

# news

**April 2025**



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## A TERM FILLED WITH LEARNING

**As we wrap up Term 4, we reflect on a term filled with learning, celebration, and memorable events.**

World Book Day, a plethora sporting events, International Woman's Day and more... all while delivering a fun filled curriculum!

Make a cup of tea (or 2) and enjoy this packed newsletter.

As we look forward to the next term, we thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm. Have a wonderful break!

# POLEGATE POST

You will soon be receiving another termly Polegate Newsletter filled with information on events happening both in school and the local area.

Look out for the new Polegate Post!



## EASTER ART COMPETITION

It's your chance to get creative over the holidays and show off your artistic skills!

The possibilities are endless...

Create a collage

Make a model or sculpture

Take a photograph

Draw or paint a picture

Do some printing

But what will you choose to show your vision of this year's theme.

'Spring is ....' ?

Get your thinking caps on, get outside and enjoy the sunshine as this will inspire you to get your ideas flowing. We can't wait to see what you can create. Remember Learning Without Limits.

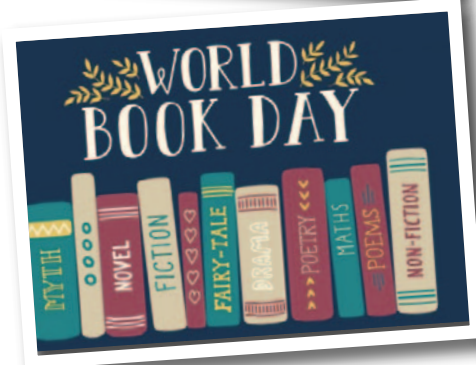
Deadline is Friday 3rd May. Please send into your class teacher who will pass them onto Miss Kenny.

Prizes for EYFS, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

# WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day 2025 was a hit! The children and staff enjoyed a day of pyjama wearing book filled fun.

Drop and read, competitions and a reading café were only some of the events on offer.



## OPERATION ENCOMPASS

At Polegate School we participate in Operation Encompass.

Operation Encompass is a joint operation with Sussex Police which has been designed to provide early reporting to schools of any domestic abuse incidents that occur when a child or young person is present.

Early reporting enables the school and safeguarding team to better support any pupils who may be at risk. We recognise that without early support and intervention, adverse childhood experiences such as domestic abuse can impact on a child's social, physical, emotional and behavioural development.

# FOOTBALL STARS

Our KS2 boys played a friendly game against West Rise this term and they smashed it! The boys played excellently and came away with a 3-1 win.



## YOU SAID WE DID!

Pupil voice is incredibly important and we take the children's suggestions very seriously.

The children have recently asked for books to read in the outdoor quiet area. A new outdoor book store has been delivered, filled and is now in use.

The children are thoroughly enjoying reading in the sunshine.

# FOREST SCHOOL FUN IN THE SUN

Camouflage was the name of their game. Who's under the net?



# HOLI FESTIVAL

This term year 1 celebrated the Holi Festival as part of their India topic! The children brought some colour and excitement as they danced and paraded round the whole school.



## NEW SPORTS LEADERS - YEAR 5

A large group of Year 5 pupils have recently been involved in Sports Leader Training. They are taking their responsibilities very seriously! We think they will be incredible ambassadors and represent the school brilliantly.



# COOKING FUN

The cooking smells coming from the Hub have been incredible this term. Year 1 have been using the Hub to practice cutting, chopping and peeling skills ahead of making their Indian curry feast for their fabulous finish!



## Diary Date

Monday 5th May  
**Bank  
Holiday**

## AFTER SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

We kindly remind everyone that school equipment, outdoor gym area, reception gardens and sports facilities, should not be used before or after school hours. Teachers often plan and resource these areas ready for a days learning, to have the resources removed or broken can be very frustrating. This ensures the safety and security of all pupils and helps maintain our equipment in good condition. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

# BOX TO BE FIT CLUB

## Box to be Fit club has been back in full swing again this term!

After some training last term some of our Year 6 Sports Leaders have been helping run the Box to Be Fit club this term. They have been incredible supporting the Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children who attend the club and have been designing different stations to run each week including trampolining activities, boxing skills, hula hoop work, skipping activities and bench work.

**If you child is in Year 5 and is interested in helping with this club next year Mrs Chadwick would love to hear from you!**



Diary Date

19th May

INSET DAY

# GARDENING CLUB

Gardening club have been working incredibly hard to improve the school environment. The results are stunning! Bright, colourful and definitely spreading a little cheer.



## DIARY DATES

3rd April

Reading Tea Party

4th April

End of term 4

7th – 21st April

Spring Holiday

22nd April

Start of term 5

23rd April

Reception Blackberry Farm Trip

30th April - 2nd May

Year 5 Hindleap Warren Residential

2nd May

1C Class Assembly

5th May Bank Holiday

9th May

3D Class Assembly

12th – 16th May

Year 6 SATs

13th May @2.30pm

Think Tank Meeting

15th May

Reading Tea Party

19th May INSET Day

20th – 23rd May

Sports Week

20th May 1.30-3pm

EYFS Sports Day

21st May @3.15pm

Family Math Challenge

22nd May 9.30 – 11am

Years 3&4 Sports Day

22nd May 1.30 – 3pm

Years 5&6 Sports Day

23rd May

End of Term 5

# ATTENDANCE

Each term we send emails to all parents detailing your child's current attendance and number of missed days. This is for information purposes only and is a statutory requirement placed on all schools by the Government.

As a parent or carer, you have an important role in making school attendance a priority, you can support this by:

- Only keeping your child off school when they are genuinely too ill to attend
- Encouraging attendance where illness is mild - this teaches resilience once your child enters the working world
- Book medical appointments (where possible) and holidays outside of school time
- Engaging with us if you're having difficulties with attendance

At primary school, children who attend school nearly every day in Year 6 (95-100% attendance) are 30% more likely to reach the expected standard in reading, writing and maths compared to similar pupils who attend 90-95% of the time.

At Polegate we recognise that children with long-term medical conditions, serious mental health challenges, or special educational needs and disabilities may encounter complex barriers to attendance.

We want to support all our families facing any difficulties and have so many resources available to enable us to provide tailored support.

The Education Hub is a site parents and carers can access that captures all you need to know about attendance.

**Why school attendance matters, and what we're doing to improve it**

**The Education Hub - [Click here](#)**

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

### Price & Buckland School Uniform Shop Update

We have received the following message from Price & Buckland regarding the uniform price increase:

"We always take great care when looking at our prices and where possible we hold them where we can, especially of core uniform items. For example, the price of our embroidered polo shirt and cotton rich sweatshirt and cardigans have remained unchanged for 3 years.

As manufacturers, we can often negate some of the impact of rising costs, however with the well-publicized rises in National Insurance and The Living Wage, prices of some garments will have to go up.

None of the regular garments shown on our website will be going up in price by more than 50p except for embroidered bags and hats which are increasing by £1.00.

### Price increases will take effect from 1st April

To help further, this summer we are introducing Klarna which will enable parents/carers to spread payment over 3 months."

**From now on you will be able to use the FREE delivery to school during check out!**

# ATTENDANCE FIGURES

RA = 93.6%

RHR = 94.3%

RS = 92.7%

1C = 96.3%

1L = 94.6%

1M = 95.8%

2B = 96.5%

2D = 95.4%

2H = 96.5%

3B = 96.6%

3D = 96.3%

3T = 96.8%

4D = 97%

4H = 96.9%

4S = 96.5%

5D = 93.9%

5EK = 94.2%

5K = 93.2%

6M = 94.7%

6MU = 95.4%

6W = 91.5%

# OUR POLEGATE SCHOOL PFA

'Over the last 8 years we've put on these events and more'

Winter Extravaganza



Donuts



Disco's

Gift for Loved Ones

Indoor Bootfair

**PFA**

Smarties Challenge



Bags for School

Christmas Fair

Sports Day  
Refreshments

Summer Fair

Bingo

Freeze Pop Fridays

Quiz Nights

Wreath Making

Family Games  
Nights

Cake Sales

Cinema Trips

5p Challenge

Easter Egg  
Hunt

Milk Bottle  
Competition

Second hand  
Uniform

Parents Evening  
Refreshments

Pumpkin Carving  
Competition

Raising  
a  
Total  
£117,580

Breakfast with  
Santa



Leavers Events

Thank  
you!

# INTER-SCHOOLS HOCKEY

On a glorious Spring afternoon, 2 teams from Polegate took part in the annual inter-schools hockey event at the Saffrons in Eastbourne.



**The tournament was divided into 2 sides - development and competitive - with a strong Polegate team in both.**

Teams in the competitive side compete for a chance to go through to the next round of the Sussex School Games so it was a very tough draw. Our team, comprising Freddie, Teddie, Dexter, Bella, Harvey, Zara & Jessica came up against some difficult opposition. They lost a few games at the start but grew in confidence and teamwork as they secured first a draw and then a win in their last game of the afternoon.

On the other pitches, Charlie, Josh, Toby, Phoebe, Lauren and Luke also grew stronger as a team as the

afternoon progressed. They started with a fine win and then continued that winning streak right up to the last game. This was their biggest battle yet! After a few disallowed goals for both teams, Polegate came out 1-0 winners and this put them as undisputed winners of the development 'plate' award.

**Congratulations to every single Polegate player who did us, and our school, very proud. Well done!!**



# BIGGEST FOOTBALL SESSION

For the third year running we celebrated International Women's Day by taking part in the FA's 'Biggest Ever Football Session' on Friday March 7th.

The aim of the day was to give girls the opportunity to experience the joy that playing football can bring, and to highlight the idea of equal access to sport for girls.

During the course of the day, our PE providers Sportitude, with the help of Mr Keeley and a few special guests (yes, Miss Stew came to join in!), ran hour-long football sessions for each year group. Boys and girls enjoyed playing fun football games and practising key skills together.

Year 6 pupils were also involved in a Q&A session with Bradley Boyle, Community Manager from Eastbourne Borough FC. He talked about careers in football and the wider sporting world for boys and girls alike.

Bradley very kindly brought with him a raffle prize of a family ticket to one of Borough's home games at Priory Lane. The lucky winner was Scarlett Freeman in 6M. Congratulations Scarlett!

After school, Mark Griffiths – Head of Sportitude – returned by popular demand for another fun-filled female-family session of football games. Aided by the two Eastbourne Borough coaches, we all enjoyed a great (somewhat competitive) range of activities, finishing up with one BIG game of football for all involved. Refreshments were served and the rain was just about avoided and another memorable whole day of football across the school was brought to a very satisfied end

**Thank you to everyone involved – we hope it might encourage a few more children to join a local football team soon.**





# SEESAW MATH QUEST

Join the

## Seesaw Math Quest

A 6-week global challenge designed to spark creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking in your students! Each week, your class will tackle an engaging math riddle using classroom materials and Seesaw. Plus, they'll earn badges, track progress on a map, and unlock exclusive content!



### Why Join?

- Zero-prep, high-impact math challenges in under 10 minutes.
- Boost student engagement through collaboration and problem-solving.
- Earn badges and track progress on an interactive map.
- Connect globally by sharing your class's work with #SeesawSolveIt.

### How to Participate:

- Sign in to your Seesaw teacher account (25 March - 30 April 2025).
- Solve the weekly riddle with your class and click "We finished it!"
- Encourage students to add their solutions to Seesaw.

### What's Included in this Packet?

- Door display and classroom badges
- Student map and badges
- Interactive Seesaw activity - grab it [here!](#)



First riddle drops  
in Seesaw on  
**Tuesday, March 25!**  
Just sign in and you will see  
a banner at the bottom.



Let's solve, share, and celebrate together!  
Follow along and share on social media with  
**#SeesawSolveIt!** to see how classrooms  
worldwide solve the same riddle!

CLICK HERE TO READ THE LATEST ISSUE



EASTBOURNE

THOMAS & FRIENDS™ VISIT THE WEST SOMERSET RAILWAY

TRAIN SIM WORLD 5

THOMAS & FRIENDS



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MAGAZINE & WEBSITE

THE GO-TO GUIDE FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD

raring2go.co.uk

SPRING 2025

# BAKING SESSIONS

This term we have been lucky enough to be offered baking sessions for a small number of pupils thanks to Holly Mason and National Lottery Community Funding.

The children really enjoyed getting messy and expressing themselves with icing while decorating biscuits and cupcakes! Their fine and gross motor skills were also challenged as they mixed colours, rolled, piped and used shape cutters to decorate with fondant and butter cream. We hope to continue this in Term 6 and develop our baking skills even further.



**Diary Date**

**22nd April**

**Start of term 5**

**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  
**1,372 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](http://www.polegateschool.co.uk)

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