

news

January 2025



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HAPPY NEW YEAR

Happy New Year and welcome to term 3! I hope everyone had a restful break and had time to make precious memories with family members.

XMAS FUN

End of term 2, as always, was packed with fun and excitement.

Nativities, carol concerts, pantomime, Christmas dinner, dress up day... I could go on and on.

The pantomime as always was a hit; West End here we come!

As always the teachers and support staff ploughed an enormous amount of energy into term 2 ensuring that the children had memorable learning experiences. All this, and they still had energy to deliver a fun filled end of term.



Thank you to our wonderful kitchen staff for making such a delicious dinner for our whole school.

I always find this incredible that dinner for 600 children can be served to such a high standard. I struggle with Christmas dinner for 6!

DIARY DATES

24th January
2B Class Assembly

31st January
3T Class Assembly

6th February
Wonderful Work

7th February
4H Class Assembly

11th February
Year 6 Trip to WCS to watch 'Fame'

11th February
Parents Consultations

13th February
Reading Tea Party

14th February
End of Term 3

17th – 21st February
Half-term Holiday

24th February
Term 4 stars

27th February
Parents Consultations

Friday 7th March
5D class assembly

14th March
Inset Day

20th March
Class Photos

24th March
Year 2 Drama Workshop

WINTER WONDER

Nursery had a ' Winter Wonder' snow themed day (linked to the hoooo whoooo snowstorm in the bear hunt)

We took part in all sorts of things including ' Do you want to build a snowman?' ' Frosty Mark Making' and ' We're going on a snow hunt'.



MAKE TAKE CLUB

There was some great concentration at the Make Take Club with some amazingly creative crafts were on show!



STUNNING START

We had an amazing Stunning Start aboard the Titanic.

Each passenger was given the name of a real passenger on the ship which we then researched more information about to fill in our boarding cards.

First class enjoyed an art class. Second class played some games. The crew prepared dinner for First and Second before serving them.

We also enjoyed a great ballroom dance lesson before writing a postcard home to our families.



NEURO NINJA



Andrew Wright, from Neuro Ninja, launched this exciting initiative in school through a number of pupil workshops.

The children learnt about their brains and how the brain has a unique ability to understand themselves as individuals. We are so excited to watch this understanding develop across the school alongside My Happy Mind and our excellent PSHE curriculum.

LATEST ATTENDANCE FIGURES

RA =	94.2%	2D =	96.5%	4S =	96.4%
RHR =	94.2%	2H =	96.6%	5D =	92.1%
RS =	92.5%	3B =	97.1%	5EK =	96.8%
1C =	97%	3D =	97.5%	5K =	94.9%
1L =	95.9%	3T =	97.3%	6M =	96.7%
1M =	96.2%	4D =	97.6%	6MU =	96.7%
2B =	97.1%	4H =	97.2%	6W =	92.6%

Diary Dates

11th February
Parents
Consultations

YOUNG ARTISTS' SHOW

Now in its seventh year, the Young Artists' Summer Show is a free, open submission exhibition for students aged 4–19 studying in the UK.

Artworks are judged by a panel of artists and arts professionals, with selected artworks displayed online and on-site at the Royal Academy of Arts.

Registration and submission is open until 5th March 2025, find out more and get involved.

This could be a great way to get creative at home and to encourage your young artist to make an original artwork of their own. There is no theme to the exhibition, and they accept artworks in any medium at all, so your young artist has the

opportunity to create a piece of work that truly expresses their own creative choice. I know first-hand how talented our Polegate pupils are so would encourage everyone to enter.



FAMILY CHRISTMAS STEM CHALLENGE



Lots of fun was had at the Family Christmas STEM Challenge.

Families came along to the festive event to have fun together and develop their teamwork skills.

The challenge was to build a Christmas tree that was robust,

attractive and as tall as possible and I am sure that you agree they all did a fabulous job! Lots of skills were used through the challenge from speaking and listening, team work and problem solving.

The winning family impressed us all with their talents to listen to one another and create such an eye-

catching design - I believe they took it home ready for their presents to be laid underneath!

Look out for our February challenge, information to follow soon.

READING AT POLEGATE

Here at Polegate School we strive to create an environment that promotes a love of reading.

To sit with a book and become engrossed in the text offers so much more than just developing an ability to read words.

From babies to children in their early years and all the way through to early teens, reading brings profound and wide-ranging benefits that can have a lifelong positive impact on children's lives.

With this in mind carry on reading at home, sharing a favourite bedtime read, read at- the beach, park, on the bus.....wherever



NEW BOOKS!

We recently purchased new books for the whole school reading raffle. To enter the raffle, remember to ensure your child reads every night. This can include that favourite bedtime read!



NEW AGE KURLING

A group of children had an opportunity to participate in a New Age Kurling event.

New Age Kurling is an innovative game that is highly accessible, suitable for young players, elderly players, able-bodied players and disabled players. It is a modern take on the traditional game of curling, and it can be played indoors without the use of ice. Its main, defining feature is that it can be played from the ground, which ensures that the game is at a level playing field no matter what your age or ability.



GYMNASTICS FESTIVAL

This term some of our Year 2 and 3 children took part in an inter-schools' gymnastics festival run by Sportitude.

They all did extremely well! Polegate showed great team-work and amazing skills. Well done to all those involved.



DT COMPETITION WINNERS

At the conclusion of the last term, the competition winners were announced, where the children created posters featuring slogans that highlighted the significance of a healthy diet.

The winning designs were transformed into canvas prints, which will be showcased in the Hub kitchen.

Well here they are...
They look fantastic!

Well done to Aurora, Jude, Reuben, Toby, Finley and Alya!



PARKING

Thank you to all families parking responsibly outside school. This ensures that our children can walk, cycle and scoot to school crossing Oakleaf Drive safely.

Whilst we appreciate that it can be very difficult to park in the roads surrounding the school, if all parents could park safely and courteously, when dropping-off or collecting children and avoid causing congestion, this would further lower the risk to our children and families.

To ensure we create a safe environment outside school, please follow this guidance:

- When arriving by vehicle at school, please leave sufficient time to park safely and legally.
- Do not park on the double yellow lines or zig zag markings.
- Do not park on the corners of the main and side roads.
- Do not park half on and half off the road (on the pavement). Parking on the pavement can obstruct and seriously inconvenience pedestrians, people in wheelchairs or with visual

impairments and people with prams or pushchairs.

- Do not park over dropped pavements at an entrance to a house or garage.

Diary Dates

17th – 21st
February
Half-term
Holiday

A HEALTHY START TO 2025

If, like me, your family is attempting a healthy start to 2025 see the link below for some fun engaging activities.

[Free indoor activities for kids – Healthier Families - NHS](#)

Or if you fancy something a little more relaxing try Cosmic Kids Yoga

[Cosmic Kids Yoga - YouTube](#)



ROCK STEADY CONCERT

The Rock Steady end of term concert showcased the confidence and musical skills of the group. This concert is fast become a favourite way to end our term!



LETTERS TO SANTA

Year 2 went to find the magical letterbox today to post their letters to Santa. They tried really hard to persuade him to grant their Christmas wishes!



FOOTBALL STARS

Our Year 5/6 Development Football Team played a match against West Rise at the brand new Eastbourne United stadium under floodlights. Playing together for the first time as a team, they worked together brilliantly and emerged worthy winners 5-4.



SKILLS BUILDERS

Our term 2 Skills Builder certificate winners! These children were recognised for their 'Problem Solving Skills' in a wide range of situations.



Diary Dates

Friday
14th March
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
1,382 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



What parents need to know about AGE RATINGS



If you have children, it is understandable to have concerns about the films and TV shows they watch, as well as the games they play. In this guide, we take a look at the two official ways you can assess if a particular title is suitable for your child. Both the BBFC and PEGI have search facilities on their websites that can be used to look up individual titles so you can check their ratings.



RATINGS FOR FILMS, TV & MUSIC VIDEOS

Since 1912, the BBFC (British Board of Film Classification) has informed UK residents of the age suitability of films, TV and music videos - providing parents with the information needed to assess whether or not it is appropriate for their child's age. This applies to cinema releases, DVDs and streaming video services such as Netflix.

WHAT ARE THE BBFC RATINGS?

BBFC ratings are broken down into seven age categories:

Universal, suitable for all ages	Parental Guidance required	Suitable for people aged 12 and over	Suitable for people aged 12 and over; anyone younger must be accompanied by an adult
Suitable for people aged 15 and over	Suitable for people aged 18 and over	Adult content only available in specially licensed cinemas and specialist retailers	

WHAT ELSE CAN BBFC REVEAL?

Accompanied with the age suitability rating, BBFC also provide an additional warning regarding the content and what to expect, such as swearing, sexual content, violence and anything you may consider to be inappropriate for your child. In addition to this, the content is also rated in three levels: frequent, mild or strong.

LIMITATIONS OF BBFC RATINGS

It's important to note that there is no obligation on streaming video services to use or display BBFC ratings. Due to this, we advise that you check the rating online before your child streams the content. It may also be a good idea to watch the content first yourself or discuss it with other parents to help you decide whether or not it is suitable for your child.

RATINGS FOR GAMES

PEGI (Pan European Game Information) is a content rating system that ensures all video games are labelled with a minimum age recommendation. These age recommendations are based on the types of content featured within a game. With each game, PEGI also provide a content descriptor that indicates the potential issues and concerns, including sex, violence, bad language and drugs.

WHAT ARE THE PEGI RATINGS?

PEGI ratings are split into age restriction and content descriptors. Additional 'content descriptors' help parents and children to understand the type of content featured within a particular game, including sex, fear, bad language, discrimination, gambling, drugs, violence, and in-game purchases. In combination, the two different ratings can provide a good level of information to help make informed decisions regarding the suitability for your child.

PEGI age ratings are broken down into five categories:

www.pegi.info	www.pegi.info	www.pegi.info	www.pegi.info	www.pegi.info

PEGI content descriptors are broken down into eight categories:

Violence	Bad Language	Sex	Drugs	Gambling	Discrimination	Fear	In-Game Purchases

LIMITATIONS OF PEGI RATINGS

It's possible for young people to buy games online without a required proof of age, opening them up to age-inappropriate content without you knowing. We advise that you regularly monitor your child's gaming activities and maintain a honest and healthy dialogue with them about the online world.

PARENTAL CONTROLS

It is a good idea to put in place parental controls for all online accounts which your child may use to purchase or download online games e.g. The App Store, Google Play Store, PlayStation Store and Microsoft Xbox Store etc.

Source: www.bbfc.co.uk

Source: www.pegi.info



National Online Safety

A whole school community approach to online safety
www.nationalonlinesafety.com

Email us at hello@nationalonlinesafety.com or call us on 0800 368 8061



Lunch and Learn Online Workshops and In-person Family Hub Workshops with 'Me & My Mind'

Do you want to learn about children's mental health and how you can support your child with their wellbeing? If you do, these FREE webinars or our in-person small group workshops may be for you!

Lunch and Learn Webinars

How to support your child with worry and anxiety

Thursday 27th February 2025, 1pm, to 2pm

Wednesday 11th June 2025, 1pm to 2pm

How to support a worrying child with transition to secondary

Wednesday 21st May 2025, 1pm to 2pm

Small group in-person sessions

Supporting primary school children with anxiety and worry

Wednesday 2nd October 2024, 10am to 12pm @ Sidley Family Hub

Tuesday 8th October 2024, 10am to 12pm @ Uckfield Family Hub

Monday 27th January, 10am to 12pm @ Hailsham Family Hub

Thursday 30th January, 10am to 12pm @ Devonshire Family Hub

Wednesday 5th February, 12pm to 2pm @ Sidley Family Hub

Monday 10th February, 12:30pm to 2:30pm @ Peacehaven Family Hub

Wednesday 26th February, 1pm-3pm @ Shinewater Family Hub

Monday 10th March, 12:30pm to 2:30pm @ Lewes Family Hub

Tea/Coffee and biscuits will be available, and we will be providing activities to make some items to take home with you to do with your child/ren

For more info and to book scan the QR code or visit:



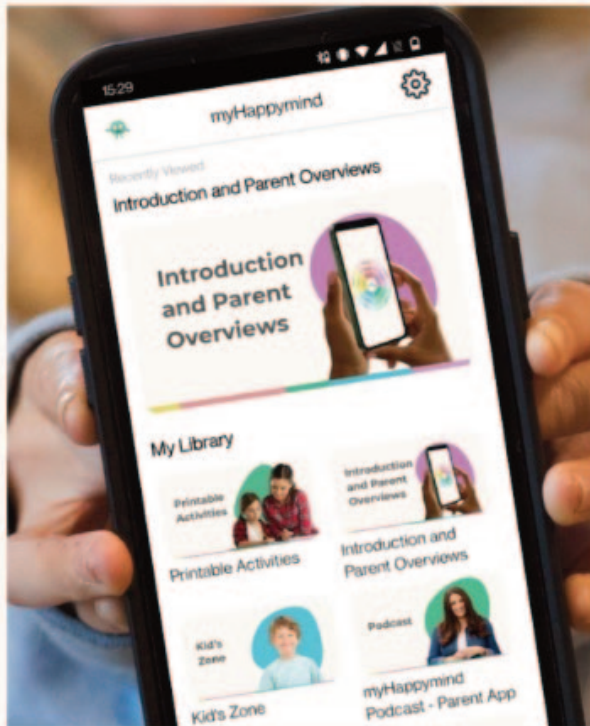
www.tickettailor.com/events/mentalhealthandwellbeingineducation

If you have any questions, please email mhst.parentteam@eastsussex.gov.uk



myHappy mind has a free Parent App

Scan the QR code to sign up now and download the App today!



Please contact us for the authentication code