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A FLURRY OF ACTIVITIES

So term 6 has started, like all terms here at Polegate, with a flurry of activities. Trip season has started with gusto with many children attending day and residential trips.

I would personally like to thank all the staff and volunteers that participate in these trips. Without their support these exciting opportunities would be impossible, with many staff and volunteers not seeing their own families for 3 days!

As we move towards the end of the school year there are many more exciting events to come, trips, discos, end of year shows... I could go on!

ATTENDANCE AWARD

WE DID IT AGAIN!

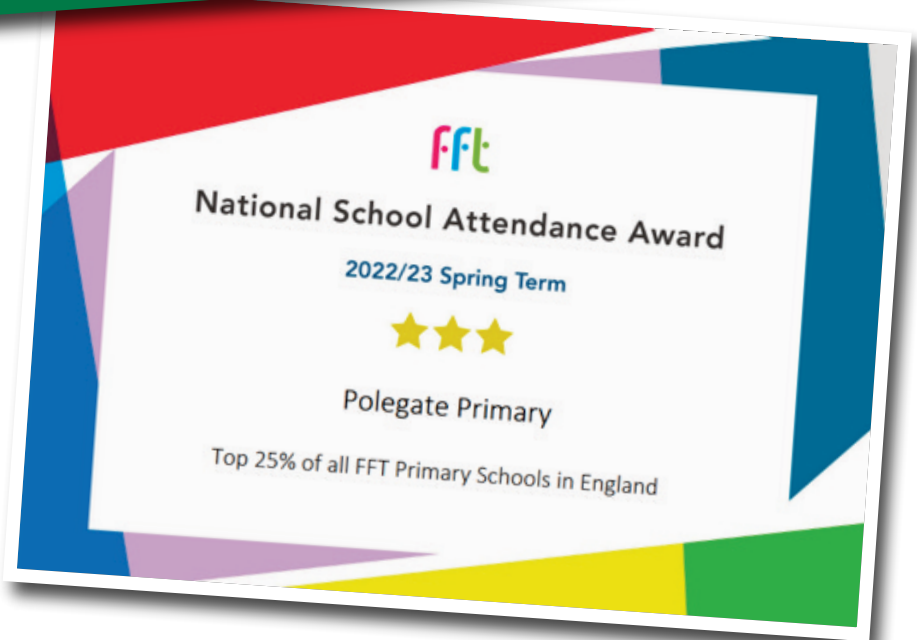
We did it again! Another attendance certificate. Congratulations to one and all for achieving this certificate. We all know the importance of good attendance at school. The Education Hub reports that-

How does attendance affect outcomes for pupils?

Being in school is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing, and wider development. Evidence shows that the students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE and A Level results.

Our research found that pupils who performed better both at the end of primary and secondary school missed fewer days than those who didn't perform as well.

The data also shows that in 2019, primary school children in Key Stage 2



who didn't achieve the expected standard in reading, writing and maths missed on average four more days per school year than those whose performance exceeded the expected standard.

What are the risks of missing a day of school?

Every moment in school counts, and days missed add up quickly. For example, a child who is absent for

three days over a half term could miss 15 lessons in total.

The higher a pupil's attendance, the more they are likely to learn, and the better they are likely to perform in exams and formal assessments.

Data from 2019 shows that 84% of Key Stage 2 pupils who had 100% attendance achieved the expected standard, compared to 40% of pupils who were persistently absent across the key stage.

TRANSITION DAY

All the children will have the opportunity to spend a day in their new classroom with their new teacher and support staff. This is always an exciting day here at Polegate School as the children explore their new environment (lots of firsts!).

Transition day will be on Tuesday 4th July. Pick and drop off will remain the same. At the end of the transition day

parents are invited to visit their child's new classroom where the class teacher will be able to answer any questions.

I am sure that the children will thoroughly enjoy sharing their environment and next year's teacher with you all.

KS1 parent drop in will start at 3.15
KS2 parent drop in will start at 3.05

STAFFING STRUCTURE FOR 2023-2024

And so the moment you all eagerly await! I can now announce the teachers for next year. I always feel a little like a football manager this time of year, eagerly anticipating the closing of the teacher transfer window!

You will notice a few new names on my team sheet!

Miss Tobin will become Mrs Kavanagh over the summer holiday. We wish her a magical wedding day.

Miss French, Miss Allen, Miss Saunders, Mrs Stracey and Miss Hackett will be joining the 'P' Team.

NEW	CURRENT	TEACHER	EMAIL
RB		Bethany Budd	E: b.budd@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk
RA		Tia Allen	E: t.allen@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk
RH		Mia Hopkinson	E: m.hopkinson@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk
1G	RG	Sarah Grace	E: s.grace@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk
1S	RB	Laura Stew	E: l.stew@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk
1F	RH	Emma French	E: e.french@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk
2D	1B	Amy Durbidge <small>Leader of learning Y1&2</small>	E: a.durbidge@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk
2C	1S	Rachel Coleman	E: r.coleman@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk
2K	1G	Grace Kavanagh	E: g.kavanagh@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk
3T	2S	Helen Timms	E: a.durbidge@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk
3L	2R	Ashleigh Liddell	E: a.durbidge@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk
3JS	2C	Erin Jones Samantha Stracey	E: e.jones@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk E: s.stracey@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk
4H	3L	Gayle Howland	E: g.howland@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk
4S	3GJ	Louise Saunders	E: l.saunders@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk
4EH	3T	Eliza Hackett	E: e.hackett@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk
5K	4JD	Phoebe Kenny	E: p.kenny@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk
5D	4H	Emily Davies	E: e.davies@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk
5MD	4AD	Clare Marsh <small>Leader of learning Y5&6</small> Leanne Dedman	E: c.marsh@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk E: l.dedman@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk
6M	5K	Ruby Murphy	E: r.murphy@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk
6W	5T	Maxine Weyland	E: m.veyland@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk
6MU	5M	Emma Murphy	E: e.murphy@polegate.e-sussex.sch.uk

Please bear in mind that new teachers will not be picking up emails routinely yet as they have not started.

MEET SOME OF OUR NEW TEACHERS



Miss Hackett

Having studied Classics at the University of Warwick, I took a gap year to work out what I wanted to do with my life (which definitely was not being a classicist!).

I ended up running the after school club at Cavendish Primary School for a year, which encouraged me to pursue a teaching career, something that deep down I have always wanted to do!

I have spent this academic year doing my PGCE and I can't wait to start my Early Careers Teacher journey at Polegate.

Outside of school, I am involved in a lot of local musical theatre, so I spend most of my time onstage, backstage or teaching musical theatre alongside my family and friends. I am very excited to meet everyone at Polegate and get stuck in!



Miss Davies

Hello, my name is Emily, I cannot wait to begin my teaching journey at Polegate this September!

I am looking forward to sharing a learning journey with the children where we will all explore new knowledge and learn new skills everyday as a class.

I aspire to bring my love of literacy and music to the classroom, enriching the children's creativity and joy that they bring to Polegate.

When not in school, I enjoy going to the theatre to watch musicals with family and friends following my love of singing and dancing.

I also love reading both on holiday or nestled in bed with a cup of tea, alongside all things Disney and Harry Potter!

Miss Allen

Hello, my name is Tia and I'm incredibly excited to be back at Polegate School in Reception.

I know the school like the back of my hand having been a teaching assistant and trainee teacher here, I believe it's a unique and beautiful place for children

to learn without limits.

I'm coming to the end of my university course and I'm thoroughly looking forward to having my own class in September.

Having previously studied art and design had allowed me to provide creative and immersive learning inside and outside the classroom which is incredibly important in the Early Years of learning.

In my spare time I enjoy going on long runs and spending time at the gym! Next year I aim to run the London Marathon.

I am really excited about getting to work with the lovely children in RH for the rest of my placement.

I look forward to meeting you all.

SPORTS DAY FUN



EYFS, KS1 and KS2 sports days were a hit!

There were 696 children participating in sport across the week. Great fun was had alongside some hugely competitive events.

YEAR 5 TRIP

HINDLEAP WARREN



Year five had a sensational time at Hindleap Warren!

The children showed great courage, independence, resilience and determination as they completed a range of challenges.

Endless fun was had from hurtling down zip wires, storming to the highest peak of the climbing tower to being covered head to toe in mud as we powered through the assault course!

We're so proud of the children's achievements and they should feel very proud of themselves too!



Respect • Responsibility • Ready

As a school, we only have 3 golden rules which we insist that the children and adults in school uphold.

These rules encompass everything within the school day and beyond, including kindness and understanding. Could we ask that we all follow these fundamental rules at all times including pick up and collection times - spread a little kindness to all.



YEAR 1 TRIP

HEVER CASTLE



Year 1 enjoyed an excellent trip to Hever Castle to start term 6 off with a bang!

The children represented Polegate School brilliantly with their listening skills, curiosity and polite manner. We certainly learnt a lot on our tour of the castle and had lots of fun exploring the castle grounds including the mazes and the adventure playground.

We could have stayed longer to see even more!!



It is that time of year again...

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

The Challenge will begin in libraries on Saturday 8th July and end on Saturday 9th September.

To take part in the Challenge children need to read six books of their choice that they have borrowed from the library or downloaded from our ebook library over the summer holidays.

They are given rewards for each book they read and a certificate and medal if they manage to complete the Challenge.

The Challenge is for all children, whatever their reading ability. Children who are not reading independently can share their books with a family member or friend, or they might prefer to listen to audio books.

We have materials to enable children with additional needs to participate as well. You can find out more about these by emailing library.enquiries@eastsussex.gov.uk or by speaking to your local library contact.

Children can be signed up at www.eastsussex.gov.uk/src They will need to login to their library account (library card number and PIN) to complete the registration process.



Summer Reading Challenge 2023

Ready, Set, Read!

Presented by The Reading Agency
Delivered in partnership with libraries.

Ready, Set Read!
Starts 8 July 2023 Ends 9 September 2023

Join this year's Summer Reading Challenge at
www.eastsussex.gov.uk/src



The Summer Reading Challenge is a national scheme produced by the Reading Agency and delivered by public libraries that encourages children to keep reading during the school summer holidays - and to enjoy anything they like to read! Children aged 4-11 are invited to take part and collect rewards for their reading, giving them a positive experience of reading for pleasure.

It's FREE to take part, and last year 75% of children taking part nationally improved their reading skills over the holidays.¹

Sign your child up at www.eastsussex.gov.uk/src. If you don't have a smartphone, computer or tablet, you can sign up using a computer in the library. You can ask a one of our volunteers or a member of staff for help if you need it.

The Challenge will begin in [East Sussex libraries](#) on Saturday 8th July and end on Saturday 9th September.

The Challenge is to read any six books borrowed from the library or downloaded from our [ebook library](#). For children under 4 we have the Pre-school Challenge, where you can collect stickers for each book shared and a special medal sticker at the end.

Children signing up for the Challenge get a character sticker and a Reader Record. Children will be able to collect a prize for each of the six books they have read. When they finish the Challenge they will get a certificate which they can receive in school or at the library. The Challenge is for all children, whatever their reading ability. Children who are not reading independently can share their books with a family member or friend, or they might prefer to listen to audio books.

To take part in Read, Set Read! children need to have their own library card and PIN. It is easy and free to become a member of the library. Take something with your name, address and signature to the library and you can join the whole family, or you can [join online](#) and have your cards posted to you. You can [reset your child's PIN online](#) if you can't remember it, or ask in the library for a new one. You will need the PIN to sign up to the Challenge.

Visit <http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/> for fun games, author interviews and book recommendations.

[1] The Reading Agency (2022) [Summer Reading Challenge 2022: Annual Report](#)



BOOK FAIRS

Dear parents, carers and grandparents,

SCHOLASTIC

BOOK FAIRS

Celebrate reading at our Book Fair!



The **Scholastic Book Fair** will be arriving in school, with hundreds of new children's books to browse and buy... perhaps an opportunity to pick some summer holiday reads!

There are some amazing titles!

Come and join us!



When? Monday 19th June - Thursday 22nd June 2023

Where? Polegate School - Small Hall

Times? 8.00-8.15am and 3.05-3.30pm



TENNIS STARS

Recently we were invited to an inter-school tennis festival being held at Ratton School and led by their young sport leaders.



The afternoon consisted of two halves. During the first half of our afternoon, we were up against the clock in a variety of mini skill games. The second half we put our skills into action in multiple mini games. The children should be so proud of their achievements!



PIZZA MAKING

On Wednesday 7th June, 2S took the train from Polegate to Eastbourne where they spent the morning in Pizza Express.

The children made their own pizzas and learned about food preparation. The results were simply delicious!



YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL

MANOR ADVENTURE

After a very tricky start to the trip, a huge amount of fun was had and personal goals and fears (including Mrs Jones) overcome at the year 6 residential through kayaking, canoeing, archery, Aero Ball and lots more



YEAR 2 TRIP

HASTINGS AQUARIUM

On Friday 9th June, Year 2 visited Hastings Aquarium as part of our topic Coral to Coast.

The children got to see lots of exciting sea creatures including sharks, seahorses and starfish. We also paid a visit to the beach and the Royal National Lifeboat Institution as part of our history focus about Grace Darling.



SPORTS NEWS



Sidney Reed in year 6 has achieved a Black Belt in Karate.

A huge achievement at such a young age! Sid had a very complicated set of movements to complete while listening to instructions delivered in Japanese! Sid started his Karate career here at Polegate attending Karate club every Wednesday.

Amazing feat at 11 years old!



Josie Plastow has also won a Golden Dragon award!

The award was achieved for great respect, discipline and fantastic teamwork.

Keep your eyes peeled in the future for a Polegate Olympic Karate team!

GOLF TOURNAMENT

During sports week, a group of children from Year 4 took part in a tri-golf festival at Willingdon Secondary School.

There were 9 other schools from the Eastbourne Schools PE Association in attendance, enjoying the lovely weather and experiencing a circuit of golf-related fun activities. One of the participants, Dolce Heath, had this to say afterwards....

"At first I didn't know what to do and I was a bit nervous. But the Sports Leaders were really nice. Some activities were really fun but we had to do a lot of running to get the ball back! I think it was good that we had a lot of exercise. It was also good that we walked to Willingdon. If you walk instead of drive that is good for the environment."

DIARY DATES

21st June

New to Reception
Parents Meeting 9am

22nd June

New to Reception
Parents Meeting 5pm

27th June

Summer Transition Visits
– New to Reception

4th July

Transition Day

4th July

Meet New Teacher
Drop-In Sessions, after
school

7th July

Year 3 London Trip

15th July

PFA Summer Fayre

18th July

Year 6 Leavers Show

19th July

Year 6 Leavers Show

21st July

Last Day of School

1st September

INSET Day

4th September

Academic year 2023-
24 Term 1 start

INSET Days

1st September

10th November

24th November

2nd February 2024

15th April 2024

SCIENCE WEEK

Science week was a huge success (although I am not sure our school cleaners would say the same!) Experiments, investigations and challenges were met with enthusiasm and a great deal of scientific excitement.



Science superstars

Children in Year 5 were invited to apply for a brand new role across the school called Science Superstars.

The application required the pupils to state why they should be selected and how they feel they will be a benefit to the role. 11 pupils were selected and they will be working alongside Mrs Giggs to enrich and monitor the teaching of Science across the school.

The superstar's first job was to support during the family STEM challenge during Science week and they certainly rose to the challenge! They also led lunchtime science activities to inspire pupils with fun science activities.

If you meet a pupil from around the school with a cool green Science Superstar lanyard you know exactly what they are up to! Well done to all of the pupils selected.



SATS

As always the children here at Polegate School take everything in their stride.

The recent SATs were an excellent example of this.

I am sure many of you heard the news reports with regards to the difficulty level of the SATs this year. The year 6 children discussed this with their class teachers during SATs week and took all challenges set in their stride -

"We do not understand the news! We all finished the reading paper! It wasn't that bad"

"I was scared on Tuesday but now I am confident- I can do this!!" Quote from a year 6 child who thoroughly flourished throughout SATs week.

Diary Date

**21st July
LAST DAY
OF TERM**

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 at:

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.co.uk

LATEST ATTENDANCE FIGURES

Class RB = 95.7%	Class 2R = 95.7%	Class 4JD = 92%
Class RH = 95.2%	Class 2S = 96.3%	Class 5M = 95.4%
Class RG = 94.9%	Class 3GJ = 94.9%	Class 5K = 95.8%
Class 1B = 94.6%	Class 3L = 94.3%	Class 5T = 95.5%
Class 1G = 96.7%	Class 3T = 94.7%	Class 6M = 96.4%
Class 1S = 96%	Class 4AD = 96.7%	Class 6MU = 95.9%
Class 2C = 97.3%	Class 4H = 96.3%	Class 6W = 95.5%

Diary Date

4th July
TRANSITION 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 **1,352 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

Designed by Prowork: www.prowork.co.uk