

# The Cowes Primary Mainsail

## From the helm

Edition: 19 24-25 Friday 14th Feb 2025



Dear Parents/Carers,

You will have seen from the new diary dates that we have been busy planning a range of trips for the children over our Spring and Summer term. We are so pleased that we can now offer these free of charge due to all the fundraising that has taken place and we are extremely excited about our whole school trip to Paultons Park!

A special congratulations to Mr Smith on all his hard work, as we recently received an award for creating equal opportunities for girls to access football in school. He achieved this by incorporating more football sessions into our PE Curriculum, inviting qualified football coaches in to school to deliver after school clubs amongst other things, encouraging more girls to take part in inter-school football matches!

Mr Smith has also been busy taking the children to a range of sporting events over the term, which you can read about more on the following page.

A big thank you to our Governor Mrs Klembt, who has kindly been coming in every Friday over the last few weeks to give the children a demonstration on the Djembe Drum which originate from West Africa. All the children have been getting a chance to participate in learning about the instrument and have had the opportunity to try out a variety of creative rhythms.

The children also had a day of Indian Drumming in the school. This was a fabulous opportunity for the children to learn about other cultures and musical traditions whilst having fun. These Dhol Drums are very large and loud instruments that sounded like a wake up call through out the school!

The school took part in an island fundraising event in support of local island boy Arlo who is currently undergoing treatment for an aggressive brain tumour. The school joined in with a whole island Mufti Day "Wear what makes you happy" and raised £162.72 for the appeal. Thank you all so much for your donations.

We have had our Laser Class Assembly which focused on Morals and Kindness giving parents the opportunity to hear the children reflect on fables by the Greek story teller Aesop. They were then treated to a kindness song in which the children sang and used sign language to perform.

Mr Smith held a Safer Internet Session for parents to explain the risk of children being online and how to keep them safe. There are many hints and tips on line but it is reassuring to be able to discuss these directly with parents, thank you for coming along.

One last big Thank You to What Ever Next Entertainment who very kindly donated an Exotic Animal Experience to our Christmas Raffle, won by William L who then donated this amazing prize to Sunfish and Splash Class. It is an extremely generous donation for which we are very grateful for!

I hope you have a lovely half term break and will see you all back at school on Monday 24th February; please remember school gates open at 8:30am and close at 8:40am.

Kind regards

Mrs Praetig- Headteacher



# SPORTS NEWS

It has been very busy for Sports, since coming back from Christmas, at Cowes Primary. Key Stage 2 have been in action in both football and basketball fixtures this term, achieving amazing things.

Firstly, the Year 5/6 boys football team played out an enthralling fixture away against Nettlestone. It was such a closely matched affair but with Nettlestone coming out on top in the end. A score line of 3-0 (2 late goals) doesn't reflect the effort, teamwork and perseverance shown by the boys.

Following that, it was the girls Year 5/6 football team next with a double header against Northwood and Shalfleet. The first game against Northwood was a difficult challenge with the girls coming away with heavy defeat. The next game against Shalfleet was different story. Having listened to feedback and learnt from the last game, they played amazingly well. Even after going a goal down, they kept their heads up and continued battling away and eventually scored the equalising goal with the game then finishing 1-1.

Our most recent sporting outing was to the Year 5/6 Cowes Cluster Basketball Competition. There we played against 5 other schools to showcase our area's basketball skills but also to find out which two teams would go through to represent our area in the Island Finals. It is with great pride we can say that, after winning 4 out of our 5 matches, we were one of the teams to qualify for the final. The team played some awesome basketball as well as showing great teamwork and encouragement to each other.

There will be lots of opportunities for every child to represent our school in the coming terms so don't be disappointed if you haven't done so yet. Your time to shine will come.

Mr Smith







# INDIAN DRUMMING DAY







# EXOTIC ANIMAL EXPERIENCE


by **Whatever Next Entertainment**

Sunfish and Splash Class






# SEN and Family Support

**FEBRUARY 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**



**Make a Lush Lizard** - at Sandown Library

**Isle of Wight Story Festival**

**Bouncy Barn** - at Tapnell Farm Park



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



## Isle of Wight Family Hubs & Centre Services

Our Family Hubs and Centres offer information, advice and support to families on the Isle of Wight who are expecting a baby or with children aged 0-19 years (25 for those with special educational needs or disabilities). We recognise being a parent is rewarding but also brings its challenges as every child is unique. To help you understand your child and their needs we offer a range of parenting programmes and services to cover all ages and stages including online courses and workshops.

Website:  
<https://www.isleofwightfamilycentres.org.uk>

## THE FOOD PANTRY

A community pantry works on the basis of a 'helping hand' to those in need and is a bridge between a foodbank and a supermarket, providing a range of food to those in need. Applications for membership are managed directly through the pantries, and for a weekly contribution of £5, members will receive in excess of £15 worth of food. Visits are limited to once per week where a range of fresh, frozen and general food can be purchased.

Cowes, Monday's: 10.30am – 12.30pm, Phone Number: 01983 240732,  
Email: [abbi@lweh.org.uk](mailto:abbi@lweh.org.uk), Apex Church Hall, St, Faith's Road, Cowes, PO31 7HH

### Our Safeguarding Team includes:

**DSL:** Mrs Praetig, Headteacher

**Deputy DSL:** Mrs Thomas, Mr Smith,  
Mrs Gilbraith, Ms Hayman, Mrs Stanton, Mrs Groves

**Multi Agency Coordinator:** Jane Gilbraith

**Crew Club:** Tracy Hayman

**You can call school between:**

9am and 3pm, via the admin address or call the MASH team on

Tel: 03003000117 (24hrs) if you have a concern.

### Cowes Foodbank

If you are in need of a food bank voucher please contact the school for a referral

**Monday 13:00-17:00**

**Wednesday 10:00-12:00**

**Friday 10:00-12:00**

**Address:** Love Lane , Cowes,  
PO31 7ET

# The Cowes Primary Mainsail

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## ABSENCE:

If your child is absent from school:

**YOU MUST CONTACT THE OFFICE EACH DAY YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT BY 08:45AM.**

**This can be by email: [admin@cowespri.iow.sch.uk](mailto:admin@cowespri.iow.sch.uk), by text on the School Gateway App or by phone on 01982 293261 to leave a message.**

If you would like to speak directly to someone please call the office.

**If you do not give written confirmation, then an absence slip will be sent home with your child and must be returned to the office.**

All absences are discussed with the Local Authority in a termly meeting.

## ATTENDANCE

SUNFISH CLASS: 94.67%

SPLASH CLASS: 92.79%

PICO CLASS: 95.09%

CONTENDER CLASS: 92.95 %

LASER CLASS: 96.47%

OPTIMIST CLASS: 96.87 %

Overall: 94.69% (Target 96.5%)



2085



1822



2093



2187

*Reflection of the week...*



Tel: 01983 293261    [www.cowesprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.cowesprimaryschool.co.uk)    14th February 2025

Email: [admin@cowespri.iow.sch.uk](mailto:admin@cowespri.iow.sch.uk)

Facebook: [@cowesprimaryschool](https://www.facebook.com/cowesprimaryschool)