



Polegate SCHOOL



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

WRITING	1
STAR PUPILS	
SNOW	2
WORLD BOOK DAY	3
DIARY DATES	3
STAFF NEWS	4
SWIMMING	5
SPORT NEWS	6
STRICTLY POLE-GATE	7
DIARY DATES PARTNERSHIP NEWS	8
ATTENDANCE FIGURES	9
	10

WRITING

Reception have been working on developing a writing culture and encouraging all children to enjoy writing. This is having a real impact a parent has reported that:

'My child asked where we are going today and I replied to the forest to get muddy. He asks, 'Is there a table there?' so I replied 'for us to have a picnic?' and he said, 'no so I can do my writing, I'm taking my bag with me and its got writing stuff in it.'

Exactly what we to create, a love of learning! This really is an example of our vision-

Learning without Limits

If you have any similar experiences, please share them with us. We always like to hear about them and share them.



Pupils

I received this lovely e-mail about some of our pupils:

Regarding the Beaver Scout sleepover we have just had.

Wanted to say how polite and well behaved your beaver Scouts were. Always saying please and thank you without being asked.

You said Polegate school have a policy regarding holding doors open and please and thank yous so I would like to pass on my compliments to the school and its pupils as I am sure this has contributed to their exceptional behaviour.

A pleasure to have and to have again anytime!

Regards Darren Reace

Beaver Scout Leader

These pupils all received a House point for their exceptional behaviour. Well done and thank you for being such excellent representatives of Polegate school.

THE SNOW

I would like to **thank** all the staff that made it in during our recent snow!

Every single teacher battled the elements and made it in from as far afield as Brighton, Newhaven, Bexhill and other rural areas. Some members of staff were waiting at train stations from 6.30am to get in.

93.18% of our pupils made it in.

It is important that you phone in and explain why your child is not in school. A total of 69 children did not make it in and 39 of these parents rang to explain the reason. We had 30 children off with no explanation at all. These will be classed as unauthorised.



Once again pupils that live on our doorstep, sadly, could not make it in to school. Please do not use the snow as an excuse to keep your child at home. When staff make a journey of about 20 miles we expect our pupils in.

Staff journey to school complete with snow drifts!



Behaviour of parents on school grounds

It is unfortunate that I even need to address this topic. We hope parents would model the behaviour we expect of children and behave appropriately and respectfully towards all school staff.

Unfortunately I do need to make this very clear. I will take a 'zero tolerance' approach on unacceptable behaviour directed towards staff by parents or relatives. It will not be tolerated as the safety, protection and welfare of my staff and children that may witness this is my top priority.

To clarify anyone who has been aggressive and caused a disturbance at school can be banned from entering the school grounds. This includes parents and former pupils. Examples of behaviour that can lead to a ban include:

- **foul and abusive language directed at and in the presence of parents, staff and pupils**
- **threatening behaviour**
- **criminal damage.**

Under Section 547 of the 1996 Education Act 1996 anyone on school premises...who causes or permits a nuisance or disturbance is committing an offence and can be arrested. A parent can be prosecuted in a magistrates' court or be given an injunction to prevent them entering the school property.



Year 6 spent the day at Willingdon Community School on Friday 1st March as part of World Book day.

They are already having plenty of opportunities to find out more about their Secondary School. Their Secondary teachers have ventured down to deliver some lessons here. They work alongside Jane Spokes our transition teaching assistant who spends half the year with them when they move up and half the year here with us to prepare the next year group.

This is an innovative approach to ensuring our pupils are as well prepared for the secondary school as they can be and we are fortunate to have such a strong partnership.



Meet Shaun Wilson

Shaun Wilson is a Director of Learning at Willingdon Community School and he is working with us to embed the ipads in our curriculum. We are really pleased to welcome Shaun to the Polegate team. He is with us on a Monday and Friday.

He is working with all classes and the ICT work I have seen already is phenomenal! We are looking forward to sharing it with you.



World Book Day at Willingdon School

My review by Hannah Tingley-Martin

On Friday 1st March, a group of people were selected to go to Willingdon School for a World Book Day workshop. The topic was 'Fairy Tales'. The teacher that taught us was called Miss Willow. Our first activity was to make a poster about 'Little Red Riding Hood' and to find the meaning of red, information about the wolf and what our favourite ending was out of all the versions of little Red Riding Hood.

For our second activity, we had to recreate a famous fairy tale. Each group had a coloured card with a word on it. My group's story was 'Snow White'. Our version was the total opposite of the original story. The basic plot is that Snow White lives with her step mum, tells her to go and pick some berries for lunch. Suddenly the seven dwarfs jump out of nowhere and kidnap Snow White. They take her to their underground hut and make her do lots of chores; they then write a letter to her step mum. On the letter it tells her that she can have Snow White back if she gives them money in return. The queen sends out a search party. The Prince, from another town joined in. When the prince is walking he suddenly falls and ends up in the dwarfs underground. He finds Snow White and rescues her and arrests the dwarfs. They were hung one by one. Snow White and the prince get married and live happily ever after.

When we finished our stories we wrote what we had learned that day and what we enjoyed.

ICT Mark

We are officially at the forefront of using information and communications technology to enhance pupils' learning!

Following an external assessment Polegate school has been awarded the prestigious ICT Mark.

The award recognises the schools' success in developing the strategic use of ICT in both administration and across the curriculum.

We were first awarded this 3 years ago and we have continued to build on and develop the work we do with ICT.

They have now recommended that we apply for the 3rd Millennium Learning Award.



A big thank you to everyone that helped raise £370 on Red Nose Day



Swimming

I would like to thank the many parents that have contributed towards the pool. I would love to be in a position to offer this without asking for contributions but unfortunately we are not in that situation and no school currently is.

Feedback from the Think Tank is that many of you view swimming as an entitlement for every year group in all schools. This is not the case, swimming is only an entitlement for years 5 and 6. Schools that do provide this for year 5 and 6 do also ask for contributions. I thought it may be useful to share an example from a local school without their own pool for comparison:

costing for swimming at Freedom Leisure Centre.

£35.00 = Pool hire, per hour

£17.00 = Per Instructor, per hour (minimum of 3 required for a class of 30)

Costing for 11 weeks swimming, based on 2 half hour classes of 30 per class

The cost per child, per lesson is £1.43 and we round this up to **£1.45**

For the 11 lessons in total the cost would be **£15.95**. Please note this is without transport. The cost of hiring mini buses or coaches would add a significant cost to this.

If you have not already paid your contribution please send it in to the office

HOLIDAY ART WORKSHOP

A request from the Community Centre

I am an executive member of the Polegate Community Association. We have toilets available for the people who use the centre but every night we get lots of children (up to 15 on any day) who leave school and then use the Centre toilets. You may be aware that the Centre is maintained by the Polegate Community Association exclusively from rents and donations. Would it be possible to remind all the children to go to the toilet before they leave school and not use the Centre ones? Many thanks.



Mr Tyson who runs our drawing club will be running a

Drawing / Art workshop

at Willingdon Community School

DRAWING WITH VARIOUS MEDIA:

**GRAPHITE PENCILS, CHARCOAL, OIL PASTELS,
INSCRIBE \ SOFT PASTELS, PEN & INK**

The workshop dates and timings are:

Monday – Friday 1st to 5th April and 8th to 12th April

From 09:30 to 12:30 each day

The cost is £15 per session (cheque or cash)

Children from age 5 to 16 are all welcome

All materials provided, please bring a snack and drink along

Have fun creating your favourite subject using a variety of media

For further details and bookings please contact John Tyson:

Phone / text: 07725145920

Email: candraw@hotmail.co.uk

**Please note spaces are limited so please book early to avoid
disappointment**

CHILDREN USING ICT SUITE

We have noticed quite a few children in the ICT Suite after their club finishes because a brother or sister is in a club that finishes later. This worries us because they are unsupervised and we cannot guarantee their safety or even know if there was a problem. Whilst it is unlikely anything would happen there is a chance. You are welcome to come up early and use the ICT Suite with them or alternatively they can take a book and join their brother or sister in the club they do. This way we will know they are supervised.

Thank you for your understanding

AFTER SCHOOL READING

Chance to quiz or change library books with Eve Ayling on a Thursday and Friday after school until 4.00pm.

Eve has the ipads so children can pop in and quiz if they have forgotten or not had a chance in the day.

Please keep Eve busy!

RADIO STATION

Please tune in every Friday. Each class is broadcasting on a Friday between 12 and 1pm.

Friday 19th April - 6T Friday 10th May 2S

Friday 26th April - 4EM Friday 17th May 1H

Friday 3rd May - 3GW Friday 24th May RW



Kiera's football suc-



Kiera plays for Eastbourne Girls football I team.

We were all thrilled to hear that the team won the league! This is a great achievement and we are all very proud. However no one is prouder than Dad! Rightly so!



Lauren's performance on stage

Lauren, featured above, took part in a stage coach production. She dedicated herself to learning lines, rehearsing and practise. She tells me it was a great success and worth all the hard work!

I wish I had seen it Lauren!



We has some wonderful entries for the Easter egg competition. There are many photos on Twitter.

Thank you for supporting the PFA and taking part in this competition.

Reception Intake

We have just received notification that we are oversubscribed for reception places in 2013. This is wonderful news and the first time ever we have been in this situation with all first choice requests.

Year 2 visit to Hever Castle



POLEGATE SCHOOL PROUDLY PRESENT

Strictly Polegate

THE 4th TIME

OF OUR LIVES

THURSDAY 27th JUNE 2013
CONGRESS THEATRE • EASTBOURNE

Oh no! Not another school concert!
You're right- it's not! Far from it.

We guarantee that you will have a memorable evening and appreciate why school days are among the best of our lives.

Sashay along to the Congress and let the children (and staff) of Polegate School dazzle you, bringing you an eclectic mix of songs, music, comedy, drama, dance and jazz hands. We will have your feet tapping, your face smiling and your heart singing... remember keep dancing.



Polegate
SCHOOL

DIARY DATES

Saturday 23rd March -

Cinema Club

Thursday 28th March

last day of term

Tuesday 16th April -

Class Photographs

Wednesday 22nd May -

School Disco

Scholastic Book Fayre

29th April - 3rd May

Test Dates

Year 2 SATs will take place between 15th April–22nd May.

Year 1 Phonic Tests take place during the week beginning the 17th June.

Year 6 SATs take place in the week beginning the 13th May

It is vital children are in school during these weeks.

World of Work Week

Monday 1st July– Friday 5th July

Thank you to the parents that have volunteered to come in and share their jobs with the children.

We do need more, it would mean so much more to the children if our visitors are parents and I'm sure your child would love it!

Just let Kerry know if you are able to come in and tell us your preferred day and time.

STAFF

We will be welcoming Miss Regan after Easter. Miss Regan will be teaching 1H, covering Mrs Hadley's maternity. She was here for the recent parent consultation evening, so I hope you all took the opportunity to meet her then. We have arranged for Miss Regan to spend a lot of time in school and with

the class so she knows the children really well already.

We also need to welcome our new school cook Mrs Jasmine James. She has been a school cook for 5 years and is looking forward to getting to know all the children.



WEBSITE AND TWITTER



Please have a look at our school website. You can follow links to Mymaths, The VLE, Accelerated Reader,

and parent Pay. You can check term dates and view the school calendar.

We also have a Twitter feed which is updated most days with lots of school news.



Please could you take a moment to complete the Ofsted questionnaire. There is a link from our website. Whilst we are not expecting Ofsted anytime soon it is a good way for us to collect your views.

Be the first to hear the news.

Please follow us on twitter we now have **177** followers!

STIR FRY WORKSHOP



All the children in school discovered more about healthy eating in a workshop led by Vernon (known to the children as Mr Broccoli!) Chartwells the company that provide our school dinners offer these workshops to schools to raise awareness in children of healthy eating.



JAWS AND CLAWS

The breakfast club and reception class had some 'little visitors' in the form of: tree frogs, pythons, tarantulas and various other creepy crawlies!

You are brave Mrs Priddle!



NEW POLICE COMMUNITY OFFICER

We have met our new Police Community Officer Janine Daly. She will be at the school on a regular basis getting to know the children. She will also be monitoring parking before and after school.

Attendance

Days off school add up to lost learning

175 NON SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR

175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and other appointments

Our average last year was around
96%



190 SCHOOL DAYS IN EACH YEAR 190 days for your child's education	10 days absence 180 DAYS OF EDUCATION	19 days absence 171 DAYS OF EDUCATION	29 days absence A term missed 161 DAYS OF EDUCATION	38 days absence 152 DAYS OF EDUCATION	47 days absence 143 DAYS OF EDUCATION
100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%
Good Best chance of success. Gets your child off to a flying start		Worrying Less chance of success. Makes it harder to make progress		Serious Concern Not fair on your child. Court action!	

Class figures

RJ - 91.4%	3G - 94.8%	6T - 95.7%
RW - 93.8%	3GW - 94.5%	6C - 94.7%
1P - 93%	4M - 94.8%	
1H - 93.5%	4EM - 93.9%	
2S - 92.6%	5T - 95.1%	
2B - 94.2%	5F - 93.5%	

If your child's attendance drops below 85%. You should expect a visit from a member of the school's leadership team with work for your child to complete. We have unfortunately needed to do this quite recently. We have to refer any child with attendance below 85% to the Education Welfare Officer who will then provide support to improve attendance. Please contact the school for support before it gets to this stage.

Please compare your child's attendance to the average and look at the table above.