

news

June 2019 Issue 2



FRENCH TRIP 2019

Wow, what an incredible start to Term 6! One day back and then straight off to Paris at 5am in the morning!

In This Issue

French Trip	2
Next Year's Classes	3
Attendance	4
Bethany Harris	5
E-Safety	6
Young Writers Awards	7
Road Names	8
The New Building	9
Chaperones	9
Our Poetry Star	10
New Staff	10
Sports Day	11
New Library	12
Diary Dates	12
Year 3 London Trip	13
Uniforms Online	14

Read
more
inside



LE VOYAGE EN FRANCE!



Fantastique, merveilleux, formidable, superbe!

Last week year 6 travelled to France for a full 4 days of culture, art, history, Science, fun and sight-seeing. They all had a tiring but wonderful time. The children were absolutely superb and embraced every opportunity. They made it right to the very top of the Eiffel Tower! They spoke French with such confidence and impressed all the adults in the shops and at the market.

The itinerary

Tuesday: La Coule & Planetarium

Wednesday: Paris - Sight-seeing

Thursday: Disney & Warner Park

Friday: French Market, Chantilly Chateau



NEXT YEAR'S CLASSES

Our Staffing Structure for 2019-2020

And so the moment you all eagerly await! I can now announce the teachers for next year. I am delighted to say that we are fully staffed and I had no last minute surprises this year!

CLASS PROGRESSION	TEACHER	TA PROVISION
RY	Cathy Young	Emma Hanmore - Transition TA
RM	Victoria Miller	Louise Belmore
RH	Connie Hicks	Lorraine Wilkinson
RH - 1C	Sarah Cullinane	Dominique MacNeill
RV - 1M	Mary McGovern	Sue Heather
RHi - 1H	Nicky Hadley	Jennie Everett
1C - 2A	Amie Ashdown/Sally Barnard Leader of Learning	Heidi Ireland
1M - 2M	Emma Murphy	Vanessa Brunger
1Y - 2H	Gayle Howland	Sally Bennett
2M - 3M	Clare Marsh	Julie McFarlane
2H - 3D	Amy Durbridge	Fiona Drury
2A - 3W	Caroline Wheelhouse	Corinne Williams
3B - 4E	Lewis Evans	Gill Richardson
3M - 4B	Sarah Baker	Aidan Keely
4D - 5	Hayley	Sue Belk
4SB - 5J	Heidi J	Monika Bailey
5M - 6M	Ruby Murphy	Helen Timms
5G - 6R	Amy Regan - Leader of Learning	Maxine Weyland

On Tuesday 2nd July the children all spend the day with their new teacher.

Drop off and collection is as normal for parents. We have also extended the time with their new teacher to every morning during that week. This will

give the children a really good opportunity to get to know their class teacher. It will also mean the class teacher can really hit the ground running in September!

Please do take the opportunity to meet with your child's new teacher. We hold

'meet for the move' meetings after school on Tuesday 2nd July.

It is really valuable for the teacher to get to know both you and your child and gives you the opportunity to share anything you want the teacher to know about your child.

THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Headteacher	Claire Martin-O'Donoghue	
Deputy Headteacher	Debbie Jones	
Assistant Headteacher	Sally Barnard	
Assistant Headteacher	Una Holbrook	Inclusion Manager Behaviour
Nursery	Sharon Trent	EYFS leader
Nursery team	As existing	
Leader of Learning	Amie Ashdown	Year 1 and 2
Leader of Learning	Sally Barnard	Year 3 and 4
Leader of Learning	Amy Regan	Year 5 and 6

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Whole school is now: **96.5%**. Not far off our target of **97%**.

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

BETHANY HARRIS

The kindness and generosity of our pupils never ceases to surprise me and this holiday I received an email from a very proud mummy.

Hi All,

Last term, Bethany decided that she wanted to raise some money for St Wilfrid's Hospice, likely triggered by the one year anniversaries all of the events last year. She asked if she could donate her hair to charity and give the funds raised to the Hospice. I was completely onboard but decided to give her a few weeks to see if she would change her mind, it would be a big change for her!

By the start of May, she was still determined to do it so we set up a fundraising page through facebook and booked her hair appointment. The whole month so was so excited and once donations started to come in, she knew there was no backing out.

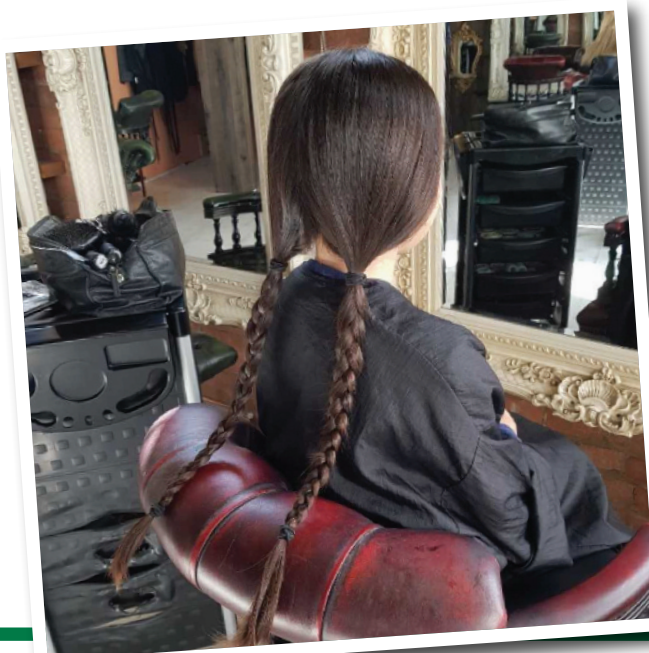
On 25th May, the first Saturday of half term, she had her hair cut. 43cm all cut off and donated to The Little Princess Trust with £380 raised for St Wilfrids! I'd made the Hospice aware the day before so they could track the funds and make sure it reached them ok. They were overwhelmed and on Friday 31st May, during half term, Bethany got to present them with the cheque (photos attached). A lot of the staff down there are still the same and they remember us all from last year, they were so proud of what she'd done as am I. They also gave her a medal for fundraising so much and a certificate which is in the post.

Needless to say, she's so chuffed with how much she raised and thankfully, she loves her new hair!

You will likely get her even more confused with Amber now though, I have been all week!

Anyway, I thought I'd share this with you as she's done so well and both Amber and Bethany will also be running the Kapow 5km fun run for the Hospice in a few weeks time to raise some more funds. We'll never be able to repay what they did for us, but we're making a good start.

Bethany's Mum



I think what Bethany has done is incredible even if it does mean that I now muddle them up every day!

E-SAFETY UPDATES

WHAT DO PARENTAL CONTROLS DO?

These controls are designed to help parents and carers manage their child's online activities.

There are various types, some of which are free but others which can be bought. However, nothing is totally fool proof so they don't replace the need for adults to support and advise children using the internet.

For detailed guidance on all the different types of control, you can use this online tool from Internet Matters . This gives you the chance to set up a personalised list of the controls used in your home on all your different devices. There is also advice on how to use all the various controls, with videos and step-by-step instructions.

Thinkuknow.co.uk

Children are accessing technology and the internet at a younger age than ever before. It's never too early to talk to your child about what they do online and who to tell if they come across anything online that makes them feel worried, scared or sad.

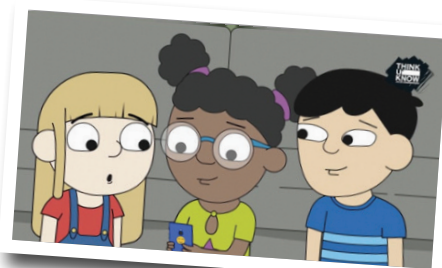
Jessie & Friends is a series of three animations that follow the adventures of Jessie, Tia and Mo as they begin to navigate the online world, watching videos, sharing pictures and playing games. There's also a storybook for each episode, to help you and your child keep the conversation going

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/jessie-and-friends/>

The key message throughout Jessie and Friends is that if a child is ever worried by anything online, they should tell a grown-up they trust, who will help them.

Seeking support for yourself

Whatever your situation it is likely that you will need support for yourself, as well as for your child. Talk to a friend or relative who you trust, who will listen and support you, or call the NSPCC helpline on **0808 800 5000**.



PFA NEWS

Saturday 15th June is our very popular Summer fair from 11am-2pm.

Stalls, games, raffle, face painting, horse rides, food van, bouncy castles, Ice creams, performances.

Last year I was subjected to a soaking with wet sponges- this year it is far worse! Gunge! Apparently this will be 'the highlight' at the end of the Summer Fair (not my highlight- just everyone else's!)



THE YOUNG WRITER AWARDS

Zac Boniface- a finalist in The Young Writer Awards 2019!

His entry, 'A Mountain Calls' was selected as one of the finalists in the Wicked Young Writers Awards 2019.

There were over 5,000 entries, making it one of the most highly contested awards since the competition started. The quality

of entries was excellent and being selected as one of the 20 category finalists is a huge achievement.

He has been invited up to the ceremony in London at the Apollo Theatre in London where they will

meet the cast of wicked and the best-selling author of How to Train your Dragon, Cressida Cowell.

What an amazing achievement Zac! We are all SUPER proud.

One stormy night there was a loud bang, people in the village were filled with fear! It didn't sound like thunder or fireworks, the sound was different, it came from high up in the mountains, that surrounded the village.

The strange bang soon became the talk between all the local villagers, all of them had their own ideas, but all where too scared themselves to go and find out, so they decided to call upon a local secret agent that lived in the outskirts of the village, he was a shy, quiet man he kept himself to himself, locals thought he was strange that he never wanted to stop and talk, he didn't really have any family or friends.

The next day a secret agent started his climb up the mountain to investigate whereabouts that loud bang came from!

The climb was tricky with large rocks to get over, and tree branches to fight the way through, strange animal noises could be heard, after a few hours and a very hot steep climb the secret agent finally reached the top, he looked around, he could see for miles the village below looked like a tiny ant, it was cooler at the top a breeze was swishing around his face.

After a few minutes he started to explore there was alot of broken and snapped tree trunks, ivy curled around broken bricks but then carved into the mountain top was what looked like a door, a mysterious door that someone had built but maybe they didn't expect it to be found, the agent pulled back the overgrown trees to try and get a better look, what would a door be doing here he wondered? did the Grinch or another strange creature live behind the door, did it lead to a magical place? He reached out his hand and took a breath he was a bit scared of pushing open the door he slowly began to push the door forward the old rusty hinges made an eerie sound, he closed his eyes as he moved forward frightened to open them just in case he wouldn't like what was ahead of him, he peered round the door and very slowly he began to let his eyes open.... a green light flickers at the back of this large dark cave, drips of water can be heard splashing as they hit the floor, it's cold and there's a smell that the agent hasn't come across before! He gets brave and fully steps inside carefully stepping towards the green light, as he moves closer inside he can see an outline of what looks like a cauldron, the green flicker light is above it, he gets closer and can see a green liquid swirling around the cauldron it looks like the funnel of a tornado, the agent investigates there is a blank piece of paper on the floor, he screws it up in his hand and accidentally it drops into the cauldron, immediately the ground starts shaking and the green liquid starts spitting and bubbling, oh no what has the agent done? He freezes with fear the hairs on his body stick up, the liquid rises and with an almighty BANG the cauldron explodes, the agent is covered in liquid and ash! The agents ears are ringing after the explosion and he staggers off around the cave, hoping to find more clues, after a while he starts to give up, but then he feels like he is being watched, he looked around but couldn't see anything, he carried on walking deeper into the cave still feeling like eyes where on him then suddenly in the distance a figure, a shadow in the corner of his eye.... what was this lurking in the darkness?.

Fear struck the agent, again he froze with fear, his heart was racing like a race car, he's breathing became faster and faster, with a scared and shaky voice the agent said "hello is anyone there" it was silent, no reply... maybe his mind was playing games with him, he began to talk himself out of being so silly when all of a sudden a figure appeared in front of his eyes and said in a strong and powerful voice "who goes there? And why are you disturbing our peace?

ROAD NAMES CREATED BY POLEGATE SCHOOL

The children were invited to submit road names for the new Greymoor development in Polegate. The school council were very involved and submitted some very creative choices such as Lightyear Avenue, Buzz Close - clearly inspired by our vision!

We have just received a letter with the results:

We are delighted to inform you that the street names for the development "Woodland View" have now been agreed with the Council.

The names chosen for submission from the list provided by the children were:

1. Bluebell Way
2. Snowdrop Close

Unfortunately Bluebell Way had to be changed due to the name Bluebell being used elsewhere in Polegate, so the in conjunction with the Council we have picked Primrose Way instead.

As mentioned previously in our discussions, we wanted to recognise the children's efforts in helping us name the street within the development and we are looking to arrange a street naming/ opening ceremony where we would like to invite the two children who came up with the names submitted to cut the ribbon on the road signs to celebrate the opening.

The winners were:

1. Bluebell Way - Joshua Lavender and Alex Gunter

2. Snowdrop Close - Alfie Kemsley and Lilie Walker

We are planning to hold this on a date in September and we will be in contact after you return from the summer holidays with the proposed dates. We also hope to have the local press in attendance at this event.

In addition to the above we would like to present the two children with a £50 bookstore gift voucher each to thank them for their engagement and using their imaginations to contribute to the community that will be growing shortly with the addition of the new residents at Woodland View.

Finally in recognition to the school engaging in the project we would like to propose a donation of £500 to the school to use for one of their chosen causes or an internal project which fundraising may be taking place for.

Thank you again for your participation

Kind regards

Elizabeth Ross Smith

Planning & Technical Manager

Crisp packet recycling

Please take your empty crisp packets to the school office



THE NEW BUILDING

At 3pm on the last day of term we received the official notification that the move was on!

It was all systems go and a dedicated hit team stayed late into the evening to help pack and move what felt like most of the school!

We needed the holiday for sure after that but we managed it. A big thank you to Mr Botting who stayed to help us lug boxes over whilst William was at scouts!

Thank you all for your patience and understanding in the first few days. We are far from finished and waiting for storage, furniture, staging to arrive.

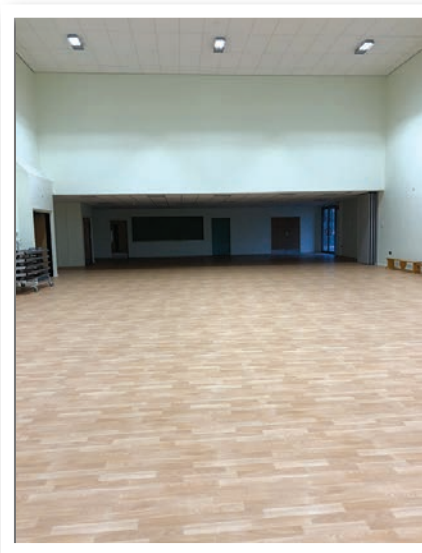
The logistics of collection and drop off for the breakfast and After school clubs has proved a little tricky but we think we are there now.

Congestion is an issue along the path by the nursery but hopefully with all the scooters and bikes now being left in the main bike store it should allow a decent sized space for nursery parents to wait out of the way. In the longer term I will request a wider path but this will be dependent on funding.

The new hall is very impressive and we do fit the whole school in with space! At long last!

This means that we can revert back to whole school assemblies on a Monday for our Star of the Week and on a Friday for our class assembly.

This means we have no need for an afternoon repeat performance of the class assembly. They will all be at 9am.



CHAPERONES

We have been incredibly grateful to our dedicated team of chaperones that we can call upon to support with school trips and events.

You have been amazing and it has been such a bonus and really reassuring for teachers to know you have been fully trained, have a DBS and understand the expectations regarding safeguarding on trips.

We are currently updating our list ready for next year. If you haven't been able to help as much as you would like and no longer want to be on the list please just let us know and we will remove you so that we do not keep hounding you!

If you would like to remain a chaperone then we would like to invite you to refresher training on Thursday 18th July at 2pm this is to

ensure you remain up to date on policies and procedures.

If you would like to join our list of chaperones then please complete the form below and keep Thursday 18th July free to attend the training. You are then invited to support events such as Race for Life or school trips for any class in the school.

I would like to become a chaperone

Name:

Child's Name: Class:

You will need to come in and liaise with Kerry in order that we can ensure you have a DBS.

OUR POET ELSIE ROONEY

Making her debut on BBC Radio 2, Breakfast Show with Zoe Ball with a wonderful poem about the Queen. If you missed listening to it on the morning have a look on our school Twitter account which you do through our website and scroll down until you find it.

Please follow us because we put so much on here, every day!

The day I met the Queen

The day I met the Queen
She was a bit too keen
She passed me a drink
Then gave me a wink
It was the funniest thing I had seen.

She said "oh I am not amused
To see someone so confused
When I pass you a mug
You must give me a hug"
And much laughter then ensued.

When I asked her about her day
She said it was "mmm, ok"
She started to cry
And when I asked her why
She said her corgis had run away

Something went dashing past
It was really ever so fast
I leapt to my feet
My mission complete
The corgis were found at last!

And now it is Christmas day
The Queen has something to say
She got out her speech
Whilst eating a peach
She said "Elsie! My hero! HOORAY!"

By Elsie Rooney, Year 5



Elsie Rooney



Lewis Evans

New Governing Board member

We have always struggled to gain new members to our Governing Board and this year we received a total of 5 nominations

I think this reflects the very supportive parent body we have at the moment and I am incredibly grateful for this support and interest.

I would like to thank all the parents that nominated themselves for this role. It is a demanding role in terms of time and expectations that are placed on members of the Governing Board especially when you consider they all do this voluntarily and have careers of their own as well.

There will be other opportunities in the future and so please do apply again if you were not successful this time around.

Congratulations Neil Martin who is our new parent governor.

NEW STAFF

Lewis Evans

Polegate school was a clear choice for me. I was instantly struck by the focus on reading when I first visited the school, as I am especially interested in early literacy.

I have recently got interested in making clothes and I am looking forward to doing some sewing with the children.

I hope the children are interested in rugby as that's the only sport I'm any good at!

SPORTS DAY

We could not have picked a better week for our sports days this year. The sun shone down of us for the full week!

I have to say it is probably one of our most successful sports weeks. The sports leaders did a phenomenal job of supporting both the teachers and younger children during their sports day. Thank you for coming along to support the event.

SWIMMING GALA

The children were inspirational as always and I have been inundated with praise for this event which is a highlight of the year for so many of us!

'This was our first gala and what a great evening. I can honestly say my child has never been so proud of herself. Thank you all to all the staff.'

'Just wanted to thank the always amazing staff at Polegate School for giving our children the best fun filled day of sports and swimming. The hours you put in are much appreciated, and I know I'm not the only parent grateful for the opportunity to come and watch today.'

The number of brave parents that take part in the parent race increases every year and is brilliant to watch at the end of the evening- well done to all those who took part. You put us teachers to shame! I was willing but it would have been a race on my own which I wasn't going to do!



Our sports stars!



At the Swimming Gala

NO BUGGIES

No buggies in any part of the school

Can I remind you that pushchairs are not allowed in school as it a fire risk. We will be insistent on this and you will be asked to leave them in the buggy store outside the main reception.

If you arrive early for any performance or school event please wait outside the main office. We requested a cover to allow a waiting area for parents when large groups are arriving. This is not us being difficult but is to protect confidentiality in the reception area should parents need to share concerns with Kerry. As the office is now very open plan it means Kerry is still able to answer calls.

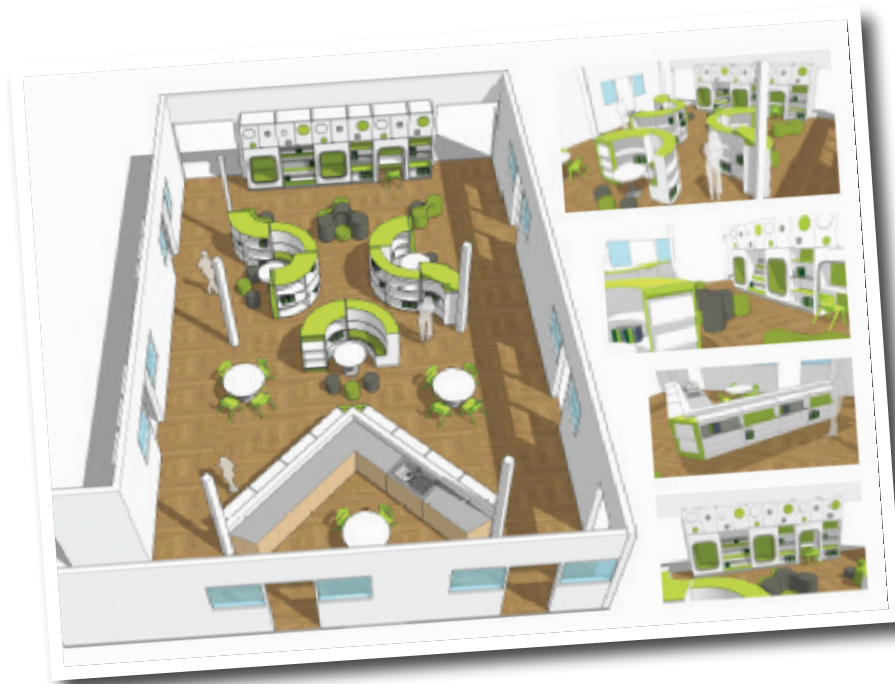
I was really hoping to open it up fully for you all one afternoon to have a good look but at the moment there are crates full of stock in the empty classrooms upstairs and so this may happen later than I had anticipated. It will happen though.

NEW LIBRARY

You would have thought that I would have had enough of building work by now!

I am so excited to announce that during the summer we will be completely refurbishing the library! Reading is at the heart of everything we do at Polegate and I was very keen to ensure that the library looked as inviting as the new part of the school.

Here is the design for the library in the existing space!



DIARY DATES

Wednesday 12th &
Thursday 13th June
Father's day gifts

Saturday 15th June
Afternoon Summer Fair

Monday 1st July
Change over week

Tuesday 2nd July
Class change over day

Tuesday 2nd July
Meet the new teacher
after school – 3.30pm-
book 5 min
appointment online

Friday 5th July
PFA Quiz night

Thursday 11th July –
Wonderful work
8.00am and 3.30pm

Tuesday 23rd July –
Last day of term

We have an extra
INSET DAY on Thursday
5th September so the
first day back for
children will Friday 6th
September

YEAR 3'S MAGICAL SIGHTSEEING TOUR

The coach driver was full of praise for our year 3s who went up to London. He said they were, 'the best group of children he has had in ages! They all deserve gold stars!'



At the Gallery



On the Embankment

UNIFORM IS GOING ONLINE!

From the end of October (date to be advised) all uniform purchases must be made online via the Price and Buckland website.

We no longer have the storage space in school to hold stock

We will still be selling uniform until this time but will gradually run it down. Uniform will be sold at our current prices at the uniform shop

during the week beginning the 1st July from 9am-11am.

A good opportunity to get stocked up for next year!

We will be also selling tracksuits, waterproof jackets, shorts and skorts for PE, in addition to the usual items online.

More information will follow.

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 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

WE NOW RECYCLE BATTERIES

We have small recycling battery boxes in the office.



Diary Date

Friday 5th July
PFA QUIZ NIGHT

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 975 followers!



Polegate School
Oakleaf Drive
Polegate
East Sussex BN26 6PT
Tel: 01323 482404
Email: info@polegateschool.co.uk



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