

news

July 2016

What a great day for a trip to the beach!



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IT'S THE END OF THE YEAR!

It is hard to believe this is the last newsletter of this year! It has just flown by.

It has been a real delight to read through the children's comments in their reports!

What has come across so strongly is the passion they have for reading, a real understanding of how it helps with learning and how they just simply love it- some even mentioning that it helps them to calm down!

To give you a flavour these are some individual comments on page 2.

It has been an incredibly busy, successful year at Polegate.

As always the children have excelled and we are incredibly proud of them. I would like to thank everyone: parents and staff for their support during this very busy year.

All it leaves me to say is to have a fabulous summer holiday- I hope this lovely weather continues! Looking forward to seeing everyone return in September and welcoming the 90 reception children!

You
can read
the
comments
inside

READING COMMENTS

The reports show what reflective, ambitious learners the children are.

They are setting themselves aspirational targets and are very honest with their comments. These reports are far more personal than they once were and I'm sure the children will love to look back on them in years to come!

"I love reading and I read quite a lot in the evening before going to bed the books I like are comedy like David Walliams, Grandad's Great Escape, Awful Auntie, Demon Dentist, Gangsta Granny and many more."

"I really enjoy reading (especially Tom Gates books). At the start of the year I was 3.6 or 3.9 but now I am a level 4.7 and I am nearly 4.8. Most days I try and read but luckily I have read enough times to get a raffle ticket."

"This year, I strongly believe I have progressed in my reading. I joined year 6 on quite a low level and am now on a 6.0- a huge improvement! I never thought I would become such a strong reader but during year 6, I have found a new love for reading."

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SAT'S UPDATE

No one can have escaped all the news about the higher expectations for the SATs tests our year 2 and 6 completed this year.

Our results are back in and I am delighted to say that our children did better than children nationally. Here are the headlines and I will share more detail in the autumn term.

RESULTS FOR KEY STAGE 2	% of children at standard	National % of children at standard
READING		
number		
43	72	66
SPAG		
45	75	72
MATHS		
50	83	70
Combined English and Maths National		53%
Combined English and Maths Polegate		63%

To put this into context for you almost half of pupils in England have failed to meet a new tough standard in reading, writing and mathematics.

Official data shows just over half (53%) of 11-year-olds made the grade in reading, writing and mathematics.

This means 47% of pupils are considered not to have made the grade in the 3 Rs by the end of their primary years. Last year 80% met the required standard in reading, writing and maths - but that was under a system which was dropped this year.

Education Secretary Nicky Morgan says lower results should not be interpreted as a decline in performance by pupils. This year's tests were more demanding and were based on a new curriculum. However, in the new tests, the expected level is set at 100 but scores can range between 80 and 120 - this means that anything at 100 or over is, in effect, a pass and anything under is a fail.

As yet we do not have any national or county data for a comparison but these figures are exceptionally high and an increase on the previous year for us!

RESULTS FOR KEY STAGE 1			
Year 1 phonics check		90% pass	
READING			
Number	At expected standard %	Number	Greater depth %
52	87	29	48
WRITING			
38	63	17	28
MATHS			
45	75	21	35

Maths is a real success across the whole school. 13% higher than national which demonstrates the impact of the work we have carried out and investment in maths across the school over the last few years.

We received a moderation visit from an advisor from county this year who

validated all Year 2 judgements and actually commented on the impressive level of challenge for year 2 at our school.

I am sure you will join me in congratulating the pupil and all staff involved.

ENTERPRISE WEEK

To complement our careers week we decided to allow our pupils that chance to set up their own business.

Every class in the school took part and the school loaned each group £5. Their task was to make a profit and that is exactly what they did!

They had to work collaboratively as a group: decide on logos, their brand, cost and profit margin, marketing and all this pulled together so many of the skills they learn in lessons bringing their learning to life. The best bit is that we allowed them to decide how to spend their money so this week classes are all enjoying their profits in exciting ways!



SCHOOL WORK IN

A small but dedicated team of parents and staff came into school one Saturday to make the nursery garden a little more interesting for the children!

Thank you to the following families for giving up their time:

The Rooney family - year 2

The Sheppard family - year 5

Mr Noakes - year 2

Mrs Trent

Mrs Jones and me!

And of course, Mr Hale who has continued well beyond this to lay the path. He has even been here on the hottest day of the year!



SAINSBURYS ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS

I would like to send a big Thank you to Mrs Partridge who spent so much of her time counting the Sainsbury vouchers for us. We have enough to exchange them for a Badminton net, posts, shuttlecocks and racquets. The children have loved playing with the volleyball and tennis nets at lunchtime and now we have badminton! Curtis, finally we can have that match I promised you!

FOOTBALL/ HOCKEY/RUGBY KIT MISSING

If you have represented the school and have worn any form of sports kit that we have provided please return it to school by Friday 22nd July as we need to make sure we are fully equipped for next term.

INCLUSION QUALITY MARK

We had our annual visit to check we remain eligible for our status as a centre of excellence.

This audits ALL provision within the school. I am delighted to say that once again they recommended we were but that they also felt we should apply to become a flagship school! Watch this space! I will share details of the outcome when we receive it.

UNIFORM REMINDERS

Before anyone buys uniform for September please check the handbook on the school website to check on our policy.

All children will need a plain black tracksuit for PE next year because we are committed to getting the children fit and active whatever the weather so they could well be out when it is wet and cold!

Please also check the policy on haircuts before you have anything drastic done just before returning to school!

To access the school handbook <http://polegateschool.co.uk/downloads/Polegate%20School%20Handbook.pdf>

Our basic uniform is as follows:

- short or long grey or black trousers (not denim or cord or sports/tracksuit bottoms)
- grey or black skirt or pinafore dress (girls only)
- green gingham summer dress (girls only)
- white shirt/blouse/polo shirt (with school name)
- green crew necked sweatshirt with school name
- green cardigan with school name
- green fleeces with school name
- black jogging suit
- smart shoes (or sandals for summer) - no high heels must be black school shoes and material that can be polished.
- plain white or grey socks
- green baseball cap with school logo
- green (winter) woolly hat with logo
- The items marked with a symbol are available for purchase through the School

All items of school clothing should be clearly marked with the child's name.

When 30+ children are changing for P.E. clothing does sometimes get muddled up!

Save the tears now by making sure that all of your child's clothing is easily identifiable for both the child and the teacher.

The school reserves the right to determine whether certain items of clothing are or are not appropriate for school use and whether or not they conform to our dress code. If a child is repeatedly abusing our uniform policy we will phone home and request the correct uniform to be brought to school immediately.

We expect parents to support our decisions.

Hairstyles have been interesting recently and we have needed to have several conversations with parents.

When considering what is appropriate for school regarding hairstyles we have to make a judgement as to what is in the best interest of the school overall. Allowing children to adopt the latest fad or trend is not always consistent with this. Extreme haircuts are not allowed but this is open to interpretation, so in the interest of clarity we have tried to be specific about what this means.

- Collar length hair should always be tied up
- No elaborate hair bands/clips/ braids or wraps. Any hair accessories should match school uniform and be discrete
- Hair should be neatly cut, combed and maintained
- Undercut styles are not acceptable
- Tracks and lines are not acceptable
- Dramatic layered effect of levels are not permitted
- Hair should not be tinted or coloured
- Hair must not be shaved

SPORTS UPDATE

Another term packed with sports galore! Our hockey team played a match against the Haven and won.

'Your children are brilliant and so polite. It's so lovely to play against you. Definitely the same again next year!'

It was lovely to watch both schools being so respectful towards each other and thank each other at the end of the match by shaking hands.



Barney wins his relay race at the multi sports event at Willingdon Community School



Year 5 enjoyed a great afternoon of sport at Willingdon Community School

ART FAIR



The art team were at the International Arts Fair. They wanted to bring lots of paintings back with them!

PARENTMAIL

We will be upgrading our ParentMail system from September.

This will enable you to download the free ParentMail App to your phone so you can receive and respond to messages instantly. Further details will follow.

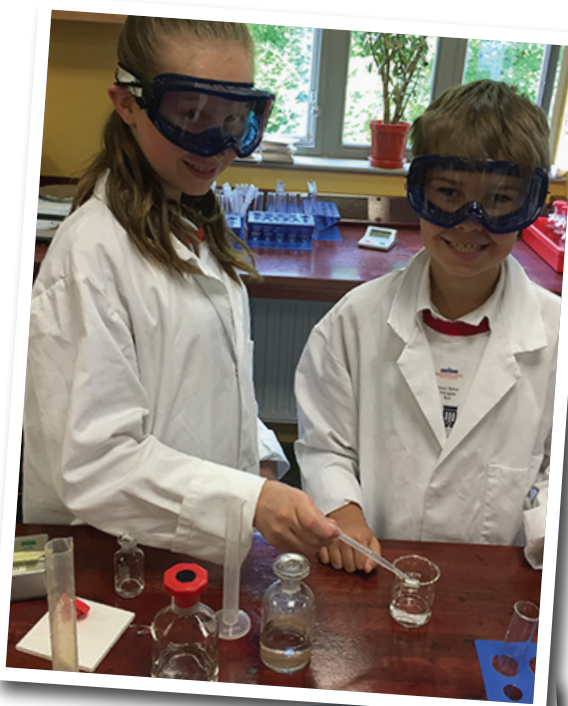
As from September you will be able to pay for items via ParentMail – things like school uniform, school trips etc. Consent forms will be able to be completed and returned to us online too.



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT DAY

A number of our year 6 pupils were invited to spend the day at Eastbourne College for their Academic Achievement Day.

They took part in a variety of lessons, including: German, Drama, maths and Science. The experiences included sending rockets up to space to exploring chemicals complete with lab coats and goggles! They would all tell you the lunch was incredible! I have to say - I agree!



DIARY DATES

5th September
INSET Day

Tuesday 6th September
Start of term 1

Friday 14th October
Firework Night

Tuesday 18th October
'Our Wonderful Work'

Friday 21st October
Last day of term 1

Monday 31st October
Start of term 2

Monday 7th November
Parent Consultations

Wednesday 9th November
Parent Consultations

Wednesday 16th November
10am new parent meeting
Reception 2017

Wednesday 23rd November
5.30pm new parent meeting
Reception 2017

Friday 2nd December
Mufti day

Friday 2nd December
Christmas Fayre

Friday 16th December
'Our Wonderful Work' 3.30pm

Tuesday 20th December
Last day of term 2

Wednesday 21st December
INSET day

THE BIG FRIENDLY READ

We have had the big build up as you can see from the photos!

You can now go and register at any library. It takes seconds and all your child has to do is read 6 books to receive a range of awards and a certificate for completing the whole challenge. A surprise awaits them at school in September if they complete it as well!

Thank you for sending your children in last Friday with brilliant costumes! The representative from the library was so impressed!

Please register, reading in the holidays makes a big difference to the children and the progress they make in September and I want to break our record for the number of children taking part!



Check out all the photos on Twitter!

CAREERS WEEK

I am sure you heard lots about the various visitors we had in school for our careers week.

A massive thank you to Mrs Giggs who co-ordinated the whole week. It is not a small task to ensure that all classes had a range of exciting visitors! Including:

A Lifeguard, an actor, police officers one of whom also happened to be a past pupil, dentist, Hairdressers and beauticians, a West end dancer, bank manager, occupational therapist, paramedics, nurses, writers, prison officers, a foreign office diplomat, a magician and more!

We had a lot of lovely comments from the professionals that came into school:

"What an excellent event. I had a wonderful time and I was so impressed with your fabulous school and all your children who were so well informed, polite, helpful and such fun. Thank you so much for having me."



Check out all the photos on Twitter!

GYMNASTICS

Annabelle Wood competed in the novice category for girls at the Sussex Gymnastics Competition in Burgess Hill scoring 12.500

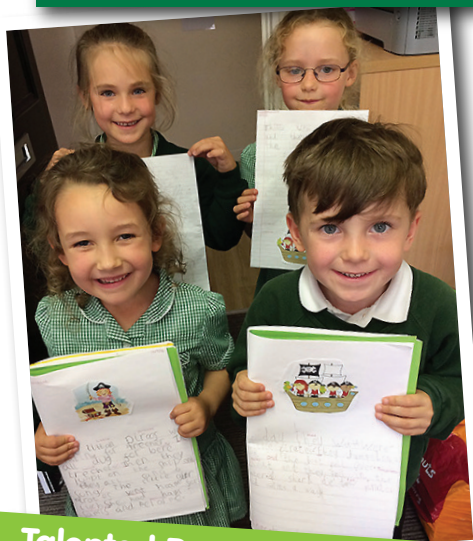


STAFF NEWS

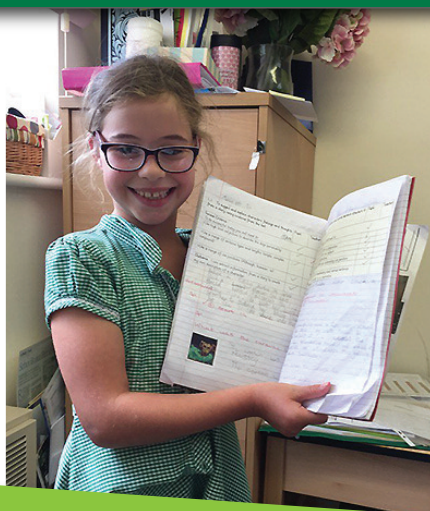
We are sadly saying goodbye to a number of staff. Here they are with their very own leavers' hoodies! We wish them lots of luck with their new adventures.



More Great work



Talented Reception writers



Incredible writing Emily!



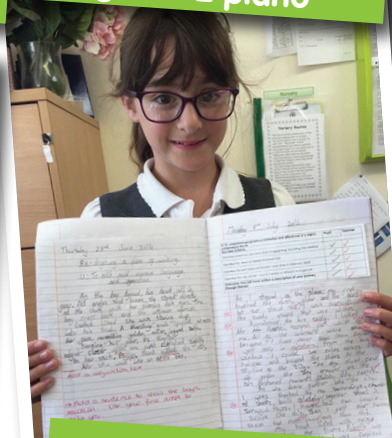
Gethin achieved a distinction for his grade 2 piano



Superb writing Leah! You would never believe you were in reception!



Our first ever year 2 child to reach South Africa!



Fabulous writing about Africa! Well done Sophie

School Attendance

Whole school attendance is at 96%, we have not yet achieved our target of 97% and sadly there is still a gap between our Free School meal and SEND children who are in school less than other children. Of course there is a correlation between this and attainment. Our children in year 6 who did the best are in school every day.

Congratulations to the children that have achieved 100% attendance this year!

Angelina Harris RH

Maya Bruce 1A

Edward Wagstaff 1A

Amber Harris 1J

Alex Oastler 1J

Matthew Richardson 1J

Gracie Ford 2M

Alfie Hanmore 2M

Caitline Ness 2M

Isaac Gates- Williams 2R

Mason Partridge 2R

Amy Warner 2R

Summer Collop 3B

Emma Joiner 3B

Lucas Perkins 3B

Oliver Shaw 3B

Leah Barber 3P

Gethin Budden 3P

Isabelle Gunter 3P

Samuel Stephens 3P

Jacob Tanner 3P

Chloe Jones 4M

Cavan Martin-O'Donoghue 4M

Olivia Watson 4M

Max Crole 4EM

Hailey Jarret- Lillie 4EM

Matthew Jarret Lillie 5C

Robbie Joiner 5C

Finlay Jones 5C

Reece Taylor 5C

Melissa Burtenshaw 5P

Ellie-Rose Watts 5P

Luke Jago 6T

Katie Barclay 6M

Abby Cox 6M

Aimee Field 6M

Xander White 6M

Class figures

Overall school attendance is currently at 96%. Our school target this year is 97%.

RH = 96%

RP = 96%

1J = 96%

1A = 96%

2R = 96%

2M = 94%

3P = 97%

3B = 97%

4M = 96%

4EM = 96%

5C = 95%

5P = 95%

6M = 96%

6T = 97%

97% is our target

A special prize is on its way to you! A total of 37 children achieving 100% this year - a big well done.

Diary Dates

**Tuesday
6th SEPT
FIRST 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 648
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 Proworx : www.proworx.co.uk