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Goodbye & good luck to our year 6 pupils



We would like to wish all our year 6 pupils good luck when they start their next schools. They have been an exemplary year group throughout their time at Polegate.

The prefects have been some of the best we have had. We think that your secondary schools are lucky to be getting you.

They all performed a fantastic end of year show at the Hailsham Pavilion watched by their proud families and teachers.

The year, this term and the Inclusion Mark visit

What a busy year! We have achieved so much together and have so much to be proud of.

Anyone might think that an Ofsted visit would be enough but not for us! We had also applied for the Inclusion

Mark award and had an assessment this term.

This involved a thorough audit of our provision, lesson observations, meetings with parents, governors and community groups involved with the school. It was

very similar to a second Ofsted!

With all this going on we also achieved some of our best results ever!

You can read a summary of the Inclusion Mark award on page 8.

Year 6 Results

We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 pupils who have achieved remarkable results this year. This means for the last 3 years our results have continued to rise in all subjects.

	Level 4+	Level 5+	Level 6
Reading	95	43	
Writing	88	33	33
Maths	92	43	10
Grammar, punctuation & spelling	88	65	3

Letter

What a lovely letter from a year 6 pupil that only joined us this year....

I have really settled in to my new school. Everyone was really nice to me and they made me feel welcome. There is no sign of bullying here. At my old school there was really bad bullying and I got bullied from the end of year 4 but I don't get bullied anymore. Here at Polegate School we do lots of sporting events and trips out like the trip to France, Science Centre and the athletics meet trip.

Polegate School has given me my confidence back to speak to the teachers and tell them how I feel. I can trust them to sort it out for me if I'm stuck or just a question that I want to know. All my friends are really polite and nice and they help me with anything.

I'm really going to miss everyone who will be going to a different school. I have really enjoyed being here.



Summer Fete

The PFA held their successful summer fete once again. The money they have raised this year is being spent on new lockers for year 6 and storage for our playtime equipment. If you have ideas or enjoy organising come along to the next PFA meeting in September.



Back to School

Thursday
4th September
2014

Accelerated Reader

Did you know that you can find out if books have an Accelerated Reader quiz?

AR book finder is available on your parent account this facility allows you to type in a book's title to find out if there is a quiz. If you haven't ever registered with Accelerated Reader for this, a help sheet is available from the office. This is useful if your child is reading books that they have taken

out from the library or books they have at home.

There is a new APP available which might be really useful if you are out and about and want to check if a book has a quiz. It costs £1.49



A super quote from Alfie in reception

Alfie came to see me one morning with a lovely note from mum which shared what Alfie had said that morning before school.

'Mummy I can't wait to go to school because I love it so much. It's brilliant. You do lots of things that make me happy. I love it so much.'

Thank you for sharing that with us. It brought a smile to my face!

French Morning

Children in year 5 & 6 experienced a French morning.

They were all allocated euros to spend on French produce. Throughout the morning they practised their French vocabulary. In the afternoon parents from year 6 arrived and shared some of the experiences of our residential trip to France.



Thank You

Reception trip to the Beach

Just a quick thank you

I helped out on school trip this Monday The children were so well behaved it was an absolute pleasure looking after them. The trip was well organised The main thing that showed is the absolute impact the teaching staff had on the children. I would like to thank all staff but personally thank miss Perkins who has had a massive impact on my child. Thanks again

Nestle Box tops

Thank you for collecting the Nestle Box Tops. We have been sent a cheque for £141. Thank you to everyone who collects them for us. This scheme is continuing to run until next year so please carry on saving.

SPORTS WEEK

We were incredibly unlucky with the weather on the days we picked!

It did not deter the Infants who carried on with big smiles on their faces in the drizzle! They loved it; I'm not so sure the spectators enjoyed it quite as much!

Pupils took part in a wide range of events during the key stage 2 week: netball, hockey, a triathlon, a marathon, heats and the final athletics competition which we just managed to squeeze into the final week.



WANTED

If anyone has any Lego or Duplo that your child has grown out of we would love to give it a home.

Also any clean plastic 'Chinese takeaway' cartons please with lids.

2 new pupils join Polegate School! A lovely gift from Mrs Melrose.



5 ways to help your child do well at school

SCHOOL UNIFORM



1 Teach the magic word 'yet'

As in 'I haven't yet learned how to tie my shoelaces' or 'I haven't yet understood electromagnetic induction'. Seeing learning as an optimistic, positive process boosts success.

2 Move bedtime forward

Canadian teachers report more restlessness, volatility and frustration in seven to eleven year olds who get 30 minutes less sleep than classmates. US researchers have found that high school students who achieve C, D and F grades get 25 minutes less sleep than students getting A and B grades. Sleep is vital. It processes learning and regulates health.

3 Read together

UK researchers say children who read for pleasure make more progress in maths and literacy between the ages of 10 and 16 than those who rarely read. Reading for pleasure is more important than wealth or social class when it comes to doing well in school

4 Learn something new yourself

This means you are modelling what enjoyable, rewarding learning looks like. Also, model how difficulties in learning can be overcome with cheerful fortitude!

5 Do nothing

If your child acts up in class or fails to do homework, let them take the consequences. Shielding your child from every bump in the school road will produce a passive, dependent learner.

As it gets to the end of the year school shoes get a little worn or fall apart even and I can fully understand the reluctance to spend a lot of money for new school shoes.

We have noticed the standards of school uniform have slipped and we wanted to remind you before the start of the next school year when we will be insisting on the correct school uniform:

- short or long grey or black trousers (not denim or cord or sports/tracksuit bottoms)
- grey or black skirt or pinafore dress (girls only)
- green gingham summer dress (girls only)
- white shirt/blouse/polo shirt (with school name) (Green Polo T.Shirts are not part of uniform)
- green crew necked sweatshirt with school name *
- green cardigan with school name *
- green fleeces with school name*
- black jogging suit (optional)
- smart shoes (or sandals for summer) - no high heels
- Black school shoes
- plain white or grey socks
- green baseball cap with school logo*
- green (winter) woolly hat with logo*
- The items marked with a symbol are available for purchase through the School

PE Kit

In addition to the basic kit there may be a need for a tracksuit during winter months:

- Black jogging suit is appropriate
- Plain white crew neck T-shirt*
- Black plain shorts
- Trainers or similar sturdy sports shoe
- Plimsolls for certain indoor activities

For health and comfort reasons if a polo shirt or jogging suit is worn as part of the daily uniform a different set of clothing must be provided for PE and Games lessons.

Please Note:

"Fashionable" shorts and/or multicoloured slogan bearing T-shirts are not appropriate for school P.E. lessons. We take a firm line with children who fail to have the appropriate kit when it is needed. Written reminders will be sent home asking for your cooperation - culminating in kit detentions for persistent offenders. We do expect the children to be responsible for the things they need to bring to school on particular days.

We will be insisting on the correct uniform. Please note that the uniform policy states a white school shirt. A green shirt is not school uniform. If you are ever unsure please refer to our School Handbook (your guide to everything Polegate!) which is available on the website to view.

Thank you in advance.

Swimming Gala

We celebrated the talents of our gifted swimmers in our third swimming gala. It was a fabulous evening and as always I was so proud of the children's achievements.

The venue is quite intimidating and the depth and length of the pool is daunting compared to our school



pool. Our youngest swimmers, year 2, looked so tiny but they swam like true professionals!

The determination shown by those swimmers that struggled to complete the length was amazing.

I think the spectators also deserve a special mention for their support and encouragement towards all swimmers. It was a great atmosphere.

I would also like to thank all the staff that gave up their evening to make this event happen. We won't mention the staff/pupil relays.

My team lost, I was a bit of a handicap for them! I am determined to do better next year and I am signing up for lessons!

The referees were so impressed by the standard of our swimmers they are recommending us for the galas that lead to county championships! We wait to hear about the first competition in the autumn term.



Our list of medal winners:

BREAST STROKE

Year 6 Girls

- Alysha Boniface/ Isabel Newell
- Holly Stewart
- Emma Thomas

Year 6 Boys

- Noah Bailey
- Jamie Oakshott
- Charlie Thomas

Year 5 Girls

- Jessica Hawes
- Hannah Tucker
- Kiera Holmes

Year 5 Boys

- Luke Newman
- Sam Laycock
- Adam Sargent

Year 4 Girls

- Neave Martin-O'Donoghue
- Katyanne Deboick
- Amie Hetherington

Year 4 Boys

- Oliver Ward
- Luke Jago
- Franky Hallewell

Year 3 Girls

- Layla Bibiloni
- Robbie Joiner
- Drew Carter

BACKSTROKE

Year 6 Girls

- Jessica Stoneham
- Alysha Boniface
- Jenny Pang

Year 6 Boys

- Jamie Oakshott
- Oliver Hepburn
- Daniel Northrop

Year 5 Girls

- Amy Bateman
- Jessica Hawes
- Alicia Bell

Year 5 Boys

- Luke Newman
- Jamie Hamilton
- Adam Sargent

Year 4 Girls

- Neave Martin-O'Donoghue
- Jessica Stephens
- Katyanne Deboick

Year 4 Boys

- Oliver Ward
- Lewis Oakshott
- Franky Hallewell

Year 3 Mixed

- Barnaby Ward
- Layla Bibiloni
- Matthew Jarrett-Lillie

MEDLEY

Year 6 Girls

- Holly Stewart
- Isabel Newell
- Emma Thomas

Year 6 Boys

- Jamie Oakshott
- Noah Bailey

Year 5 Girls

- Neave Martin-O'Donoghue
- Jessica Hawes
- Hannah Tucker

Year 5 Boys

- Luke Newman
- Jamie Hamilton
- Adam Sargent

Year 4 Girls

- Katyanne Deboick
- Jessica Stephens
- Libby Smith

Year 4 Boys

- Oliver Ward
- Lewis Oakshott
- Franky Hallewell

Year 3 Mixed

- Layla Bibiloni
- Robbie Joiner
- Barnaby Ward

BUTTERFLY

Year 6 Girls

- Jessica Stoneham
- Alysha Boniface
- Holly Stewart

Year 6 Boys

- Jamie Oakshott
- Daniel Northrop
- Charlie Thomas

Year 5 mixed

- Jessica Hawes
- Oliver Ward
- Luke Newman

ANY STROKE

Year 2 Girls

- Hattie Clark
- Chloe Jones
- Annabelle Wood

Year 2 Boys

- Cavan Martin-O'Donoghue
- Curtis Lynam
- Ben Board

FRONT CRAWL

Year 6 Girls

- Jessica Stoneham
- Isabel Newell
- Emma Thomas

Year 6 Boys

- Jamie Oakshott
- Nathan Jenkins
- Charlie Thomas

Year 5 Girls

- Jessica Pearce
- Eleanor Johnston
- Aimee Hetherington

Year 5 Boys

- Jamie Hamilton
- Sam Laycock
- Louis Catchpool

Year 4 Girls

- Katyanne Deboick
- Jessica Stephens
- Aimee Hetherington

Mixed Girls

- Layla Bibiloni
- Barnaby Ward
- Drew Carter

Mixed Boys

- Jessica Hawes
- Luke Newman
- Oliver Ward

Safety In Action

Year 6 took part in the annual event at Herstmonceux Castle again this year.

They learn about how to keep themselves and others safe through first hand experiences set up by a range of emergency services and organisations.

They learnt about stopping distances for a car travelling at various speeds; a range of first aid skills and had to resist the temptation of helping out strangers who had lost their dog in the woods (unfortunately our very helpful

children often venture into the woods with strangers!) alongside lots of other essential skills.

PC Kate phoned to say how phenomenal our children were at the Safety In Action event. They all actively engaged in all the activities and professionals that were there. She did say it didn't come as any surprise to her but she made the comment that not all children from other schools show the same respect for adults or behave so well!

Thank you Year 6.

Drama Show

The pupils that have attended the Drama Club every week for the whole year performed an end of year show to their parents. What was really evident was their enjoyed and passion for drama and their personalities all shone through!



Proud Parent

I wanted to share how proud I was with my son on Saturday. While at the opticians, one of the tests was to identify numbers hidden within patterns. To hear him call out double figured numbers without any hesitation was amazing, he did me proud, even the optician was amazed

Proud Reception parent

Cycle Helmets

We really want to encourage the children to cycle to school. It is fun and healthy. Is it worth the risk of not wearing a helmet?

We have all noticed that quite a few children cycle to school without a helmet. We should all know by now that cycle helmets save children's lives and prevent serious injury.

A crash or fall can occur in a split-second and can happen anywhere; even in your back garden or the pavement. These types of accidents can potentially have serious or fatal effects, but of you are wearing a helmet that

helmet can absorb the impact, rather than your head and brain.

- 16% (an estimated 8,000) of those injured were 14 years old or younger.
- 80% of accidents occur in daylight.
- Nearly 75% of all fatal bicycle crashes involve head injuries and no more than 17% of those fatally injured were wearing helmets
- In 2009 it was estimated that 9 in 10 bicyclists killed were not wearing helmets.

The most serious injuries among a majority of those killed are to the



head, highlighting the importance of wearing a bicycle helmet.

A helmet is an item of safety equipment and is designed for a specific job: to give your head (and face) a certain amount of protection should you land on it as the result of coming off your bike.

I cannot stress how important it is for your child to wear a helmet. We will carry out a check next term and we will be insisting that children cycling are wearing a helmet.

A win for Polegate!



In one of our final sporting events against others local schools we achieve huge success. We came **FIRST** in rounders!

Maths Week

We had a superb Maths week this term. Thank you for your incredible support, it proved to be a very popular week!

A large number of parents came in to the various events that were running throughout the week to join in enthusiastically (and competitively!) with their children. It was great to see and this in itself will have sent a powerful message to the children about maths. I think they will tell you unanimously- Maths is fun! That is exactly how we want them to view their learning.

The 'maths hats' they made at home looked awesome on the Monday assembly, even if they did cause a little chaos and excitement!

If it left anyone with unanswered questions about how we teach maths, or you would like opportunities to come in and experience other subjects please drop us a note. We are happy to run any event for parents if it is something you think would be of value. Just suggest it!

A big thank you to Mrs Jones and the maths team that worked incredibly hard to design this week.

WRITING

Some super writing from Leah Barber 1A

I went to Bracklesham Bay with Nanny and Grandad. I found these fossils but didn't know what they were. Nanny and Grandad took me to the Natural History Museum where we met a palaeontologist (Dr. Fiona Fernhead). She thought one of the fossils was a crinoid fossil but she had to show it to two experts.

I was very lucky to be able to look around the labs and look down the microscopes.

I had a letter from Dr. Fernhead telling me what the fossil was. I really like looking for fossils and would like to be a palaeontologist when I am older.

By Leah Barber



Leah Barber - Year 1



Summary of the Inclusion Mark Visit



Centre of Excellence

Polegate Primary School is a very happy, nurturing and welcoming school and is a pleasure to visit. Inclusion is at the heart of its 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." (OFSTED May 2014).

Pupils achieve well and are all encouraged to do their best, irrespective of ability, disability, social background, ethnicity or gender. The school vision statement is "Learning without Limits" and this ethos is evident throughout the school. The school aims to provide every pupil with an outstanding education and an opportunity to exceed expectations. Pupils are offered a creative curriculum, which is enriched through a range of educational visits, themed weeks, curriculum days and visitors to school. The school makes very good use of its many links with outside services, neighbouring schools and community members to enhance the curriculum and to provide specialist support and advice for particular groups of pupils. Outside agencies are very complimentary about the school, commenting on the welcoming atmosphere and inclusive nature of the school.

There is a very rich learning environment and busy working atmosphere throughout the school, with pupils working enthusiastically together in groups, pairs and individually. Teaching caters for all learning styles and is well matched to individual needs, with a focus on helping pupils to develop the skills they need to be effective and independent lifelong learners. Pupils are articulate, polite and able to talk confidently about their learning. They are a credit to the school.

There are high quality displays and a wide range of appropriately differentiated resources. The best possible use is made of all available learning spaces and there have been many enhancements to the school building and grounds over the last few years, including the re-siting of the Inclusion area to the front of the school and the conversion of the old boiler room into a community room. Pupils are particularly proud of the "Lounge Area" which has been specially designed to promote reading for pleasure.

Expectations are high and assessment and tracking systems are rigorous. A detailed analysis of data and termly Pupil Progress Meetings, ensure that any individual pupils or groups of pupils not making expected progress are identified and appropriate intervention is provided. The setting and monitoring of challenging targets and the provision of a good range of carefully monitored intervention strategies has led to steadily improving standards in English and mathematics over the past three years. OFSTED particularly commented on the outstanding progress which pupils make in reading.

SEN provision is very good and there is a commitment to raising achievement and removing barriers to learning. Pupils are well supported in classrooms and the number of intervention groups and amount of 1:1 support in place is impressive, ensuring that individual needs are met. As one of the governors stated, "Diverse needs are celebrated rather than being seen as a hurdle."

There are extremely effective induction and transfer arrangements in place and emotional and educational support for pupils is very good. One pupil particularly mentioned that "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." Members of staff have a very good knowledge of the individual needs of all pupils, understanding their medical and academic needs, social and emotional needs and family histories. As a result, pupils feel safe and nurtured. Pupils are proud of their school and of the progress they make. They are happy, enthusiastic and well-motivated and are actively involved in decision making processes through activities such as the School Council. Pupils of all backgrounds show care and consideration for each other and behaviour across the school is exemplary. Attendance is above the national average and is very carefully tracked and monitored.

Strong and inspirational leadership is provided by the dedicated Head teacher and Senior Leadership Team and staff comment on how well supported they feel. Staff, governors and parents are also very appreciative of the changes being made and of the support and advice provided by the recently appointed SENCO. 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. Staff lead by example and model inclusive practice.

The Governing Body offers a strong dimension to the school and it actively endorses and promotes the school policy on Inclusion. Governors are very knowledgeable and are both supportive and challenging. They always feel welcome in school and know that their contributions are valued.

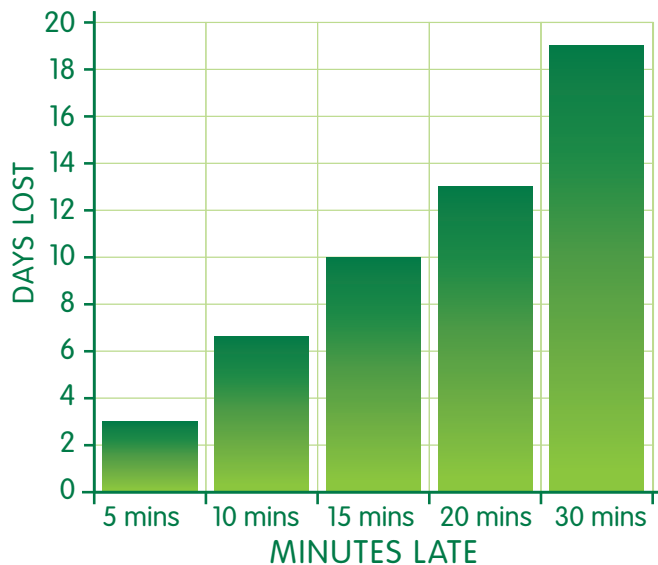
The school is well regarded by the local community and the partnership between parents/carers and the school is very good. Parents/carers are very appreciative of the support that is provided for all pupils and families and value the opportunities that they have to be engaged in their own children's learning. Their views can be summarised by the following comments, "We love this school", "The school do a wonderful job of supporting both children and parents" and "The Inclusion team are fantastic!"

We really appreciate your support- thank you.

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.



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!

RJ	= 95%	2BW	= 96%	5T	= 96%
RP	= 96%	3G	= 97%	5B	= 94%
1A	= 97%	3K	= 96%	6T	= 96%
1R	= 96%	4M	= 97%	6C	= 97%
2B	= 98%	4EM	= 97%		

- 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**

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!

Maths Challenge

Congratulations!
The winners of our last maths challenge were:
Joshua Bulford
Leah Barber

Lunchtime Drinks

Price Rise
If your child would like to buy a drink at lunchtime the cost from September will be 50p

twitter



Be the first to hear the news.
Follow us on twitter. We now have 330 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

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