

news

February 2019



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WONDERFUL ACHIEVEMENTS

It may only be a very short term but we have packed a lot into it!

There is so much that I always feel proud of and with each and every newsletter there are exciting things or wonderful achievements to share with you.

This newsletter is no exception!

**Read
more
inside**

WONDERFUL ACHIEVEMENTS

I want to start by saying a massive thank you to you, parents!

I have been visiting classes observing lessons, looking in books and I have been so impressed with the commitment you are all showing to your child's reading at home. We genuinely have a wonderful reading community, children love reading and this is reflected in just how many Home School Journals I have looked in that show children reading every

single evening! Thank you so much. I know I always say it but there is nothing more important that you can do that promote reading at home.

You are so important, at a recent conference some research was shared with school leaders - until the age of 16 you are more influential than any school on your child's academic success. 'Parents have the biggest influence over their child's language and emotional development. Pupils spend less than

15% of their time in school. While there's no doubt that school is important, a clutch of recent studies reminds us that parents are even more so.'

I want to say you are doing a fabulous job and thank you for supporting your children so well!

I am also really looking forward to seeing you at the Parent Consultation evenings next week.

SAFER INTERNET DAY

This year's Safer Internet Day celebration took place on Tuesday 5th February.

The campaign's slogan, "Together for a better internet", was a call to action for all stakeholders to join together and play their part in creating a better internet for everyone, and especially for younger users. Of course we joined in here at Polegate. It is not something we do just once a year but throughout the year, continuously.

We hosted an assembly this term led by Google which generated a lot of excitement and certainly raised awareness in the children about how to keep safe whilst online.

THE BETTER INTERNET FOR KIDS WEBSITE

<https://www.betterinternetforkids.eu/web/portal/onlineservices> has an online guide to provide key information about some of the most popular apps, social networking sites and other platforms which are commonly being used by children and young people (and adults) today. It is worth checking the sites your child visits and finding out more. It gives minimum age and describes the site.

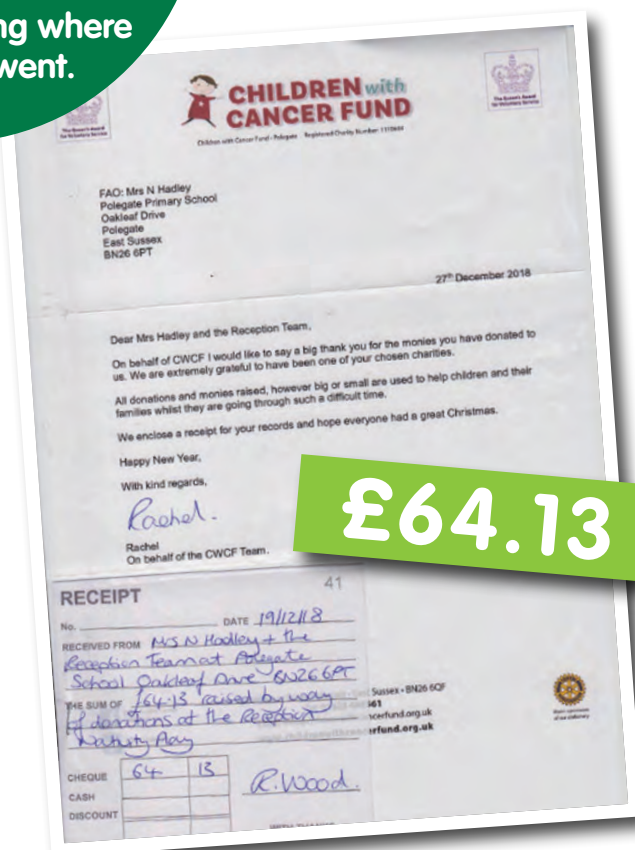


£64.13

£64.13



What a distant memory this seems now but you may remember we were collecting for various charities at the end of each reception nativity and I thought you would appreciate seeing where your money went.



DON'T DIS MY ABILITY WEEK

Ryan is much more than a world class Paralympic athlete. He is also an innovator trying to modernise the perception and expectation of people with physical disabilities not just in sport but in education and life.

His message is always 'enabled not disabled', and Ryan himself is the perfect embodiment of this. We were so lucky to welcome Ryan to Polegate with his inspiring story.

Ryan Raghoo, a long jumper with cerebral palsy. His message is always 'enabled not disabled'. Ryan spent the first 8 years of his life in hospital; in a buggy or wheelchair, with doctors and medical specialists certain he would never walk.

His story

Growing up, I hated sport - and I still have terrible memories of being forced to take part at primary school when I was physically unable to compete with my peers.

I was around eight-year-old for the first sports day, I remember - not long after I had stopped using a wheelchair, for the first time in my life, to get around.

Don't
DISmy
ABILITY

I was born under difficult conditions and left with permanent brain damage and a condition called cerebral palsy due to a number of errors made by the medical team delivering me.

I spent most of my early years in hospital, in a buggy or wheelchair, with doctors and medical specialists certain I would never walk.

My parents refused to accept that prognosis and for that I am grateful now. But I was pushed by my school into sport a long time before I was ready.

That was traumatic. As was my experience at secondary school, when by contrast I was banned from participating in sport after it was deemed too dangerous for me.

By that stage, it would have been fine for me to play sport, and I wanted to, but instead I was excluded - forced to watch my friends from the sidelines.



Paralympic aspirations

My exposure to sprinting and now the long jump, where I am a British record holder, has done so much for my mobility (remember I was told I would never walk) and my confidence.

The status that comes with being an Olympian - or Paralympian, if you prefer - also provides a platform to communicate messages that transcend sport.

For me, I want to use this platform to fight for equality — equality for disabled people and all minorities.

Not everyone can target Rio this year of course, but when I compete for medals really I am competing to change perceptions of what disabled people are capable of.



CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Did you know?

The Chinese New Year is symbolic of letting go of the past and welcoming new beginnings. It's a popular time for spring cleaning.

Each year of the Chinese New Year calendar is named after an animal. This is a 12 year cycle. Once the 12 year cycle is over the animal list begins again. The list in order is: rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, ram, monkey, rooster, dog, and pig.

As the longest festival in the Chinese calendar, Chinese New Year can last as many as 15 days. Children take an entire month off of school. (Not something to be recommended!)

Both Year and reception have had a focus on this celebration and have learnt about these traditions.



PFA Date

Saturday
15th June
SUMMER
FAIR



GREAT WORK



Marvellous maths in reception!

Crisp packet recycling

Please take your empty crisp packets to the school office



SUSSEX TEACHER OF THE YEAR

The Sussex Teacher of the Year Awards were started to mark the vital contribution that teaching staff make to our community. The awards recognise the expertise and dedication that is the hallmark of an outstanding teacher.

Nominations open each January. Award categories include primary, secondary, newly qualified teacher, non teaching member of staff including midday supervisors and caretakers and a volunteer award, which includes members of the PTA and governors.

Thank you if you have nominated any of the staff. I know some of you had because I get an email in which I am asked to write a brief supporting statement. Thank you for taking the time to recognise the efforts that teachers go to at Polegate School. I have let them know each time a nomination is submitted and I know it gives them all a real boost!



Visit: <http://www.kmcharityteam.co.uk/sussex-teacher-year/>

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LIFE SAVING SKILLS

I know I am in safe hands! A group of 30 children across the school took part in the mini medics course we ran which provided them with the vital skills they would need if they ever needed to cope in an emergency situation. The course covered resuscitation and recovery positions and procedures to follow such as who to call and how to ask for help.



PFA NEWS

We have had another busy few months, raising funds to support every child in the school and making exciting plans for the future!

Thank you so much to all of you that have supported our events so far this year; be it through coming along to the Fireworks night, popping some pennies in the donation pots for a cup of tea at Parents Evening, contributing tombola prizes for the Christmas fair or putting your 'eyes down' at our Bingo Night.

Since September we have raised over £4000! Every penny of which goes back into the school and to your children.

Look out for the PFA newsletter coming home in bags soon where we will be giving you more information about some amazing projects we are funding this year!

If you would be interested in getting involved with the PFA, we would love to welcome you on board! We are always grateful for any support you can give, you don't have to be on the committee, just helping out before/at/after any events you can is a great help. Come and have a chat with one of us if you would like to find out more.

We have lots of exciting events planned for the rest of the year so please do get these dates in your diary...Don't forget you can follow us on Facebook and Twitter to keep up to date with all of our events too!

PFA DATES

27th/28th March
Mothers' Day Gifts/Gifts for Loved ones on sale

29th March
School Disco

15th May
PFA Meeting

12th/13th June
Fathers' Day Gifts/Gifts for Loved one on sale

15th June
Summer Fair

5th July
Quiz Night

23rd July
Year 6 Leavers' Party

TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

When it comes to times tables, speed AND accuracy are important – the more facts your child remembers, the easier it is for them to do harder calculations.

Times Table Rock Stars is a fun and challenging programme designed to help pupils master the times tables. To be a Times Table Rock Star you need to answer any multiplication fact up to 12x12 in less than 3 seconds!

The children love it and this is just a reminder to check everyone is still using it!

A brilliant resource and we don't want you to miss out!

Each child at Polegate School has a login and password, if you are unsure of this then please speak to your child's class teacher. They're able to access this site at home on the following website:

<https://ttrockstars.com/>

Times Table Rockstars

In either paper form or online, Times Tables Rock Stars is a carefully sequenced programme of daily times

tables practice. Each week concentrates on a different times table, with a recommended consolidation week for rehearsing the tables that have recently been practised every third week or so.





East Sussex
School Health Service

The East Sussex
School Health Service

is excited to introduce

health and development reviews

for school-aged children -

and we want you to be a part of it.

This involves the parents and carers of children in reception year completing a survey, and children in year 6 completing a survey for themselves, to identify any areas of health and wellbeing they need our support with.

Health and development reviews have been successful because they help us to identify any health needs early, so action plans and support can be put in place right at the start of their school life, or before they move on to secondary school.

We want to support you to give your child the best possible start in life. Please complete this short survey so we can understand any concerns or health needs your child may have.

Type this into your internet browser:

<https://east-sussex.hapi-system.com/school-entry>

The password is: Spring01

If you have any questions, please get in touch with the team:

- East Sussex School Health Service

Phone: 0300 123 4062

Email: kentcht.esschoolhealthservice@nhs.net

www.kentcht.nhs.uk

Provided by Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust.

DIARY DATES

Monday 11th February
Parent Consultations

Wednesday 13th February
Parent Consultations

Friday 15th February
Last day of term

Monday 25th February
First day of term

Monday 4th March
No Pens Day

Thursday 7th March
World Book Day
'Share a Story'

PFA Date

Friday 29th March
SCHOOL DISCO

DANCE FESTIVAL

Our dancers represented the school at a recent festival. I had a sneak preview of their dance and thought it was fabulous! If it had been a competition I know they would have come first and Miss Baker agrees!



Looking very proud of themselves!



Our tremendous dancers in full performance! They are incredible!



Some very excited faces!
Thank you Miss Baker, Zara and Mrs Wallis for supporting this event!

Congratulations!

Polegate Primary School Are Fantastic Flu Fighters!

The national target for 2018/19 uptake of the flu nasal spray at school in East Sussex was 65%.

Your school achieved **75%**



Excellent care at the heart of the community

ATTENDANCE BY CLASS

| | | |
|-----------|----------|----------|
| RH = 94% | 2A = 98% | 4D = 98% |
| RHi = 94% | 2H = 97% | 5M = 96% |
| RV = 97% | 2M = 98% | 5G = 97% |
| 1Y = 96% | 3B = 97% | 6M = 96% |
| 1Mc = 95% | 3M = 97% | 6R = 98% |
| 1C = 95% | 4B = 97% | |

The whole school is currently at: 96.4%

GIRLS FOOTBALL



Go Polegate girls!
Our Year 2 and 3 team came 2nd and 3rd in the tournament!

CHANGE OF INFORMATION RELATING TO YOUR CHILD

We just wanted to let you know that due to the new GDPR regulations we will not be sending out data collection sheets any more. We do still need to know if there are any changes to information relating to your child.

Changes we need to know about are:

Medical details
(any new allergies, asthma etc)
Change of address, telephone numbers or email address

Keep us informed

It will be up to you to keep us informed and you can do this by emailing the school office office@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk with any changes or by completing the form which you can find on the download section on our website www.polegateschool.uk

Diary Date

**Friday 15th
February
LAST 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
938 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



We at Polegate School feel very concerned about the amount of waste the country is producing so we have decided to work with TerraCycle to recycle crisp packets (any brand).

TerraCycle® and Walkers® have partnered to create a free recycling scheme which accepts all crisp packets. TerraCycle is an innovative recycling company that has become a global leader in recycling typically hard-to-recycle waste.

You can drop-off your used crisp packets at **POLEGATE SCHOOL**.

So we can recycle this waste properly - we would ask you to properly empty the packets before placing them in the box at the school office. Please do not fold the crisp packets

What happens to the waste

Once collected, the crisp packets are separated by plastic type, cleaned, and extruded into plastic pellets to make new recycled products.

TerraCycle Points

TerraCycle® points can be redeemed for a payment to our school. 1 TerraCycle® point is worth £0.01 (2 kg = approximately 400 crisp packets. 200 points = £2)

Please ask your family and friends to help maybe you could put the word around at your workplace etc.

Yours sincerely

Mrs N Hadley

We can only accept crisp packets - NO Popcorn bags, crisp tubes (Pringles) pretzel bags or meat snack bags