

news

October 2015



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Oh, we do like to be beside the seaside!

Year 2 trip to Birling Gap

The children had a fantastic day exploring the geographical features of Birling Gap. We went on 'Mr Grinlings' adventure and discovered the glorious rock pools, squeezed under shelter whilst the rain poured above us and explored the beach during the scavenger hunt.





Luke is very proud of his work and so are we!

Lovely feedback from a nursery mum

As a mum who was battling anxiety and my daughter's everyday distress at her previous setting it was hard on both me and her until we moved her to Polegate School Nursery.

She transformed within her first week and took a leap in confidence, made friends is genuinely enjoying her time there. Lisa, Olivia and all the other staff show both me and my daughter that she is valued, believed in and is in the very best of hands.

Happy child = happy mummy!



OUR PAST PUPILS

It is great to hear about what is happening with more of our past pupils.

Sarah's Story

Sarah Belk former pupil at Polegate School writes

I enjoyed being at Polegate School, and have many happy memories of Mrs Giggs, Mrs Martin-O'Donoghue and Mr Dennis. I then moved on to Willingdon School where I gained 7 A* and 4 A's at GCSE.

I took A levels at Park College (A* and 2A's) before moving to study at Exeter University (one of the Russell Group of universities). I studied Geography, and, as part of my study experience, I spent a year studying at Sydney University in Australia.

This summer, I graduated at Truro Cathedral with a first class degree, and started work at a major insurance company as a catastrophe analyst.

Mum, Mrs Sue Belk (Teaching Assistant) says – "It goes without saying that I could not be prouder"

This has made me and Mrs Giggs feel very old as we both taught her and are currently arguing about which of us played the biggest part in her success! The catastrophe bit must have come from me!

Pascal's Story



Hello, my name is Pascal, I am a former student and head boy of Polegate School.

I completed by GCSE's in June and recently started my placement at Sussex Downs College in Lewes. I am very pleased with my GCSE results as I have met or exceeded all of my indicator grades. This has allowed me to pursue my chosen courses at college. I am taking double art and design applied A-level and Art and Design Textiles A-level with the ambition to become architect or fashion designer.

However, to get to this point I had to work hard and sort out my priorities to achieve my desired grades. Since starting secondary school I have been building up to my GCSE's which are one in many milestones that are yet to come in my life. Up to this point in my education I have had to learn to priorities things and it has taught me the importance of being organised; making sure I ask the right questions and act upon feedback.

Polegate School gave me good foundations to prepare me for the hardships of what I had and still have to come, always try to work to the best of your abilities and try your best as it will aid you in your future education.

Pascal is being amazingly modest as he actually achieved 1 A*, 6 A's and 4 B's

We are very proud of you.

If you know someone that came to Polegate and would like to share what they are doing now we would love to hear about it.

SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL

URGENTLY REQUIRED

We are urgently seeking to recruit a School Crossing Patrol for Oakleaf Drive.

We are looking for candidates over 18 years of age, either a single applicant or 2 applicants on a job-share basis. Training and equipment will be provided by East Sussex County Council, in order for you to help local children cross the road safely. Working hours are from 08:30 to 09:00 in the mornings and from 15:10 to 15:40 in the afternoons from Monday to Friday during term-time. The pay is £7.08 per hour.

There must be someone in the local community that is able to help with this very important task, parents, grandparents, other family members or friends etc.



CAN YOU HELP?

If you are interested, or know of anyone who would be suitable for this position, please contact Gillian Todd (Area Supervisor) on 07803 899215, or Darren Dowd (Senior Supervisor) on 01273 482293.

Black History Month

You may not know it but Black History Month is underway here in the UK.

Our assemblies this term focus on this topic. Children will find out about why Britain wouldn't be the place it is now without the contribution of black people.

The children have already learnt about Sam Sharpe and Mary Seacole and during the month will explore many other aspects and the injustice surrounding slavery. Why not ask your child about these famous people?

CHRISTMAS PRODUCTIONS

Dates for your diary

As this is not a Congress year we do have Christmas productions.

Reception and Year 1 will join together to present a more traditional nativity. Year 2 and 3 will have a special Christmas performance together and year 4 and 5 will collaborate on their special show.

Reception and Year 1 will perform in school to family and friends on the following days 8th, 9th and 10th December all at 10.00am.

The other productions will be performed at Willingdon Secondary School. We approached Willingdon as their hall is so much larger and so we hope more families can come along and they also have a proper stage. They have very kindly agreed so you are warmly invited to watch on Thursday 17th December. Both shows will be on the same evening and we will be offering 2 tickets to every family and will then allocate additional tickets fairly following requests.

More details will follow a little nearer the time. Year 6 will perform in the summer term as part of their leavers service and we hope to use Hailsham Pavilion for this.



SPORTS UPDATE

RUGBY FESTIVAL

Eastbourne schoolchildren got up close and personal with Springbok stars in a touch rugby festival this week.

The event was held at the University of Brighton's Hillbrow in Denton Road where the South Africa World Cup Rugby team has been training.

Players from The Haven, Ocklynge, Polegate, Langney, Stafford and Marshlands schools took part.

It was the Rugby World Cup 2015 Eastbourne Primary Schools Touch Rugby Festival organised by the University of Brighton. John Lambert at the University of Brighton said, "It was attended by eight teams and each school was selected to represent a country in the Rugby World Cup 2015. It was won by South Africa, which was Langney Primary School, which was very apt as the university is a team base for the South Africa team. Two of the players, Willie le Roux and Eben Etzebeth, attended the event, signing autographs and posing for photos with the 120 children who were playing. (See photo below)

Polegate entered two teams from Year 6 – France and New Zealand. Both teams played extremely well with New Zealand reaching the final against the eventual winners South Africa (Langney School). If you are interested in playing touch rugby, look out for next term's Club list – Mark Potter is going to run after-school rugby training on Thursdays.

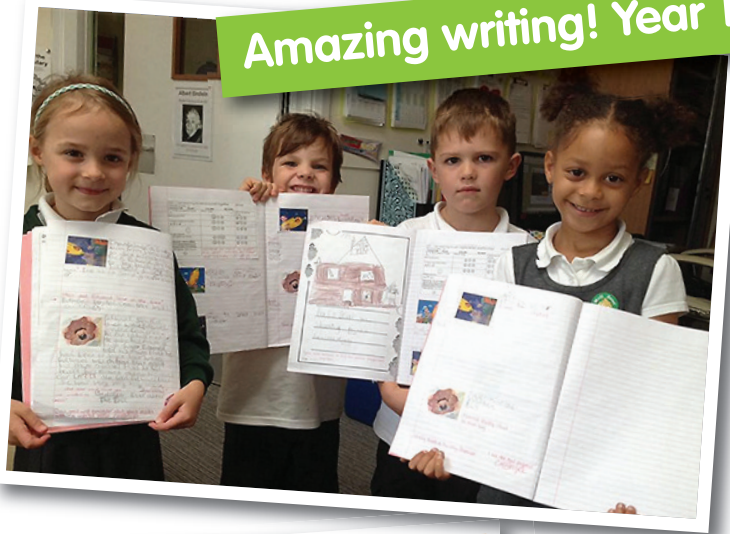


Great work

Nanny's dog ate the first one!
Look at this a banana
weetabix Stonehenge!



Amazing writing! Year 1



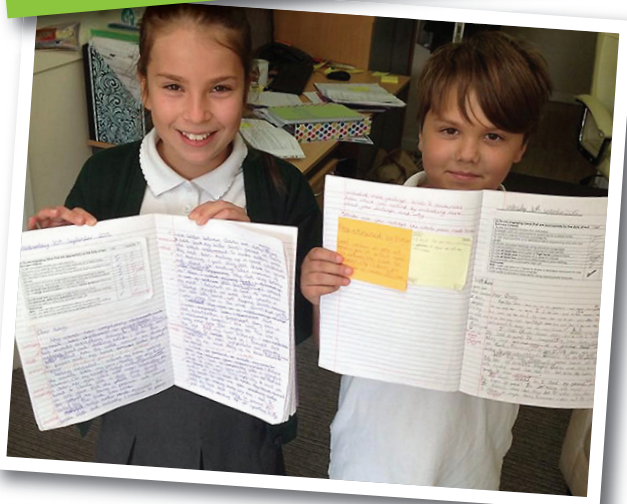
I'm so proud of
my writing.



Finally reaching
the third 100% in
the reading quiz.
Proud to be on
the next level.



Star writers in Year 6



Fantastic writing
in reception



BONFIRE NIGHT

Our fantastic PFA Bonfire Night is on Friday 23rd October 6pm-8pm

It will happen whatever the weather and is always an amazing event. The display is organised by Frontier Fireworks who were runners up in the National Fireworks Championships, have performed regularly with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Katherine Jenkins, The X Factor finalists, performed two of the most important fireworks displays for the British Olympic Association Chairman in London Olympic Year, commemorated the 800th Anniversary of the Fire of London from the roof of Southwark Cathedral and of course our proudest moment to date with the RAF Red Arrows Aerobatic Display Team.

We are very lucky to have secured them for our event!

TICKETS ON SALE

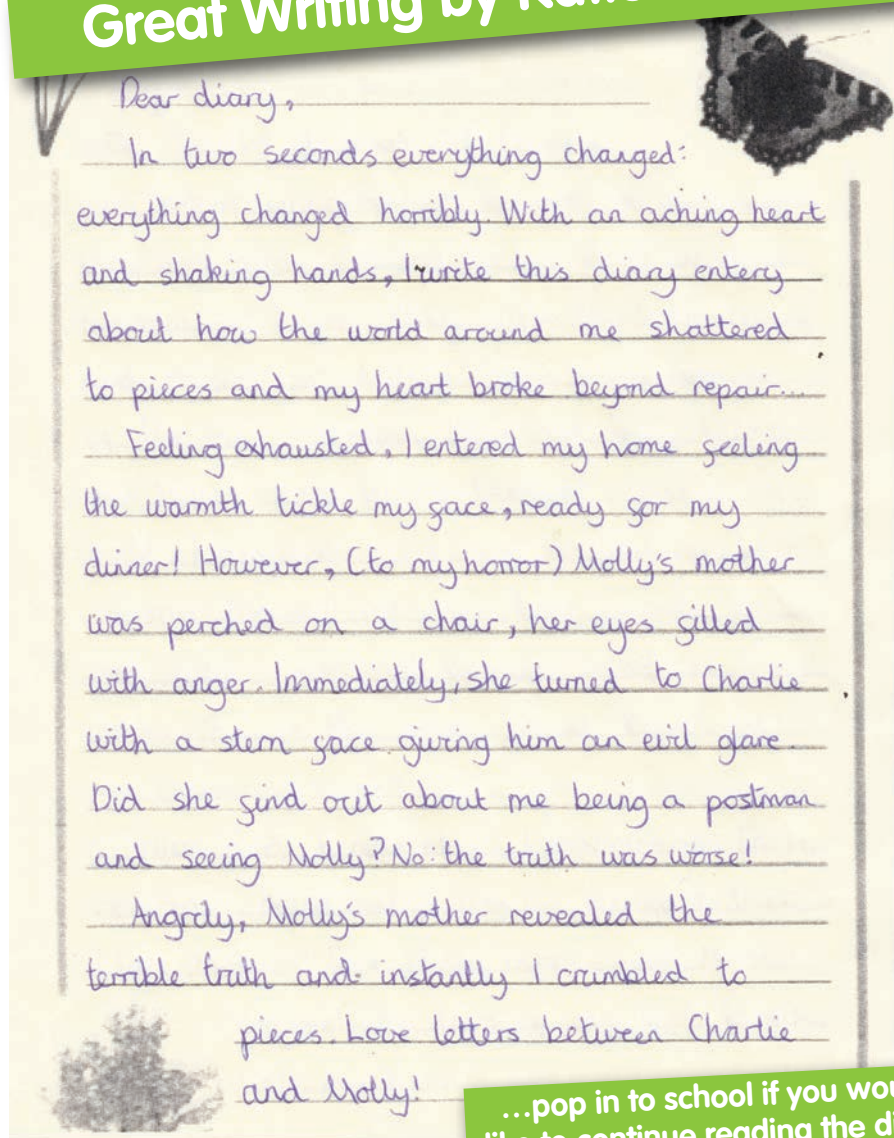
Tickets are costing £15 for a family: 2 adults and up to 3 children, An adult ticket is £5 and children will cost £4 in advance. More details to follow but definitely a date for your diaries and please tell friends and family.

We would love to see you all there!

STALLS

Do you know anyone that would like a stall at this event or our Christmas Fayre on the 18th December. Let the PFA know now.

Great Writing by Katie Barclay



...pop in to school if you would like to continue reading the diary.



Nursery fun

DRAW A CHRISTMAS HOUSE FOR A CHANCE TO WIN!



We want you to draw a house at Christmas for the chance for your picture to be printed on our Christmas cards PLUS you can win a voucher.

It can be your house decorated for Christmas, a Christmas grotto style house or any other style they choose. The theme must be Christmas and a house must feature in the design.

Pictures must be no bigger than A4 size.

To enter, just bring your design to our office at
4 MILLFIELDS, STATION ROAD, POLEGATE by 31st OCTOBER

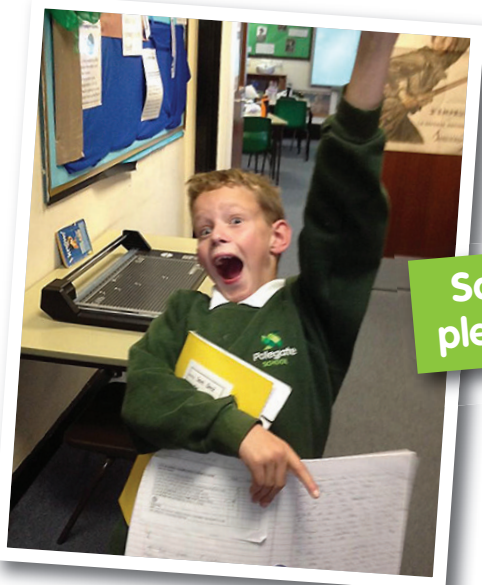
1st PRIZE – £15 voucher & your picture printed on
our Christmas cards

2nd PRIZE - £10 voucher

3rd PRIZE - £5 voucher

Entry is open to all children from Polegate School. All entries must have the name, address and a contact telephone number on the reverse. The children can each submit a design for a 'Christmas house' Only one entry per child. The winner plus first and second runners up will be chosen by the director on Monday 2 November.

4 Millfields, Station Road, Polegate BN26 6AS | Tel: 01323 481922
e: info@homeandcastlesussex.co.uk



Sam is just a little bit
pleased with his work!

DIARY DATES

INSET DAYS

2nd November

20th November

21st October 3.30pm

Our wonderful work

Thursday 22nd Oct

'About the new tests' for
year 5 & 6 parents

Thursday 22nd Oct 2pm

Think Tank meeting

23rd October

Last day of term

23rd October 6pm

Bonfire Night

4th Nov at 2pm

Open afternoon for
prospective parents 2016

11th Nov 10am

Open morning for
prospective parents 2016

18th Nov at 5.30pm

Open evening for
prospective parents 2016

9th & 11th November

Parent Consultation
Evening

Thur 19th November

PFA School Disco

23rd November

Governor Drop in Surgery

18th December

Last day of term 2

A warm welcome to our new reception



Autumn Half Term Holiday Workshops now Booking

The Can Draw holiday workshops are open to all students, not just the ones attending the after school clubs. Please email or call to book your place asap to avoid disappointment.

Venue: Willingdon Community School, Broad Rd, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN20 9QX

Dates: Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October (Half Term).

Times: 9.30am to 12.30pm (3 hours).

Cost: £15 per morning or £60 for 5 mornings (equal to one free morning).

ALL MATERIALS PROVIDED.

Call John Tyson on 07725 145920



We saw this and
couldn't agree more!

Governor Corner

The governors and Mrs Martin-O'Donoghue were pleased to welcome along one parent to the 'drop in surgery'.

There may only have been one parent but that parent came along with a fantastic suggestion. Have a look at the 'Where we come from' idea.

We are holding our next 'Drop in' on Monday 23rd November at 2.30pm. Please come along even if it is only to say hello and introduce yourselves.

'Where we come from' our ancestry and heritage

We know that here in East Sussex we are not a multiculturally diverse county.

Predominately schools in the area have white British pupils. We think it becomes even more important to raise awareness in our pupils of other cultures and challenge any stereotypes or beliefs they might hold. A parent raised this on the recent governor drop in surgery and so we started to think about ways we might tackle this in school. We have a curriculum that is full of topics about other countries and we study a range of religions and beliefs but we want to make it a bit more personal for the children at our school.

We are suggesting a week in Term 3 starting on 11th January when we celebrate the various cultures we have in school. This is where you come in! We would love parents to suggest activities, come and visit classes, read books in their language, bring traditional clothes in, cook dishes... anything at all. Mums, Dads, Granny's, Granddads, friends – you would all be welcome.

We are even thinking of after school events which could involve families, social evenings. We are even considering a 'cultural Bake Off'. Please approach your class teacher or me with any ideas or thoughts on this. It would be great if it became a real 'community event'.

Our school community is made up of French, South African, Indian, Chinese, Gypsy/Roma/Traveller... We want everyone represented and included.

It is great to have such a diverse range of nationalities and cultures as pupils bring their different backgrounds and experiences to the classroom. As a school we celebrate many different festivals from around the world and there is a real sense of understanding of these but I think we can do even more. We will be exploring backgrounds, nationalities and faiths in a really exciting week all based around tolerance and respect.

NUT ALLERGY

Please remember no peanut products to be put in lunch boxes. We have had several children bringing in peanut items.



Great Work

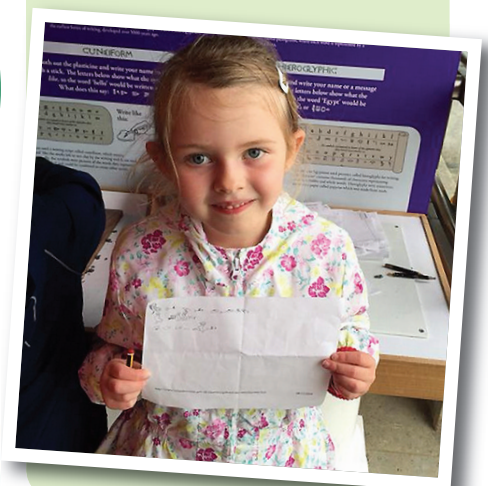
Look at Olivia's fabulous art. It's her family!



Having a great day at school. Look at my map of my farm



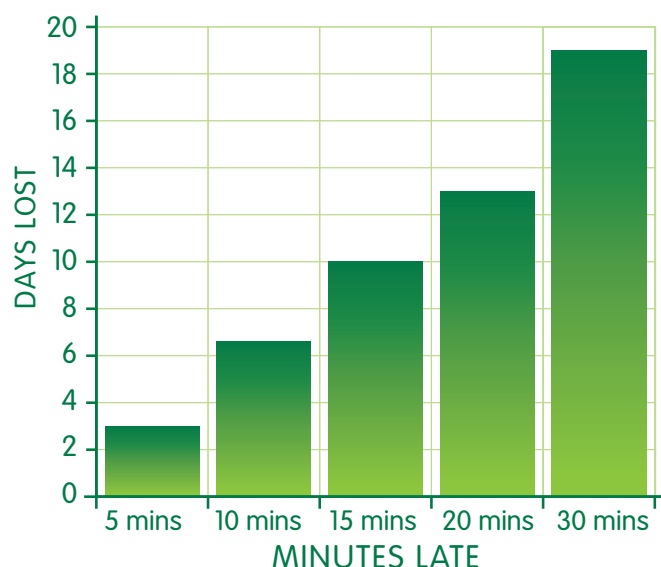
Always promoting writing, even if it is hieroglyphics!



Every School Day Counts

Being Late adds up to a loss of 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 currently at 96.3%. Our school target this year of 97%.

RH = 93%	2R = 96%	5P = 96%
RP = 98%	3B = 98%	5B = 96%
1A = 95%	3P = 98%	6T = 96%
1J = 96%	4M = 95%	6M = 96%
2M = 98%	4EM = 98%	

- Being late every day can add up to a lot of lost learning time
- Please help your child to be punctual

If you are worried about your child's attendance please talk to us at school about it or speak to: **Education Support Behaviour & Attendance Service** on **01273 481967**

97% is our target

Diary Dates

Fri 23rd October
Firework Evening
Mon 2nd November
INSET Day

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 **516** followers!



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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