

# news

February 2018



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## READING IS SOMETHING JUST FOR SCHOOL, ISN'T IT?

I am pleased to say that thankfully that is not something any of our parents say. You value this time with your children. I personally love it, it is so special at the end of a long day just to snuggle up with my children and read.

Teachers are having a real push on the 7 nights in a row and will be encouraging all children to achieve this. It is doable, we can all find 5 minutes every day to listen to a story. The difference it makes is incredible.

**Read  
more  
inside**

# THESE ARE THE REASONS WHY WE PROMOTE READING SO MUCH AT POLEGATE

## Pupil A

**Reads 20 minutes each day**  
**3600 minutes in a school year**  
**1,800,000 words**

### 90th Percentile



## Pupil B

**Reads 5 minutes each day**  
**900 minutes in a school year**  
**282,000 words**

### 50th Percentile



## Pupil C

**Reads 1 minute each day**  
**180 minutes in a school year**

### 10th Percentile



By the end of Year **Pupil A** will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. **Pupil B** will have read only 12 school days.  
 Which pupil would you expect to have a better vocabulary?  
 Which pupil would you expect to be more successful in school?  
 ...and in life?

**What about a pupil that doesn't read regularly at home or perhaps not at all? What are their chances of success?**

This is why, at Polegate, we place so much importance on reading at home. All research and studies show that children who read every day do better at every stage of their education. We see it in school; the pupils that read at home are making better progress.

We are very fortunate at Polegate school to have so many supportive families that promote regular reading and learning at home and this reflects in the results our pupils achieve.

The majority of our parents do find time to enjoy books at home with their children and do record this in the home school books.

**Thank you for supporting your children and the school's vision and aims!**

Reading to child in an interactive style raises his or her IQ by over **6 Points**

Daily reading to children puts them almost **1 YEAR** ahead of those who are not being read to

"For the majority of young people, enthusiastic and habitual **reading is the single most predictive personal habit** for the ability to achieve desirable life outcomes."

**After School Literacy Brief**

"Children who read **3,000 words** per day will be in the **top 2%** of standardised tests."

"Children who read **20 words** per day will be in the **bottom 2%** of standardised tests."

## IT ADDS UP!

If you read just **15 minutes a day**, in one year you will have read over **1,000,000 words!**

# SAFER INTERNET DAY

**Safer Internet Day is on 6 February 2018, a day that is very important to our school and pupils.**

Safer Internet Day in the UK is organised by the UK Safer Internet Centre ([www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk)), and this year's theme is "Create, connect and share respect: A better internet starts with you!". There are lots of materials to help parents support children with their online use and these can be found at the website address above.

Within the school a focus for us is always for us to develop an understanding in our pupils to show respect for all people and communicate and act online as we would towards each other in real life. Consequently, we were thrilled when coming to the realisation that this was the national theme of this year's 2018 Safer Internet Day!

We believe that online safety education is an important element of the curriculum and an essential part of young people's development. We do hope that you will be able to support our online safety work by discussing the broader issues with your child and reinforcing them in your home environment. We really would appreciate the support of our whole community in working with our young people in particular on the theme of respect and considering how we model this to young people through our own interactions.

To celebrate the many positives of the internet, and to raise awareness of the issues that children and young people face online today, we will be speaking in assemblies in



addition to various other activities in the school day. We have visiting speakers to support this work.

You can also find out more by visiting the UK Safer Internet Centre ([www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk)) OR the e-safety page on the school website.

I would especially recommend the short video clips on the "SID TV" page of the UK Safer Internet Centre. There is also a digital parenting video at the following link:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2018/sid-tv-2018/sid-2018-tv-digital-parenting-film-parents-and-carers> along with an education pack for parents and carers.



## NO PENS WEDNESDAY

**We put aside our pens and pencils on Wednesday. The idea comes from the charity, the Communication Trust, a coalition of 50 not-for-profit organisations working together to raise awareness and support speech, language and communication needs.**

Children across the school enjoyed a day where they didn't have to do any writing. On this day learning was all about discussion, engaging in practical activities with lots of speaking and listening and problem solving. The children loved it.

Poor language is linked to poor behaviour even in very young

children. 2 in 3 language delayed 3 year olds have behaviour problems.

At Polegate we believe of all the skills we develop at school, the ability to communicate effectively is the one that has the most profound and potentially positive impact on our lives. This is why we debate and teach philosophy across the school.



# ATTENDANCE



Any child with **97% or above** will be eligible for our prize draw at the end of the year for a brand new bicycle!

## School Attendance

Whole school is now: **96.43%**. We are still a little way of our target of **97%**

RV	= 95%	3M	= 97%
RH	= 96%	3Mc	= 97%
RHi	= 96%	4M	= 96%
1N	= 96%	4D	= 96%
1B	= 97%	5GK	= 97%
1Y	= 96%	5W	= 96%
2B	= 97%	6M	= 97%
2A	= 97%	6R	= 97%

## YEAR 1 HOME LEARNING TASKS

I would like to thank year 1 parents for the tremendous home learning tasks that have been completed this term.

We have been so impressed by not only the amazing quality but also with the number that have been returned. Thank you for supporting your children so well.

## SKIP2BFIT

This has been a huge success! The whole school are absolutely loving it both boys and girls.

This is now something that every class across the school is doing for 2 minutes every day. Teachers have commented on how alert and ready for learning the children

are after exercise. And best of all is the fact they enjoy it so much and it puts a big smile on their faces!

We sold a phenomenal 737 skipping ropes!





# NSPCC FEEDBACK

**I just wanted to thank you for making me so welcome at Polegate. It was lovely meeting the children and staff.**

The enthusiasm shown by the children was wonderful and I hope they found the safeguarding sessions interesting and helpful.... and they had fun with their skipping challenge!

The Grand Total raised is £738.70 and the children should feel very proud of themselves. Could you please pass this total on to parents/carers, with my thanks.

**Winners of the Best Class Certificates were KS1 - 1Y and KS2 - 5GK.**

## EARLY RECEPTION READING

**We are very excited to welcome our new initiative that aims to encourage the children in Reception to develop a love of reading!**

Each week, Reception invite a "Mystery Reader" into the class to read a story. The children have loved the first week and cannot wait for the next one. If you would like to support us with this, there will be a sign up sheet for each class in the Reception window. Please sign your name in the slot that you would be available to come in for. These sessions will be on different days of the week, but always at 2.45pm and will finish by 3pm.

**But remember to keep it a mystery!**



## MATHS4PARENTS

**The Community and Engagement Team at Sussex Downs College are very excited to be offering a FREE maths course for local parents, giving them the knowledge and understanding of the maths curriculum, to then better support their children at home.**

**PLACES ARE LIMITED - PLEASE BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT**

**Do you have a child in Key Stage 2?**

Would you like to be able to support your children with their learning? Would you like to improve your own maths skills?

Come along to this welcoming, friendly and free course!

- Keep one step ahead of your children
- Learn more about the maths curriculum in KS2
- Led by an experienced instructor and primary school teacher

**This is a 4 week course taking place on the following Tuesdays:**

**27th February, 26th, 6th, 13th & 20th March from 10:30 – 12:30 at Sussex Downs College, Cross Levels Way, Eastbourne, BN21 2UF**

**To find out more or to book call: 030 300 38212**

**Email: [community.info@sussexdowns.ac.uk](mailto:community.info@sussexdowns.ac.uk)**

# GREAT WORK!

## DIARY DATES

**Thursday**  
**8th February 3.30pm**  
**Wonderful work**

**Monday**  
**19th February**  
**INSET DAY**

**Monday**  
**5th March**  
**4.00 – 7.00pm**  
**Parent Consultations**

**Wednesday**  
**7th March**  
**3.30 – 5.30pm**  
**Parent Consultation**

**Thursday**  
**29th March**  
**INSET DAY**



Ellie's home learning which is very creative!



A stunning Chinese dragon!



A very creative task involving lots of teamwork!  
Edith's new dog



Year 5 with their wonderful Chinese designs.



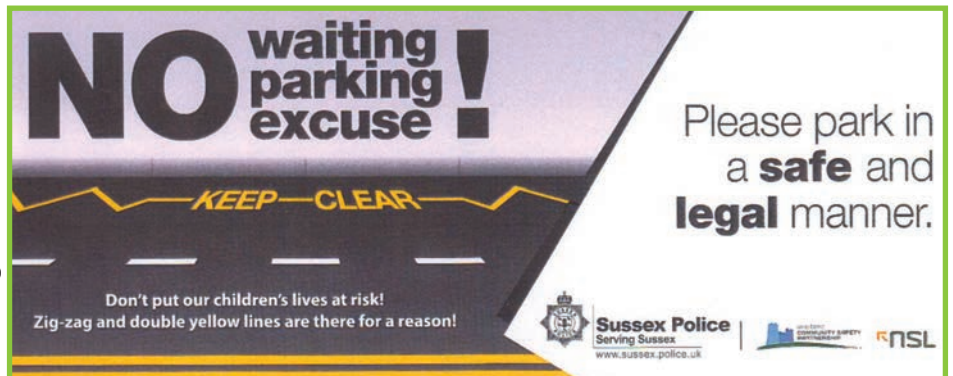
Poppy and her amazing writing!



# PARKING

Please park in a safe and legal manner. I am still receiving complaints from other parents and residents about parking.

I would like to thank the police for supporting us with the issues around school. It is sad it takes a police visit to stop drivers parking irresponsibly. Keeping our children safe should be our priority.



## STUDENT TEACHERS

We are lucky enough to have been inundated with trainee teachers this term so if you see some unfamiliar faces they are future teachers. If your child is in a class with a student teacher they have written a letter to introduce themselves to you.



Mr Williams  
is with Year 6



Mr Whitlock  
is with Year 2



Miss Harper  
is with Year 2



# PFA NEWS

**We have been busy continuing to raise funds to support every child in the school since we returned following the christmas holidays.**

Just before the end of term we held the christmas fair, which was a great success, with a profit of £1538.98 raised on the day.

On 19th January we held our Bingo night, this was really well supported by parents, school staff and friends of our families too. Thank you for coming along and also for the really helpful, constructive feedback we have received. We will certainly make sure that we get the pricing clearer and advertised more accurately next time- thank you for being so understanding on the night. We are a new PFA learning all the time and we appreciate hearing your feedback, positive and constructive. It all helps us to improve and raise more for your children. The Bingo Night made a profit of £267.75.

Last week also saw the School Disco being held, for Foundation Stage and Key Stage One and then for children in Key Stage Two. Again we have heard some really positive feedback and hope your children enjoyed themselves! A HUGE thank you again to the Parents who gave up their time to plan, prepare, help at...and show off some moves at the disco and also to tidy up afterwards. Thanks to those staff who stayed afterschool to help us too, we really do appreciate it. The Disco raised an absolutely amazing £766.11 profit!!

Every penny of profit we make goes into supporting the school to fund all the little extras that make Polegate School an even more exciting and fun place to be.



If you would be interested in getting involved with the PFA, we would love to welcome you on board! Our next meeting is on Monday 26th February. 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.

**Don't forget you can follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with all of our events!**

## EVENTS

**Upcoming events this year are -**

**26th February  
PFA Meeting  
(at the School, 7.30pm)**

**7th-8th March  
Mothers Day gifts on sale**

**13th-14th June  
Fathers Day gifts on sale**

**Summer Fair  
date to be confirmed**

**13th July  
Quiz Night**

## LOVELY FEEDBACK

**Good evening ladies and gentlemen,  
I would just like to say a MASSIVE well done to you all!**

I was able to help at the infants disco (a first as I'm normally working) and I would just like to say thank you! Thank you for spending so much time and hard work not just organising today but for all the events that you all work so hard to organise for our school!

It was a beautiful scene to see the children having such a lovely time but also the helpers and even the teachers having a little boogie with the children! I was very touched!

So well done! You did Polegate school and the PFA proud today!

Many thanks again,

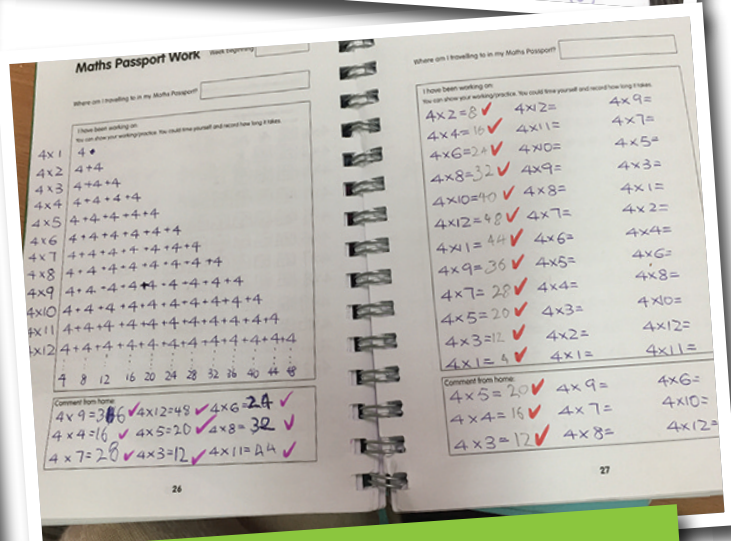
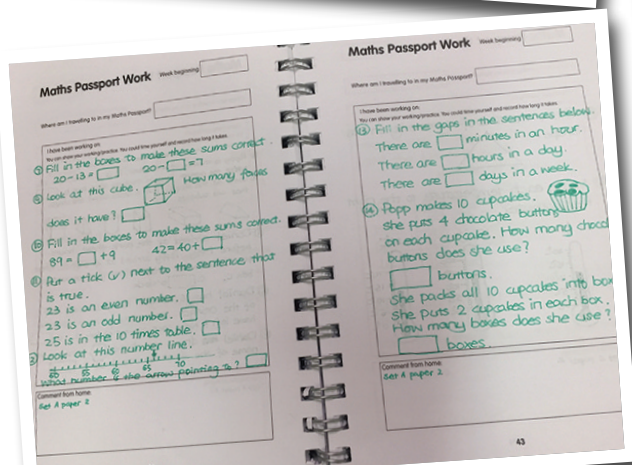
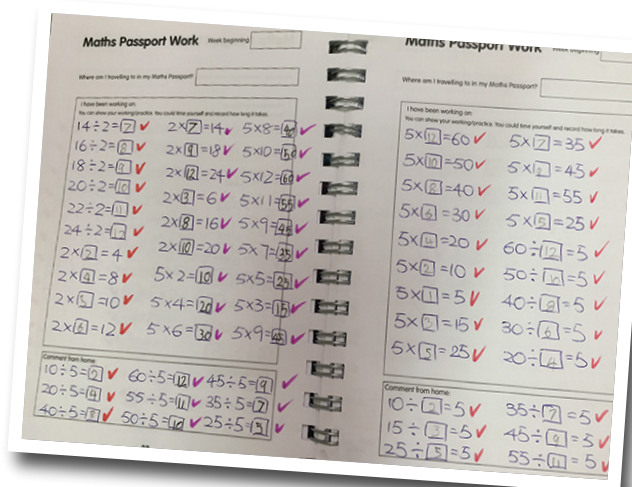
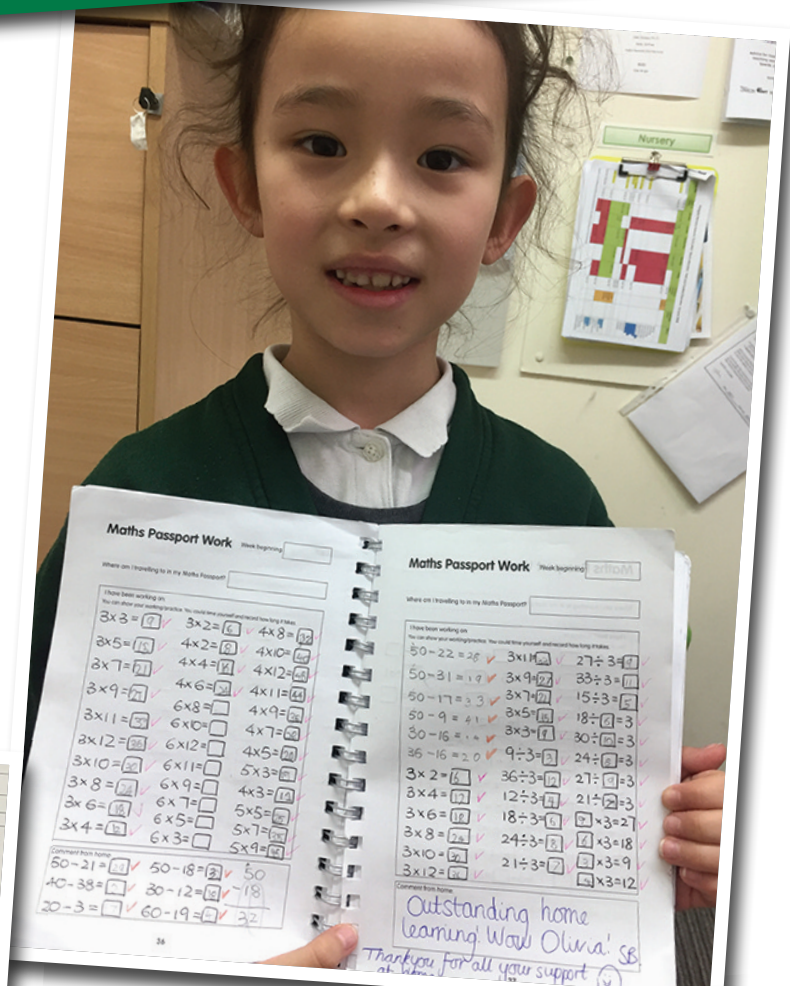
**From a very proud parent of Polegate school,**

# OLIVIA'S MARVELLOUS HOME SCHOOL JOURNAL

The use of the reading section of the journals is so well established now.

The maths is a slightly newer development and is not used as fully. I was delighted to see Olivia's home school journal full of maths practice. Olivia's mum has been busy filling in these sections with practice for Olivia's maths passport targets and as a result Olivia is flying through the continents! I thought many of you would like to see an example of how these pages can be used each week.

Massive well done Olivia and thank you mum!



A perfect example of how to use the home school journal! Thank you mummy! Super Olivia- every week completed!



# PLAYPOD SCRAPSTORE

The blue storage units on the junior and infant playground are going to provide the children with a new playtime resource- scrap materials!

Show me a child that does not enjoy playing with a cardboard box. The stores will be full of a wide variety of materials to encourage creative play, collaboration and imagination... these could be tyres, planks of wood, crates, fabric, tubes, netting and will be replenished throughout the year.

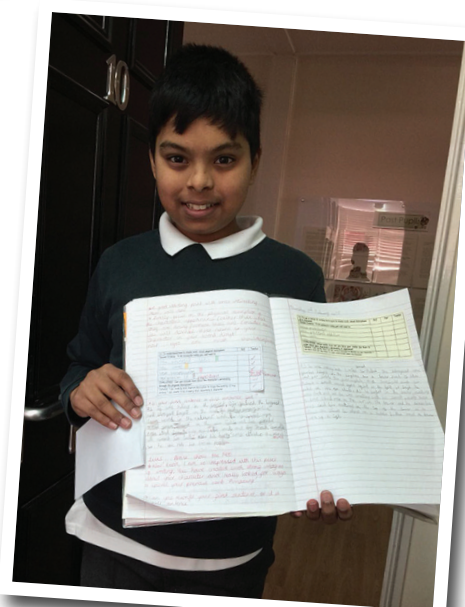
Next week I hope to see children engaging in imaginative play, co-operating and using loose parts and scrap every break and lunchtime!



## MORE GREAT WORK!



An exceptional effort with home learning Year 2! A huge thank you for your support mums and dads!



Kevin's wonderful description of Sir Patrick was so good Mrs Jones could picture him vividly!



# ATTENDANCE PIZZA WORKSHOP

Our latest class attendance award was a big hit with the children!

2 classes enjoyed pizza making and I think you tell from the photos just how much they enjoyed it.



## THANKS TO TESCO - EVERY LITTLE HELPS!

The pizza making was such a success with the support of Tesco who kindly donated some money to help us provide this brilliant experience for the children. We really appreciate the support that our local Tesco provides the school.



# A GREAT EFFORT!

# RAINBOW TRUST

CHILDREN'S CHARITY

## THANK YOU!

to  
**All the Reception  
Children of Polegate  
School**  
for raising an amazing  
**£328.06**

**RAINBOW  
TRUST**  
CHILDREN'S CHARITY

Your fantastic  
donation will pay for  
two fun day trips with  
a trusted Family  
Support Worker.  
**Thank you!**

[rainbowtrust.org.uk](http://rainbowtrust.org.uk)

[@RainbowTrustCC](https://twitter.com/RainbowTrustCC)  
[facebook.com/RainbowTrust](https://facebook.com/RainbowTrust)

Registered Charity No. 1070532



**RAINBOW  
TRUST**  
CHILDREN'S CHARITY

**Head Office**  
6 Cleeve Court  
Cleeve Road  
Leatherhead  
Surrey  
KT22 7UD

T: 01372 363438  
F: 01372 363101  
E: [enquiries@rainbowtrust.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@rainbowtrust.org.uk)  
[rainbowtrust.org.uk](http://rainbowtrust.org.uk)

East Sussex  
BN26 6PT  
Our Ref: 0646156

Dear Nikki,

24 Jan 2018

Please accept my thanks on behalf of everyone at Rainbow Trust Children's Charity for your recent donation of £328.06 from monies raised during Christmas Nativity plays performed by the Reception Children at your School. Thank you so much for choosing to support Rainbow Trust.

Your donation enables us to provide support to more families each year, offering emotional and practical help to the whole family when their child has a life threatening or terminal illness. Our teams of Family Support Workers work throughout the UK and offer a flexible, tailored service in the family home and the local community. Our vision is that one day all terminally ill children and their families will have access to a Rainbow Trust Family Support Worker.

Please pass on our thanks to everyone involved with raising this fantastic donation. We couldn't continue our vital work without the generosity of groups like yourselves. Do not hesitate to get in touch should you require any assistance with future fundraising or indeed have any questions about our work.

I have also enclosed a certificate should you wish to display this.

Thank you again for your support.  
Warmest Wishes,

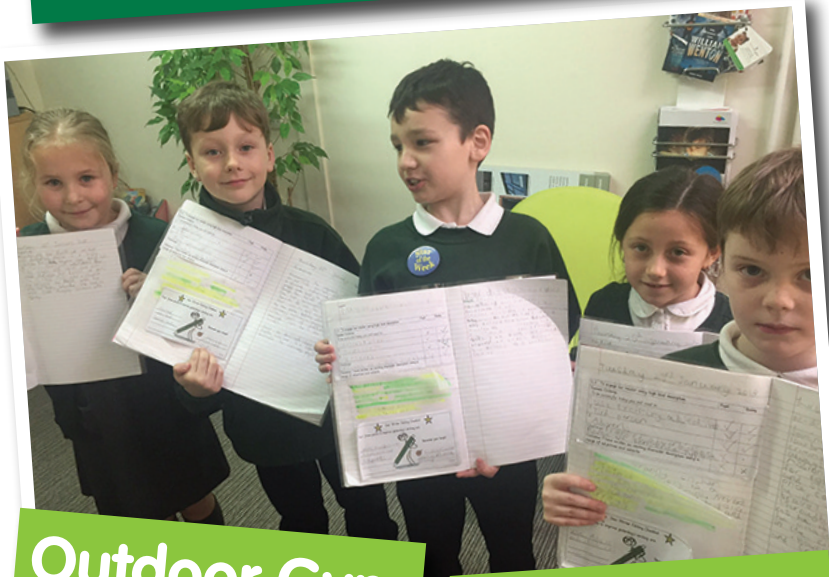
*Bea Kerslake*

Bea Kerslake  
Regional Fundraising Assistant  
Tel: 01372 220002  
Email: [bea.kerslake@rainbowtrust.org.uk](mailto:bea.kerslake@rainbowtrust.org.uk)

Registered Charity No. 1070532  
Registered office  
6 Cleeve Court, Cleeve Road,  
Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 7UD



# MORE GREAT WORK!



## Outdoor Gym

Sadly the weather has held up our installation of the outdoor gym. I am hoping that we will soon get some sun (don't laugh!) so that work can continue!

Some talented Year 3 writers!



More marvellous chocolate factories - I am told the chocolate is inside!

## Diary Date

Monday 19th  
February  
**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 **821** followers!



Polegate School  
Oakleaf Drive  
Polegate  
East Sussex BN26 6PT  
Tel: 01323 482404  
Email: [info@polegateschool.co.uk](mailto: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](http://www.polegateschool.co.uk)

Designed by Prowork: [www.prowork.co.uk](http://www.prowork.co.uk)



# Enter our photography competition – £1,000 worth of prizes to be won!



Is there a budding photographer in your family? Do they have an eye for a great picture? Then our photography competition will be right up their street!

To celebrate the launch of Millwood Park, our exciting new development of two, three and four bedroom homes on Mill Road in Hailsham, we are inviting the community of Hailsham to submit their best images of the area to be in with a chance of winning cash prizes! The winners will also see their images displayed in the Show Home at Millwood Park.

## There are two categories for entry:

### Hailsham buildings and architecture

The historic market town of Hailsham is full of interesting buildings, so in this category we are looking for entrants to capture their favourite pieces of architecture from around the area. These photographs could be full shots of local landmarks or close-ups of intricate details on a building.

### Hailsham life

Life in Hailsham is special so we would like you to capture those treasured moments in a photograph. This could include local events or activities, a landscape or even local traditions.

Gold, silver and bronze prizes will be awarded in each category to the value of:

**Gold** – £250 cash

**Silver** – £150 cash

**Bronze** – £100 cash

To enter, simply email your pictures to:

**[millwoodpark@lindenhomesphotography.co.uk](mailto:millwoodpark@lindenhomesphotography.co.uk)** along with your name, address, age, which category you wish to enter, your telephone number and email address by the closing date: **Sunday 15th April.**

The winners of the competition will be invited to attend a special event where they will be presented with their prize, have their picture taken and see their winning photograph on display in the Millwood Park Show Home. Good luck!

Launching Saturday 24th March 2018, the new homes at Millwood Park are anticipated to start at £230,000.

Register your interest now to be the first to find out more about the homes. Visit **[lindenhomes.co.uk](http://lindenhomes.co.uk)** or call 01323 383 577 to speak with a member of the team.

**HAILSHAM**  
Millwood Park,  
Mill Road BN27 2HU

01323 383 577  
**[lindenhomes.co.uk/millwoodpark](http://lindenhomes.co.uk/millwoodpark)**

  
**Linden**  
HOMES

**Terms and Conditions:** 1. There is no limit to the number of entries that can be made. 2. The closing date for entries is Sunday 15th April 2018; any entries accepted after this date will not be accepted. 3. Entrants must reside in Hailsham. 4. Images should be supplied in high resolution jpeg format minimum 5 megapixels. 5. By submitting your picture into this competition, you waive all claim of copyright and authorise Linden Homes to publish it for display in the Millwood Park Show Home and other marketing literature. 6. Winners must agree to have their details used for publicity purposes. 7. Winners will be informed by phone or email before the awards presentation. 8. Winners should be available to attend the prize giving in late spring. Further details will be confirmed in due course. 9. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. XLNSE705/January 2018.