



In This Issue

In the Press	2
Number Count	3
Gallery	3
Children's Centre	4
Pupils Work	4
Swimming Gala	5
Bike-it Breakfast	6
Bikeability	7
Homework Workshop	7
Year 5 Topic & Year 2 Trip	8
Attendance	9

Our Junior Enterprise Challenge Team

Congratulations to our Junior Enterprise Challenge Team - the children worked very hard and are to be congratulated on achieving so much within the timescale.

Our team 'Polegate Pioneers' came Runners up to the eventual winners 'West Rise Warriors' (from West Rise Junior School).

Particular thanks to Chamber/EDEAL for sponsoring the trophy, to Chalvington Communications and Barclays for both providing prizes, to Eastbourne Theatres for the venue

and to Eastbourne Town Team for providing the theme for the challenge. Their feedback was very positive (and honest)



Our Family

I hope that reception parents are beginning to feel part of our school 'family'.

Your children have settled in incredibly well. We have all been impressed with their maturity and approach to learning. They are a terrific group of children. They are very independent and already confidently walking into school on their own!



Claire Martin-O'Donoghue
Headteacher

IN THE PRESS

Polegate School makes the headlines again

School's stamp of excellence

By AMIE MORRELL
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Polegate School has become a centre of excellence after receiving national recognition for offering a high standard of education to its pupils.

The school successfully achieved the Inclusion Quality Mark in recognition of its outstanding inclusive practices.

The Inclusion Quality Mark objective is to support both state and independent schools to become inclusive which means offering equal opportunities for all pupils, whatever their age, gender, ethnicity and background. The accolade recognises the high standard of education offered to all pupils.

To gain the accreditation Polegate School went through rigorous assessments over two days which encompassed management, teachers, parents and pupils assessing the quality of leadership, teaching and learning.

Staff said the excellent outcome of the assessment resulted in the school being named as an IQM Centre of Excellence.

Headteacher Claire Martin-O'Donoghue said: "This has been an incredibly busy year for Polegate School. We have had an

Ofsted visit shortly followed by the Inclusion Mark Assessment. "Staff have taken these challenges in their stride.

"We take a pride in all of the school's achievements this year. This latest award is a testament to staff's hard work, to the loyalty and continued support of all our families and school partners, and to our pupils' enthusiasm and zest for learning."

The report stated that: "Inclusion was at the heart of the school's work and pupils thrive

in an environment in which all pupils are equally valued and supported and in which they develop a passion for learning.

"There is a very rich learning environment and busy working atmosphere throughout the school, with pupils working enthusiastically together in groups, pairs and individually. Pupils are articulate, polite and able to talk confidently about their learning. They are a credit to the school. Expectations are high and assessment and tracking systems are rigorous."

In the report one pupil was noted as saying: "The best thing about this school is the encouragement and support you get from everyone - from all the adults in the school, from your friends, buddies, the school council, the head boy and the head girl." The report recognised the 'strong and inspirational leadership provided by the dedicated headteacher and senior leadership team'. The assessor stated that: "Very good relationships are evident throughout the school, with all members of the school community working together very effectively as a team to provide the best possible learning experiences for the pupils."

The school is attending an award ceremony on September 30 in Pall Mall London to receive the accreditation.

Inclusion Quality Mark

Inclusion Quality Mark Ltd (IQM) was established in the UK in 2004 with the objective of supporting both state and independent schools to become inclusive.

The Inclusion Quality Mark objective is to support both state and independent schools to become inclusive which means offering equal opportunities for all pupils, whatever their age, gender, ethnicity and background. The Inclusion Quality Mark team is now the largest team of assessors and advisors in the UK examining how schools meet the ever changing needs of a diverse community in delivering an inclusive education. For more information visit <http://www.inclusionmark.co.uk/>

After School

Please can we ask that you supervise your children at the end of the school day for their own and others safety.

We will not allow pupils to play on the field or playground unsupervised after school. It is important that children are leaving promptly at the end of the school day if they are not in a club because there is no supervision which makes pupils vulnerable.



PFA investments

The children in years 6 and year 1 are delighted with the latest PFA investment in the school.

Both year groups now have smart new lockers. The impact of these on our school environment has been immense and the children love them.

The PFA is currently raising money for a range of equipment for the school.



Poppies and Poppy gifts will be available for sale from Monday 3rd November prices from 50p.

Remembrance Day Poppies



NUMBERS COUNT

An intensive intervention for children who find maths really difficult.

Numbers Count is a highly effective intervention. It is delivered by a specially trained teacher to children who find mathematics extremely difficult and may not reach Level 3 at the end of Key Stage 2.

It helps them to get back on track and catch up with their peers. Over 35,000 children have taken part in Numbers Count since 2008, making average Number Age gains of 15 months in one term.

I am really pleased that we are now able to offer this intervention at Polegate. Mrs Chadwick delivers this element. There is now an additional intervention as part of this programme that targets pupils in year 3 and 4. Mrs Stevens will be working for a day and a half

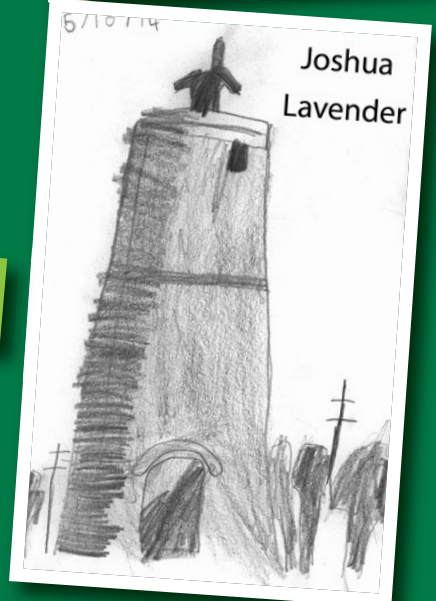
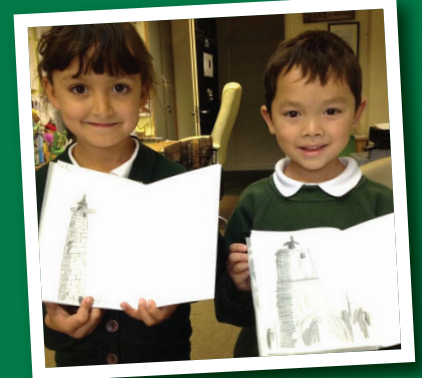
each week delivering this to pupils in Year 1 and 2. It complements our Reading Recovery really well.

Lessons take place in a dedicated teaching area where children can use a wide variety of resources. The teacher begins by making a detailed diagnostic assessment of what each child knows and then plans an individualised programme to help each one to move forward.

Lessons focus on number and calculation, follow a set routine and are rigorous and active. The teacher aims to help each child to become numerate and confident, to enjoy actively learning mathematics and to develop the skills and positive attitudes needed to continue to make good progress in normal class mathematics lessons after completing Numbers Count.

GALLERY

Joshua & Martha with some amazing artwork! Great shading and detail for year 2.



Year 6	Polegate School	East Sussex average
Level 4 + in reading writing and maths	87%	78%
Level 4 + in reading	95%	88%
Level 4+ Maths	93%	85%
Level 4+ in grammar, punctuation & spelling	88%	74%

We are thrilled with these results which exceed in all areas the East Sussex average. We also exceeded county results with our level 5 results. These will soon be published on the website.

MATHS CHALLENGE

Fruity Sweet Party

Use 15 sweets.

Put a different number in each bowl. Make each line add up to 10.

Do it again. This time make each line add up to 8.



Children's Centre News

NEW – Polegate School is due to open nursery provision in January 2015.

We are so excited about the prospect of being able to provide a nursery from the de-designated children's centre. There is a shortage of places for 2 year olds in the Polegate area with waiting lists at all local providers especially Polegate Preschool, so this will help ease the pressure of spaces. The nursery will work closely with our reception team to ensure a seamless transition to school.

Be reassured we will continue to run our existing and very successful Breakfast and After School Club from the children's centre premises, however, in the longer term if funding permits we will develop an



alternative site which will allow greater flexibility for nursery sessions.

We are also looking forward to further developing our strong relationship with Polegate Pre School so that together we can offer the very best to children in the Polegate area.

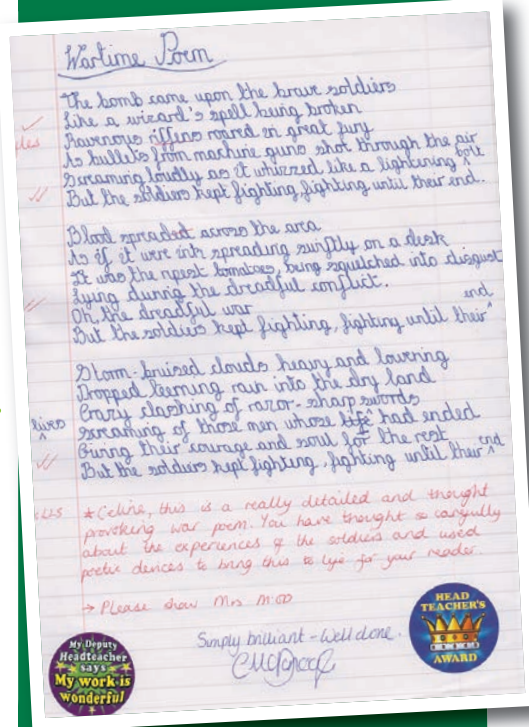
To register interest in places from January please request a form from the school office. This is all subject to Ofsted registration.

GREAT WORK

A collaborative Take Home task from Fletcher & Joshua! Very impressive



A great poem by Celine



Harriet's amazing writing in Reception



Polegate School Nursery Appointments

A fantastic opportunity to be part of establishing a new nursery at Polegate School.

The nursery is due to open in January 2015. This is an exciting opportunity for the person with the right skills and experience to help us to shape an Early Years provision that is both innovative and outstanding.

We are looking for an enthusiastic, motivated and friendly practitioners with a real love of children and a desire to provide outstanding care.

You will be part of the wider school team at Polegate School and benefit from the wide range of training and development opportunities. Your career development begins the moment you join Polegate School Nursery. You will be fully supported through an Induction program and introduced to your role.

To find out more about the school please look at our school website. Visits to the school are welcome and encouraged.

Nursery Supervisor

NNEB/ NVQ level 3 in Early Years or equivalent
Minimum 3 years' experience
Term time only
Grade: Single status 7

Deputy Supervisor

Single Status grade 5

Nursery Assistant x 2

NVQ level 2. Single Status 3

All candidates should have an excellent knowledge of the revised Early Years Foundation Stage and a good knowledge of Ofsted requirements.

Deadline 12pm on Mon 3rd Nov.

Interviews Thurs 13th Nov 2014.

Swimming Gala

We were invited to take part in Eastbourne College swimming gala on 25th September this year.

Many other schools have attended this for several years so we were thrilled to have been invited along.

We would like to thank Cindy Ward for supporting both before and during this event. Cindy was so impressed with our swimming team that she has said, 'they were a pleasure. I would take them to any event in the future. They have a fantastic attitude and were super listeners despite being nervous.'

We were incredibly proud of the whole team:

- Luke Newman
- Amy Bateman
- Oliver Ward
- Neave Martin O'Donoghue
- Barnaby Ward
- Alicia Bell
- Luke Sargent
- Jessica Hawes
- Adam Sargent
- Layla Biblioni
- Jamie Hamilton
- Hannah Tucker
- Sam Laycock



Everyone swam brilliantly - Luke won his butterfly race and the boys team narrow missed out on first place in the boys' medley relay. Overall, and against very strong opposition, the girls came 7th and the boys won bronze medals for a very impressive 3rd place!!

A special well done to Luke Newman who came first in the butterfly race and the teams in the relay who worked so well together.

Class photos

We are asking for you to express your preference for the class photos.

Formal or informal?

Please drop a note or email the office to express your views. We will go with the majority.

GET SAVING!

We are saving Morrison tokens and Flora and Stork tops (if purchased at Tesco). Please post them in to the collection boxes at the school office.

Healthy Snacks at breaktimes

In case our parents new to Key Stage 2 did not know we do offer healthy snacks at breaktimes. Pupils are able to buy fruit for 20p. It varies every day depending on the fruit that is in season: apples, grapes, strawberries.

BIKE IT BREAKFAST

I think we picked the worst day possible to promote a cycle to school!

The weather conditions were terrible! Despite this we had some determined cyclists join us for a delicious breakfast.

A big well done to you all!

I would like to thank our PFA for coming in early to set this up and the Treacle mine for contributing the food. Our cyclists were offered: bread, brioche, muffins, fruit, yoghurts, cereals, juice - well worth a cycle in!



Ice Bucket Challenge

Very unexpected! Not the outcome I thought the children would reach but they were unanimous in the decision reached across the school!

They did not think we should be wasting water which I think is very admirable!

These are a summary of some of the discussions:

3P have voted against the ice bucket challenge because it is a waste of water and we didn't think it was fair when not everyone has the privilege of water.

5B For...

"It's a fun way of raising money."

"It's a very popular way of raising money for a charity that people didn't know about."

"It helps people in need."

"Good cause."

"Encourages people with more money to donate, like the rich and famous."

5B Against...

"Waste of water – some people don't have clean water or have to walk a long way to get it."

"You could just give money without doing the challenge."

"People are nominated to do the challenge but not actually donating to charity."

"Some people are putting others in danger when they carry out inappropriate challenges"

I have donated the money however!

Aquathon Success

Well, we doubled our representation at the latest Kidstri event on 12th October!

Two of our pupils entered different races and did brilliantly. Luke completed his race in 6 minutes and 23 seconds and Neave completed hers in 12 minutes and 6 seconds. They each came away with a very impressive medal!

We will keep you all updated with future events and maybe Luke and Neave will encourage some friends to join them.



scooters & bikes

If your child scoots or cycles to school please remember that they must walk with their scooter or bike until they are outside the school.

BIKEABILITY LEVEL 2

November Year 5

If your child wishes to take part in the cycle training please return your form & money by Tuesday 21st October

What is Bikeability Level 2?

Bikeability Level 2 is designed to build on the skills and confidence already gained in Level 1, now progressing onto quiet roads. The aim is to encourage and inspire children to use their bikes more, making safe trips on roads to school or for leisure.

What will my child be doing?

- All the fun of the Level 1 part of Bikeability
- Start & finish an on-road journey
- Understand how & when to signal intentions to other road users
- Turning left and right on minor and major roads
- Dealing with potential hazards
- Demonstrate a basic understanding of the Highway Code



How much will it cost?

The course will cost only £10.00 and include 1.5 hours of Level 1 fun cycling skills within the school grounds and up to a further 6 hours of on-road practical cycling skills on quiet roads away from school. All Level 1 outcomes must be met before continuing onto the Level 2 on-road course.

The course is free to children claiming free school meals.

What do I need to have for my child to take part?

- A safe working bike (all bikes will be checked at start of Level 1 part of course)
- They must be able to ride without stabilisers fitted
- They will need a correctly fitted helmet
- Suitable clothing for weather on the day (Lightweight waterproofs if wet and gloves if cold)
- Sun cream to protect from sunburn

Can my child still take part if they don't have a bike or helmet?

YES... We can supply a bike and helmet, subject to availability and with reasonable notice given.

Homework workshop

On Wednesday 26th November Una Holbrook and myself will be running a parent workshop all about homework and the variety of ways you can approach this with your child.

We appreciate that some homework tasks can sometimes look a little daunting but we would like to explain the very different ways that you can tackle them to either extend the challenge or reduce it according to your child's ability.

We will hopefully be looking ahead to the next set of homework your child will get so that it is helpful for you. Depending on the level of response we get to this we may offer more sessions.

The workshop will take place at the Children's Centre from 2pm.

Please return the slip if you would like to attend:

Child's Name:

Class:

☐ I would like to attend the homework workshop on Wednesday 26th November at the Children's Centre.

Great Writing

by Lilly-Mae McKay
in year 5

My Light

If you're a shining star and I'm
your midnight,
I'd let you shine above me
You are my only light

As the darkness threatens me
I know you're shining bright

You are my big bold star
You are my only light

You are my only light
You shine bright above me
You are my only light



Year 5 Topic

Year 5 started the term travelling back in time to the coronation of Queen Victoria, and took the roles of a variety of citizens, including poor street children, famous inventors and rich dukes.

All their costumes were fantastic and they thoroughly enjoyed meeting Queen Victoria herself! Who knows where we will travel to next!



Year 2 Sealife Centre Trip

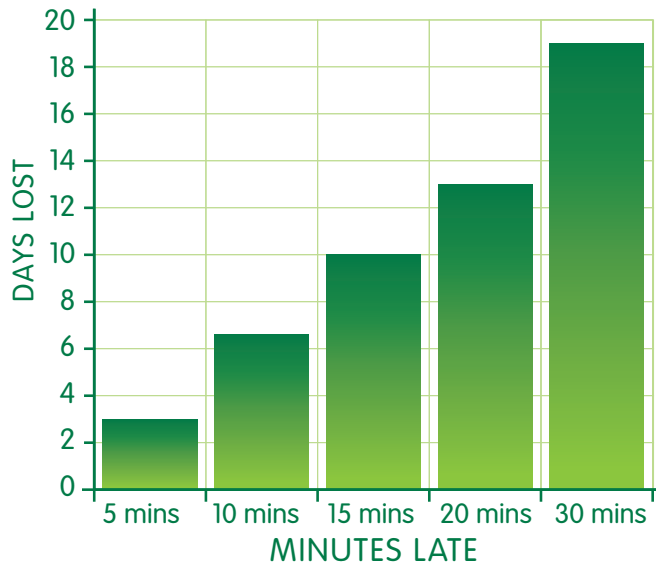
We had a brilliant time at the Sea Life Centre, learning about all living things in the sea. The children were able to have a hands on experience of crabs and star fish, which they thoroughly enjoyed. It was a great day rounded off by lunch on the beach in the sunshine.



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.



- 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**

Class figures

Overall school attendance is currently at **96.8%**. This is so close to our school target this year of **97%**. Keep it up!

RP = 97%	2R = 97%	5B = 98%
RH = 95%	3B = 97%	5C = 98%
1A = 96%	3P = 96%	6T = 96%
1J = 96%	4M = 98%	6M = 96%
2M = 98%	4B = 97%	

97% is our target

Overall school attendance is currently at **96.8%**. This is so close to our school target this year of **97%**. Keep it up!

Diary Dates

INSET Days
Friday 19th December
Parent Consultation
Evenings
Mon 10th or
Wed 12th
November

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 366 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 Prowork: www.prowork.co.uk