



Have a happy and safe break

Dear Parents/carers,

This Half Term

As we draw to the end of the first half term of the academic year 20/21 I reflect on how unusual it has been with hand gel dispensers every few metres around the school; all our windows and doors open; all the children working in their own "Bubbles" and not mixing with each other at lunchtimes or break times and no whole school assemblies. Yet through this time the learning has blossomed. The children have worked hard, been upbeat and happy. I would like to say a huge well done to all the children at Queensgate for the way they have returned to school. Thank you to the parents for their support in following the one way system, your cheery good mornings on the gate and for your continued support. I would also like to thank all the Queensgate staff for their on-going hard work and dedication.

Over the holidays...

Please hear your children read over the holidays as much as you can – every day would be amazing! Last week I put a list of the times tables that each year group needs to know, please practise these with your children too. If you get a chance to do any writing that would be good too. Remember chat, play, read!

Displays from around school

Some of you have said that you miss coming into school. On Page 5 and 6 there are a collection of photos of some of the displays in school at the moment.

Staffing News

This week we have had some difficult news. Mr Tilling is not very well and will need some time off work to help make him better. We are anticipating that this will be about six months. We will be appointing a temporary teacher in his place over the half term break. I am sure you will join me in wishing Mr Tilling a speedy recovery.

Survey Reminder

Two surveys have been sent out this week to help us to plan for the future. One was about swimming for Years 3 and 5 and the other was about technology access for the whole school. Please make sure you complete them, the closing dates have been extended.

Technology at home survey <https://surveyhero.com/c/55dd5110>

Year 3 & 5 Swimming survey <https://surveyhero.com/c/809f7cf9>

Parents Evening Appointments

Thank you to those parents who made appointments with their child's teacher, I hope you found them useful. Please remember if you would like to contact your child's class teacher you can make an appointment through the main office, or contact them through their email address, which you can find on our website at this location: <https://www.queensgateprimary.co.uk/children/contact-your-teacher>

New to Queensgate Virtual Tour

Please can you let anyone you know who is considering Queensgate Primary for their child next September, that there is a virtual tour by myself along with Miss Jenkins and Miss Saunders on YouTube. The link can be found on our website at this location:

<https://www.queensgateprimary.co.uk/new-to-queensgate/new-children-information>

New Build Update

Sir Robert McAlpine and their contractors will be leaving the site after the half term. So we will see a little difference after half term. We will still operate the one way system, and will review exit routes when we return. We're really pleased with the new school and grounds, which will change again as the grass grows.



Out & About

On Tuesday morning the **1CE** Out and About group walked to Swiss Cottage at Osborne House. They loved running through the empty grounds of Osborne before it opened to the public! Elaine, one of the volunteers, gave us a tour of the gardens and told the children all about the history of Swiss Cottage.



3BM have been learning how to use a compass and map read this half term. During our O&A session on Tuesday afternoon, the children lead Mrs Hiscock and I around East Cowes, hunting for orienteering markers. They worked well as a team to work out which direction to travel and were very well mannered. Well done 3BM!



On Wednesday morning the Out and About group from **RSJ** walked to the Copse by the Queen's Gate on Newbarn Road. The children were super at walking. In the copse, they practised creating repeated patterns using natural objects, designed umbrellas (for the /u/ sound) by creating leaf rubbings and listened to the Ugly Duckling and Dinosaurs wear Underpants whilst eating their snack.



2GC had a fun afternoon on The Patch on Wednesday afternoon. The children had a go at creating wax resist paintings of Autumn leaves using water-colours (before they got very wet by a sudden downpour), did some leaf-bashing to create leaf imprints on fabric and hunted for real and nonsense words to feed Ob and Bob.



Working together for a successful future



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	BBQ Chicken Pasta	Roast Pork with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Fish Fingers and Chips	Chicken Wrap with 50/50 Rice
Vegan Mexican Roll with Wedges	Vegetable Tagine with Rice	Quorn Roast Fillet with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Spanish Omelette with Chips	Vegetable & Bean Wrap with 50/50 Rice
Peas Carrot & Beetroot Slaw	Sweetcorn Broccoli	Carrots Green Beans	Baked Beans Peas	Summer Roasted Vegetables
Fresh Fruit & Yoghurt Station	Chocolate & Beetroot Brownie Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Iced Sponge Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Spanish Cookie Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Apple Sponge & Custard Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit

Google Classroom

Thank you for those parents who have completed the technology survey so far. Google Classroom is available as an APP so will work on smart phones and tablets, as well as laptops (especially Chromebooks). We won't be setting work that has to be printed, all work set should be available to do online. Or it may be that the children do some written work, drawing, painting etc - this can be 'turned in' by taking a photo of the work and uploading it to Google Classroom. We certainly don't want to have loads of paper and printing as in the last lockdown, although we will obviously do this if a child doesn't have any access at all. Over the next few weeks Years 2 to 6 should be getting their log in details and some training within the classroom—the great thing about Google Classroom is that any work they do in school - they can pick up again at home.



As an introduction, here is the link that I sent out in last week's newsletter to give you a quick taster of Google Classroom. <https://youtu.be/OUaAC6j8HZk>

Flu vaccinations will take place throughout the day at Queensgate for all children on **Wednesday 11th November**. On Monday 2nd November your child will bring home a consent form – this must be returned to school by **Friday 6th November**, even if you do not wish your child/ren to receive the flu spray vaccination.

Positive Quote

"Love challenges, be intrigued by mistakes, enjoy effort and keep on learning."

Whole school attendance 96.84%.

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

This week 6TS achieved 100% attendance!
Well done.

Best wishes,

Samantha Sillito

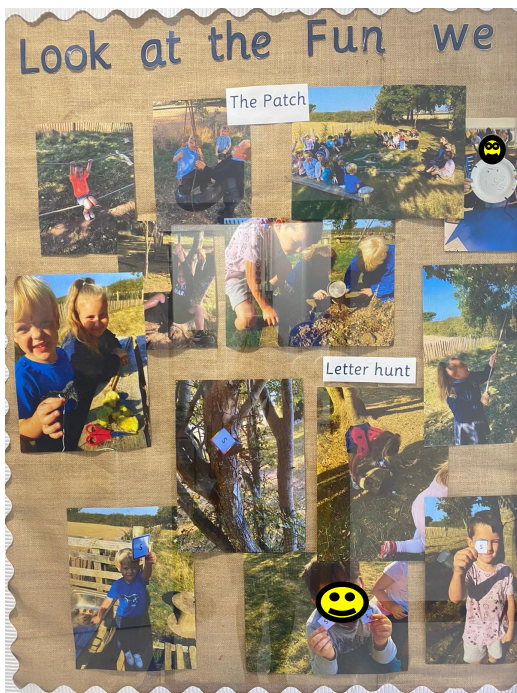
Headteacher



Display boards around the school.



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LJR COACHING

Are Excited to ANNOUNCE
Our
HALF TERM
Football Camp in RYDE
For children aged 4 - 11

DATES: 20th to 23rd and 27th - 30th October

TIMES: 10 am - 2:45 pm

LOCATION: St Marys Primary School, Ryde

PRICE: £10 per day.

BOOKING ESSENTIAL
Book for 1, 2, 3 or 4 Days

CONTACT US: Mobile: 07368 886699
Email: ljrcv@ljrcoaching@gmail.com
Facebook: LJR Coaching



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