



Polegate SCHOOL

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

ICT MARK	1
STAFF NEWS	2
SWIMMING	
GENERAL	3
RADIO DATES	
SPORT	4
STRICTLY	
DIARY DATES	5
SCHOOL EVENTS	

ATTENDANCE

It was lovely to welcome the children back to school last week after the Easter break.

We are looking forward to finally enjoying a little sun! (It is that yellow round thing in the sky in case any of you had forgotten!) On that note children will need to wear a hat on sunny days if they want to enjoy the sunshine outside at breaktimes.

We have a very busy term ahead.

I am so pleased that the number of children adding their raffle tickets to the boxes in my office continues to grow!



Molly would like to thank everyone for their support and encouragement. She has finally had her hair chopped for charity. Molly's hair was cut on the 20th April. She is still counting the cash! I look forward to sharing the final amount with you soon. We love your new look Molly!

Norman Baker MP
(LibDem MP for Lewes)



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Claire Martin-O'Donoghue
Head Teacher
Polegate Primary School
Oakleaf Drive
Polegate BN26 6PT

31 March 2013
Our ref: MC2603-Education@at

Dear Ms Martin O'Donoghue

I write regarding your recent success in achieving the prestigious ICT Mark.

Sadly, I still remember the days when ICT had not even been born! Of course, today it is a different story, and it is crucial for children to get to grips with technology from an early age.

I hope you and your staff are delighted with this achievement, and I wish the school continued success in the future.

Yours sincerely

Norman Baker MP

A letter to acknowledge the school's success with ICT

Staff News

Two of our staff members got a slightly better delivery than the chocolate eggs we all received!. Congratulations to Mrs Flaherty and Mr Holter. During the Easter holiday on Saturday 6th April they became proud parents of

Sheldon
Archer Newton
Holter who
weighed in at
8lb 14oz.

Come on Mrs
Hadley! We
are waiting!



welcome

We welcome four trainee teachers to the school for this term. Lee and Giles will be working in year 2 and Hayley and Natasha will be based in Reception. They will be with us until June. If your child is in a class with them expect a letter of introduction soon if you haven't already!

Corrine Williams is joining year 1 as a teaching assistant, the children may recognise Corrine from the After School Club.

Swimming

I would like to thank the many parents that have contributed towards the pool. There are still several families that haven't yet paid . Please bring your contribution in to the office.

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.

A VERY IMPORTANT LETTER



WINDSOR CASTLE

16th April, 2013

Dear Thomas,

The Queen would like me to write and thank you for your splendid handmade card which you sent following her short stay in hospital.

Her Majesty has been deeply moved by the messages of good wishes she has received and greatly appreciates your thought for her at this time.

I am to thank you once again for writing as you did.

Yours sincerely
Jaryn Forrester

Lady-in-Waiting

Thomas in class 3G drew a picture and sent it to the Queen when she was ill.

This is the reply he received.

HAS YOUR CHILD QUIZZED?

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!



Tune in

RADIO TIMES

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

Friday 19th April - 6T

Friday 26th April - 4EM

Friday 3rd May - 3GW

Friday 10th May 2S

Friday 24th May RW

Congratulations Miss Franks

We are not in the slightest bit envious of Miss Franks! Just look at the setting, the perfect place for a wedding..... and that is exactly what they did!

Miss Franks became Mrs Bedford in Thailand.

We are looking forward to celebrating with them with they return.



The happy couple

Key Stage 1 Football Tournament

Year 2 Mixed 5-a-side Football Tournament , Friday 19th April

The annual KS1 mixed football competition took place on Friday at Cavendish School in Eastbourne. Billy Knight, Toby Hunt, Toby Clare, Joshua Macnaire, Barnaby Ward, Megan Gent and Rheya Smith represented Polegate against 8 other schools from our area.

In the group round we won 3 games, drew 4 and only lost 1 game to Motcombe. Our best win was 4-0 against Pevensey and Westham where Billy and Toby Hunt scored 2 goals apiece. A couple of times we came from behind thanks to some brilliant goals by Billy and Toby with support from Josh and Toby Clare and some great defending! Barnaby put in a sliding tackle in front of his own goal to keep the score at 2-2 in a really exciting game against Motcombe!

With that great form we easily went through to the semi-finals where we played Stones Cross – last years' winners. We had drawn 0-0 with them in the group round – the only game in which we didn't score. Megan bravely volunteered to go in goal, (Rheya had to face a penalty in a previous game) and Billy scored what was undoubtedly the best goal in the whole competition from inside his own half!! Despite valiant efforts from everyone, Stones Cross were stronger in that game and they went through to the final against Pevensey and Westham, leaving us to play-off for 3/4th place.

In a really exciting game against Roselands, we came back from 2-1 down to take to the game to extra time. Another great goal by Billy put us firmly in 3rd place. We played eight games in all and everyone worked hard and improved as a team throughout the morning. Fantastic result, well done to all involved!!

I would like to thank Mrs Ward and Mrs Knight for their support as drivers, supporters, coaches, dressers and general chaperones. We wouldn't have done it without you!

Tickets for our fabulous show are selling fast.

Please book yours direct from the Congress Theatre Booking Office.

Telephone 01323 412000 or

online - <http://www.eastbournetheatres.co.uk/Booking/>

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

Wednesday 22nd 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.

6th May Bank Holiday

7th May Learn to ride your bike 3.30pm

8th May Parent ipad session 5.30pm

16th May Think Tank meeting 2.15pm

22nd May School Disco 5.30-7pm

23rd May PFA meeting 7pm at Treacle
Mine

24th May Ride and Picnic 3.30pm

27th May Holiday

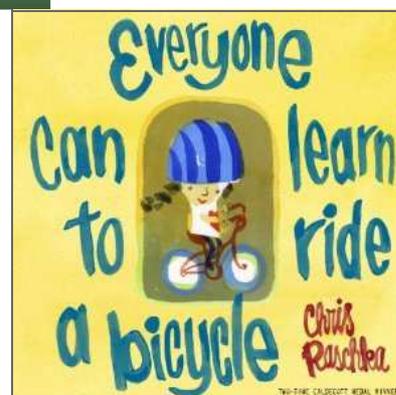
Learn to Ride a Bike

Tuesday 7th May

3.30–4.30pm

Phil our 'Bike It' officer is offering a session to teach children of all ages to ride a bike. Bring a bike if you have one or we can provide one for

any child without. A letter with more details will follow



Mufti day on Friday 14th June in return for
Tombola items for PFA.



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.

Ride and Picnic

On **Friday 24th May** we will be heading along the Cuckoo Trail for a bike ride and a picnic. Families are welcome to join us. It will be a great way for year 6 to celebrate the end of their SATS tests. A letter will follow.

**Be the first to
hear the news.**

**Please follow us
on twitter we now**

**have 197
followers!**

YEAR 3 WENT FOR A CHINESE MEAL

Year 3 went by train to Mr Haus' Chinese restaurant in Eastbourne. They had a great time sampling Chinese delights.



A great end to the topic.

Easter Study Course

We held our first Easter Study course during the second week of the holiday. A selected group of 15 children from year 4 and year 5 came in to take part in an exciting study week in school. They had quite an intensive week of study all based around the theme of smuggling and they worked with none other than Mr Hale!

The children all had specific targets to reach during the week and as well as learning a lot they had a great deal of fun.

We are exploring other holiday study options so watch this space.

At Hastings Castle...



PARENT IPAD SESSION

As you know we have invested in ipads recently. The children love using them and they have the potential to revolutionise teaching and learning in school. We would like to give you the chance to get your hands on them and experience just some of the ways we use them in school so we are holding a parent workshop on **Wednesday 8th May 5.30 - 6.30pm**. This will be relaxed, informal and fun and is open to all parents across the school. Please do take us up on this offer. Over the course of the year we have held many information evenings for parents: Accelerated Reader, topics over the year and on some occasions staff have out numbered parents! We will have to limit numbers as we have a limited number of ipads but if it is popular we will run this again. Please let Kerry in the office know if you will be attending.

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 - 91.8%	3G - 94.7%	6T - 95.8%
RW - 93.8%	3GW - 94.6%	6C - 94.8%
1P - 92.7%	4M - 94.8%	
1H - 92.6%	4EM - 93.9%	
2S - 93.5%	5T - 95.3%	
2B - 94.8%	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.