

news

May 2023



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LOOKING AHEAD!

I cannot believe we are fast approaching half term. The days seem to be flying by!

With the longer days we finally appear to be having better weather with the sun finally making an appearance.

Thankfully the improvement in weather has been positive for all the events this term (and what a busy term we have had!)

Sports week was a huge success with perfect weather kicking off with a successful fun run. The children thoroughly enjoyed the event with some impressive times.

FOREST SCHOOL FUN

Every Monday all class teachers participate in training perfecting their teaching skills to ensure that we continue to deliver an outstanding curriculum.

Recently much fun (and learning) was had in Forest School. Mrs Page led an excellent training session with many new skills developed.

Forest school has been an excellent addition to the Polegate Irresistible Curriculum. The children develop resilience, problem solving and many more important attributes.

See below a small example of Forest School learning this term:

Nursery - bug hunting and naming/describing their features

Reception - making butterfly feeders

Yr 1 - Looking at new growth and learning about the plants growing around the school site, making nettle tea, developing confidence with fires.

Yr 2 & 5 - Planting seeds and getting the beds ready, using natural materials for art i.e. natural paintbrushes

Yr 5 - Also planting seeds, making greek pots with clay and ground brick dust, using tools that need higher levels of personal safety and risk assessment i.e. hand saws and bow saws

Teamwork and turn taking has been embedded within all of these activities.

We have also had a robin move into the greenhouse and begin nesting so we have to be very quiet/careful when we go in to check on the seedlings in there!



CORONATION CELEBRATION



Crowns, castles, cucumber sandwiches, singing and ball gowns must mean one thing only! Coronation Celebration. The children thoroughly enjoyed their day celebrating the crowning of King Charles.



THE RETURN OF WEEKLY SWIMMING!

Term 5 brings with it the return of weekly swimming. Maintaining a school pool is very often the centre of discussion whenever we host our many external visitors.

However, we live by the sea and too ensure that the children have lifesaving swimming skills is a lesson and life skill that cannot be ignored. We receive many emails about swimming but the email below highlights the success of our pool.

"I thought you might be interested that my child has moved up a level at her Hailsham swimming class to stage 3. I believe this means she can swim 5m now. I'm proud of her! She now gets to wear a yellow swim hat.

I've really noticed that since she started swimming at school this year, she has become very enthusiastic about swimming and has suddenly improved. In the winter months she was refusing to get in the pool for the first 10 minutes of each lesson at her Hailsham class. I really appreciate the

efforts the school go to to enable the children to swim regularly for half of the school year. It makes a big difference, even when they're already having lessons outside of school."



PE KITS

Please ensure that high standards of school uniform are met when sending the children to school in their PE kits.

The children look incredibly smart (and comfortable) in their PE kits. The time saved by not changing for PE has proved to be highly successful this year. The children participate in a full 2 hours of physical education weekly.

A RUGBY STAR IN THE MAKING

Josh Evans was awarded Players Player at his recent rugby awards evening.

Congratulations Josh!



PFA - NEW DEFIBRILLATOR



THE PFA and a generous donation by Alison Bond have secured a new defibrillator for Polegate School.

Thank you so much for this incredibly important piece of medical equipment. Earlier in this academic year all the children participated in Mini First Aid training so could, in an emergency, administer emergency first aid.

POLEGATE PFA PRESENTS

SUMMER FAYRE 2023

SATURDAY 15TH JULY
3 PM - 6 PM
POLEGATE SCHOOL

FREE ENTRY!!

FEATURING LIVE MUSIC FROM BUSTIN' A GROOVE!

BOUNCY CASTLE | FOOD VANS
ICE CREAM STALLS | PERFORMANCES
+ MUCH MORE TO COME...

POLEGATE SCHOOL
PFA

CHARITY NO 117773

PFA DATES

PFA dates for rest of school year:

6th June
PFA meeting

16th June 2023
Disco

16th June 2023
Freeze Pop Fridays start
(Weather permitting)

14th and 15th June 2023
Fathers Day Gifts

22nd June 2023
Second hand uniform sale

13th July 2023
Bags 2 School

15th July 2023
Summer Fair

THE YEAR 6 RECEPTION BUDDIES

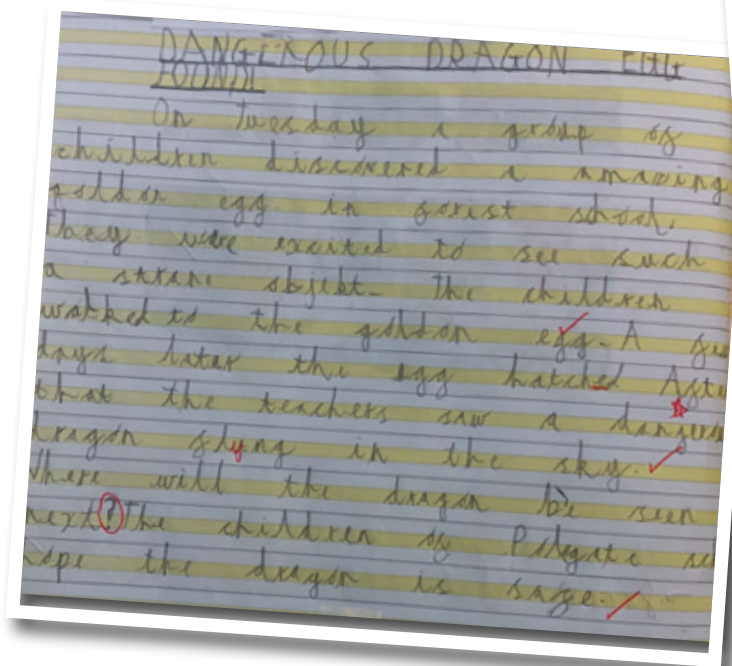
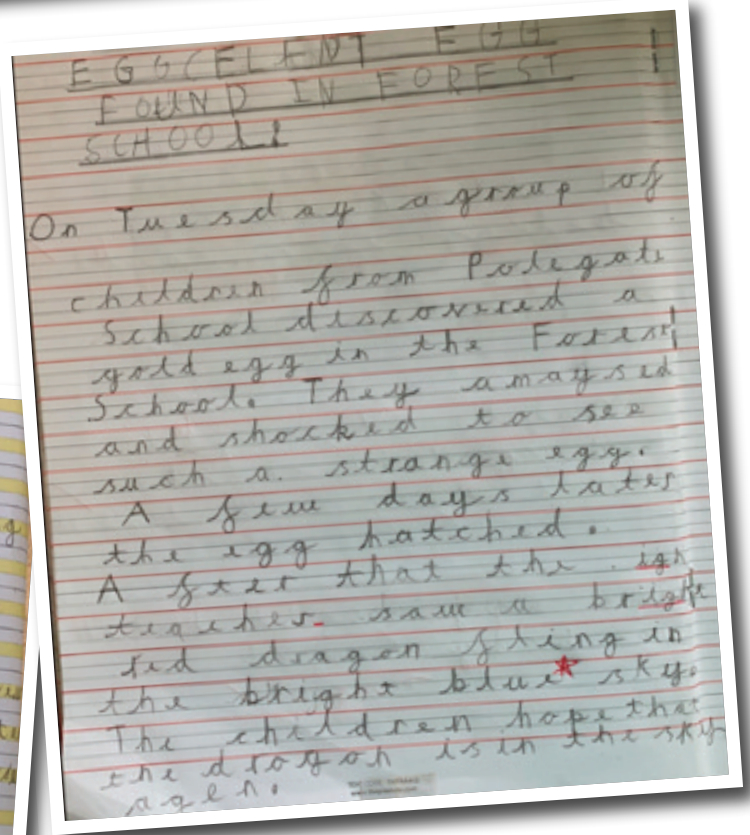
The year 6 reception buddies have been thoroughly enjoying their visits to reception. They are excellent role models taking Polegate Reading Without Limits very seriously.

Thank you year 6, keep up the amazing support.



YEAR 1 WRITING SKILLS

As a school we participate in many inter school moderation sessions. Our writing is often remarked on. Year 1 writers recently gained huge amounts of praise by other schools and teachers. Looking at this writing I am not surprised.



ATTENDANCE

RB =	95.9%	2R =	95.6%	4JD =	91.7%
RH =	95.3%	2S =	96.3%	5M =	95.2%
RG =	94.6%	3GJ =	95.0%	5K =	95.8%
1B =	94.6%	3L =	94.4%	5T =	95.6%
1G =	96.8%	3T =	95.0%	6M =	96.3%
1S =	96.1%	4AD =	96.5%	6MU =	95.9%
2C =	97.3%	4H =	96.5%	6W =	95.7%

Diary Date

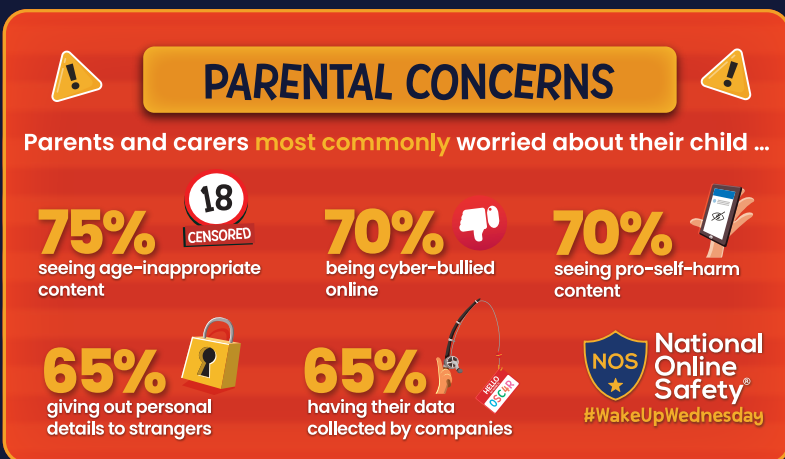
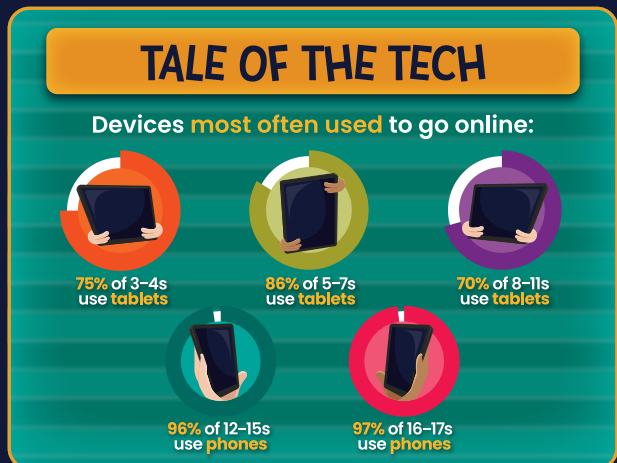
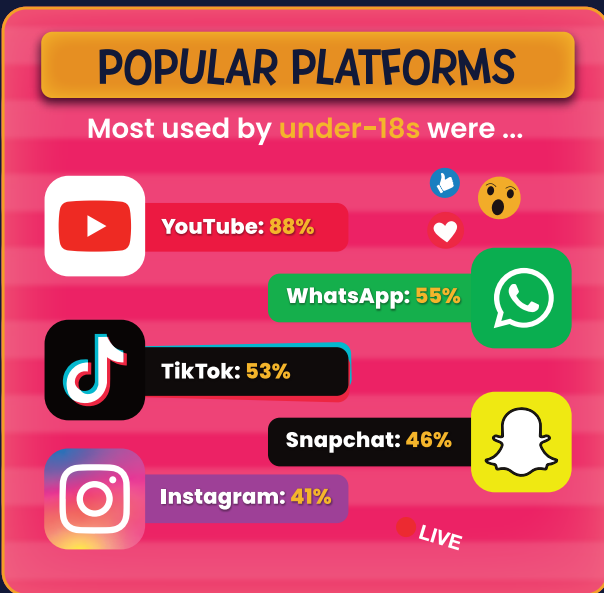
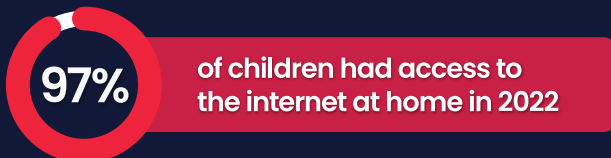
27th May
Jubilee Day
Picnic Lunch

E-SAFETY

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many areas which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about OFCOM'S 'CHILDREN AND PARENTS: MEDIA USE AND ATTITUDES' REPORT 2023

Each year, Ofcom – Britain's regulatory body for communications – produces an overview of children and parents' media experiences across the previous year. The latest version has just been released, and we've pulled out some of the report's most thought-provoking findings which relate to online safety ...



FAMILY SCIENCE FUN!

Now the sun is finally making an appearance why not have some family fun with science and complete the activity below! Send Mrs Giggs your pictures so we can celebrate your efforts!

Sun Dials

Before the invention of clocks, people used the sun to help them tell the time.

One way that people used the sun to tell the time was by making sundials. Shadows created by a marker or pointer on a sundial can indicate the time of day.



Equipment:

- A paper plate
- A pen and pencil
- A watch or clock
- A piece of plasticine.

Method:

1. Fold your paper plate in half, crease and unfold. Then fold the plate in half in the other direction, crease, and unfold.
2. Write the number 12 at the top of the plate, on one of the creases.
3. Carefully push a pencil through the middle of the plate, where the two creases meet. Secure the pencil tip in a piece of plasticine underneath the plate and use it to stand your sundial securely in a sunny spot.
4. At exactly 12 pm, position your sundial so that the pencil's shadow is pointing to the number 12. Secure the sundial in this position so it now can't move. (If the sundial is moved, it will not show the right time).



DIARY DATES

29th May – 2nd June
Half Term

5th June – Term 6 Start

6th June
Year 1 Hever Castle Trip

7th June
2S Pizza Express Trip

7-9th June
Year 6 Residential Trip to
Norfolk Lakes

9th June
4JD class assembly

9th June – Year 2
Hastings Aquarium Trip

14th & 15th June
PFA Father's Day Gift Shop

16th June
Year 4 Port Lympne Trip

16th June
PFA School Disco

21st June
New to Reception Parents
Meeting 9am

22nd June
New to Reception Parents
Meeting 5pm

7th July
Year 3 London Trip

15th July
PFA Summer Fayre

18th July
Year 6 Leavers Show

19th July
Year 6 Leavers Show

21st July
Last Day of School

1st September - INSET Day

4th September
Academic year 2023-24
Term 1 start

BIG WALK & WHEEL

Thank you to everyone who made an effort to take part in the big Walk N Wheel initiative at the end of last term.

61.84% of pupils on average managed to either scoot, cycle or walk to school during the two weeks before Easter.

Thanks too to the Year 6 Sports Leaders who delivered a fantastic assembly explaining the health and environmental benefits of the programme. Polegate came a very respectable 75th out of 300 schools in the South of England area. Well done everyone... but we are sure we can do even better now the weather is improving!!



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY FOOTBALL FESTIVAL



Despite the terrible weather, the football festival on International Women's day was enjoyed by everyone and the money raised from the after-school event went towards buying some new shinpads for the girls' football clubs and teams.

A big thank you goes to Five a Day Greengrocers who donated a beautiful basket of fruit for refreshments after the event.

YEAR 1 KEYBOARD SKILLS

Year 1 have been fine tuning their keyboard skills. They might be able to share a few tips with me!



**WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS/CARERS
SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
WITH THEIR
MENTAL HEALTH**



16TH MAY

**FREE TO ANY
PARENT/CARER
LIVING IN
SUSSEX**

5 WORKSHOPS AVAILABLE COVERING:

- › Anxiety
- › Sleep
- › Managing self-harm and suicidal thoughts
- › Autism and challenging behaviour
- › Eating disorders

Workshops will be delivered on

16TH MAY AT 9:30AM, 12:30PM AND 7PM

Workshops last 90 minutes and have a 15 minute
Q&A session (pre-sent questions only)

WANT TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS?

Scan here:



Or visit:

<https://bit.ly/3LvABw5>

FREE DIGITAL GOODY
BAG OF RESOURCES
AND INFORMATION FOR
EACH ATTENDEE

NEED TO GET IN TOUCH?

If you have any questions, please email: Melissa.Baitmansour@spft.nhs.uk

Delivered by **Sussex Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)**

COMMUNITY: WILDCATS GIRLS FOOTBALL

Welcome to Brighton Wildcats!

Are you looking for a fun way for girls 5-11 to get involved with football? Then look no further. Brighton Wildcats is part of the FA's Weetabix Wildcats Programme. Make new friends under the guidance of FA qualified and DBS checked coaches who deliver the sessions.



<https://sport.brighton.ac.uk/programmes/community>

CHANGE OF INFORMATION RELATING TO YOUR CHILD

We just wanted to let you know that due to the new GDPR regulations we will not be sending out data collection sheets any more. We do still need to know if there are any changes to information relating to your child.

Changes we need to know about are:

- Medical details (any new allergies, asthma etc)
- Change of address, telephone numbers or email address

Keep us informed

It will be up to you to keep us informed and you can do this by emailing the school office at:

office@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk

with any changes or by completing the form which you can find on the download section on our website

www.polegateschool.uk

Diary Dates

Friday
27th May
Last Day of
Term

Archive



You can read all the previous newsletters on our website.

Twitter

Be the first to hear the news.
Follow us on Twitter.
We now have
1351 followers!



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Feedback

We'd love to hear your feedback and any new ideas you have. Please send us your thoughts via the contact us page on the school website:

www.polegateschool.co.uk