

We hope you have a wonderful Easter holiday and look forward to seeing the children on Monday 13th April

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**Most progress with reading last term.
Our award winners with their book tokens!**

Parking for the Better

The School Council have witnessed that some parents have been dangerously parking, and children at Polegate School are very concerned, and feel unsafe!

So, we have decided to have a Road Safety week. During the week commencing 13th April the school council will be putting up safety posters, and giving out leaflets before and after school. They will also be monitoring the parking regularly during this week.

We hope that it improves the safety and parking outside of school. This will create a safer and happier environment for all the children. We will report back to you, on this, in the next newsletter.

Please support us!

**Lauren Hunt &
Cody Maynard-Grice**

**Head Girl &
Head Boy**



Forest School

We plan to launch our new 'Forest School' approach to outdoor learning soon.

Three members of staff have begun the qualification and attended a week long course in the forests. They were very lucky with the weather but have yet to complete the final element - a weekend in the forest in which they have to build their own shelter!

Amazing work



Jessica dusted off the piano to play us all a tune!
Amazing Jessica



Gethin, our resident pianist also played beautifully!



Very persuasive Indian leaflets and brochures!
Fabulous year 5



CLASS PHOTOS

On Tues 14th April we have class photos, just a reminder that children are often asked to take shoes off for these. Please make sure your child is in black, grey or white socks.

INTERVENTION @ POLEGATE SCHOOL

Phenomenal progress is made through Interventions

So you've been told your child is joining an intervention group. What does this mean?

Here at Polegate we are constantly looking for ways to help your child make the very best progress they can while they are with us. Sometimes they may struggle with literacy and maths and through our assessment we feel a little extra might make all the difference or they are doing exceptionally well and we feel some extra tuition would support them to reach the next level. We always choose our interventions wisely and check how effective they are in moving our pupils on successfully.

One example would be when a Year 5 or 6 child is invited to join the

Success@Arithmetic Programme. The Leads have been trained by Edge Hill University to deliver and teach your child strategies to help them make greater progress in number and calculation.

This programme has made a huge difference already for twenty three children in the past year. The programme lasts around 12 weeks and children attend four 1 hour sessions a week usually in pairs so they can play games and support each other as they learn.

A pupil who has just finished the programme had made two years progress in three months. This is a phenomenal result and has helped them to work with far greater confidence in the classroom.

Many interventions take place even before the school day begins to ensure that children do not miss out on other learning. We are one of the only schools to offer this and it has contributed to our success recently.



Maths Challenge

How can you cut a doughnut into eight equal pieces with only three cuts of a knife?

Entries to Mrs Jones

Well done Tia Lynam who won last term's challenge!



My Maths Passports

Thank you for all the really positive feedback regarding the introduction of the Maths Passport. These are really making a positive difference to the progress children are making in Maths and seem to be a big hit!



A small selection of our new AR non fiction books.

STAFF NEWS



Mrs Chadwick

We welcome back **Mrs Chadwick** from her maternity leave next term. Mrs Chadwick delivers the maths intervention- 'Numbers Count' to our Infant children.

Student Teachers

We currently have three student teachers in the school:

Emily Vanstone in 3B
Georgie
Nasim

THANK YOU

I would like to say a big thank you to the parent who donated 2 bags of cars for lunchtime play.

All the children thoroughly enjoy playing with them.



NETBALL TOURNAMENT

Report by Jamie Hamilton

We arrived at Pevensey & Westham school ready for a morning of exhilarating High 5 Netball competition. We were all ready for 8 games with 4 minutes in each half.

Our first game, was against the tough Ocklynge A side. We started well and were soon dominating the game. Then, well deserved we scored a fantastic goal scored by Lily-May after great build up play from the team. Despite late pressure from OcklyngeA, we held on to secure our first win of the competition.

Next up, we played Heron Park team hoping to win again. Despite a lot of chances created, we were unable to convert them into goals. In the end, we played out a goalless draw.

Into Game 3, we played Parkland School, trying to boost our unbeaten record to 3games. After an entertaining and eventful first half, we broke the deadlock after brilliant build up the play, resulting in a goal for Lily. We held out for the victory, increasing our victories to 2out of 3games.

After that, we played the mighty St Johns Mead squad, who were level at the top with us. In this crucial game, both teams outplayed each other, however no goals were scored. Into the second half, we started brightly and made our chances count after fabulous link up play between Matthew and Jamie, Jamie scored. A minute later, we doubled our lead after another great passing goal, Jamie converted to seal the victory.

Next, we played Pevensey+ Westham B team. We started quickly and leapt to the lead after Lucy broke the deadlock. We were dominating the game and deservedly doubled our lead after sensational link up play between George and Lucy, George scored. In the second half, we sealed our victory when Lily scored.



Game 6 started off not so well as Ocklynge B took the lead with a goal. Then, they doubled their lead with another goal. However, the comeback was on, when Polegate got one goal back as Matthew converted a great attempt. Instantly after his goal, we equalised when Matthew doubled his goal tally. In the second half, Lily scored two goals in quick succession ensuring a 4-2win.

The penultimate game, started quickly looking like it was going to be a pulsating encounter. Pevensey+ Westham A scored just shy of half-time with a fantastic goal. Into the second half, we created loads of chances, but they were all narrowly wide of the net. When it looked like we were going to lose our first game of the tournament, Lucy snatched a draw with a last second equaliser, after great build up play by Angelina and Hannah .

Our final game was against Oakwood, which looked like a tough game. Oakwood broke the deadlock in the second half with a super goal. Lucy equalised quickly and then(with another last second goal) Lily rose to score to win our final game 2-1.

In the end, we finished joint first, qualifying us for the South Downs Regionals Competition.

Thank you to Mrs Wilkinson and Mrs Sidwell for their fantastic support throughout.

GREAT WRITING

Here are some excellent examples of writing from Class 5B exactly as the children wrote it.

All was silent. Faint wind eerily whistled in the distance. Identical footsteps shadowed the cracked pathway. Rhythmical bangs were often heard lurking in amongst the trees. Gnarled brown branches shadowed the forest all evening long. Scampering ants and spiders crawled on every nook and cranny. Numerous amounts of flowers drooped their heads and turned brown.

By Lilly-Mae McKay

Deep down, in the deadly depths of the dangerous forest of Dandak, things are unusual, such as... The gnarled twisted trees dancing wildly in the wind. Peacefully, the rippling, river calmly flowed the crystal blue water down the stream. Lurking silently, the animals hunted their vulnerable prey. The howling wind blew the crackling leaves into all directions. The boiling, blistering sun glistened on the mysterious forest.

By Charlie Nash

The dark gloomy forest, stood across the crystal blue ocean. The spectacular birds flew across the magnificent sky. A stripy tiger stood in the corner of the green swaying grass with dark beady eyes, a sturdy grin shot across the tigers face. The beautiful flowers swayed with cold wind. A man stood high up in the towering trees. He had pointy ears and a hairy chest which went up when the wind blew.

By Jessica Trent

Lurking through the forest was a variety of different animals in the shadows of Dandak. Tweets and rustles in the trees came from every direction making the three people turn back to back. Rivers, lakes, fallen trees obstacle courses every few minutes. Smells that make your nose run; they're so bad that makes you sneeze but keep it in for the dangers around you. Towering trees build around you; you never know what's going to come out!

By Oliver Dyson-Rooke

Towering trees hang over the frightened children as they walk slowly through the deep, dark, crowded forest. There flowing through the forest, was crystal blue water coming down from the glistening waterfall. Tweeting birds were eating the thin green leaves and also tigers were peering out of the bushes.

By India Leatham

In the gloomy forest of Dandak, creatures lurk in the shadows. Rustling in the trees startled everyone that set foot in the forest. Dangerous animals gaze at anyone or anything for food. Towering trees wave from the wild wind. Some of the rocks turn out not to be normal, ancient one's!

By Rebecca Bree

RECEPTION - TAPESTRY

Reception have just launched a new online learning journal and we are thrilled with the response from our parents.

Tapestry allows teachers and teaching assistants to add observations of the children's learning in Reception. These observations are then 'published' for parents to see. Parents are then able to respond to the observations. Parents also have the opportunity to upload videos and photos from home for the Reception staff to see and comment on.

Mrs Hadley ran a workshop for parents which wasn't very well attended but if you missed it and want to find out more we would be more than happy to provide information.

Quotes from parents

"I think it is a brilliant idea. My son's not always very informative of what happened in his school day and now I can see & how is progressing with his work."

"Amazing! We feel so much more part of Oliver's learning and school life."

"I absolutely love Tapestry! It's been great to see what Alex has been doing with his day. I have also been showing him when new things are uploaded and we've talked about what he did."

NO PARKING

Could we please ask parents to NOT park outside school gates when dropping children off to early morning clubs. It blocks the entry for staff and deliveries.

SWIMMING CONTRIBUTIONS

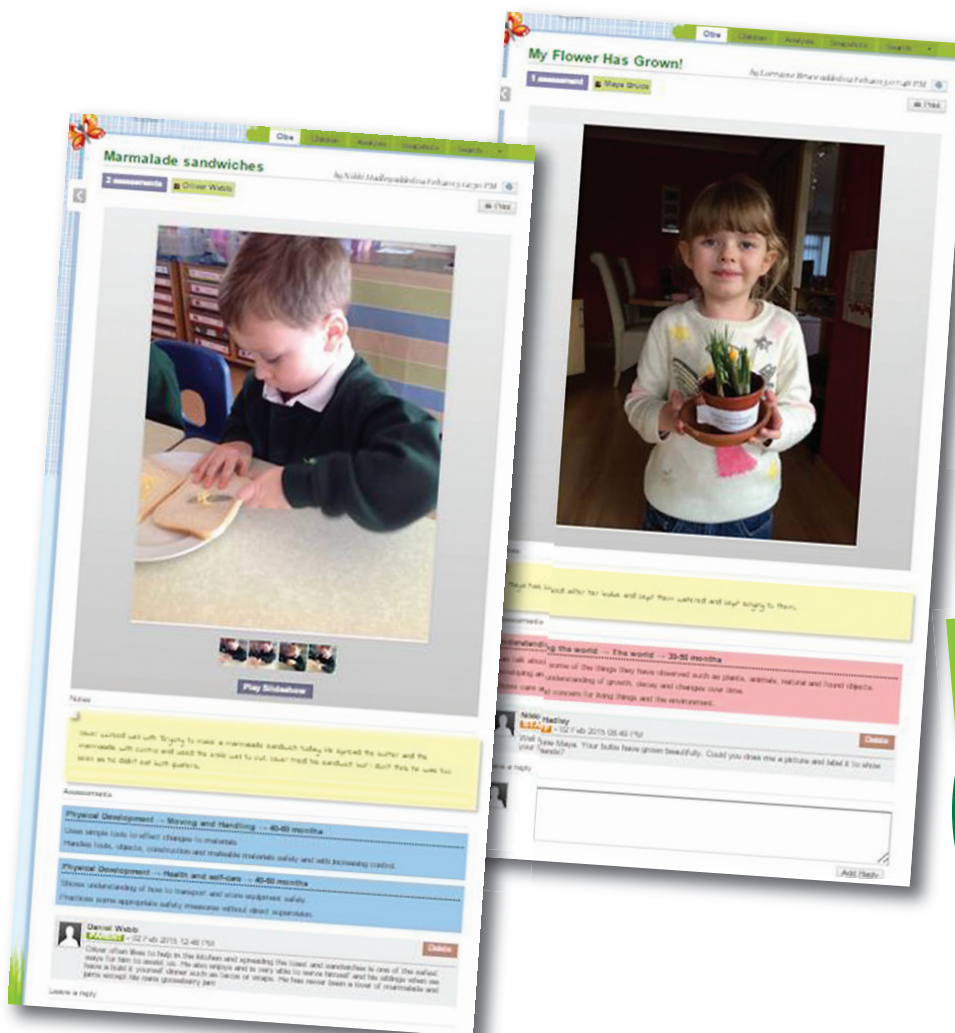
Thank you to those who have paid for your child's swimming sessions.

Many of you are being incredibly generous, we do not expect you to pay more but obviously appreciate any donations and we will ensure these are invested into the pool. Thank you it is nice to know that the pool is so valued by parents.



Chestnut Tree House

Thank you for your donations at Christmas we have sent a cheque off for £169.61 to Chestnut TreeHouse Children's Hospice.



Lunchtimes at Polegate

We received a visit from Chartwells area manager and a colleague last week.

They were in to look at the quality of both food and service. One of lovely comments they made to me were how impressed they were by the children.

They said they not observed such helpful children in other schools and commented on our younger pupils

helping each other by pouring drinks and passing items down the table.

They were also impressed by the relationships between pupils and adults and that the members of staff in the kitchen knew the children and spent time talking to them.

Credit should also go to Helen because she served the best food they had seen!

DIARY DATES

**Inset Day
Friday 27th March**

**Class Photographs
Tuesday 14th April**

**The Infinity Awards
Congress Show
Tuesday 30th June**

**Inset Day
Weds 1st July**

Year 5 - Indian Instruments

Year 5 have made some fantastic Indian instruments at home which we are using as part of our music lessons.



Art Gallery

**£229.50
was raised
through the
school art
gallery.**

HOUSE POINTS

**The scores so far with
one week to go!**

Phoenix	442
Hercules	489
Orion	461
Pegasus	471

Christmas stamps

**The Christmas stamps
raised £120.69.
The school council are
going to decide how
they want to spend
this money.**

GALLERY



Great morning listening to Rob Lloyd Jones author of Wild Boy & got signed copies



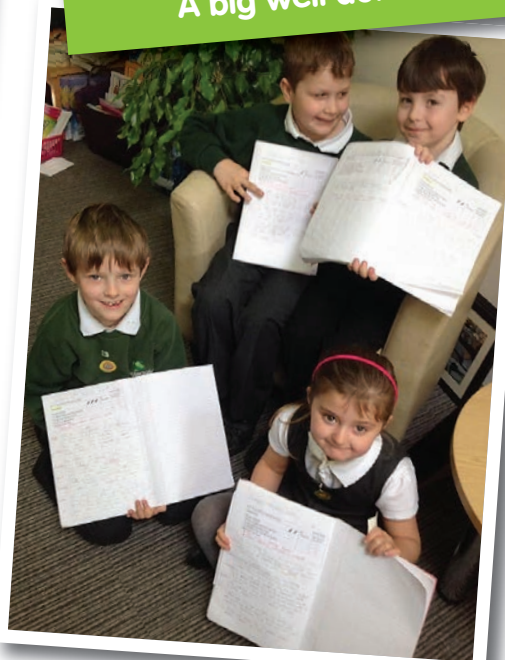
Congratulations Amy Bateman. Well done!



Our Hockey Team



Fabulous writing from year 2! A big well done!



Phew, we are safe! Alicia completed first aid at work over the weekend!

Attendance

Attendance continues to remain a focus.
Why good school attendance is important?

Attendance at school is vital not only for a child's ability to learn and achieve, but also for the social skills they learn interacting with their peers and adults; for learning habits that will last into later life; and for equipping them to compete in employment and the working world.

Research also shows the positive impact that good school attendance has on the academic achievement of pupils:

- 94% = Very good chance of 5A* - C Grades.
- 93% = Good chance of 5A* - Grades.
- 92% = Fair chance of 5A* - Grades.
- 90% = Less than 50% chance of 5A* - Grades.
- 88% = Less than 35% chance of 5A* - Grades.
- < 88% Less than 30% chance of 5A* - Grades

Class figures

Overall school attendance is currently at 95%. This is so close to our school target this year of 97%. Keep it up!

RH = 94%	2R = 96%	5C = 97%
RP = 95%	3P = 95%	5B = 97%
1A = 91%	3B = 96%	6M = 94%
1J = 95%	4B = 95%	6T = 95%
2M = 96%	4M = 96%	

97% is our target

Win a book token with 100%

As an added incentive and for a bit of change we are offering all children that achieve 100% until the end of the year a £5 book token.

Win a family day out with 100%

In addition all pupils with 100% will be eligible to win a voucher entitling 5 family members to bowling and a swim at Freedom Leisure. The winners will be randomly selected and we have 15 vouchers on offer.

Diary Date

**CONGRESS
SHOW
TUESDAY
30th JUNE**
Tickets on
sale now!

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
418 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

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