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Friday 6th November 2020

Issue 8 2020 - 2021

**Queensgate Foundation  
Primary School**



## Thank You Footprint Trust

Dear Parents/carers,

We have a new pond at the Patch. Please see below for a message from Mark Russell at The Footprint Trust.

Dear everyone,

With the great help from all involved I'm pleased to be able to confirm that we were able to complete the task on Wednesday 28th October, of lining the school's new pond. Thankfully just in time before a lockdown!

The Footprint Trust are very grateful to Tina Whitmore for both the initial approach for our help, and for all of the liaising with the school and for helping on Wednesday. Thanks too to Jerry and Tony (Sir Robert McAlpine) for facilitating access and of course for the work to dig the pond in the first place!

We hope that wildlife will use the pond and that pupils enjoy learning and experiencing that for many years to come.

With best wishes

Mark Russell, The Footprint Trust, Riverside Centre, The Quay, Newport, Isle of Wight UK, PO30 2QR



Working together for a successful future

We also have a pond at the front of the school too. We will be developing this into more of an ornamental pond rather than environmental like the one at the Patch.

### **Covid Update – please wear face coverings**

We have no cases of Covid and no-one displaying symptoms at the time of writing. I am pleased with how the measures are working and thank you and the children for your support with this. As cases in the local area have increased I would like to add a further measure to help keep us safe. Please could you wear a face mask at drop off and pick up times from Monday, but remember to socially distance too. I would very much like to get through this term Covid free so all the children can continue to enjoy a positive school experience and receive a good education.

### **Book Fair**

Usually at this time of year we invite you all in to a Scholastic book fair in school to help with your Christmas shopping. As you can appreciate we will not be able to do this at the moment, so instead please follow this link <https://shop.scholastic.co.uk/bookclubs/order/promote>

The books are very reasonably priced and good quality. They make great Christmas gifts. Queensgate will earn 20% on all books sold which we will then in turn spend on books for children in school.

### **Play Parks And Scooter Park**

Please can you encourage your children (whilst Lockdown is in place) to go straight home and come straight to school without stopping at the park. In several year groups there are lots of issues and incidents occurring which are being brought into school. We would like this to stop. Thank you.



### **Christmas Events...A Little Different this Year**

A lot of events, for example, Christmas Fair, shows and carol services cannot take place this year, but we still want the children to have a really good time at this magical time of year. Here are our plans:

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December Jolly Jumper Day in aid of Wessex Cancer Trust** – please can the children wear a jolly jumper to school and all money raised will be given to the Wessex Cancer Trust – more details to follow.

**Cinderella** – I have ordered the children a digital pantomime which they will enjoy in their classrooms – more details to follow!

**A Virtual Christmas Celebration** - Each class will be making a short film of something they have prepared to show you for Christmas. This may be a song, poem or some acting. The links for the Virtual Christmas celebration will go onto our website on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December** for you to enjoy with your children.

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Dinner Day

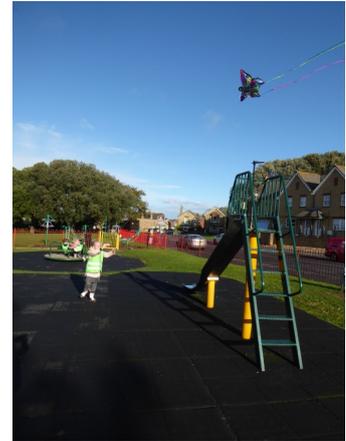
**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December** – Off timetable party day with party food lunch - wear mufti (own clothes). Last day of term.

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December** – INSET day – school closed for children.



## Out & About

On Tuesday morning the **1KS** Out and About group made the most of the windy weather and went kite flying in the park. Lots of the children said it was their first time flying a kite and they loved it! We enjoyed sharing stories about toys (their new topic) and had fun playing in the park too.



Out and About children from **3PT** learnt how to use compasses and read maps on Tuesday afternoon. They worked well as a team to hunt for orienteering markers around the local area. The children were all very keen and excited to find the next clue. Well done 3PT!



RAS walked to Osborne House on Wednesday morning to help plant Spring bulbs. The children were very sensible walking along the roadside and crossing the roads. They listened carefully to instructions from the head gardener, Toby. The children managed to plant 3,500 daffodil bulbs in 1 hour! RAS are excited to return at Easter time to see all of the daffodils in flower.



Working together for a successful future

2KA had fun on the Patch on Wednesday afternoon. The children hunted for hidden common exception words and recorded which ones they found. Some children played phonics games, practising tricky trigraphs and digraphs. The children all enjoyed exploring the mud kitchen, rope swings, bug hunting and playing in the tree house too.



### Community Speed Watch

East Cowes Town Council is planning to set up a Community Speed Watch Project in the town. This can be conducted on straight roads with no dips or parked cars over a 100metre length. The Town Council is looking to recruit volunteers from the community who would like to take part. Volunteers will receive full training from the police and further support for the initial sessions. Volunteers work in teams of 3. If you are interested please send you details to [clerk@eastcowestowncouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@eastcowestowncouncil.co.uk) or contact the town hall on 01983 299082.

### One Way System

Thank you for continuing to use the one way into and out of school. This will continue for the foreseeable future. On Monday the double green gates will **NOT** be open, instead the smaller gate leading into the school ground by the new playground will be open. Please do not queue up the path leading to Seashells, please do not arrive too early and queue along Beatrice Avenue either.

When you have dropped off your children please leave the site using **the new footpath down to Beatrice Avenue**, please do not exit via the Car Park - this was a temporary arrangement whilst the old building was being demolished.

Please can I remind you that cycling and scootering on site is not allowed (by children or adults!). When you have accessed through the gates please walk your bike or scooter and use the scooter and bike racks supplied to store them. There are racks on both sides of the building.

We will soon be taking ownership of our new playground, which we are very excited about. There is seeding and landscaping going on which will be looked after by a contractor of Sir Robert McAlpine's for the next year. It is already looking good but we can't wait for it all to be complete. The building still continues to be a wonderful space that the children enjoy learning and playing in. We are so pleased with the outcome and would like to thank Sir Robert McAlpine and all of their contractors for an amazing job. We have only used the building 'normally' for 3 weeks before the initial lockdown, so are looking forward to the day when we can fully function in our new building and grounds. Lets hope this isn't too far away!





# What's for dinner next week?

(Remember all Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are entitled to Free School dinners.)



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Potato Salad	Lemon Turkey Stuffed Pitta Pouch with Rice	Roast Gammon Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Spaghetti Bolognese	MSC Fish Fingers with Chips
Summer Vegetable Risotto	Tomato & Vegetable Pasta	Vegetable Wellington Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Five Bean Chilli with Rice	Cheese & Potato Wheel with Chips
Sweetcorn Peas	Tomato & Onion Slaw Grated Carrot & Raisin Salad	Carrot Cabbage	Broccoli Sweetcorn	Baked Beans Peas
Banana Chocolate Oaty Square Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Fresh Fruit & Yoghurt Station	Marble Cake Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Orange Drizzle Cake Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Peaches & Ice Cream Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit

## Welcome to Mr Butt

I would like to say a very warm welcome to Mr Butt who has joined our Year 3 teaching team whilst Mr Tilling is off. Mr Butt can be reached using the existing 3PT@queensgateprimary.co.uk address.

Hi, I'm Mr Butt and I'm the new teacher covering 3PT while Mr Tilling is off. I have worked in many different schools, but am really looking forward to working at Queensgate and getting to know everyone. My favourite subjects are PE and Maths, but I like to teach them all. Outside of school, I play lots of sports, including golf, football and cricket so I like to keep active. I look forward to meeting you and getting to know as many of you as I can!



## Positive Quote

*"Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by it's ability to climb a tree, it will live it's whole life believing it is stupid." Albert Einstein*

**Whole school attendance 96.75%.**

Remember that good attendance will help your child to succeed at school.

**This week 5PG achieved 99.13% attendance!**  
**Well done.**

Best wishes,

**Samantha Sillito**

**Headteacher**