Greenmount Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Rebecca Day | St Vincents Rd, Ryde, PO33 3PT | 01983 562165 | contactus@greenmount.iow.sch.uk

Friday 11th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back

Welcome back to another exciting school year! The start of the term brings a renewed sense of energy, fresh possibilities and endless opportunities for our children to learn, play and grow together.
Starting the new school term:

- Smooth Transitions: Teachers and staff are focused on helping all children settle into their new routines, classrooms and weekly timetables seamlessly.
- Upcoming Events: Keep an eye out for all the dates coming up. There are many at the back of the newsletter (plus more to come as the weeks progress)
- Communication: Please keep us updated with any updates to medical information, change of address, permission requirements. We will keep you updated through Class Dojo and the school newsletter. Please also pop to the school office if you have a query.

Three quick ways to start the term well

1. Check Class Dojo regularly: Please ensure class Dojo is up and running on your electrical device. If you need support to access, please let us know and we can help you to access this. Please ensure your contact details and emergency forms are fully updated.
2. Establish Routines: Setting consistent sleep, screen-time and homework routines early makes a big difference as the days are predictable and sustainable throughout the term.
3. Get Involved: On top of regular phonics and reading practice with your child, why not explore our extracurricular clubs for your children to support enrichment opportunities or consider volunteering opportunities yourself through PTFA activity to connect with the broader school community.

Thank you for your partnership, support, and enthusiasm. Let's make this academic year an incredible one!

YR First Week of School

Welcome to the school community! We are so proud of how brilliantly our new Reception children have settled into their very first week. It has been a joy watching them explore their new environments, build friendships, and jump headfirst into a fantastic week of play-based learning and discovery. Access to all online booking systems for wraparound care and educational visits booking is now live. You can now use Parent Pay to book and pay for both Breakfast Club and After School Club, as well as educational visits when they begin later this half term. If you experience any difficulties logging in or booking sessions, please pop to the school office, the team will be more than happy to help you get sorted.

Please keep up to date with Class Dojo. Miss Seal, class teacher, has already started to upload some useful videos to help you support your child with learning new sounds, as they begin to learn phonemes ready to start learning to read. Every extra practice pays dividends for the progress your child will make. Good routines and habits now, really help your child with lifelong learning throughout their school life.

Thank you for your support during this exciting transition. We really hope your child has started to settle positively into school life. Here is to a wonderful term ahead! We will be in a position to upload a photo next week. Enjoy your weekend everyone!

School Vision and Values

As we begin the new term, we are excited to invite our entire school community to revisit and reflect upon our school vision and core values. Our vision and values serve as the guiding compass for everything we do, shaping our curriculum, nurturing our school culture, and inspiring the personal growth of every child. Over the coming weeks, staff, children, and families will be working together through engaging activities and discussions to deepen our shared understanding of these principles and explore how they live in our day-to-day school life. The first opportunity to link these to school life is through the partnership and expectations events coming up next week. Please do try and come along if you can.



Funding Support for Breakfast & Wrap-around care After-School Club

Did you know working families can receive government financial support to help cover the cost of our school's breakfast and after-school club? Parents can pay for wraparound care fees using Tax-Free Childcare, where the government tops up every £8 you pay with an extra £2 (up to £2,000 per child per year, or £4,000 for disabled children).

To utilise this support when paying through our booking system, log in to 'ParentPay', select the sessions you wish to book, and select "Tax-Free Childcare" as your payment option. Please ensure you also set up our school as your chosen provider within your online Tax-Free Childcare account on the Childcare Choices website (gov.uk/childcarechoices) so your payment transfers smoothly.

School Council Elections

This week, our School Council elections were held, and we would like to say a huge well done to all the candidates who took part.

Each candidate showed great courage, confidence, and commitment by sharing their ideas and explaining how they would represent their classmates. We are incredibly proud of everyone who stood for election and the effort they put into their campaigns, speeches and applications.

Thank you to all pupils who took the time to cast their votes thoughtfully. Participating in the election process is an important way to make sure everyone's voice is heard.

Following the counting of the votes, we are thrilled to announce that the school council for 2026-2027 will be made up of:



Y6: Alice and Paige Y5: Maddie and David Y4/5: Levi and Isabella Y4: Aria and Evie
Y3: Olive and Oaklee Y2: Aidan and Gabby

We are looking forward to seeing the wonderful work our School Council will do over the coming year as they share ideas, represent their classmates, and help make our school an even better place to learn and grow. Well done to everyone involved!

Earrings:

In line with Association for Physical Education (afPE) safety guidelines, all pupils are required to remove earrings and piercings before taking part in physical education lessons. Wearing earrings during sport poses a serious risk of snagging or impact injuries to both the wearer and other children. Taping over earrings is not permitted as it does not eliminate the risk of injury. Staff are not authorised to remove or store earrings for children, so pupils must either be able to remove them independently or leave them at home on scheduled PE days. For families planning new ear piercings, we strongly advise having them done at the very start of the summer break so the six-week healing period is completed before the new school year begins. If a child has had their ears pierced over the summer and the piercing is still healing, they will not be permitted to take part in the active physical elements of PE. To ensure they do not miss out on learning, these pupils will still join their class in full PE kit and contribute through non-physical roles, such as coaching, officiating, or scoring, until their earrings can be safely removed.

London Residential for Y6 in 2027…

Thank you for all the deposits for the London Residential 2027. We are so, so excited that we will be taking part in this big adventure once again. We have one final week to collect any remaining deposits for this AMAZING experience.

If this has slipped off the radar – please pay the £100 deposit via ParentPay. The school bank will be starting very soon to support paying the final balances before April 2027.

Personal Achievements:

Please send a Class Dojo message to Mrs Day with any personal achievements that you would like recognised in the school newsletter. Please consider events outside of school that you are proud that your child has achieved.

We love celebrating in children's successes… ☺

OPAL News

OPAL News

This Week in OPAL...

As is traditional in the first week back to school, we have seen a huge variety of weather. The children have embraced the chance to be outside being active and creative with their friends and already demonstrated some wonderful play behaviours.

The use of loose parts in play has allowed the children to develop collaborative skills and it has been a pleasure to watch the older children supporting younger children to develop their confidence and balance skills. Simple pleasures like The Imposter Game and rolling down the slopes have been real winners!





Our new year 6s are demonstrating their maturity with an increasing ability to play football in an inclusive way. Football at breaktimes is non-contact and fun for everyone.











Golden Welly Award

This week's winners are Benjamin and Bay for creating a wonderful play space to role play in. They have developed their area every day during the week. If you look through the hedges near the gate, you might spot it!



OPAL Play every day:

Just a reminder that OPAL play takes place every day – rain or shine! The children will experience all weathers and seasons outside.

Please ensure that your child has appropriate clothing for the weather. With the unpredictable weather at this time of year waterproofs in bags every day are important. Having a pair of wellies to access all areas of the school play space is also important. Puddles are really tempting in any footwear – but of course, wellies are most appropriate, or there will be soggy feet!

We are looking to host a welly swap shop later this term, to support everyone in having wellies that fit, especially for those feet that grow so quickly! So please keep hold of any your children have outgrown.

Dates coming up:

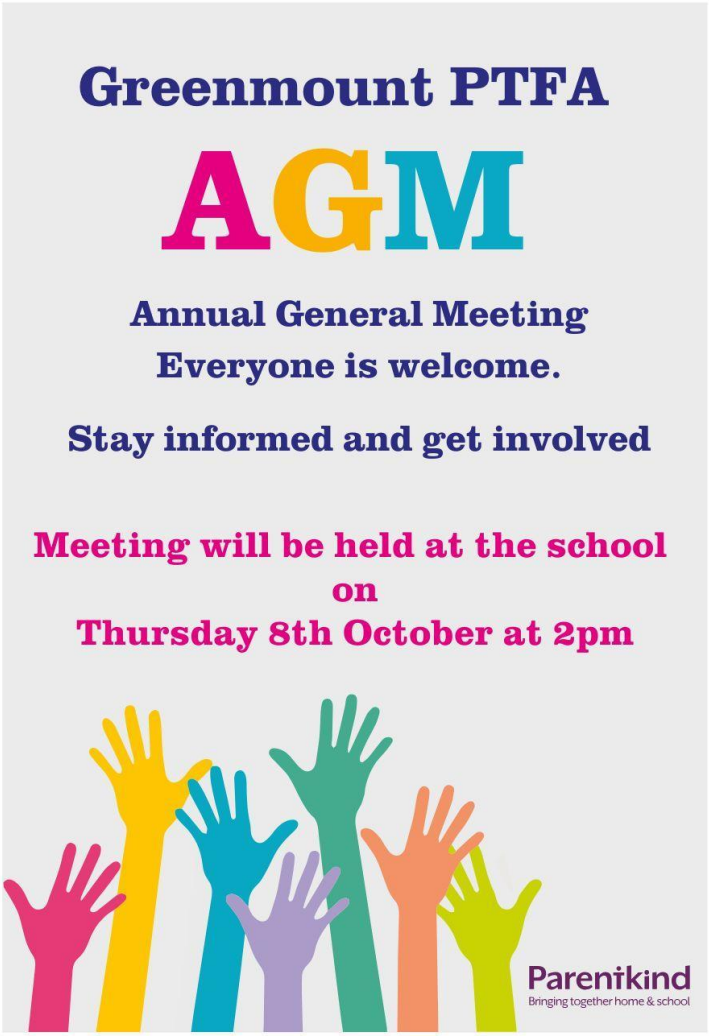
Date	Event	Year Group	Details / Special Arrangements
Week 3			
Partnership and Expectations Events – one for each class			
Mon 14th Sept	Partnership and Expectations Event	Y3	**8:40am** - to support parents / carers in knowing expectations for the year ahead.
Mon 14th Sept	Partnership and Expectations Event	Greenhaven	**2:40pm** - to support parents / carers in knowing expectations for the year ahead.
Tues 15th Sept	Partnership and Expectations Event	Preschool	**8:40am** - to support parents / carers in knowing expectations for the year ahead.
Tues 15th Sept	Partnership and Expectations Event	Y5	**2:40pm** - to support parents / carers in knowing expectations for the year ahead.
Wed 16th Sept	Partnership and Expectations Event	Y6	**8:40am** - to support parents / carers in knowing expectations for the year ahead.

Wed 16th Sept	Partnership and Expectations Event	Y4	**2:40pm** - to support parents / carers in knowing expectations for the year ahead.
Thur 17th Sept	Partnership and Expectations Event	Y1	**8:40am** - to support parents / carers in knowing expectations for the year ahead.
Thur 17th Sept	Partnership and Expectations Event	Y2	**2:40pm** - to support parents / carers in knowing expectations for the year ahead.
Thur 17th Sept	Y7 Open Evening	Y6 for Y7 2027	Christ the King Open Evening 5:30-7:30pm.
Fri 18th Sept	Partnership and Expectations Event	Y4/5	**8:40am** - to support parents / carers in knowing expectations for the year ahead.
Fri 18th Sept	Partnership and Expectations Event	YR - Reception	**2:40pm** - to support parents / carers in knowing expectations for the year ahead.
Week 4			
Y6 Mock SATs – To ensure the children see the papers and know what to expect across the year			
Tues 22nd Sept	Y7 Open Evening	Y6 for Y7 2027	Medina College Open Evening 5:00-8:00pm.
Week 5			
Parents Evenings will take place throughout the week – more info to be posted by class teachers			
Mon 28th Sept	Reading Cafe	Y3	**8:40am** - to join your child for reading experience and learn how to support reading and progress at home
Mon 28th Sept	Handwashing workshop	YR	Handwashing workshop to learn how to help stay healthy and clean
Mon 28th Sept	Reading Cafe	Greenhaven	**2:20pm** - to join your child for reading experience and learn how to support reading and progress at home
Tues 29th Sept	Reading Cafe	Preschool	**8:40am** - to join your child for reading experience and learn how to support reading and progress at home
Tues 29th Sept	Reading Cafe	Y5	**2:20pm** - to join your child for reading experience and learn how to support reading and progress at home
Tues 29th Sept	Y7 Open Evening	Y6 for Y7 2027	Carisbrooke College Open Evening 5:00-8:00pm.
Wed 30th Sept	Reading Cafe	Y6	**8:40am** - to join your child for reading experience and learn how to support reading and progress at home
Wed 30th Sept	Reading Cafe	Y4	**2:20pm** - to join your child for reading experience and learn how to support reading and progress at home
Thur 1st Oct	Reading Cafe	Y1	**8:40am** - to join your child for reading experience and learn how to support reading and progress at home
Thur 1st Oct	Reading Cafe	Y2	**2:20pm** - to join your child for reading experience and learn how to support reading and progress at home
Thur 1st Oct	Y7 Open Evening	Y6 for Y7 2027	The Bay Open Evening 5:00-7:30pm.
Fri 2nd Oct	Reading Cafe	Y4/5	**8:40am** - to join your child for reading experience and learn how to support reading and progress at home
Fri 2nd Oct	Reading Cafe	YR - Reception	**2:20pm** - to join your child for reading experience and learn how to support reading and progress at home
Week 6			
Mon 5th Oct	Flu Clinic	All children signed up	Immunisation team in school to administer flu vaccines to all you sign up. See poster at the end of the newsletter

Thur 8th Oct	PTFA AGM	Everyone welcome – new members required	PTA AGM. To continue running and to enable events to take place, we require new PTFA members to join the team this year. Please do come along and find out about the PTFA. Thank you.
Week 7			
HALF TERM – Monday 19th October – Friday 30th October 2026			
Week 1			
Mon 2nd Nov	Welcome Back	All classes	Welcome back to school today following the half term break ☺

Starting school 2027 and School spaces…

Are you or someone you know looking for a welcoming school or preschool place? Applications are now officially open for our new entrants joining us in September 2027, and we would love to show prospective families what makes our learning community so special. Additionally, we currently have limited spaces available across some school classes and in preschool for the current academic year if you are seeking an immediate start. We warmly encourage you to reach out to the school office via the email address contactus@greenmount.iow.sch.uk to arrange a personal visit, tour our classrooms, and meet our wonderful staff.
Please feel free to pass this message along to friends, family, or neighbours who might be searching for the perfect fit for their child!



SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS (FSM)

THESE CHANGES WILL TAKE EFFECT FROM THE START OF THE 2026/2027 ACADEMIC YEAR.

2026/2027

The current £7,400 income cap for Universal Credit claimants will be removed, meaning all households receiving Universal Credit will become eligible. Additionally, all previous 'transition protections' will permanently end.

TARGETED FSM

Children from households in receipt of Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less (the existing threshold prior to expansion) will be eligible for Targeted FSM.



Pupils eligible under this category will continue to recieve free meals and also attract Pupil Premium and other disadvantage funding for their schools.

EXTRA SUPPORT FOR ELIGIBLE FAMILIES

Only children eligible for Targeted FSM will receive:

- Holiday Supermarket Vouchers
- Free access to holiday clubs (Holiday Activities and Food (HAF))

Important: Only children eligible for Targeted FSM will receive Holiday Supermarket Vouchers and free access to holiday clubs (HAF)

EXPANDED FSM (NEW CATEGORY)

Children from households in receipt of Universal Credit with annual household earnings above £7,400 will be entitled to Expanded FSM.

This provides meals only and does not attract Pupil Premium funding.



PLEASE NOTE:

Pupils who are currently eligible for FSM or who have been eligible previously, will no longer be protected under transitional arrangements.

All families will be required to submit a new application, all transitional protection will cease at the end of the 2025/26 academic year.

Apply Today!

Please follow the link below to apply.

https://emsonline.iow.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en

School Age Immunisation Service

NHS
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

Your child's Flu vaccine is due



FLU: 5 REASONS TO GET PROTECTED AGAINST FLU

1. Protect your child - The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia.
2. Protect you, your family and friends - Having the vaccine will help protect more vulnerable friends and family.
3. No injection needed - The nasal spray is painless and easy to have. (A porcine free injection is available)
4. It's better than having flu - The nasal spray helps protect against flu and has been given to millions of children worldwide and has an excellent safety record.
5. Avoid costs - If your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare.

The Immunisation team will be in the school on

Monday

5th October 2026

Scan the QR code to complete a flu consent form
(even if you wish to opt out)

School Code

CW118177

For more information, visit our website:
www.healthforkids.co.uk/hampshire/annual-nasal-flu-vaccination-programme/

Family Hubs
Isle of Wight

Coming to Ryde Family Hub in September



Parenting Puzzle and the Nurturing Programme

Both courses can help you:

- Understand your child's emotional needs
- Build stronger communication and connection
- Manage behaviour positively
- Feel more confident in your parenting

Parenting Puzzle - **4 sessions** for parents and carers only whose children are aged **3 to 5 years**.

The Nurturing Programme runs for **8 sessions** and is for parents and carers only whose children are aged **5 to 13 years**.

Please speak with your setting or contact us via our website – link below or scan the QR code:
www.isleofwightfamilycentres.org.uk

BARNARDO'S Changing childhoods. Changing lives.

Barnardo's Registered Charity Nos. 216250 and SC037605 24423shc23

BEST START IN LIFE | HEALTHY BABIES | Isle of Wight Council

PARENTS CONNECT

youth trust



A relaxed and friendly space to connect, meet other parents, feel supported and share experiences.

When?

15th Sept - East Cowes Library 12:00 - 13:30
29th Sept - Youth Trust 12:00-13:30
13th Oct - NetWork Ryde 10:30-12
27th Oct - Youth Trust 12:00 - 13:30

Where? East Cowes Library PO32 6RU

Who? For parents with young people aged 5-17

For Every Parent, Everywhere

This activity is funded by COMMUNITY FUND

Isle of Wight School Terms And Holidays
2026 – 2027

Determined programme of school term and holiday dates for county and controlled schools for the academic year 2026/27

SEPTEMBER 2026					
M		7	14	21	28
T	1	8	15	22	29
W	2*	9	16	23	30
T	3	10	17	24	
F	4	11	18	25	
S	5	12	19	26	
S	6	13	20	27	

OCTOBER 2026					
M		5	12	19	26
T		6	13	20	27
W		7	14	21	28
T	1	8	15	22	29
F	2	9	16#	23	30
S	3	10	17	24	31
S	4	11	18	25	

NOVEMBER 2026						
M		2*	9	16	23	30
T		3	10	17	24	
W		4	11	18	25	
T		5	12	19	26	
F		6	13	20	27	
S		7	14	21	28	
S	1	8	15	22	29	

DECEMBER 2026					
M		7	14	21	28
T	1	8	15	22	29
W	2	9	16	23	30
T	3	10	17	24	31
F	4	11	18#	25	
S	5	12	19	26	
S	6	13	20	27	

JANUARY 2027					
M		4*	11	18	25
T		5	12	19	26
W		6	13	20	27
T		7	14	21	28
F	1	8	15	22	29
S	2	9	16	23	30
S	3	10	17	24	31

FEBRUARY 2027					
M	1	8	15	22*	
T	2	9	16	23	
W	3	10	17	24	
T	4	11	18	25	
F	5	12#	19	26	
S	6	13	20	27	
S	7	14	21	28	

MARCH 2027					
M	1	8	15	22	29
T	2	9	16	23	30
W	3	10	17	24	31
T	4	11	18	25#	
F	5	12	19	26	
S	6	13	20	27	
S	7	14	21	28	

APRIL 2027					
M		5	12*	19	26
T		6	13	20	27
W		7	14	21	28
T	1	8	15	22	29
F	2	9	16	23	30
S	3	10	17	24	
S	4	11	18	25	

MAY 2027					
M		3	10	17	24	31
T		4	11	18	25	
W		5	12	19	26	
T		6	13	20	27	
F		7	14	21	28#	
S	1	8	15	22	29	
S	2	9	16	23	30	

JUNE 2027					
M		7*	14	21	28
T	1	8	15	22	29
W	2	9	16	23	30
T	3	10	17	24	
F	4	11	18	25	
S	5	12	19	26	
S	6	13	20	27	

JULY 2027					
M		5	12	19	26
T		6	13	20	27
W		7	14	21	28#
T	1	8	15	22	29
F	2	9	16	23	30
S	3	10	17	24	31
S	4	11	18	25	

AUGUST 2027						
M		2	9	16	23	30
T		3	10	17	24	31
W		4	11	18	25	
T		5	12	19	26	
F		6	13	20	27	
S		7	14	21	28	
S	1	8	15	22	29	

Determined programme of school term and holiday dates for county and controlled schools for the academic year 2026/27

Bank and Public Holidays 2026/27

Christmas Day	25 December 2026	Easter Monday	29 March 2027
Boxing Day	26 December 2026	May Day Holiday	3 May 2027
New Year's Day	1 January 2027	Spring Bank Holiday	31 May 2027
Good Friday	26 March 2027	Summer Bank Holiday	30 August 2027

* First day after break

School Holidays

Bank Holidays and National Holidays

\# Last day before break

Islandwide development day