



Polegate SCHOOL

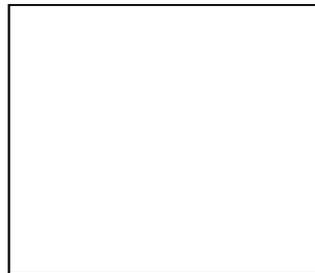
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WRITING

All pupils have now finished their stories for our school book.

We are hoping to have a sample of the book in school from the 30th November. From this date you will be able to order your copy and they will arrive, we hope, by 14th December, ready for Christmas! The books will cost £6.99.

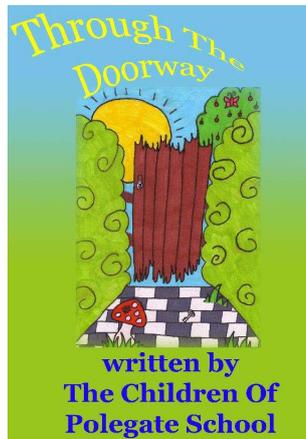


Winning design for Book Cover

READERS
By Chloe Nash

[Our ever popular Reading raffle continues](#)

These eager readers were waiting first thing on Monday morning to enter their reading raffle tickets in the box. All from Year 1. Well done Year 1!



Progress

Research shows that young people that read outside of class are 13 times more likely to read above the expected level for their age.

(National Literacy Trust)



THE TOP TABLE

A suggestion from the school council last term was that they would like to reward the star of week in addition to the certificate and frame. We have given this some thought and decided a 'Top Table' on a Friday would celebrate their achievements.

This was shared with the children last term and they were all very excited.

In an assembly when I first

shared the table with the children I asked them who would we invite to sit on a table like this.

Their responses were great!

Jesus, the Queen, Knights, the Prime Minister and President.....

We hope they feel very special sitting there.



Stars of the Week

Also get a rosette to wear around school now so everyone can congratulate them on their achievements.

OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE AN ALLOTMENT

Are you green fingered? Would you like to have an allotment in our wildlife garden?

We would like to develop our wildlife garden further. We have several raised beds that we would like to use to develop our community links. Even better if you were happy to share your skills with the children and

make a link with a class.

If this interests you please speak to the office and discuss this further.



The police are regularly monitoring the parking outside the school!



BONFIRE AND FIREWORK NIGHT



Just a note to say what a wonderful display of fireworks you put on last evening. I live in Cresta Close so my garden backs onto the school field. I had a neighbour from across the road and another from around the corner and we all watched from my conservatory. We were amazed at the size of the fire and the superb fireworks - you would have thought we were children if you had heard the whoops of delight - we are all in our late seventies!!

Do hope all present enjoyed it as much as we did.



A local resident.



BONFIRE NIGHT

Our school fireworks and bonfire night was a great success. Thank you to everyone that supported this event.

The total takings were £2070 without the expenses so the profit

will be less than this, possibly around £800. Well done to the PFA team. The pumpkins were spectacular! We were all so impressed with the entries. A big well done and thank you for making such an effort.

If you would like to get in touch with the PFA please call Tasha on: **07534154583**

Their next meeting is on Thursday 8th November at 7pm. You are all very welcome to attend, it is very informal and held in the school.

The PFA has many new members. The chair is now Tasha Packham and the secretary is Lorraine Barclay.

Help is always wanted on an occasional basis please contact Tasha if you are able to support events. If you would like to get in touch with the PFA please call Tasha on: 07534154583



DIARY DATES

.Week beginning 19th November

Anti-bullying week

Take Over Day 23rd November

Children are given the opportunity to sample adult roles in the school workplace.

23rd November

Baroness Emerton visit Year 6

Monday 26th November

E-safety workshop—you are invited in between 8.30-9am or after school from 2.30-4.30 for a parent workshop

Wednesday 28th November

INSET Day - School closed to children

Thursday 29th November

Think Tank meeting

Tuesday 4th December 9.30am

Reception Nativity

Thursday 6th December 9.30am

Reception Nativity

Friday 7th December

Christmas fayre

Monday 10th December

Art exhibition in hall 3.20pm
5.30-7pm

Wednesday 12th December

6.30pm Infant Christmas Show

Wednesday 19th December

6.30pm Key Stage 2 Carols

Friday 21st December

INSET Day - School closed to children

27th June CONGRESS SHOW

STAFF

Mrs Geal

We are very pleased to welcome Anna Geal back in 3G after her extended absence. She re-joins the class on Monday 12th November. Her return is phased over several weeks with cover provided by Miss Bartholomew.

Mrs Giggs

Has been signed off work for 4 weeks. Cover for 3GW will also be provided by Miss Bartholomew and Mrs Wallis.

Student Teachers

We like to support the local university in training future teachers. We have several students in school at the moment and we are sure that you will join us in welcoming them to our school. If you hear your child mention any of these names you will know who they are:

5T

Andrew Berry joins 5T for his teaching placement until 1st February.

2S

Fiona Clancy joins 2S until 14th December

2B

Leigh Weight joins 2B until 14th December.

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.

DEPUTY HEAD BOY AND DEPUTY HEAD GIRL'S COMMENTS

I applied to be deputy head because I love my school and wanted to have the chance to have a responsible job and take on a big challenge. I am the type of person who loves school and loves a lot of subjects. Also I take part in many clubs. I

think I have a good role to play in my wonderful school and love doing all my duties and I know other prefects enjoy their duties too. I have experienced lots of things such as - going to Tesco's for the school kids cam-

paign which I hope we will be doing next year. I hope we will do lots more wonderful things like that soon. Being deputy head girl makes me feel very proud of myself

Faith Maynard-Downey



My name is Connor and I am deputy head boy. I joined Polegate School seven years ago, when I was 4. since then I have had so much fun. In my spare time I do Archery, Reading club, Netball and Football. I enjoy reading and writing. When I'm older I would like to be an author. At school I have had five jobs which includes being a litter patrol person, animal welfare

manager, a buddy, and prefect. The reason why I applied for this job is because I love school and enjoy being around all the pupils in this school and helping them. I love doing jobs and helping people. So far I have been to a Tesco presentation to do with the vouchers we saved for equipment for school. I also went to a presentation to present Mr Murrell with his Care-

taker of the Year Award, I am very proud of him. I will never regret applying for this job. This school has the most helpful members of staff I have ever met. They help your children in the best way possible and I have really enjoyed being at the school so I would like to say a big thank you to them.

Connor Jenkins

PEN LICENCE

If your child is not already writing with a pen we have introduced a system for recognising great handwriting. This is called a 'Pen License'. When teachers feel handwriting is joined, neat and consistent in size they will be awarded a certificate and be given a choice of special pens to use. We are waiting to give

out our first certificate!

It is certainly worth practicing handwriting at home.



Poppies are available in school now. The recommended donation for a poppy is at least 20p and for a wristband £1. Please be aware we will only allow the children to wear these wristbands for this period.

MUFTI DAY

Thursday 22nd November is a PFA Mufti day. Please bring in a Tombola prize in return for wearing your own clothes.

Christmas Fayre

Friday 7th December

WONDERFUL WORK

Friday 26th October 2012

To be successful I need to...	What I think...	What my teacher thinks...
write in the style of a recount.	☺	
use time words such as meanwhile, after that, finally, next and later on.	☺	
use consistent punctuation.	☺	
Well done, you have... ★		
Next time you need to...		

Yesterday it was the school trip!
I was so excited that we were going to the sealife center.

minutes About 20 minutes later we got on the shiny ~~open~~ dean coach. Amy was my partner. We told silly jokes to each other along the way.

When we got off the coach, we had some fruit it was delicious and then went inside.

school When we got into the sealife center we put our things in the *school* room and then watched the enormous turtles being fed. The names of the turtles were Luke, Galena and a Fur Jersey they were absolutely adorable!

did After we had watched the turtles being fed we *did* some sketching of sea animals. There were some beautiful fish there - I do about 6 six or eight sketches of sea animals. One of my favourite animals were the turtles.

because they very big.
I spotted in the tunnel a gigantic and fat shark there was another one behind the pipe! But I thought to my self why do do sharks have lines on them?



Wowka life but I'm hard
→ next I'm a youse comers

An account of the Year 2 school trip to the Sealife Centre in Hastings.

A superb piece of writing by Callie

CHRISTMAS CARDS

I know it is depressing that the shops are full of Christmas decorations already! Well, to make matters worse we are thinking about it already in school too! The PFA are raising extra funds by asking the children to design their own Christmas cards. We wanted to mention this before you all rushed out to buy this years

cards. You may want to consider ordering your own child's design. You get the chance to preview these in November before you have to decide.

The pictures will be ready to view by Friday 16th November. All orders will need to be in school by 26th November and should be ready to collect on 6th December.



HOMWORK

Across the school homework will be given out on the same day- Friday and will be due in on the Wednesday.

Thank you to the parents that have completed the homework survey. The school's leadership team will be looking at these in depth and making decisions about the type of homework we set.

DANNY LAWRENCE

Danny visited us on Tuesday 23rd October. I hope the children have shared the events of the day with you.

Danny who is ranked 4th in Great Britain in the all round competition in 2012. shared his amazing gymnastic skills with the children.

He has competed in the common wealth games in Delhi. He is hoping to be part of the next Olympic Games.



Sports for All

We raised approximately £1800.00 in sponsorship money.

Please return all sponsor money to the office before **Thursday** this week

Thank you to everyone for supporting this event.

Postcards and posters are on their way to you.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

I am sure you have heard plenty on the news about the Pupil Premium. This is money that schools receive for children entitled to Free School Meals. The government want to close the gap between the achievement of all children and those entitled to free school meals. Nationally there is a significant difference with free school meals not achieving the same results and so being disadvantaged.

We have published a report on our website that shows how we have spent this money.

If you are entitled to free school meals it is vitally important that you register even if you have no intention of claiming your meals. It means an extra £600 per child on free school meals.

Are you entitled?

Free school meals are not provided automatically. Free school meals can be given if you fall into one of the following categories:

- you receive Income Support
- you receive Job Seeker's Allowance (income-based)
- you receive Employment and Support Allowance (income-related)
- you get support under part six of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- you receive the guarantee credit element of Pension Credit
- you are entitled to Child Tax Credit, you do not get Working Tax Credit and your family's annual income (as assessed by the Inland Revenue) is not more than £16,190. Anyone receiving Working Tax Credit is not entitled to free school meals regardless of their income unless you have become unemployed in which case free meals can be granted for a four week period only.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Our individual and family photographs will be taken on **Tuesday 13th November** and **Wednesday 14th November**.

If you would like your child and younger pre school siblings or family groups to have their photograph taken please come in at 8.00am on either one of the days. All school age siblings will be taken throughout the school day.

WINNING DESIGN

Winner of the Polegate and Willingdon Partnership Logo is Minnie Sheppard. Pupils from all 3 schools entered the competition and the winning design was chosen by the Polegate and Willingdon Partnership governors.

Congratulations to Minnie who wins a £20 book token.

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

Class figures

RJ - 95.5%	3G - 98.4%	6T - 97.8
RW - 95.1%	3GW - 98.6%	6C - 96.2
1P - 96.8%	4M - 97.3%	
1H - 94.1%	4EM - 96.1%	
2S - 97.1%	5T - 97.9%	
2B - 98.2%	5F - 96.6%	

97% is our target!

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!	

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.

Well done to those children who have 100% attendance for Term 1. They will all receive a certificate. If your child has not got one and believe they should have one please speak to Kerry in the office. Any medical appointments are classed as an absence on our system.

Please do not expect your child to lie about holidays!



Any absence of 5 days or more without permission which we may have good reason to believe is a holiday will be forwarded to the Education Welfare Office. They will issue a penalty notice if they are not satisfied that the absence was legitimate. It is your responsibility to provide them with evidence that your child was ill and not on holiday.

For example: If a family of four take an unauthorised holiday, both parents will receive a fine of £60 and an additional £60 for each child. This would total £240.

- If your child is late after close of register (9.15am) on a regular basis and despite discussions about this there is no improvement we will be forced to inform the attendance services who will then issue a fine.

Emergency School Closure System due to bad weather

To find out if a school is closed due to bad weather you can check on the ESCC website:

<http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/schoolclosurealerts.htm>

ESCC will also inform the local radio stations - Heart, BBC Radio Sussex, Arrow, Sovereign and Bright 1064

100% attendance for a week awarded to 6T, 6C, 5F, 5T, 4EM, 3GW, 3G, 2B, 2S