

# news

June 2015



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# To France & Beyond!

**Wow, what an incredible start to Term 6! I have enjoyed a wonderful four days in France with Year 6. I can honestly say it was such a privilege to spend time with them. They were a credit to their parents and the school.**

They embraced the opportunities, supported each other, were perfectly behaved and great company!

There were so many magical moments – from their awe and wonder at the first sight of the Eiffel Tower to the fascination and astonishment at the special effect tour at Disney. It was seeing this delight on their faces that makes the organisation and time preparing and accompanying them so worthwhile. So many special memories to treasure.

**Don't take my word for it though, read what Year 6 have to say inside...**





# Year 6 - French Trip 2015

## This was Year 6's first residential school trip abroad, in France!

We all had to arrive at school at 5:15 in the morning, ready for a tiring journey! As usual, the weather in Polegate was terrible but when we arrived in France, it was beautiful (hooray!). On some days (in France) it even reached +30 degrees!

When we arrived we went to the LaCouples museum. We entered a fascinating planetarium, which included D-Day on World War 2, which was amazing. In the evening, we played sports.

Wednesday was a fun, jam-packed day for everyone! The main event of the day was climbing to the top of the Eiffel Tower! We also had a brilliant time on the River Seine, cruising across it, seeing all of the most famous French landmarks and monuments. Also, Matthew 'lost' his bag; he claimed it had been left under a tree by the Eiffel Tower, only for it to turn up on the coach. Typical Matthew!

On Thursday we went to the magical world of Disneyland! We had a 'rocking' time on the 'Rock-n-Roller' rollercoaster (blasting rock music all the way!) and we had a fantastic time on many other rides. We also stood under a statue of our school mascot Buzz Lightyear.

On our final day, we went to a French market where we saw lots of unique hand-made objects, such as necklaces and food. Then, we made a long, exhausting journey home.

## A special thanks to all our

**teachers/helpers for taking us:** Mrs O'Donoghue, Miss Murphy, Mr Bailey, Mrs Burtonshaw, Mr Clayton and Mrs Williams. It was a fantastic experience for everyone involved.

## By Alex Waterman, Jamie Hamilton & Matthew Roberts

Thank you to David Sheppard for producing books specially designed for our trip and Lorraine Wilkinson for arranging the printing. The children all found time on the coach to read facts or write in these.



I hope year 5 are looking forward to this experience next year. We have started planning it already and details should be out very soon.



Who's are these?





## STAFF NEWS

**We have appointed another teacher, Helen Philo. She has written a few words to introduce herself to you all:**

I was immediately drawn in by the welcoming atmosphere when I visited Polegate School so I am looking forward to getting to know everyone and am extremely excited to start as a newly qualified teacher in September. When I am not at school I am a keen horse rider and take part in eventing competitions. I also love to relax with a book or a film and enjoy travelling although I haven't been anywhere very exotic!

Helen will be working in Year 5 next year.

**As you already know Clare Marsh is also a new member of our team. She has also written a few words to introduce herself before she starts:**

I am extremely excited and feel very lucky to be joining Polegate School in September. I qualified in 2013 and can honestly say there is no other job I could imagine doing!

When not in school, I love to spend time with friends and family, watching my favourite music artists at concerts/ festivals and traveling to new places, the hotter the better!



**Jimmy not only met the maths challenge, he smashed it. Fantastic achievement.**

## Next year's Classes

**I like to say as early as I possibly can where classes are going to be next year so that we can provide the best possible transition to the next year group and give parents the opportunity to liaise with class teachers.**

I have also included the names of all the additional adults that will be working within the year group. The children will all spend time with their new teachers on the 7th July.

### CLASS TEACHER

### TA PROVISION

#### Nursery

Lisa Terry, Margaret Cockett, Emma Hanmore, Taeko Martin

**RP Rachel Perkins**

Sally Bennett, Sue Barber

**RH Nicky Hadley**

Sue Heather

**1A (RP) Amie Ashdown**

Lorraine Wilkinson

**1J (RH) Debbie Jones Henry**

Marion Toni. INA Karen Brown, Sophie Reynolds

**2 (1J) Amy Regan**

Corinne Williams

**2 (1A) Mary McGovern**

Jack Hopkins, Heidi Ireland, INA Sophie Reynolds

**3 (2R) Maisie Palmer**

INA Julie Jackson, Lisa Maynard

**3 (2M) Sally Barnard**

INA Courtney Cassell, Claire Kulsdom

**4 (3B) Emma Murphy**

Sue Belk

**4 (3P) Clare Marsh**

Monika Bailey, INA Lisa Hugget

**5 (4M) Rebecca Burton**

Nicky Shoesmith

**5 (4B) Helen Philo**

Julie McFarlane

**6 (5B) Mat Trent**

TA role: Maxine Weyland, INA Andrea Holland am, Corinne Ray pm, Transition: Jo Furlong

**6 (5C) Ruby Murphy**

Gill Richardson

# RECYCLED FASHION IN YEAR 3

## Watch out Dolce & Gabbana, Year 3 are the new latest up and coming talent!

On the first day back Year 3 arrived to an exciting surprise. We were set a challenge to plan, make and choreograph our own recycled fashion show. We started the day researching designs and planning our own outfits.

We gave out jobs such as models, artists, DJs and photographers.

Then came the fun part – making our outfits, we used a range of recyclable materials such as: carrier bags, cardboard and paper bags.

In the afternoon we invited our parents to come and watch us strut our stuff! We loved our marvellous middle and are very excited to continue our Litter Bugs topic.



## MATHS CHALLENGE Zios & Zepts

On the planet Vuv there are two sorts of creatures.

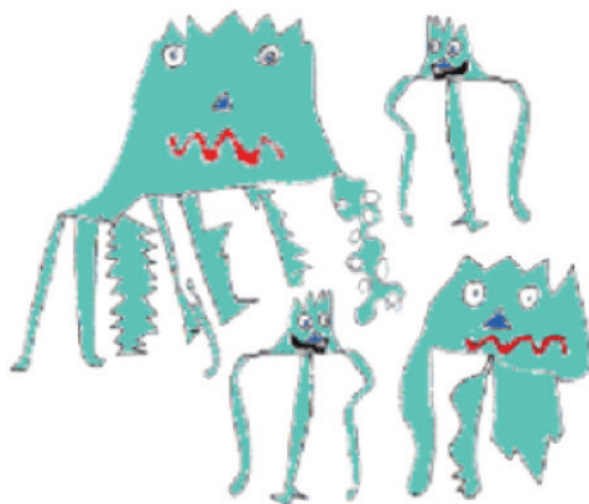
The Zios have 3 legs and the Zepts have 7 legs.

The great planetary explorer Nico, who first discovered the planet, saw a crowd of Zios and Zepts. He managed to see that there was more than one of each kind of creature before they saw him. Suddenly they all rolled over onto their backs and put their legs in the air. He counted 52 legs.

**How many Zios and how many Zepts were there?**

**Do you think there are any different answers?**

**Entries to Mrs Jones please. There are prizes for a winner in KS1 and KS2**





# SPORTS NEWS

## Girls Kwik Cricket

**On a very windy Tuesday in May, eight Year Six girls took part in an inter-schools Kwik Cricket competition at the Saffrons Cricket Ground in Eastbourne.**

The tournament was part of the 'This Girl Can' national campaign developed by Sport England and a wide range of partnership organisations. It's a celebration of active girls up and down the country who are doing their thing no matter how well they do it, how they look or even how red their face gets!!

One of the team, Amy Bateman, who admits being quite new to cricket said; "The cricket matches were really good, especially as some of us had only learned the rules the days before. The first two games were against Ocklynge teams and we sadly lost both... Then we played against another team and only just won. Then we played against Seaford and it was an amazing game - plus we won!! All of us played brilliantly... and the most important thing is that we all loved it!!



## Tri Golf Tournament

**On Wednesday 10th July – year 3 went to Willingdon Secondary school to compete in a Tri Golf tournament.**

We arrived early and excited, after a quick games warm up we made our way to the field to start the competition.

There were 8 stations at which we practised our golf skills using a range of clubs. Quickly we became very skilled in speed and accuracy. Overall we came third in the event and had a fantastic time with other schools out in the sunshine.

**Thank you to Mr Moore who came with us and helped with transport**



## Eastbourne College Swimming Gala

**Following the success of previous Eastbourne College Junior Schools Invitation Swimming Galas, we are delighted to invite your school to join us for the nineteenth Gala which will take place at 6.30pm on Thursday 24 September 2015.**

So to all our potential swimmers- get training!

We would like to thank Mr Bibiloni for sponsoring our new swimming tops. Now our swimmers can really look the part when we attend the many galas we enter.



**Our fab new Swimming tops!**

# Sports Star of the term - Robbie Joiner

**Hello, I am Robbie Joiner in 4M and I like to do Running.**

I have done lots of parkruns with my mum. Parkrun is a 5K run that I do every Saturday. You can just turn up whenever you feel like it. Even some of our teachers do it! I enjoy it a lot and even my sister does it sometimes (she is in year two and her name is Emma). Sometimes I don't do it because I am tired or ill. But then I regret it when my mum has gone.

I did my first parkrun nearly 2 years ago and now I have done 58! About 180 miles all together! That would be from Polegate past Paris and nearly to Germany. I have got faster and faster since then and had lots of PBs (personal best). I usually do Eastbourne, however, I have also done: Havant, Edinburgh, Preston Park Brighton and Queen Elizabeth Park in Petersfield. There is also a junior parkrun in Brighton which is only for children, and is 2 Kilometres. I have also done that a couple of times.

**When I did 10 parkruns, I got a 10 T-shirt and now I am waiting for my 50 t-shirt to arrive! When I get it I will bring it into school to show you all.**

**Robbie Joiner**



## The big first aid lesson

**On Friday we are all looking at essential first aid skills with every child in the school as part of this national event.**



## DIARY DATES

**Congress show  
Tuesday 30th June**

**Inset Day  
Wednesday 1st July**

**PFA Summer Fayre  
Saturday 20th June  
11.00am – 2.00pm**

**Mufti day for the  
Tombola  
Friday 19th June**

**Change over day  
7th July**

**Reports due out  
13th July**

**20th July meet your  
child's new teacher.  
Book appointment 5  
minute slots.**

**Last day of term  
22nd July 2015**

## Bike It!

**Please join us for a cycle ride on Thursday  
25th June from school to Abbots Wood.**

Everyone is welcome, parents, grandparents, friends.... We are joining Willingdon school for this event so please come along and make sure there are not just 3 of us representing Polegate! It should be great fun. More details will be sent out in a separate letter.

Next week we have a new challenge. Children are being asked to cycle to and from school as many times as they

can in the lead up to our Sports Week. There are lots of prizes to collect along the way and if anyone manages 20 rides there is a larger prize being donated by Kontour Cycles in Polegate.





# The start of term

**On the first day back Year 1 discovered a mysterious bottle which had a letter inside!**

The letter was written by Max from Where the Wild Things Are. We spent the afternoon visiting the place Where the Wild Things are (the wildlife garden) and made some crowns fit for a king! We used lots of natural materials such as plants and stones.



# Amazing work



**Annabelle achieved first place in her swimming gala.**



**Henry wrote all about his big dog today.**

# E-Cigarettes

**We do take seriously our duty to promote children's well being and as part of this we have a smoke free environment. This includes the use of e-cigarettes due to the following reasons:**

1. E-cigarettes are not yet regulated and we are still unsure about the safety of the product. They are not due for medical regulation until 2016.
2. E-cigarettes look like normal cigarettes. There are potential regulatory issues around enforcing cigarette bans.
3. Young people may be influenced by adults smoking e-cigarettes and think this is ok and that we want to do everything we can to discourage children from smoking.

I would like to congratulate any parent trying to give up smoking and would want to encourage this but please could we request that parents do not use e-cigarettes on the school for the reasons above.



**Ella's excellent achievement on AR. 1 quiz needed so she went and completed 6 instead!**

# Attendance

The whole school average is currently only 95%. This is significantly lower than our target and means that the average child in our school will miss 9 days of school over the year!

The government regard 95% as the minimum satisfactory attendance for a primary school pupil.

If your child's attendance is below 95% we will be sending out letters to notify you.

The East Sussex Education Welfare Team will get involved in some cases when attendance is low.

We are also having a focus on those children that regularly arrive to school late. The Education Welfare Service will be analysing our registers next term.

## Does being late really matter?

Yes, if a child misses 15 minutes every day it adds up to 9 whole school days throughout the year. It also disrupts the learning of other children in the class.

## Win a book token with 100%

As an added incentive and for a bit of change we are offering all children that achieve 100% until the end of the year a £5 book token.

# Class figures

Overall school attendance is currently at 95.3%. Our school target this year of 97%.

RP = 94%	2M = 97%	5B = 97%
RH = 93%	3P = 95%	5C = 97%
1J = 95%	3B = 96%	6T = 95%
1A = 92%	4M = 96%	6M = 95%
2R = 96%	4B = 96%	

## 97% is our target

Research also shows the positive impact that good school attendance has on the academic achievement of pupils:

- 94% = Very good chance of 5A\* - C Grades.
- 93% = Good chance of 5A\* - Grades.
- 92% = Fair chance of 5A\* - Grades.
- 90% = Less than 50% chance of 5A\* - Grades.
- 88% = Less than 35% chance of 5A\* - Grades.
- < 88% Less than 30% chance of 5A\* - Grades

## INSET DAY

The next  
INSET DAY  
will be  
WEDNESDAY  
JULY 1st

## 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  
457 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](http://www.polegateschool.co.uk)

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