Beatrice Avenue, East Cowes, IOW, PO32 6PA. Tel 292872 queensgateprimary.co.uk

Queensgate Foundation Primary School Friday 20th October 2023

Issue 7







Take Part in the Reading Challenge over the Half Term Holiday!

Dear Families,

Autumn Reading Challenge

We have a two-week half term holiday this year. It is really important that the children continue to read every day. Mrs Webb has organised a reading challenge.

This academic year we have decided to change our annual sponsored reading challenge from Spring to Autumn. The reason for this is we want to avoid running it alongside the Easter Bunny Hop.

Prizes will be given for the most money raised as well as the most minutes read. The money will be used for new books in the library. If you have any requests for books you would like to see in the library, please let Mrs N Webb know.

Below are a number of spooky books to coincide with Halloween. Obviously, these are only suggestions. As always, any reading material is great!

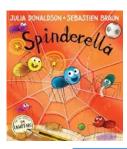
Sponsorship forms have been sent home today. Happy reading everyone!



















Harvest Festival

Thank you so much for all the donations you sent in to go to the East Cowes Food Pantry. We had James Pontin in to talk to the children during Harvest Festival about precious things and to say thank you for the food. We also had Jane from the Food Pantry in to tell us about their work. She was very grateful for our huge donation to the pantry.



Covid Guidance

As we enter cold and flu season we would like to remind parents of Government guidance which we take our advice from.

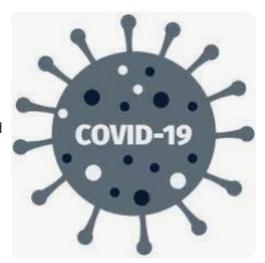
In the current guidance, Managing specific infectious diseases: A to Z the guidance states the following:

It is <u>not</u> recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional.

Schools should ask parents **not to send** in any affected individual who **has a high temperature and are unwell** until they no longer have a high temperature and are well enough to attend the setting.

However, schools should ask parents **to send** in individuals with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or mild cough, who are otherwise well.

Queensgate also maintain good infection prevention and control in our setting, particularly promoting respiratory and hand hygiene messages and we ensure there is sufficient supply of soap in school washrooms. We have also maintained our hand gel dispensers that the children are very used to using when coming in from breaks.



Attendance

Whole School Attendance since September is 96.01%

Whole School Attendance this week is 95.12%

KS1 Class with best attendance this week is RSD with 96.89%

KS2 Class with best attendance this week is 4MC & 6LR with 98.15%

10 days of absence during the school year causes your child's attendance to drop to 95%

20 days of absence during the school year causes your child's attendance to drop to 90% 40 days of absence during the school year causes your child's attendance to drop to 80% If your child's attendance falls below 90% they are classed as persistently absent



What's for dinner after half term?

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







All main meals are served with two vegetables

Special menu for **Monday 6th November** - Let's Rocket See poster for details.

Out and About

The **2KG** Out and About team went to Brighstone on Tuesday morning to explore habitats and learn about what animals need to survive. The children were challenged to design and make their own creature using clay. They all enjoyed exploring the woodland and having a go on the tyre swing over the stream too!

"We went to the Dragon Tree. We made clay creatures. We had to think about what animals need; food, shelter, oxygen and water. We had to think about their habitat. A habitat is a home like a nest for a bird. I liked making my bird out of clay, leaves and sticks. And I used fluffy feathers." Rory O 2KG











Next half term the children in **Year 3** will be learning about the Stone Age. In preparation, the **3PT** team walked up to the Longstone at Mottistone. The children learnt about the Neolithic long barrow (burial mound) and how people would have lived within the Stone Age.

"The Longstone is a place where they used to bury bones, 6,000 years ago. They used to lay out the bodies for birds and animals to eat them. In the Stone Age they used to hunt animals for food and to make clothes and tents with their skins. It's called the Stone Age because people used to use stones as tools and weapons." Chloe W-B 3PT

"In the Stone Age people used to worship the sun and the moon. The Longstone was a mound where bones were buried in the Neolithic time- that's New Stone Age." Layla E 3PT









This half term **Year 4** have been learning about digestion and teeth in Science and where food comes from in their Geography lessons. On Wednesday morning the **4MC** Out and About group visited Briddlesford Farm to learn about milk production and how the farm is run, as well as learning about cows teeth and how they digest their food.

"We went to a dairy farm and we learnt all about cows and how they get milked. The girl cows are used for milking and the boys cows, bulls, are used for meat. Cows only have bottom teeth and big teeth at the back for chewing. Cows have 4 stomachs! At the farm they make and sell milk, milkshakes, butter and cheese. In the shop they sell vegetables and other things grown on the Isle of Wight. There were two dogs that live at the farm, Sky and Spot. Sky is Spot's Mummy. The dogs liked following us around the farm. At the end of our trip we got to taste the milk, it was really tasty...I drank three cups! My favourite bit was the calves licking me and drinking the milk." Jacob L 4MC









We had a slight change of plan on Wednesday afternoon due to strong winds being forecast. The **1CE** Out and About children visited Quarr (instead of Borthwood) to learn about Autumn and recapped their Science learning about senses. The children were unfazed by the torrential rain and enjoyed feeding the piglets and exploring Autumn in their woodland area.

"We went to Quarr Abbey. We learnt about our 5 senses; smell, taste, touch, hear and see. It was very, very rainy! The leaves are different colours because it's Autumn. We looked for conkers and fed the piglets. We fed them acorns that we found on the ground and bought some pig food to feed them. The best bit was feeding the pigs and I found a conker and a pine cone!" Evelyn 1CE









Out and About after half-term...

Please ensure your child wears suitable warm play clothes (that can get muddy) and they bring a waterproof coat and wellies.

Tuesday am - 2KA

Dragon Tree, Brighstone

Kendall, Pippa, Deva-Mae, Ava, Hannah, Clara, Freddie, Harry D, Charlie, Henry, Lorenzo, Edward, AJ and Logan.

Tuesday pm - 3AH

Longstone, Mottistone

Ethan, Harlan, Miller, Freddie, Riley, Arlo, Johnny, George, Ellie, Lilly, Evie and Annie.

Wednesday am - 4BM

Briddlesford Farm

Christopher, Tyler, Caiden, Dylan, Malaika, Logan, Tilly, Katelyn, Ella R, Freddie, Ella S, Alfie, Rory and Tallulah. *Please note- the children <u>must</u> wear wellies on the farm tour. If your child doesn't currently have any, please let the office know as we might be able to lend them a pair.

Wednesday pm - 1SM

Borthwood Copse

George, Jacob, Louis, Jack, Max, Jaxson, Archie, Arthur, Sadie, Freya, Vienna, Holly, Olivia, Elsie-Mai and Poppy.

Clubs

Club will start back again Monday 13th November.

Clubs that have finished and will change to a new list after half term: Cookery KS1 & KS2, Gardening KS1 & KS2, Knitting, Skateboarding, Netball. Badminton has finished completely.

Clubs staying the same:

Y5 & Y6 Homework Club, Boys Football, Pond Club, Reading Club. Samba staying the same but has moved to Wednesdays. Girls Football staying the same but moved to Wednesdays

Choir is new – Tues Y3-Y6Clubbly will go live Monday 6th November at 6pm.

Social Media Issues



Most major social media platforms – FaceBook, TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter, Pinterest, WhatsApp to mention just a few, require users to be at least 13 years of age (and in some cases 16 - WhatsApp).

Pre-teens are not ready to handle the world of social networking and all its implications. Some social media platforms do not use any age verifications tools, leaving your chid able to sign up for a new account without your knowledge. They will then have access to explicit and inappropriate content without restriction. TikTok has a feature called 'Family Pairing' allowing parents to link their child's account to their own, set time limits and control direct messages. Parents receive notification if any setting are changed or turned off.

Some social media platforms also share data with third-party service providers – even when the apps are not being used. That means if your child copies and pastes sensitive information or private conversations it is available to those third-party providers.

It is becoming ever more apparent that a number of Queensgate pupils are using various social media platforms to contact other pupils in an unfriendly and bullying manner. In turn parents are contacting school to involve us, make us aware of what is going on and asking us to resolve these out of school disagreements. Whilst we take all instances of bullying within school seriously and look for resolutions, the amount of time that is being taken up trying to resolve out-of-school issues is impacting greatly on the amount of time dedicated to education within school.

The decision to allow your child to use social media platforms means you, as the parent/ responsible person, should monitor your child's online activity to ensure they are using platforms responsibly.

Useful Links to guides around parental settings:

https://www.internetmatters.org/wp-content/uploads/parent-controls-docs/parental-control-whatsapp.pdf

https://www.internetmatters.org/wp-content/uploads/parent-controls-docs/parental-control-tiktok-privacy-and-safety-settings.pdf

https://www.internetmatters.org/wp-content/uploads/parent-controls-docs/parental-control-instagram.pdf

*Understanding your child's behaviour

6 weekly sessions for 2 hours

Do you need support in understanding your child's behaviours? The MHST is offering parent-led sessions to provide you with skills focusing on reinforcement, boundaries, rewards and emotional recognition *

In these sessions we'll be looking at:

- Causes of behaviour you view to be challenging
- Behavioural theories
- The importance of play
- How to praise and reward
- How and when to use selective
- How to give effective instructions
- How to set fair consequences

If you are interested in these sessions, please speak with the school's Designated Mental Health Lead



Helping your child with fears and worries

6 weekly sessions for 2 hours

Does your child struggle with fears and worries? The MHST is offering parent-led sessions to provide you with skills to help support your child with their fears and worries.

In these sessions we'll be looking at:

- How anxiety develops and is maintained
- Causes of childhood anxiety difficulties
- What keeps your child's anxiety going
- How to encourage independence
- Step-by-step approach to overcoming fears and worries
- Problem solving technique

If you are interested in these sessions, please speak with the school's Designated Mental Health Lead



Mental Health and Wellbeing at Queensgate

Queensgate Primary has signed up to the mental health charter and work closely with the Mental Health Service Team.

Please see above posters for two courses that can be run at our school. They are very well delivered and give useful information on how to help your child around behaviours and any fears and worries they have. Please see Mr Chubb or Mrs Jeffers or send an email to enquiries@queensgateprimary.co.uk to register your interest - we would plan to run these early in the Spring term.

To the right is a useful document around balancing the needs of different family members, especially if one has autism. Have a read.

Thrive 365

Dragonfly: Impact Education

Did you know?

Balancing the different needs of family members is always a challenge, but if a child in the family has autism, this can be even more demanding. It can be difficult for parents under this kind of pressure to model emotional regulation which in turn impacts on the children and can quickly networks such as family, friends, or support autism can be a huge help. Sometimes these can (https://contact.org.uk/help-for-families/listeningear/). This week, we offer tips for parents younger siblings and teenage siblings of children

2 Tips for younger children

Offer information and reassurance, such as:

Sometimes, people with autism might do things nat seem strange. They might scream, or rock backwards and forwards, or flap their hands. Or perhaps they do something else that seems different

This might be because they are

- Nervous or scared
- They are trying to relax

Encourage them to ask you when their sibling does something they don't understand. Explore reasons why they might behave like that.



Tips for parents

Often, conflicts arise through misunderstanding Position yourself as an observer in your family. Notice the different ways family members show affection or irritation through their body language verbal cues to your children. Perhaps they don't realise that their sibling is trying to show affectic when they barge into his/her room. Maybe they don't notice that their sibling needs space when they start to close down and become very quiet. Also, offer your child some practical coping strategies for when their sibling has a meltdown steps you take to deal with the situation, as they

Tips for older children

Empathise with them - it can feel hard not to have friends seem to have with their brothers or sisters. though, just like every person is different.

Often, people with autism have a special interest something they're really passionate about. Encourage your teen to try and share in that interest with them or to find another interest that they could share, for example if they both enjoy the same kind of music, or maybe they both love cars or football. Even if it's that it's worth giving it a go and could broaden their own horizons as well as having something special to share that's just for the two of them.

vw.dragonflyimpact.co.uk@dragonflyimpact 🚯 💟 🧓 ww.dragonflyimpact.com/how-we-can-help





Sport News

Year 6 Boys Football

Last Friday, the Year 6 boys travelled to Cowes to compete in the Pokémon cup finals. The boys had previously defeated Carisbrooke and Nine Acres to earn a place in these finals. There were four teams from around the island participating, Queensgate, Greenmount, Gurnard and The Bay. The format for the afternoon was a round robin tournament with the top two teams competing for a place in the Hampshire finals. Each game was 15 minutes long and every game was very competitive. The results from the teams three games were; 2-1 loss against Gurnard, 1-0 loss against Greenmount and a 1-0 loss against The Bay. Despite losing all three games, the team played incredibly well. With the boys getting to these finals, it says they are in the top 4 U11 boys teams on the island. They competed with the very best and in each game there was just a goal in it. The boys should be extremely proud of themselves for getting into this position and playing so well.

should be extremely proud of themselves for getting into this position and playing so well.

**TANDAR THE PROPERTY OF THE SHORT OF THE East Cowes Town Carol Service at St. James Church. (Service I staff or other choir members if some of the choir do not attend the events which are showcase moments for our school.

**TANDAR THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPE

Sports for Champions

As you know last week we had Jordan Catchpole in school who is a Paralympic swimmer. As part of the follow up work the children have done some free writing. Here are a couple of examples to tell you a little bit more about the day.

Dear Diary,

Yesterday Jordan Catchpole came in, he is a Paralympic swimmer. In his assembly he told us about the race he had against Australia, Japan, Brazil, China and RPC not only did Great Brittan win, there was also a world record set by Jordan. His power point was very inspiring. Also, he wanted to be a footballer when he grew up but he was a very good swimmer, after his grandad had thrown him in the pool when he was a baby. Swimming was fun at first for him but after a while it became a chore to him like washing up.

After his awesome assembly, there was a fitness circuit and as a sport leader, I was able to help from 9:30 AM to 12:00pm. The first exercise was spotty dogs, then it was mountain climbers. The third activity was push ups and for the final activity they did star jumps. We had to help whole school, starting with reception the demonstration had to be simplified a lot, but it was still a struggle. By the time we got the year twos Jack in the other class was pushing a little too much he sounded like a military captain, so I told him to tone it down. He didn't listen so I did the same as him but less screaming. I tried to make them believe in themselves. They did. I was shouting over the music 'show us what you can do and don't give up' and count how many they could do.

Recently I got into finger knitting and I had a red and blue bracelet that I made in my pocket I gave them to Jordan as a gift, as they represent the colours of Great Brittan. He liked them very much. It was a good exercise and I think it impacted my learning because I learnt long division in the way we should be learning it instead of my own way and now it makes sense.

Thank you for coming in Jordan by Emily

Dear Diary,

Yesterday, an amazing Paralympic swimmer came in. His name was Jordan Catchpole.

His visit was inspiring, it was probably the best visit we have had in a while.

At 9:00, we went down to the assembly hall and sat down. The first people were wondering how he was a Paralympian, turns out he is autistic and has learning difficulties.

His assembly was incredible. He talked about his races (in swimming). He also talked about how he received an MBE from Princess Ann and how he got a letter from Queen Elizabeth. But he mainly talked out he set a world record and beat Australia, Japan, Brazil, China and RPC.

After the Assembly, we went back down at 10:30 and did some exercise circuits. The first exercise was spotty dogs (we all did one minute on each exercise). The second was mountain climbers, the third was push ups. And the last exercise was star jumps.

The whole time we were doing these exercises Jordan was playing music and motivating us.

This was an amazing experience, thank you for coming in Jordan. By Zoe G

My head was spinning from the moment I stepped out of the changing room. Australia, Brazil, Japan, China, RPC. This is real life not just a training session... it was the 2022 Tokyo Paralympics, the 4 x 100 relay. All of a sudden, the realisation hit me, Australia were there. They had won cricket and swimming, I HAD to beat them.

Before I got a chance to think, Reece Dunn was already on the diving block. The machine started to go, but they were just testing it. That's when it all started. The official blew their whistle - 3 short blows followed by one long one that meant everyone get on the blocks now it was the machines turn. 'Take your marks... BEEP!' I could not see the rest from the splashing of the water, but I do know he won.

Soon enough it was my turn. Australia already had a head start. This was it. I was going to let my teammates down. I felt a gush of disappointment swallow me up. No, it was fury. I had to win for Great Britain! I dived in, under water work was key. If I made sure my fly kick was strong enough I had a chance. I swam as if I was being chased by a great white. My tumble turn needed to be quick same with the push off of the wall. I was at the other end! A river of relief drowned me. We had won.

Bella T-R

Family Support

As we are coming up to the half term I appreciate that some of you may already be worrying about the cost of extra food and expenses of having the children at home for the next two weeks.

You are not alone and there is lots of support and help available. See to the right for the **cost of living support** and please also consider visiting our local East Cowes Food Pantry. I am able to send 'Food Bank' vouchers via email.

Everyone struggles at certain points in their lives, even more so at the moment so please do not feel ashamed or embarrassed to reach out. Many of these services are available to all, regardless of employment status.

Many supermarkets are offering a free children's meal with every adult meal purchased but I would recommend ASDA's £1 Childrens lunches, no other purchase necessary and you are also able to takeaway.

If I can help you in any way please get in touch.

Mrs Jeffers J ajeffers@queensgateprimary.co.uk







will be

provided

great people great place

PTFA News

Please do remember to sign up to Classlist here https://classlist.page.link/BQwiMihagRFz9LoX7 as it will keep you updated with all events for the children run by the PTFA and you will need to have an account to pre-order donuts and other events such as the grotto/raffle tickets. Thank you.

Discos

Thanks to staff and families for helping at the three discos this week. They were a huge success, both in terms of the children enjoying themselves and in terms of the profit made which totalled in the region of £500.



Parents' Evenings

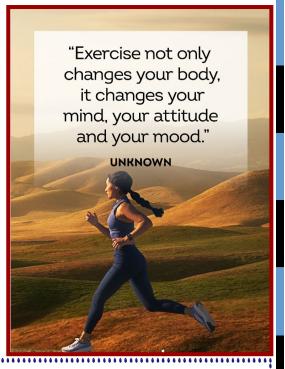
Remember after the holidays we are holding parents and carer consultations on Tuesday 7th November and Thursday 9th November.

This is a chance for you to come and see how your child has settled into their new year group and hear how they are getting on with their work. We aim to see every family.

Please sign up on Scopay. The Scopay booking system will be closing on Sunday 5th November at 6pm.

Please make sure you sign up before then.





And Finally...

Have a fantastic half term break - remember it is two weeks this year. We look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 6th November.

Best wishes,



Sillito

Samantha Sillito

Headteacher







THE ISLE OF WIGHT GROUP of the N GAUGE SOCIETY

MODEL RAILWAY OPEN DAY



Saturday 28th October 10.00am to 4.00pm Whitwell Village Hall, Ventnor Road Whitwell PO38 2PU





Trains will be running on the group's modular layout together with members' individual model railway layouts

There will also be a variety of micro layouts - not to be missed!

Admission £3.00 Children under 16 free (accompanied by an adult) Cash Only

Disabled access and limited parking at the hall. No restrictions to parking along the main road outside the hall. Whitwell Village Hall is on bus route 6

More information at www.ngsiow.uk or 07831 347346

