

news

December 2018



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HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

As we approach the final few days of this term, I would like to wish you a fabulous Christmas!

The children have worked so hard all term; they are certainly ready for a break and an opportunity to recharge their batteries (whilst wearing yours out no doubt!)

This has been such a busy and productive term and so there is so much to celebrate, as always! A host

of Christmas shows for nursery and reception, trips, events alongside all the inspiring work going on in classes!

We are looking forward to our final week which ends with our traditional staff panto! We cannot disclose which one yet, it is always a closely guarded secret.

Not only do the children need to rest and recharge but the staff do too. A huge amount of effort, energy and dedication have gone into this term's

events and I would like to say a huge thank you to them and wish them a very peaceful, relaxing holiday!



BUILDING WORK

Thank you all for your continued patience with the work that is being undertaken at school currently. It is very exciting to see a building now going up!

This block will be the new entrance to the school office and on the ground floor will be our new school hall and upstairs will be the staff room and year 6 classrooms. It is expected to be ready in May and then work will start in the school!

I thought you might like to see the plan of the new building



RECEPTION NATIVITY & NURSERY SHOWS

Our very youngest children did us proud with a wonderful selection of nativity and Christmas shows with a twist!

They are such stars already and it doesn't seem possible that they only started school in September. They have all settled in so well and I never fail to be impressed when I go down to reception and see them working so hard.

I only wish I could get Baby Shark (baby Jesus) out of my head but I can't!



MATHS CHALLENGE

To prevent any boredom setting in at Christmas we have added a little challenge in this newsletter for our mathematicians!

MATHS CHALLENGE KS1

The Tomato & the Bean

Tom's Dad sowed some tomato seed in February. He gave Tom one of the tomato plants in a pot.

At the beginning of May, Tom put his tomato plant outside. On the same day he sowed a bean in another pot. Ten days later the bean plant was just 1 cm (centimetre) above the soil surface.

Tom measured his tomato plant which was already 38cm tall. Each evening Tom measured his two plants.

On the evening of the next day the little bean plant had grown another 2cm so it was 3cm high. Each day it continued to grow double the amount it had grown the day before. The tomato plant grew at a steady 5cm a day. After how many days were the two plants the same height when Tom measured them in the evening?

How high were they?

MATHS CHALLENGE KS2

Each of the different letters stands for a different number.

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{TWO} \\ + \text{TWO} \\ \hline \text{FOUR} \end{array}$$

How many solutions can you find to this word-arithmetic challenge?

How can you be sure you found them all?

Can you find other word sums that work?

Here are some suggestions to start you off:

$$\text{ONE} + \text{ONE} = \text{TWO}$$

$$\text{ONE} + \text{TWO} = \text{THREE}$$

$$\text{ONE} + \text{THREE} = \text{FOUR}$$

$$\text{FOUR} + \text{FIVE} = \text{NINE}$$

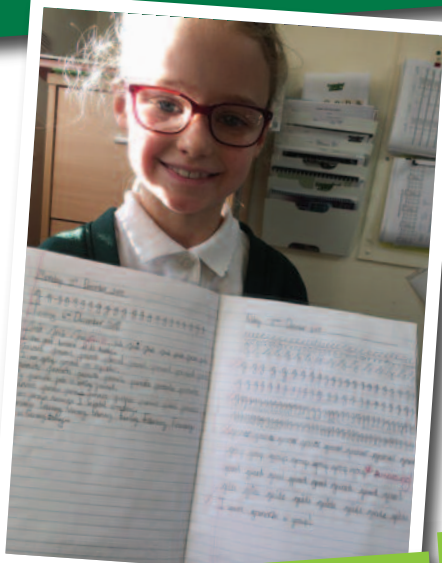
Can you make a word subtraction?

BOOK FAIR

The recent book fair raised an amazing total of £512 which gets turned into reward points for us to buy books for the school library. Thank you for supporting this and I hope it helped with a few Christmas presents!



GREAT WORK



Isabella has visited to show her beautiful handwriting!



Reception have visited the juniors to proudly show their wonderful handwriting!



Aeryn has made a beautiful wreath for home learning and it's now on number 10!

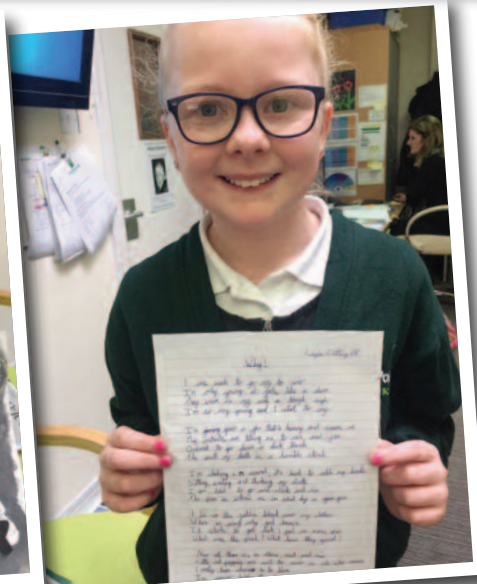
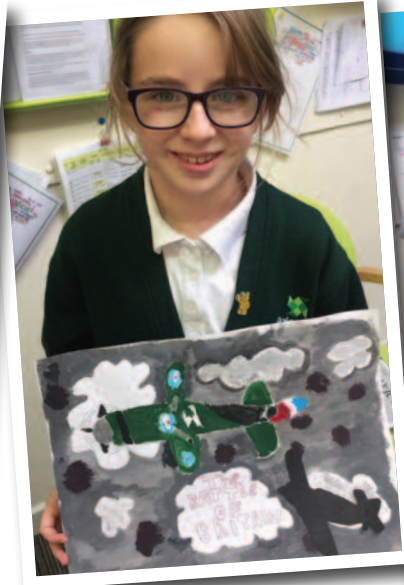


It's all about owls in 2M
Stunning writing displayed so originally!



Marvellous mathematicians from Year 1!

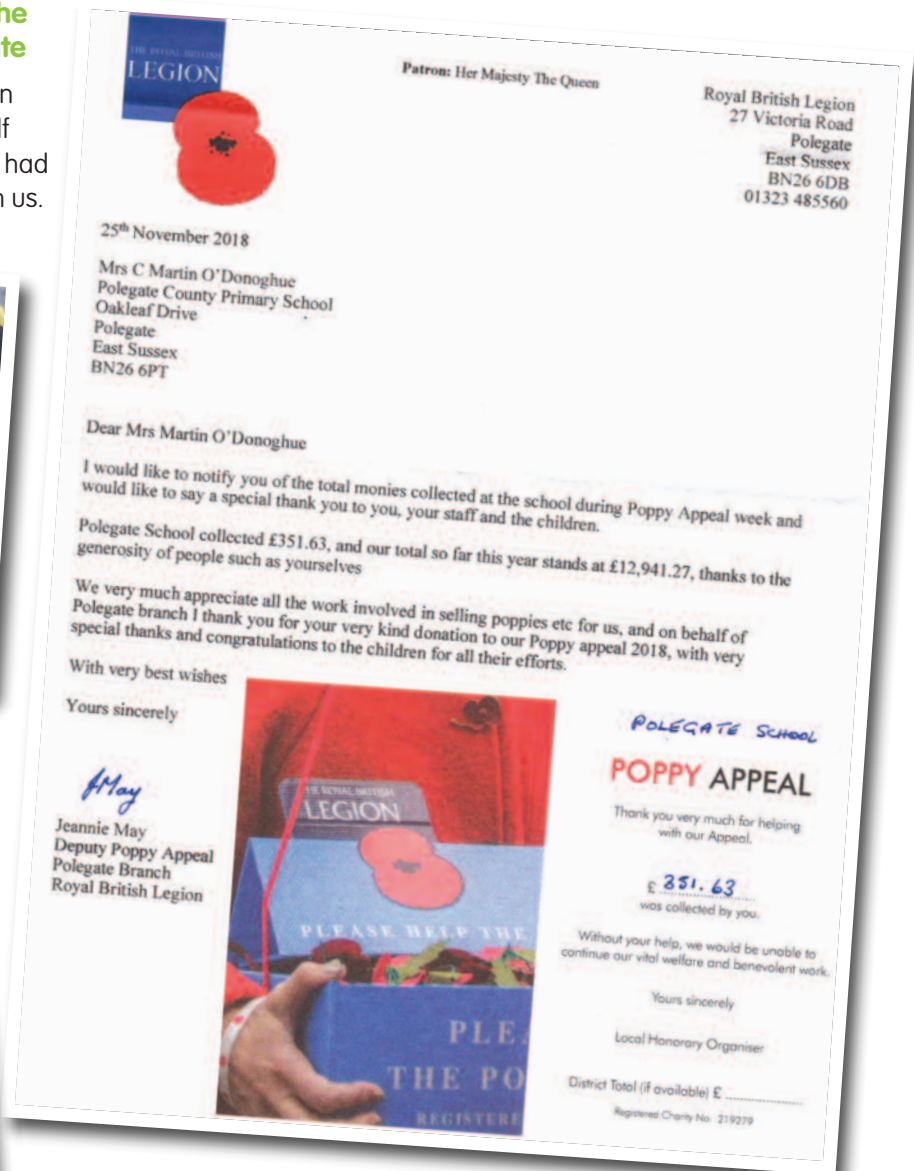
Stunning home learning completed by year 6.
The variety and creativity is brilliant!



REMEMBRANCE

A small but select group of pupils from Polegate represented the school at the Remembrance day Service in Polegate

It was a very wet and windy day as you can see from the photographs so I know myself and Mrs Jones were both pleased that we had some representatives from Polegate to join us.



YEAR 6 TRIP TO WAR HORSE

I was inundated with adults coming to see me following the very exciting theatre trip to London.

Their words were, 'exemplary, all the children without exception behaved impeccably.' The children loved the show. I was told that we were the best school there and I should be so proud of our children. I am! The children were 'mature and AMAZING'.



ART GALLERY

An unmade bed, a bisected cow, the Turner Prize nominees often raise a few eyebrows in the art world.

The same cannot be said for our Polegate School gallery which was brimming with talent worthy of a prize!

We have been doing this for a number of years now, more than I want to remember, and I have to say this was the best yet!

The lady that frames the work for us was full of praise for the children's creations.

Thank you for visiting the gallery, we hope you enjoyed



SPORTS NEWS

CROSS COUNTRY TEAM 2018

Otherwise known as 'Tough Mudders'! It was a cold, muddy day and yet our hardy runners did their absolute best and competed in a county cross country run. We are very proud of you all!



GIRLS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT



Polegate Girls Football

On Saturday we may have come last, but we played as a team, respected one another, and most of all enjoyed ourselves. This was our first tournament and hopefully we can only improve. Our Coaches and supporters were great! throughout the day, giving us much encouragement. Well done to Oaklynge School who came first.

By Jessie

Sheridan

CHARITY EVENTS

I know I am biased but I think the children at Polegate are very special and I never cease to be amazed at their charitable work and good deeds they carry out whether that is collecting rubbish on the way to school or those bigger events which they initiate entirely themselves! I have two lovely examples to share with you in this newsletter that model exactly what the government refers to as 'British Values' but to us means being a nice person and good citizen. Our children live and breathe that!

Elsie and Jessica Rooney

On Sunday 18th November, Elsie and Jessica Rooney hosted a fundraising event in aid of CURE International UK.

They chose this charity as it provides treatment for clubfoot, bowed legs, cleft lips and untreated burns in poorer countries. As Jessica and Elsie were both born with clubfoot, and have received

some amazing treatment from the NHS, this is something close to their heart. They both wanted to help those less fortunate than themselves and

so became hosts at a coffee morning and craft sale at their house. They received an incredible amount of support and have raised £650 so

far with donations still coming in. We were all overwhelmed and so grateful to everyone who came along or showed their support with donations of money and cakes.

Please take a look at the wonderful work that CURE do:
<https://uk.cure.org>



Evie Baker

During the summer Evie had 11 inches cut from her hair which she donated to the Princess Trust.

She also raised a total of £200 which she donated to her friend's family.

The dad sadly has cancer and they wanted to get married. They put the money to very good use and brought their wedding rings which they would not otherwise have been able to afford.

DIARY DATES

Fri 7th Dec at 2.40pm
Think Tank meeting

Tues 18th Dec 3.30pm
Wonderful Work

11/12/13th Dec 10am
Reception Nativity

Friday 14th December
Christmas Fayre

Friday 14th December
Mufti Day

Tues 18th Dec 2-3pm
Reception Pop in & Play

Wed 19th Dec
The eagerly awaited Staff
pantomime and no
parents are not allowed!

Wed 19th December
Last day of term

Thurs 3rd Jan - INSET DAY

Fri 4th Jan - INSET DAY

Mon 7th Jan - Term Starts

14th-18th January
Don't dis my ability week

Monday 14th January
No pens day- back by
popular demand!

Fri 25th Jan - BINGO night

Thursday 7th February
Think Tank meeting

Mon 11th/Wed 13th Feb
Parent Consultations

Friday 15th February
Last day of term

Monday 25th February
First day of term

Monday 4th March
No Pens Day

Thursday 7th March
World Book Day
'Share a Story'

LETTER REGARDING HOLIDAYS

Dear Mrs O'Donoghue,

I am writing to you to request
an assembly about people who go on
holiday in term time.

I am a bit frustrated ^{with} people taking
holidays. It completely ruins it for
classmates, who don't go on holiday in
term time. We have not won the
attendance award since year three!

I don't see why holidays have to
be booked in term time! Holidays should
never put on hold a child's learning.
Therefore ~~you~~ I am asking if you could please
conduct an assembly about the ~~education~~
importance of education.

Thank you for taking ~~your~~ the time to read
my letter.

Your sincerely,

Alyssa Hatch 6M

This pupil was so frustrated by the
number of pupils taking holidays
that she put pen to paper!

I thought it would be a refreshing
change from my voice explaining why
holidays in term time are so damaging!
She is even more forceful than I am!

Alyssa requested in her letter if I could
hold an assembly about this but I didn't
think the children were the right
audience so instead we have copied
Alyssa's letter for parents to read.

THINK OF
THE WEEK

Is there
more future
or past?

ATTENDANCE

Every School
Day Counts

A huge thank you to everyone. Although it is not quite the end of term I have had a quick look at our attendance and I am delighted to say it is:

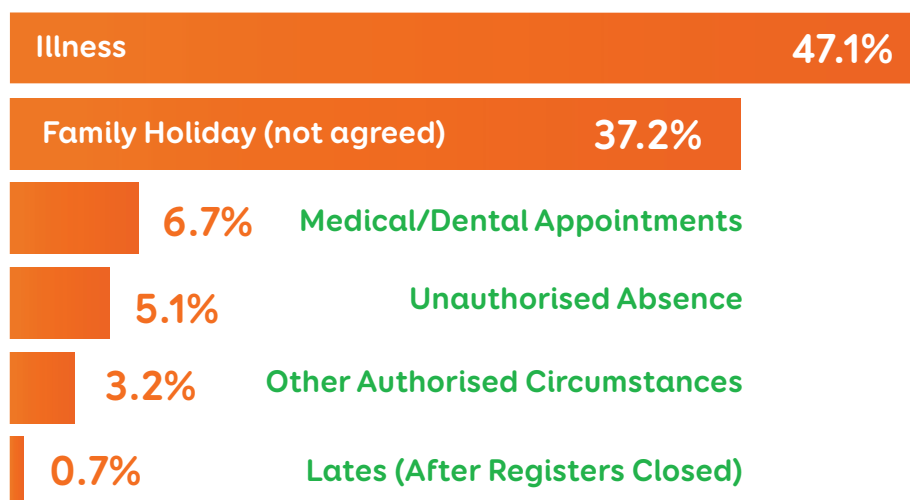
97.6%

	%Att	%Auth	%Unauth	%Late (L&U)
Whole school	97.59%	1.38%	1.04%	0.28%

It is quite staggering to see that 37.2% of our absences are due to family holidays.

Only 10% less than illness.

Thank you to the many parents that make appointments for the dentist and Dr after school - I know many of you do.



The focus for us is on ensuring no group is disadvantaged by poor attendance and again this gap is closing - which is brilliant:

	% attendance	% late
Free School Meals	96.13	0.74
Special educational needs	95.95	0.63

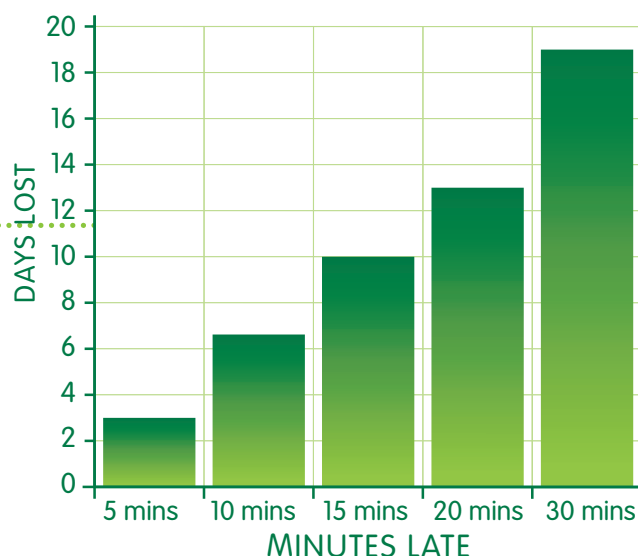
BEING LATE ADDS UP TO LOST LEARNING

If you are 5 minutes late every day that adds up to over 3 days lost each year. 15 minutes late is the same as being absent for 2 weeks a year.

CLASS FIGURES

Overall school attendance is Whole school attendance is 97.59% above our target!

RH = 95%	2A = 98%	4D = 97%
RV = 97%	2M = 98%	5G = 97%
RHI = 96%	2H = 98%	5S = 96%
1C = 95%	3B = 98%	6M = 96%
1Y = 97%	3M = 97%	6R = 98%
1Mc = 97%	4B = 98%	



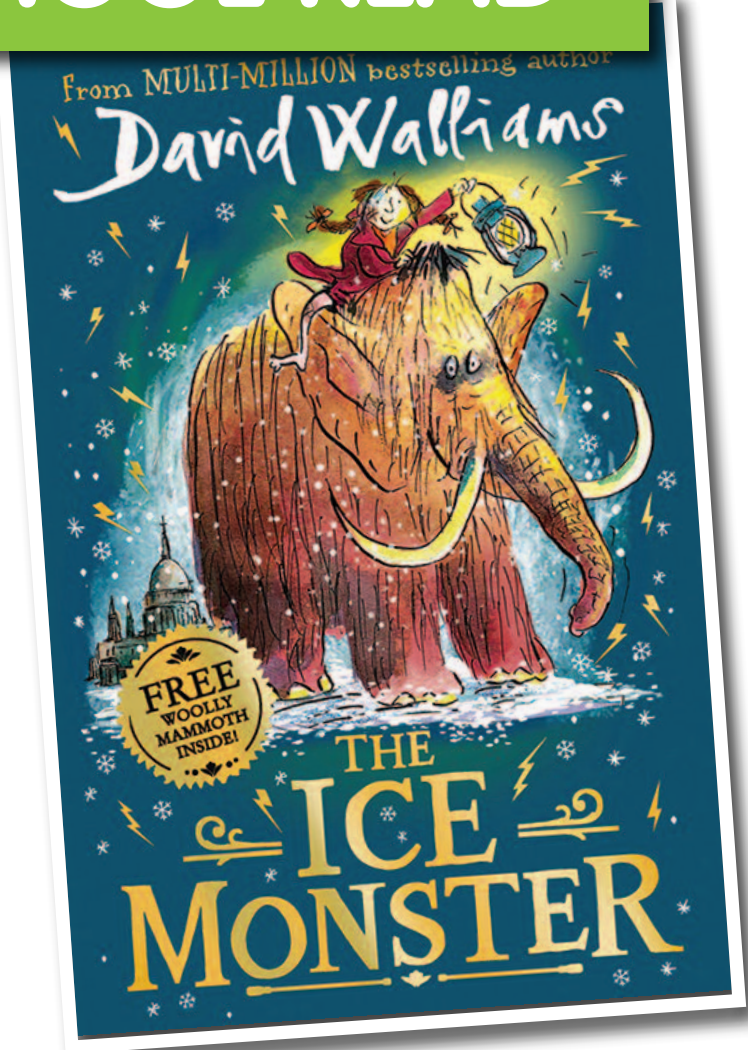
WHOLE SCHOOL READ

We launched a new 'Whole School Read' again this term to much excitement!

The whole school is currently reading *The Ice Monster* by David Walliams. We do this to create a community of readers and generate a love of reading across the whole school.



6M have finished *Ice Monster* already and loved every page!



Diary Dates

Thur 3rd
& Fri 4th
JANUARY
INSET DAYS

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 **941** 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

Designed by Prowork: www.prowork.co.uk