making reading a more structured and motivating experience.

#### 5 VIDEO GAMES AND READING SKILLS

Many video games require players to read instructions, character dialogues and mission objectives, making them an unexpected but effective literacy tool. Games that involve storytelling, puzzles or problem-solving often include large amounts of text – encouraging children to read these texts aloud or discuss them can improve their comprehension and vocabulary in a fun, engaging way.

#### 6 SUBTITLES AND CLOSED CAPTIONS

Watching videos with subtitles or closed captions is an effective way to enhance reading skills. As children watch their favourite shows or online videos, they can follow along with the text, gaining a better understanding of how written words sound when spoken aloud. This is particularly beneficial for reluctant readers, as it exposes them to words in a familiar, engaging context. Repeatedly watching content with subtitles reinforces word recognition and comprehension.

#### 7 USING AUDIOBOOKS

Audiobooks are an excellent way to develop listening and reading skills simultaneously. Children can follow along with the text while listening to a narrator, reinforcing word recognition and fluency. For struggling readers, listening to an audiobook before attempting to read the text independently can boost their confidence and comprehension.

#### 9 TEXT-TO-VOICE TECHNOLOGY

Text-to-voice software reads digital text aloud, making it easier for learners to follow along. Most smartphones, tablets and computers come with this function built in. When enabled, users can highlight a passage or sentence and press play to hear it read aloud. This tool is particularly helpful for auditory learners and those who struggle with decoding written words.

#### 8 VOICE-TO-TEXT FOR WRITING AND READING

Voice-to-text tools allow users to dictate words, which are then transcribed into text. This feature helps children see the connection between spoken and written language. By using text-to-voice to hear their dictated words read back to them, learners can identify mistakes and improve their reading and writing skills simultaneously.

#### 10 SOCIAL MEDIA AND PARENTAL CONTROLS

While social media provides opportunities for reading, most platforms have age restrictions of 13-18 years old, making parental guidance essential. Many social media videos include captions and comments that can encourage reading. However, it's important to use the platform's parental controls (such as time limits and content filters) to create a safe and educational online environment for children. Encouraging responsible social media use can ensure a balanced and productive approach to digital literacy.

#### Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lewis is a qualified special needs teacher and experienced SENCO. She recently launched her own site, Neuroteachers, which offers a library of short, 'how-to' and explanation videos for educators. Catrina also writes and delivers online training and events for multi-academy trusts, businesses, schools and training organisations.



@wake\_up\_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

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## Energy Efficiency & Carbon Monoxide Awareness Workshops



Join Adam, your West Wight Community Connector, for a free online workshop on saving energy, reducing bills, and staying safe from carbon monoxide risks.

- ✓ Practical energy-saving tips
- ✓ Carbon monoxide awareness & free alarms (limited availability)
- ✓ Help signing up for the Priority Services Register
- ✓ Referrals for financial & energy support

Book online: [Eventbrite](#) or scan the QR code.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/community-connector-west-wight-103551394011>



For one-to-one advice, contact Adam:  
07498 496 719 / 01983 240 722 or [adam.tucker@westwight.org.uk](mailto:adam.tucker@westwight.org.uk).

Spread the word! Tell your friends, family, and neighbours about these workshops and encourage them to sign up too. Let's work together to make our community safer and more energy-efficient!



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**Action  
Hampshire**

## We've got a few questions!



The Anglican churches of the West Wight Benefice are thinking about our local churches and communities. We are keen to hear your views which will help us shape the role of the church in your community.

You can access the questionnaire by using the QR Code below or contacting [fytparishes@gmail.com](mailto:fytparishes@gmail.com) for the link. Paper copies are available in your local church.

Please complete by the 30th March 2025



Thank you for taking part in our survey

*J Maw*

Rev Jackie Maw  
Team Rector  
West Wight  
Benefice.



### Making a Difference for our Children with SEND

Are you a parent or carer of a child or young person 0 to 25 years who has special educational needs and/or a disability?

Would you like to be involved in the design, development and implementation of services for your child or young person?

Would you be interested in how a **parent carer forum** on the **Ile of Wight** would be involved with services locally, regionally and nationally?

If you are interested do come to a zoom meeting on either  
**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 10 to 12noon**  
or  
**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 19.00 to 21.00**



**BOOK YOUR PLACE**  
with  
[gail.bedding@contact.org.uk](mailto:gail.bedding@contact.org.uk)



Please indicate which zoom meeting you will be attending and the invite will be emailed to you (cameras and audio are optional, text chat available if needed)



**"NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US"**

