



In This Issue

Sports Update	2
World Book Day	3
Attendance	4
Building Work	4
New Arrivals	5
Science Week	6
Author Visit	6
Staff News	7
Holiday Dates	7
Polegate Lottery	8
Polegate's Got Talent	8
Teaching School	9
Diary Dates	9
Change of Information	10

WE ARE ALL SO PROUD

We have been inundated with visits to the school since our Ofsted report was published and it has been a delight to walk around with our visitors.

When we have visitors we walk around with fresh eyes and notice what we might otherwise take for granted. What is really apparent is the confidence of your children. They are so well mannered and routinely hold doors open and greet all adults they come across in the school. They readily talk about their learning and are articulate. The quality of their work is exceptional and they are always striving for better. We really couldn't ask more of them.

We are so proud of them!

SPORTS UPDATE

BASKETBALL COMPETITION

Recently we went to a basketball competition at Hamden park sports centre.

There were lots of other schools there including Cavendish and Ocklynge. During one of our matches I scored an amazing backwards shot in the last second of the first half. I was shocked that I got it in! Everyone from Polegate was delighted and I got loads of high fives and well dones. Even Mr Keeley was shocked that my shot went in. After all the games, the results came in and we were happy to hear that we had come 2nd out of 7 schools. I couldn't have done it without Alfie D, Ethan, Matthew, Alex and Mr Keeley.

By Ollie W. 5G



SWIMMING GALA

Swimming gala at Eastbourne College

Our swimming squad took part in Eastbourne College swimming gala. There were 2 heats for each race and the top 6 made it through to a final.

We qualified for each final so that was an achievement and Olivia Narine & Alfie Hanmore both came 3rd overall in their breaststroke races.

Well done team Polegate!



WORLD BOOK DAY

I am so proud of the fact that children at Polegate love books so much. These two boys were caught by a teacher at playtime engrossed in their books!

As World Book day approaches we have a challenge for the children....



20 BOOKS TO READ IN 2020

Print the sheet and write the books in the box. The first to complete it wins 20 'surprise things' picked by 20 of our teachers.



20 books to read in 2020!

Can you read one of each type of book this year? In the box, write the title of the book you read!

A book written by a BAME author.

A funny book.

A graphic novel.

A character uses a school value.

A book with magic.

A book which has been made into a film!

The first book you loved.

An evil character.

A historical fiction.

A non-fiction book.

A poetry book.

A book written before you were born!

A picture book.

A fantasy book.

A spooky book.

A book which makes you think.

A book AND its sequel.

A book with an animal character.

A book from another country.

A book you would recommend to your teacher.

ATTENDANCE

Importance of phoning in when your child is absent

The Department for Education regulate strict school attendance laws in the United Kingdom. Schools are legally required to maintain an attendance register, and they must tell the local authority about pupils who are regularly absent or have missed at least 10 school days without the school's authority.

If your child is ill, the school should be informed as soon as reasonably practical so that this can be entered on the school's register.

We have certain responsibilities under safeguarding for example, it is possible that a child has walked to school on their own and something serious has happened. Parents are left thinking that their child is in school and safe and unless we check a day could pass before anyone realises

a child is missing. It can take up a lot of office time for us to call if we are not notified. If we are not notified and we can't get through then the next step is to notify the police as we cannot be sure they are safe and they carry out a welfare check. This has happened in the past.

Schools are under a safeguarding duty to investigate any unexplained absences under Section 175 of the Education Act 2002. This is for the child's safety and protection.

The whole school is currently at: 96.72%

RH = 96.2%	2A = 95.7%	4B = 97.6%
RM = 95.5%	2H = 96.2%	4E = 97.0%
RY = 96.8%	2M = 96.0%	5G = 96.9%
1C = 96.2%	3D = 97.1%	5J = 96.7%
1H = 97.1%	3M = 97.9%	6M = 97.2%
1Mc = 96.7%	3W = 97.3%	6R = 97.0%

BUILDING WORK

Finally the building work is coming to an end!

In the next few weeks we should get the car park back again (hooray- say the neighbours!).

In the next few days the building start work on the cross over which means the junior gates will be shut and all access to school will be through the main office gate to KS2 and KS1. This will cause some disruption to the road

and pedestrian path immediately outside the junior gates.

As soon as this is complete all drop off and collections for Key Stage 1 will go back to original arrangements- no more waiting on the cold, windy MUGA.

I really would like to thank everyone for their patience, understanding and

good humour in coping with the many changes which have been far from ideal.

I have to say it has been worth it because the school and landscaping looks fantastic. We are all really pleased with the end result and hope you are too.



WE NOW RECYCLE BATTERIES

We have small recycling battery boxes in the office.

SOME NEW ARRIVALS IN RECEPTION

We always want to make learning fun at Polegate and bring experiences to the children.



This term we have been the arrival of some eggs.

This has given every child in reception the opportunity to experience the birth, growth and development of a living duckling. They have had the chance to learn about the life cycle and in the process develop a caring ethos to all living things.

Delightful duck facts you may not know:

- Females lay from 10 to 15 eggs and sit on them for about 28 days before they start to hatch.
- Ducklings spend about 10 hours in the nest before heading to the water with their mother.
- Cold temperatures don't register.
- Ducks have excellent vision.



SCIENCE WEEK

CELEBRATING OUR DIVERSE PLANET

Join us on a journey to space!

We are hosting a really special event to support our whole school Science Week. Astronomy Adventures led by space expert Andy Lawes, are hosting an evening at Polegate School for families to take an adventure together from earth to the outer extremities of our universe.

It will be out of this world!

The evening will begin with a short talk by Andy Lawes about the wonders of night sky and an introduction to the telescopes. Then we will continue outside for a 'Star-Gazing' session. You will be invited to use the 4 manned telescopes to explore the evening skies. This part of the evening will be weather dependent however should we not be able to use the outside space, further activities will continue inside the school focused on planets and galaxies.

Date & time: Friday 13th March 5.45-7.30pm

During the week we have a range of exciting activities and visits planned including a DNA expert, a sustainability expert and a professor. A huge thank you to the parents that have volunteered to support this event or provided contacts. **We really appreciate it!**



AUTHOR VISIT

We welcomed Rob Lloyd Jones back to Polegate to share more of his experiences as a writer.

What better way to encourage a reading for pleasure and writing for purpose than to have an author visit and speak about their work? An opportunity to motivate our learners and engage with text, such visits help the children to improve their knowledge and understanding of the writing process.

They all loved hearing Rob's stories and finding out more.



STAFF NEWS

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENTS

We are currently in the process of creating an ICT/ conference suite which will really enhance our computing curriculum and provide another exciting space for all the children to use.

HAVE YOUR SAY ON HOLIDAY DATES

The Local Authority is currently responsible for setting school term and holiday dates for all community and voluntary controlled schools.

Foundation, trust, voluntary aided schools and academies are responsible for setting their own term dates.

East Sussex County Council is consulting on a draft proposal for school term dates for the academic year 2021-2022. The Council would like to hear the views of schools, parents/carers, and other interested parties on the proposed dates before they are finalised and published. The consultation opened on 2 March 2020 and will run until 29 March 2020. All comments should be submitted by this date.

We would be grateful if you could please share this email with all parents/carers, school staff and members of the governing body so they have the opportunity to comment on the proposal.

The consultation is available on the Council's Consultation Hub or can be viewed by using the following link www.consultation.eastsussex.gov.uk

Welcome back

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Dedman back from her maternity on Thursday 12th March. She will be spending time getting to know RH and will take over as class teacher when Mrs Hicks leaves at the end of April.



MRS DEDMAN

Welcome Karen Stockdale

Hello, I have over twenty years teaching experience where I have taught all of the age ranges in primary school apart from reception. I enjoy drama and the arts and I am passionate about developing children's potential.

I am looking forward to joining everyone at Polegate, where inspiring and learning without limits is a right that every child is entitled to!

When not working I enjoy going to the gym (this is perhaps not as often as it should be!!!!) and going for walks in the lovely Sussex countryside as well as socialising with my friends and family where fun and laughter is a top priority!



MRS STOCKDALE

More retirements!

Way back in 1988 Gill Richardson joined Polegate School. For 32 years Gill has worked at the school and seen so many changes. The school was on two separate sites and so much smaller. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Gill for the many and varied roles she has played at Polegate School over the years and I know you will join me in wishing her a very happy retirement.



GILL RICHARDSON

Our finance assistant, Sue Priddle, who works tirelessly behind the scenes is also retiring in May. Again we wish Sue all the best as she travels around the country with her husband and dogs in their camper van. Hopefully by May the sun will be shining!



SUE PRIDDLE

We have a number of vacancies in the school advertised on our website so please spread the word!

WANT TO BE A LOTTERY WINNER?

Our own school lottery was set up by your PFA to raise funds for the school and make a difference for our children.

It's easy to buy a ticket just follow the link and click on the page! We are very close to our target.

You get a chance to win amazing cash prizes every week. Including a jackpot of £25,000. All for just a £1 a week.



www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/polegate-primary-school

POLEGATE'S GOT TALENT

We were treated to a variety show of our own in-school talent on Tuesday.

We were so impressed with the confidence and imagination of the children. It was lovely to see a range of talents and this certainly inspired the audience who were in awe of many of the acts and loved watching them.

Thank you to all the acts that were brave enough to share their artistic or comic skills with us.



A CAPTIVATED AUDIENCE

OUR TEACHING SCHOOL

Our role as a Teaching School is going from strength to strength this year and we are offering many training opportunities for other schools.

We hosted a recent art training day for 20 other schools and you can see some of the teachers' work above.

We really are extending our vision of learning without limits. It's not just about children but other schools now as well.



DIARY DATES

Thursday 5th March
World Book Day

Friday 6th March
International
Women's day

Wed 18th &
Thurs 19th March
Mothers' Day/Gifts for
Loved Ones

Friday 27th March
School Disco

Friday 3rd April
INSET day

Monday 20th April
Start of term 5

Monday 11th May
SATs week Year 6

Tuesday 19th May
PFA Meeting

Wed 17th &
Thurs 18th June
Fathers' Day/Gifts for
Loved Ones

Saturday 20th June
Summer Festival



ART

Inspiring art training for
teachers from many
schools at Polegate
with Judy Graham!

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.uk

Crisp packet recycling

Please take your empty crisp packets to the school office



Diary Date

Friday 3rd April
**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
1,067 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 Proworx: www.proworx.co.uk