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Queensgate Foundation
Primary School

Friday 16th July 2021

Issue 38 2020 - 2021



A Year Like No Other

Dear Parents and Carers,

Head Teacher's Report of the year

In the **Autumn Term**, we welcomed all the children back to school after many had not attended since March. Our work focussed on filling gaps and a catch up strategy. This was mixed with on-going modification of the risk assessment and learning to run all meetings virtually, including parents' and carers' evenings. We learned how to make films and video clips. All assemblies and even open mornings were carried out virtually.

Staffing

Having the right staff in the right place has been very challenging this year. We have had three members of staff on long-term sick – Mr Tilling, Mrs Arnell and Mrs Edgerton. Thankfully, Mrs Arnell and Mr Tilling have made a full recovery and have re-joined our team this summer term. We are hopeful Mrs Edgerton will re-join the team soon.

In addition to staff illness, we have had to contend with people shielding and self-isolating.

Sad Events

It has been a challenging year for everyone, but Queensgate has suffered additional sadness. We have lost a dear colleague, Mrs Turner and a child from Year 6, Kyea Pinder.

Governing Board

The Governing Board has not escaped casualties itself. We have lost our Vice-Chair, David Blades and our Chair of Governors, Leighton Atchison-Warne. Both a significant loss to the board. Both Liz Jackson and Lucy Curran have stepped up to take the helm admirably and I am very grateful to them for their hard work and dedication to our school.

Despite these significant events I would like to outline for you why I think it has been a successful year in the life of Queensgate...

Lock Down

From January to March, we went into our third national lockdown. Queensgate provided a good education to 200 children in school. Perhaps even more remarkable than that was we had capacity to provide lessons to the 200 children working from home. We had planned carefully for the event and we were able to switch seamlessly to online learning through Zoom and Google classroom. Our emphasis became, "we are here to help." We worked tirelessly to answer phone calls and emails, mark work and give parents feedback.



We also supported well-being and mental health of our staff, children and wider families through listening, signposting to other services and email contact.

Working together for a successful future

Leadership at all Levels

Despite all that was going on, we held firm to our school improvement priorities, running two leadership projects, one in maths looking at the culture and mind-set of the school and the other in English really focussing on improving writing for individual pupils with targeted planning and support. Our subject leaders have attended virtual courses and then disseminated the work back into school. This is true of art, PSHE, history and geography. There have been good strides forward in these areas and visible raising of achievement.



Post Covid Lockdown

Our post lockdown plans have come to fruition this summer term.

We welcomed Benji the dog to our staff team. He has proved a very popular and useful member of staff. He has supported reluctant children coming into school in the morning. He has helped with children and adults' well-being; he has encouraged good work and been a stimulus for art and poetry writing. He is certainly an asset to Queensgate.

We also wanted to enhance the school site with new playground equipment, which was planned for with the children, and they are now enjoying the benefits of it.

This term we put careful plans together thinking about what parts of the curriculum we needed to cover well to ensure that every child was ready for their next year group. We called this our sufficiency model and this gave us a structure for planning and what to report on to parents. Reports have come home today. We have employed two members of staff to support catch up ensuring gaps are filled.

We have worked closely with HTP and have employed five trainees. These young people have had a mixture of training on the job and academic and vocational courses. They have supported Queensgate children to fill gaps, whilst gaining work experience themselves. We have had positive feedback from the trainees, the children and staff of Queensgate. We wish them all well as they move into their chosen career paths.

Building and Site

We have continued to work hard developing the site. We are working towards the end of October 2021 for the final handover from SRM to Queensgate Governors.

NAHT and Headteacher Meetings



I have continued as President of the Isle of Wight Branch of the NAHT. This has enabled me to have a good understanding of the National picture for education. Through our officials, we have the ear of Government. I have attended all Headteacher meetings both formal and informal, which have taken a collaborative, problem solving approach.

Succession Planning Beyond Queensgate

We have continued to work with Portsmouth Teaching Alliance and thanks to Ruth Adams and Carolyn Edmonds have ensured two more trainee teachers have met the grade needed and had very good coaching and feedback to ensure the trainee teachers go on to be successful teachers.

Lovely Events for the Children

You only need to read the newsletter each week to know that every year group has had a trip out, Year 6 have been on residential and our Out and About and swimming curriculums have continued unabated.

End of Year Reports

Your child's end of year report has come home with your child today. In the envelope, there is a letter from me, a report from your child's teacher reporting on the sufficiency model, a report from your child's point of view and a comments sheet. Please could you complete the comments sheet and send back to us by next Wednesday 21st July? Both senior leaders and class staff will read every one of your comments.



Parent Questionnaires

In addition to the comments sheets please could you also fill in this short survey? Again, we will use this to support our planning for the autumn term. You can access the survey here:

<https://surveyhero.com/c/e6416253>

The Last Week of Term – Year 6

On Tuesday 20th July, Year 6 will be having a water fight and BBQ. Nikki Flux Edmunds, as a treat for the children, is paying for the BBQ for the year group. Thank you to Nikki. Please ensure you send your child with some dry clothes. The Year 6 children do not need to wear school uniform. Water pistols should only be used in school and should arrive in school empty!

On Thursday 22nd July both Year 6 classes will be holding an assembly for their parents and carers. 6LR's assembly is at 10:45 am in the hall and 6TS's assembly will be at 2.00pm. Please come to the green gate at the side of the front of the school by the Year 3 and 4 entrance and we will take you around the side of the building into the hall. Each child can have two adults. Please wear a face covering.

On Friday 23rd July please send Year 6 with two shirts – one for signing and one for the final assembly on the field. Year 6 parents are welcome to join us on the field. Please arrive at 1:20pm for a 1:30pm start. We will have a clapping corridor for the Year 6 children to send them on their way. Year 6 will be able to leave after everyone has received their sweatshirt and yearbook. We will take the children back to their classes and you will be able to take siblings through the school office in a managed way. Face coverings are optional as the event is outside.

PTFA Treat Stall

Our PTFA will be running a treat stall after school next Friday 23rd July on the path leading out of school. Cash only. All money raised will come back to the school.

Foodbank Parcels

Mrs Grant has picked up foodbank boxes for the summer break. They are very heavy so will need to be picked up by car. Please let Mrs Grant know if you would like one. Her email address is cgrant@queensgateprimary.co.uk

It will be first come, first served and empty boxes can be returned to the food bank depot as many times as required and will be refilled throughout the summer holiday.



The Last Week - Important message

Although Covid restrictions are being relaxed on July 19th nationally, the school has decided to keep its current Risk Assessment in place for the final week. Therefore, we would be very grateful if you continue to wear masks whilst on school grounds, particularly if coming into the building, where we request that you still use hand sanitizer before entering. Thank you for your continued support - it would be terrible to have a case and then spend the first week of the holidays in self isolation.

Sight for Wight

Sight for Wight, a charity who supports people with visual impairment, came in to teach some children about the eye, sight disorders and to let them see some of the resources that people with a visual impairment could use to help them. During the workshop the children completed different practical activities and also learnt about how to take care of their eyes.



Love reading?

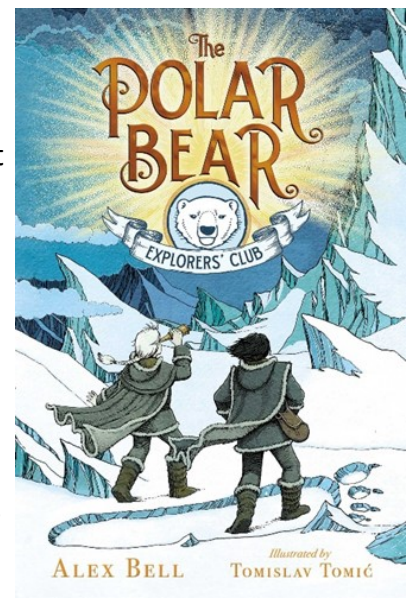
Then try this....

Finn in 5RA has been reading *The Polar Bear Explorer's Club* by Alex Bell. He is super excited to share this book with us!

This story is all about friendship and dangerous adventures. At times, Finn's heart was beating fast as he read about the main character getting lost in the Arctic. This book has unusual mythical creatures in it and not all of them are friendly, like the fairies that can give you frost bite and the yetis!

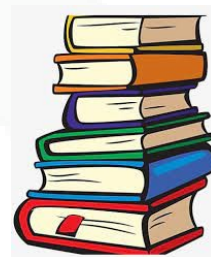
Finn was most excited about the ending of the book because you find out how to uncover a big secret which makes you want to read the next book in the series.

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 it here. Don't forget to visit your local library!



Library Books

Please return all library books as soon as possible. These can be identified by a bar code inside the front cover. If your child would like to continue reading their book throughout the holiday, please could they bring the book to Mrs Webb for renewal.



Summer Reading Challenge

Become a Wild World Hero!

The Summer Reading Challenge is back. Last year's challenge was online only, but this year's challenge is back in libraries. In partnership with WWF, libraries are offering a special nature-themed challenge. The idea is to inspire children to stand up for the planet. Children who join the challenge will receive a fold-out poster of Wilderville. Wilderville is a cool place but there are lots of things that the Wild World Heroes can do to make their town even better. Especially for the people and animals that live there. Join the Wild World Heroes for the challenge and discover how to make a difference to the environment. As children read books, they receive stickers and rewards. Reading six books results in a medal and certificate. Anyone aged three and over can take part in the challenge. There's a special pre-school challenge for younger children so they don't miss out on the fun. The challenge will run throughout the summer holidays in Isle of Wight Libraries.

The challenge will start on Saturday 17th July 2021. This date is dependent on any changes to social distancing rules. Further announcements will be on the [IW Libraries Facebook](#) page.

Children can also [join the online challenge](#) and receive virtual badges as they read. They can also play games, enter competitions and get loads of book recommendations.

A Note from Medina and Carisbrooke College

Please find the link below to a host of mini lessons put together by our wonderful staff. We are so sorry that we have not been able to welcome the students onto site at Carisbrooke and Medina College for transition days this year, but here is a little flavour of what awaits them in September.

Do enjoy the sessions and we can't wait to meet you!

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ovZWefWeb_emW-kQKJ2b0gB_AdSAehSo?usp=sharing

A note from East Cowes Town Council

A massive thank you from the Town Council to all the pupils who took the time to design and submit an entry for the "To The Seafront" mural competition. The winner has now been notified. All the designs will be displayed in the town hall when the library is running during the first week of the summer holidays:

Monday 26th July 10.00am-1.00pm

Thursday 29th July 9.30am-12.30pm

The entries will be returned to the school when term begins again in September.



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
Sausage Roll with Wedges	Chicken Pasta	Roast Pork, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Chicken & Red Pepper Pizza with Wedges	Fish in Batter with Chips
Vegetable Sausages	Five Bean Chilli with 50/50 Rice	Quorn Roast Fillet with Roast Potatoes & Grey	Lentil & Sweet Potato Curry with 50/50 Rice	Wholemeal Cheese & Tomato Quiche with Chips
Sweetcorn Baked Beans	Peas Carrots	Fresh Mixed Vegetables	Sweetcorn Broccoli	Baked Beans Peas
Oaty Apple Crumble & Custard Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Pear & Ginger Slice Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Chocolate Cake with Chocolate Drizzle Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Orange & Lemon Shortbread Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit

Autumn Menus - from new provider Chartwells

WEEK 1 W/C: 30/09/20/09 11/10 01/11 22/11 13/12 03/01 24/01 14/02		WEEK 2 W/C: 05/09 27/09 18/10 08/11 29/11 20/12 10/01 31/01 21/02	
MONDAY	<p>HOT SPECIALS...</p> <p>Macaroni Cheese ✓ Traditional Mac N Cheese, delicious macaroni in a creamy cheese sauce</p> <p>Vegetable Burrito Wrap ✓ A soft wrap filled with lightly spiced veggies and rice</p>	MONDAY	<p>HOT SPECIALS...</p> <p>Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Dough Balls ✓ Cheesy tomato topped pizza slice</p> <p>Veggie Bolognese ✓ Yummy veggie Bolognese with pasta</p>
TUESDAY	<p>DAILY FAVES...</p> <p>Jacket Potato ✓ with a choice of fillings</p> <p>Tomato Pasta ✓ Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta</p>	TUESDAY	<p>DAILY FAVES...</p> <p>Jacket Potato ✓ with a choice of fillings</p> <p>Tomato Pasta ✓ Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta</p>
WEDNESDAY	<p>WEEK 1 SIDES...</p> <p>Green Beans and Sweetcorn</p> <p>PICK A PUD!</p> <p>Raspberry Ripple Ice Cream</p>	WEDNESDAY	<p>WEEK 2 SIDES...</p> <p>Carrot Sticks and Cucumber Sticks</p> <p>PICK A PUD!</p> <p>Flapjack with Fruit Slices</p>
THURSDAY	<p>DAILY FAVES...</p> <p>Jacket Potato ✓ with a choice of fillings</p> <p>Tomato Pasta ✓ Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta</p>	THURSDAY	<p>DAILY FAVES...</p> <p>Jacket Potato ✓ with a choice of fillings</p> <p>Tomato Pasta ✓ Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta</p>
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✓ Vegetarian
🐟 Oily fish
🌾 Wholegrain
🍌 Fruity!
🍷 Nutritionist's Choice

Water, salad, freshly baked bread, yoghurt & fresh fruit Available every day!

Please see the school website for important details about allergies etc.

Working together for a successful future

Out & About

This week was assessment week for our a Year 5 swimmers. It was great to see the children so keen to put their swimming skills to the test and show us their progress. They are looking forward to their final session next week.



Our Swimming Superstar awards this week go to...

Summer McGrath, Ben Lawlor, Ryan, Ben Page, James, Alfie, Robbie, Oliver, Jimmy and Kai.

3PT went Out and About on Tuesday afternoon with a visit to Newport Roman Villa. The children were given a tour of the villa remains and learnt more about the bathing process. They had the opportunity to take part in some practical activities including; making flour using a quern-stone, arch building, handling swords and trying on Roman armour. The children confidently shared their knowledge about the Romans and asked some super questions to find out more.



The **6TS** Out and About team visited Ryde beach on Wednesday afternoon. The children enjoyed playing volleyball, football, digging holes and making sandcastles! At the end of our session, they cooled down with a paddle in the sea.



Working together for a successful future

Out and About next week...

Tuesday am: Year 5 Swimming (Final lesson)

Please come to school with swimwear under school clothes and bring a towel, underwear and goggles in a named bag. The coach is due to leave by 9am.

*Note- ALL clothes MUST be named to avoid confusion after swimming!

Tuesday pm: 3BM - Out and About

Please wear play clothes and bring wellies.

Su, Harrison, Sophie, Max, Mason, Jacob, Vincent, Maya, Zoe, Sarah, Tommy, Amelia, Sadie, Jude and Grace.

Tuesday pm: 3PT - PE

Please wear PE kits and trainers.

Charlie, Scarlett, Ryan, Hollie, Elise, Wynter, Amber J, Charlotte, Kahlel, Jack, Brooke, James, McKenzie, China-Rae and Chloe Shambrook.

Wednesday am: 4MC - Out and About

Please wear play clothes and comfortable trainers/ shoes.

Lottie, Alfie, Lacey, Malachi, Zak, Ethan, Leo and Rose.

Wednesday am: 4MC - PE

Please wear PE kits and trainers

Emmi-Rose, Alfie, Cosmo, Hattie, Leo, Leana, Riley, Bailey, Jayden and Emilia.

Wednesday pm: 6TS - Out and About

Please wear play clothes and trainers. We are hoping to go to the beach.

Vinnie, Brandon, Edward, Adam, Reilly, Jacob, Henley, Jensen, Bethany, Nicole, Evie, Crystal, Erynn, Ellie and Ostara.

Wednesday pm: 6LR - PE

Please wear PE kits and trainers.

All children.

Benji Blog

Here are some more photos of Benji helping with children in school. Lily was apprehensive about dogs but as you can see she joined Benji in his pen. Benji really enjoyed going on the trip with 6LR - and was very keen to explore all the dens/shelters that were made.

He is now out of his pen in the office and is learning to wait when someone comes to the door!



Working together for a successful future

Year 4 Trip to Blackgang Chine

On Friday 9th July Year 4 went to Blackgang Chine as part of their Victorian Circus project. We learnt that Blackgang first became a place of interest for visitors on the Isle of Wight in Victorian times. In 1842 a huge fin whale had been stranded off the Needles, and Alexander Dabell, the owner of the site, saw his chance to attract a crowd!

He bought the whale at auction, sold off the blubber, had the bones bleached, and transported across the island to a specially built hut, in which he displayed the skeleton to the morbid curiosity of all who visited. And though the pathways to the sea have long since washed away, the skeleton still exists in the park today as the oldest attraction, and it has set the tone for the park to become the home of the weird and the wonderful of the world, and a hive of imagination for all generations.

Today the park is still owned and run by the descendants of Alexander Dabell, and the magic of the park has only grown over the years. Blackgang Chine is now home to life-sized Pirate Ships, Fairy Villages and Castles, Dodo Valleys, restricted area 5 and of course the original Cowboy Town as well as a whole host of magical surprises around every corner.

We really enjoyed exploring!



Working together for a successful future

Kafuta Tumbung School Trust

Before lockdown we sent a lot of equipment and clothing to Kafuta Tumbung School in The Gambia. Here are some of the children sporting the cricket tops we sent them. The children really enjoyed receiving the parcels.



Outstanding Monies and Balances

As we approach the end of term, we would most grateful if you could clear any outstanding balances for dinner money, trips and breakfast club. Everything needs to be paid into school via Scopay by Tuesday 20th July please.

Thank you

Upcoming Dates

Monday 19th July - Pupil Progress Meeting for Years Reception, 4 & 5.

Tuesday 20th July - Year 5 Swimming (7 out of 7).

Tuesday 20th July - Water fight and BBQ for Year 6.

Wednesday 21st July - Report comments back from parents please.

Wednesday 21st July - Pupil Progress Meeting for Years 1 and 2.

Thursday 22nd July - Separate Leavers Assemblies for both Year 6 classes and parents.

Friday 23rd July - Year 6 parents invited to the field for the clapping corridor, 1.20 pm for a 1.30 pm start.

Friday 23rd July - Year 6 shirt signing, please can Year 6 pupils come in with two shirts - one to sign and one to wear for photos etc.

Academic Year Dates 2021 / 2022

Tuesday 31st August - INSET Day 1 for staff (School closed for children).

Wednesday 1st September - First day of Autumn term for children.

Monday 20th September - INSET Day 2 for staff (School closed for children).

More dates will be in the first newsletter back in September

Finally...

Our attendance stands at 96%!

I am incredibly proud of the work we have done this year; incredibly proud of the team of staff, who have managed change, overcome challenges and continued to provide the Queensgate children with a good education. Thank you to all who have been involved.

Thank you to all our parents and carers for your wonderful support of the children and the staff of Queensgate. It has been a year like no other...we truly value your support.



Whole school attendance 96.74%.

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

This week 5PG achieved 99.21% attendance! Well done.

Thank you for your support.

Best wishes,

**Samantha Sillito
Headteacher**

You can be active

You can be creative!

COME AND JOIN US

Girls age 5-10

Do you want to learn new skills?

Do you want to have lots of fun?

You can make friends and have adventures

Your nearest Rainbow/Brownie unit is

1st East Coves Rainbows: Charlotte
1st East Coves Brownies: Katie

Register your interest by visiting www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus or you can ring Girlguiding on 0800 169 5901

Come join us this summer at our hockey camp!

LET'S PLAY HOCKEY!

The Isle of Wight Hockey Club will run 4 summer camp days at Smallbrook Stadium. Sessions are aimed at all abilities, from new starts to those who have played before. Children attending must bring a gum shield and shin pads. Equipment provided for those that need it.

FREE SESSIONS RUN 10AM-12PM 23RD-26TH AUGUST AGES 8+

Check out the program and register your interest on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/iowhc
For more information on the Isle of Wight Hockey Club, visit our main page: www.iowhc.co.uk

connect4 communities

FREE fun activities for Children and young people who are **free school meal eligible** in East Coves!

As part of the Department of Education's Holiday Activity Food Programme, we are happy to announce FREE places for children and young people who live in East Coves and who receive **free school meals** during term time.

We will be delivering two weeks of Sports based games and activities for ages 8-11, then two weeks of Drama and Singing for confidence for ages 11 to 16 with qualified professionals and the Parkside Pavilion Youth Cafe Team.

WHERE? East Coves Scout Hut , 40B Adelaide Grove, East Coves PO32 6DB
WHEN? Monday to Thursday in August, 10am to 2pm

SPORT For AGES 8 to 11 Weeks Commencing 2nd and 9th August

DRAMA For AGES 11 to 16 Weeks commencing 16th and 23rd August

COOK & EAT For all ages— parents welcome to join in too!

We will be offering a healthy lunch every day, recipe cards to take home and lots of opportunities to learn new cooking skills!

To book a place for your child/young person, email HAF@actioniw.org.uk.

Supported by

SOCCER CAMP

27 - 30TH JULY
3RD - 6TH AUGUST
10TH - 13TH AUGUST
18TH - 20TH AUGUST

FOR 4-11 YEARS
£10 A DAY
10AM UNTIL 2:45PM
ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
ALL OF OUR COACHES ARE FA LEVEL 2 QUALIFIED AND HAVE ALL BEEN CRB CHECKED.

073688 86639
LJR COACHING97@GMAIL.COM
f LJR COACHING

Positiv



ARTS JAYDENE-LEE

SUMMER WORKSHOPS!

Family Aerial, Circus and Dance classes

Thursdays between 29th July – 26th August | 10-11am @ Northwood WI Hall | Ages 1-5

Musical Dance Workshops with special guest! AMY DENHAM

Friday 6th August | Ages 5-8 10am-11:30am | Ages 9+ 11:30am-1pm
@ Cowes Primary School | £8

Contemporary Dance Workshops

Monday 9th August | Ages 5-8 10am-11:30am | Ages 9+ 11:30am-1pm

@ Cowes Primary School | £7

THE ISLANDS FIRST!! Aerial & Circus FUN DAYS!

20th August & 24th August | 10am-3pm @ Cowes Primary School | for ages 6+ | £25

Please bring packed lunch (full days only) and plenty of water

Wear suitable comfortable clothing and no jewellery.

To book: Contact Jaydene for more information – 07715450640 / on her social medias @ Jaydene Lee Arts / click on the link below to book:
<https://bookwhen.com/jaydeneleearts>



SHORT STORY WRITING COMPETITION 2021

DO YOU ENJOY WRITING STORIES?

This August we launch our competition and will be looking for the best short story of 2021.

Could you be one of this year's winners?

Look out for further details coming soon!

www.sightforwight.org.uk

Sight for Wight is the working name for Isle of Wight Society for the Blind

Registered charity number 114841

Company limited by guarantee 6240404

Schools Walk the Wight with MOUNTBATTEN

Sunday 12 September



Join in the fun!
Family tickets from £3.50
Register using code **SWTW-2021-FT09**
at: mountbatten.org.uk



Registered charity no. 1240026

Working together for a successful future