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Queensgate Foundation
Primary School



Happy Easter!



Dear Parents and Carers,

Staffing News

Today is Miss Brown's last day at Queensgate. She has supported children with us for the last seven and a half years. She is moving on to be a community carer. We wish her every success in her new role.

It is with sadness that we announce that Mr Giles will be retiring at the end of the summer term. Mr Giles has been teaching for thirty seven years and has been with Queensgate since we opened in 2010. More about this in a later newsletter.

This week we held interviews for the vacancy Mr Giles' retirement will create and I am pleased to announce we have appointed Mrs N. Michelmore. Here is an introduction:



Hello! I am Mrs Michelmore. I am so excited to be joining the Queensgate family in September as a Year 6 class teacher. I have spent the last six years in primary schools on the Island, working as an LSA, obtaining my Degree in Childhood Studies and completing my PGCE. I have lived on the Island nearly all my life and grew up in East Cowes. I even went to Osborne Middle School. I now live in Newport with my husband, two boys and our Cavapoo, Ruby. I love the Island although, I have been lucky enough to travel a little. My favourite place is Australia. I spent three weeks there before having my children and did a 12,000ft skydive over the Great Barrier Reef (I'm not sure I'd be brave enough to do it now though!). We had the opportunity to return a few years ago, this time with our boys, we did a road trip along the Great Ocean Road. I cannot wait to join the Queensgate team and meet you all.



Working together for a successful future

Bunny Run

The children have made bunny ears this week and then wore them today whilst they did their bunny run. Here are some photos. Please make sure all sponsor money comes in the first week back after the holiday. The children did brilliantly with their running; many exceeding their lap target!



Working together for a successful future



Working together for a successful future

Out & About

The Out and About team from **Miss Jenkins'** class visited Ventnor Botanic Garden on Tuesday morning, looking out for signs of Spring. The children enjoyed exploring the grounds, identifying plants and sharing Spring stories at snack time. They spotted lots of camellias, daffodils, primroses and hyacinths as well as learning about different plants in the tropical gardens.

On Tuesday afternoon **Year 3** took on an Easter orienteering challenge around the field, ending up on The Patch for a little Easter egg hunt! It was great to see the children using their map reading and compass skills to navigate their way to each orienteering marker.



To conclude Year 1's topic on animals, the final **1KS** Out and About group helped to feed the animals at Nettlecombe Farm on Wednesday morning. Despite the incredibly heavy rainfall, the children had great fun hand-feeding the chickens, kids, goats, donkeys and a variety of different breeds of sheep. They worked well as a team, encouraging each other to take part and get involved with the animal feeding.



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Love reading?

Then try this....

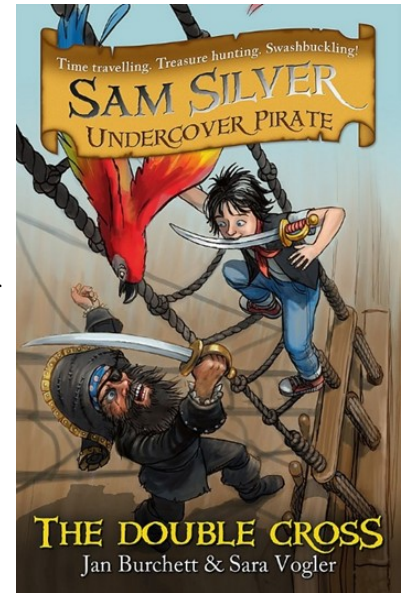
James in 4AH has really enjoyed reading books in the Sam Silver Undercover Pirate series. He has just finished *The Double-Cross*, written by Jan Burchett and Sara Vogler.

Sam Silver is a great story character. He is part of the Sea Wolf Pirate Crew which is led by Captain Blade. Sam is the lookout for the crew which means he checks for trouble. If he spots other pirates coming to attack, he will warn his crew.

In this story, there is a fierce battle and a bad pirate called Blackheart steals Captain Blade's ship. Sam has to work hard to get the ship back and reform the crew.

James loves pirates because they have lots of adventures and discover treasure. He says the pirates in these books are even better because they can time travel!

We'd love to know what you are reading at home. If you have any reading recommendations, please let us know so we can share them here.



Tesco Community Grant for Queensgate Sensory Garden

Mr Chubb is pleased to announce that following a recent application, the Queensgate Sensory garden will be going up against other community projects in store. From the 1st April until 30th June, in all Isle of Wight Tesco stores (Ryde, Wootton, Lake, Ventnor and Freshwater), people shopping will be given a token and asked to put it in one of the project boxes. The winning project (the one with the most tokens) will get a £1,500 grant, 2nd place will get £1,000 and 3rd place £500. Obviously, we would love to win the £1,500.

So if you shop in Tesco or know anyone who does, then spread the word that from **1st April** please put the token into the Queensgate container! Every little helps!



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5PG went to the Classic Boat Museum in East Cowes on Wednesday afternoon. The children were all given the opportunity to have a go in the new dinghy simulator. Sailing instructors from Brading Haven Yacht Club, Christian and Abbie, coached each child to sail around a virtual course. The children also took part in an engaging tour of the museum, learning about some of the Island's most famous boat builders and designers. The children would love to take their families to the museum to explore a bit more. It is open on Tuesdays and Fridays 10am - 4pm during the holiday.



Out and About after Easter...

Please ensure your child wears suitable play clothes (including jumper), comfortable walking boots or trainers and a waterproof coat.

Tuesday 26th April am - RAB

Ryde- Transport hub

Arthur, William, Hannah, Freddie, Tyler, Daisy, Mia, Teddy, Poppy, Levi, Gracie-Mai, Harvey, Caleb, Jamie and Corey.

Tuesday 26th April pm - 6LR

Geocaching (please see letter for further details)

Buddy, Natasha, Maisy, Owen, Brogyn, Ben, Ella, Sophie, Dylan, Eron, Lily-May H, Rebecca, Riley and Arthur.

Wednesday 27th April am - 5PG

Bonchurch Solar system trail

Wednesday 27th April pm - 4AH

Tennyson Down walk

Theo, Freddie, Lexie, Alayna, Archie, Oscar, James M, Felicity, Isabella, Rochelle, George, Toby, James D, Sienna and Emily.

QUEENSGATE SPORT ROUNDUP

Message from Sports for Champions

Thanks very much for hosting us on Tuesday and letting us take some valuable feedback on how to make our events even better in the future!

As promised here is a link to Jaydon's Fanclub page which is free to join and has some great assets for pupils to view and interact with.

<https://fanclub.sportsforchampions.com/>

Also please see a testimonial for you to use:

'When I started 12 years ago with a vision to have a nationwide impact on children and providing a platform for grassroots sports to flourish, I was graced with the support of Queensgate primary on the Isle of Wight. Every year since, barring the pandemic, they have continued to support the project going so far, this academic year to have two visits. At the time of the 2nd visit I was lucky to be able to be available to travel the 350 miles, catch the ferry and attend the school in person. I was greeted by a new high-tech building and a warm welcome. I managed to thank the school and Mr Giles personally while also presenting them with a small gift. I want to say a huge thankyou again for supporting my vision while inspiring children of this generation and next!'

Community Pantry

There will be a community pantry opening at the community spirited café which is located at Parkside Pavilion on Vectis Road, they are aiming for a launch date of **Tuesday 29th April** and will initially be open three days per week for an hour at a time.

The pantry works on the basis of a 'helping hand, a step between the foodbank and a supermarket and they anticipate usage to be popular when the food voucher scheme stops. Anyone can apply to be a member of the pantry, where they will be able to visit once per week. For a weekly fee of £5, they will receive food to the value of £15+, which they will be able to select themselves. The food will vary each week, depending on what is available from donations. The pantry will be staffed mainly by volunteers.



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 and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges	Sausage and Mash with Gravy	Roast Turkey with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Beef Lasagne with a Garlic and Herb Bread Wedge	Golden Fish Fingers and Chips
Veggie Bolognese	Mild Chickpea and Potato Curry	Quorn Roast with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Veggie Lasagne served with a Garlic and Herb Bread Wedge	Tomato Veggie Burger with Chips
Carrot Sticks and Cucumber Sticks	Broccoli and Peas	Carrots and Cabbage	Green Beans and Sweetcorn	Baked Beans and Peas
Flapjack with Fruit Slices	Orange Shortbread with Fruit Slices	Raspberry Yoghurt Cake	Fruity Chocolate Brownie	Vanilla Ice Cream

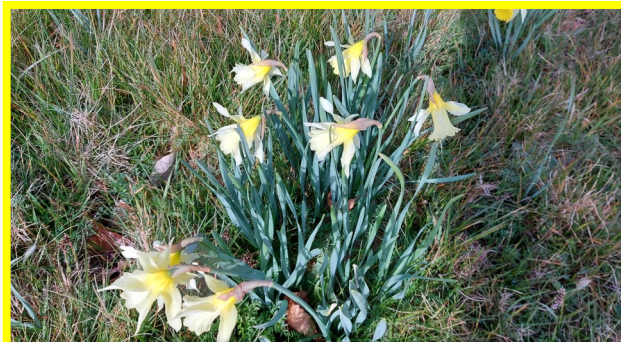
Please note that all meals are subject to change due to availability of produce.

Working together for a successful future

Osborne House - Year 1

On Tuesday, Year 1 went to Osborne House to view the daffodils in bloom. The children had previously been invited up to the house to plant the bulbs. The flowers looked spectacular and were well worth all the hard work planting them! While we were up there, we took advantage of the glorious Spring weather and enjoyed a leisurely stroll down to the beach, followed by a picnic and play in the park! We think that Queen Victoria herself would have enjoyed this special day!

The children were very well behaved and when members of the public asked which school we belonged to, we were proud to tell them we were from Queensgate.



Osborne house - 6TS returning for Ben's winning design

6TS walked to Osborne House on Thursday and met with the head gardener and his team. They were revisiting and laying out the design that Ben won with in the recent competition.



Working together for a successful future

ANTI-BULLYING AMBASSADORS

On Thursday all of the anti-bullying ambassadors took part in The Diana Award Anti-Bullying Ambassadors training. We learnt the definition of bullying (repeated, negative behaviour that is intended to make others feel upset, uncomfortable or unsafe), the three different types of bullying, what a bystander and an upstander is, also we learnt what V.I.P means and what the three U's are.

The three U's stand for upset, uncomfortable and unsafe while V.I.P means verbal, indirect and physical.

Our next steps as ambassadors are to plan and run campaigns to help raise awareness and prevent bullying at Queensgate.

To Parents and Carers,

As Anti-Bullying ambassadors, we have been aiming to do some activities to make students feel more respected, happy and comfortable in school and out. We have listed some different types of bullying so your child will be able to understand if they are being bullied or not, here are some examples:

Verbal bullying

- .Swearing repeatedly
- .Calling names
- .Picking on someone
- .Being racist, being rude about religion and culture
- .Shouting at people repeatedly.

Indirect bullying

- .Cyber bullying
- .Talking about someone behind their back.
- .Breaking/damaging someone's belongings.

Physical bullying

- .Throwing objects at people
- .Pulling hair
- .Fighting
- .and any other type of harm or abuse to someone.

We hope your children now have an idea of what bullying means.

By the School Anti-bullying Ambassadors.



Medical Bum-bags

Please can we put out an appeal for any bum-bags people no longer use but might like to donate to school. We use them so children can carry their own asthma inhalers and epipens, if you can send them into 5PG, Mrs Norsworthy will get them to the children that need them.

Thank you



Clubs

Please note that there will be no clubs the 1st week back. Also the following Clubs have now finished and will be changing to a new list:

Computer Club KS2

Choir Club KS2

Cookery KS2

Girls Cricket on a Thursday KS2

Benji DT will now be available for Y3/4 after Easter

If children have previously been in the Computer or Cookery clubs, please do not re-book them back in, this is to give everyone a fair go.

Badminton has finished completely.

Homework Clubs will stay the same.

Inappropriate Language

Unfortunately, I have received an email from a parent stating that other parents were using inappropriate language whilst on school grounds, which could be heard by other parents and children. Please can I remind you that all parents should be role models for their children and using inappropriate language at any time is not great, but particularly on school grounds. Please remember our school code of conduct is for adults as well as children and the first one is 'using good manners every day'. Many thanks.

Attendance

We need to work together as a community to improve the children's attendance. Here is a list of all the children who have 100% attendance since September. Well done to all of them and their families.

Emily B (3PT), Jude C (4AH), Rose C (5RA), Caiden C (2KA), Lily-Mae C (6LR), Matthew C (6LR), Max E (4AH), Owen E (6LR), Zoe G (4AH), Tony G (6LR), Harvey H (RAB), James H (1CE), Jimmy H (6TS), Elsie H (4MC), Henry H (RAB), Milania K-D (RSJ), Maisy L (2KA), Rochelle L (4AH), Hannah L (2GC), Leana M (5RA), Isabella M (3PT), Olivia M (4MC), Rory P (2KA), Nimalan P (1CE), Isabella T-R (4AH), Emmie T (3BM), George T (4AH), Chloe W-B (1KS), Grace W (3BM)

It is very important to ring into the school office by 9:00am if your child is not well, giving the reason for your child's absence. This needs to be followed up with a letter or email once your child is back in school. The bottom line is we cannot teach your child properly unless they are in every single day. Please help us to get attendance back to where it should be.

After Easter myself, Mr Chubb and Miss Jeffers will be knocking on the doors of any child that is finding it difficult to get to school, to encourage them to come to school. Attendance makes such a difference to your child's education.

Thank you for your ongoing support. I hope you all have a lovely Easter.

Whole school attendance 93.5%.

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

This week 6TS achieved 97.7% attendance!
Well done.

Thank you for your support.

Best wishes,



Samantha Sillito

Headteacher