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Friday 2nd July 2021

Issue 36 2020 - 2021

**Queensgate Foundation
Primary School**



Another Busy Week

Dear Parents and Carers,

Sports Days

Earlier in the week, I received an email about parents attending sports days. I will share my thinking with you as to why we didn't have parents and carers at sports days this year.

I am very pleased that the measures we have put in place have meant that, since the start of the Pandemic, we have only had one Covid case and one bubble closure as a result especially as there are currently 375,000 children off school due to Covid or self-isolation. The BBC website states,

"Nearly 25,000 children in England missed school last week because of coronavirus infections, self-isolation or school closures. It was the most disrupted week since schools fully reopened in March, according to figures from the DfE."

We follow Government Guidance. We were hoping that parents would be able to attend sports days this year as they were timetabled after 21st June. Unfortunately, the restrictions are now not being lifted until the 19th July. We have been advised by the DfE that all our measures should stay in place until at least the end of this term.

Our Covid risk assessment is on the website. It doesn't state anything about sports day but lays out general principles.

Currently there are only supposed to be 30 people together outside. (I realise that this makes no sense with the football and tennis and other events) Our classes have 30 children in each and our year groups have 60. I think it is difficult to limit places to just one adult per child, as that would mean only a mum or a dad coming. I think managing parents onsite and keeping to numbers of 30 would be difficult. In addition, if there was a Covid case from the sports day this could affect a lot of parents and children having to self-isolate, which is not what any of our community need right now.

Headteachers across the Isle of Wight discussed this issue and we made a joint decision to hold sports days for children, but not to have parents and carers in attendance. Over the last two days, four schools that I know of have had to close and send home bubbles. I am hopeful we will keep all of our children here until the end of term with no further disruption to their education and therefore parents and carers can keep working.

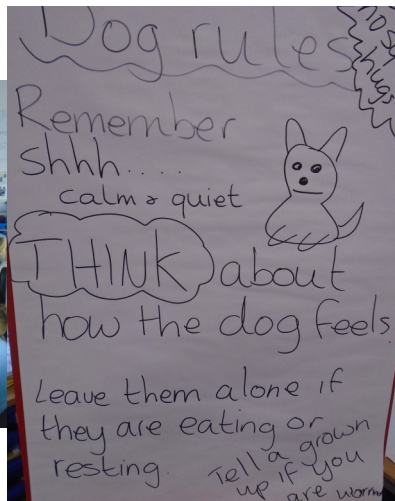
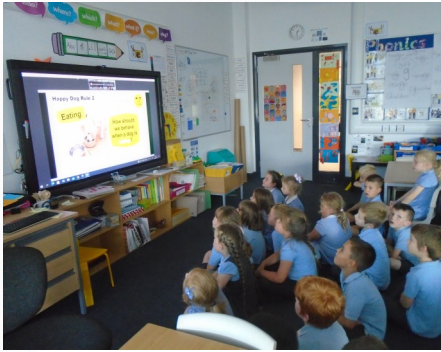
Within any community there are a raft of different views, some people have been, and continue to be, anxious about Covid; some people believe it is a conspiracy. I have tried to walk a middle line keeping us all safe but still ensuring that trips and events (including a residential for Year 6) have gone ahead.

In addition, logistically we spread the children out in their bubbles along both sides of the track, so, for example we had 1CE and 1KS on one side of the track and 2KA and 2GC on the other. We could not accommodate parents and the children along the track. With two year groups, this is 120 parents even if each child only brought one parent.

I very much hope that restrictions lift on the 19th July and we can have more traditional Queensgate sports days next year.

In the meantime, we will upload some photos to the website (as there are too many to put in this newsletter!)

The Dog's Trust



Some of the classes had an online assembly by the Dog's trust. Here are 1CE watching the live session. They also made up their own dog rules.

A Message from Medina College

Each week we will post a little something for our new students and families to support them in their transition to Medina College.

As always, we are so looking forward to welcoming them all into our community.

If you are able to signpost families to the links below that would be great!

This week's video: <https://youtu.be/5Cxy9Xq4ayM>

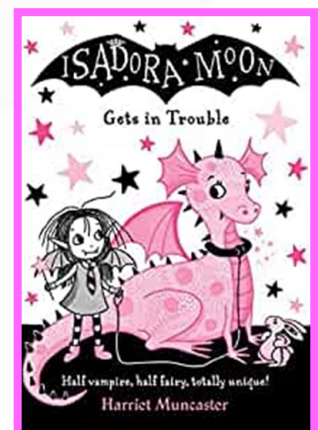
Transition Page: <https://www.iwef.org.uk/medinacollege/year-6-transition/>

Love reading?

Then try this....

Maya in 3BM has been reading Isidora Moon series of books written by Harriet Muncaster. These books, are about the adventures of a character called Isidora who is half vampire and half fairy. She tries to be good but often finds herself in all sorts of trouble. She also meets lots of wizards, ghosts, mermaids and dragons along the way. Maya likes the way that Isidora can use her magic wand to bring things to life! If you like magical creatures, adventures and vampires, then these books are for you! Let us know if you try them!

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.

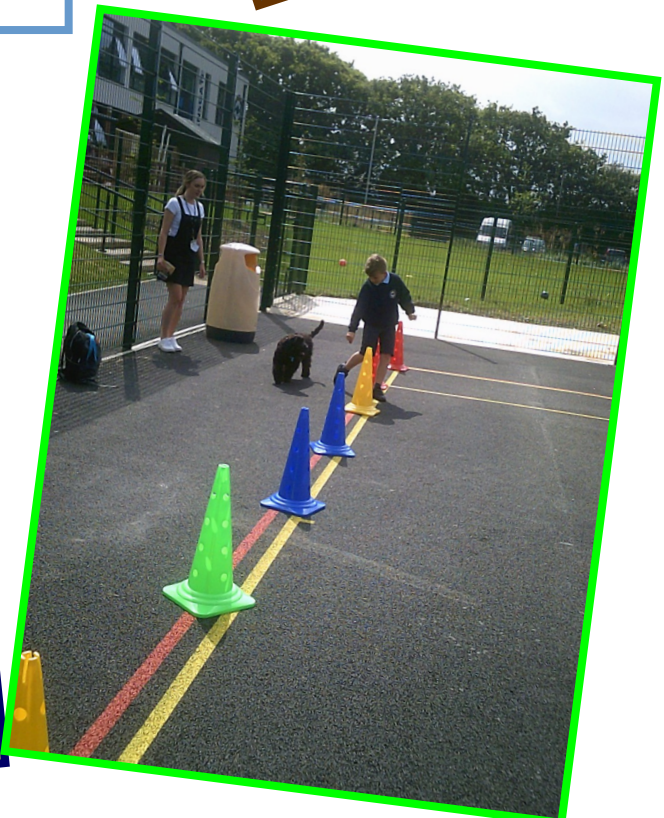
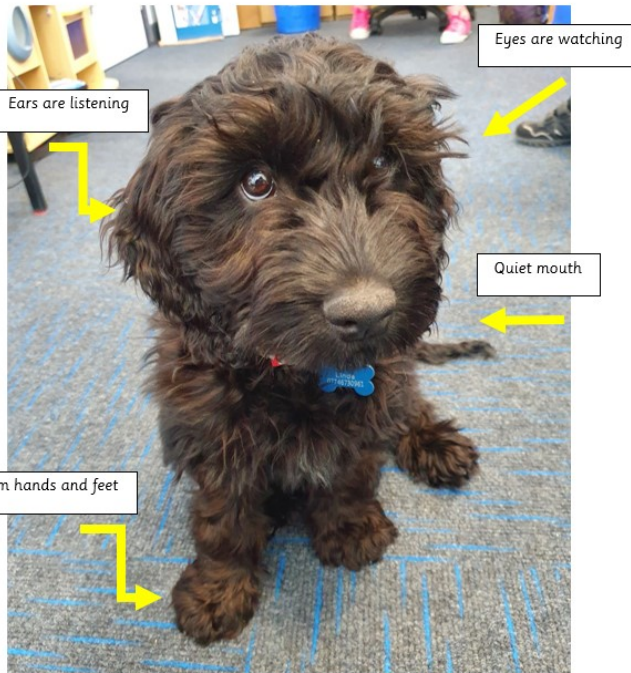


Benji Blog

Benji this week has been learning to tap a bell on the command, 'bell'. Miss Radcliffe hopes to progress this skill to counting e.g. give Benji the command 'Bell, two' and he will tap the bell twice. When he has mastered this we will upload a video to our website! Of course he continues to help the children!



Benji's whole body listening



Working together for a successful future

Stag Beetles at Queensgate!

Miss Gobby made an incredible discovery of a magnificent Male Stag Beetle at The Patch last week. This is the first time they have been spotted at Queensgate and is really special as they are an endangered species. Miss Gobby took some photos and submitted her observation to iWatchWildlife – the Island’s wildlife recording project who have been asking the public for their Stag Beetle sightings throughout June.

Project Officer Tina Whitmore says “I couldn’t believe it when Miss Gobby sent me the photos of the Stag Beetle. We have received a number of sightings in East Cowes over the past two weeks – including several males which Mrs Edmunds spotted in her own garden! This is really exciting as it could mean a new Stag Beetle colony is becoming established in the town. Previously they have mainly been recorded in Cowes and Ryde. They only live as adults for a few weeks, so that’s probably it for 2021 sightings – but please do let us know if you do see one and remember to take a photo”.

Stag Beetles are one of the most spectacular looking insects in Britain, named because the male’s large jaws (mandibles) that look just like the antlers of a stag. Stag beetles and their larvae are quite harmless and are a joy to watch.

They spend the majority of their life underground as larvae feeding on decaying wood (they do not damage living wood or timber) so it’s really important to try and not be ‘too tidy’ and leave some rotting wood as suitable habitat for them in our gardens and green spaces.

Find out how you can help Stag Beetles in your garden [here](#)

Get in touch @iWatchWildlife or iwatchwildlife@gmail.com with your observations.



Year 6 also saw a Stag beetle at their residential in Aldershot. He was trapped in a grate in the dining room, but Mr Chubb and Mr Barnes managed to release him and put him outside.

Out & About

The Year 5 children are all trying so hard within their swimming lessons. We are amazed at how much progress they are making each week, demonstrating such determination and eagerness to improve.



Our Swimming Superstar awards this week go to... Jake Davis, Gabriel, Rio, Matthew, Tianna, Summer Parker, Logan, Esmee and Nash.



On Tuesday our Year 3 Out and About team celebrated International Mud Day with a very muddy walk down to the Folly! The children enjoyed jumping in puddles and squelching through the muddy fields down to the river side. They had fun exploring the muddy waters edge, hunting for crabs too.



The Year 4 Out and About group continued their learning about Victorians when visiting Tennyson's home at Farringford in Freshwater on Wednesday morning. The children explored the walled gardens and were given a tour of the grounds. They asked lots of super questions and learnt more about the life of the poet laureate and his family.



Out and About next week...

On Wednesday afternoon some of 6LR went to Ryde beach. The children enjoyed creating sand sculptures, digging holes, playing volleyball, paddling in the sea and making up their own beach sports (a cross between long jump, high jump and hurdles).



Tuesday am: Year 5 Swimming

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.

Tuesday pm: 3BM- Out and About

Wear play clothes and comfortable shoes/ trainers for walking.

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

Tuesday pm: 3PT- PE

Please wear PE kits and trainers

Farrah-Mai, Aribella, Amber-May, Gracie, Liana, Kiera, Summer, Evie, Freya, Chloe Stay, Toby, Harrison, Jude, Oliver and Logan.

Wednesday am: 4MC- Out and About

Please wear play clothes and suitable trainers.

Elise, Ella, Ollie, Jude, Freddy, Katie, Heaven-Lee, Chloe, Kaydan and Jaymie.

Wednesday am: 4MC- PE

Please wear PE kits and trainers

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

Wednesday pm: 6LR- Out and About

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

Logan, Neavie, Lexi, Mia, Finnley, Summer, Ethan, Olivia, Rio, Phoebe, Naomi, Bobby, Connor and Brooke.

Wednesday pm: 6TS- PE

Please wear PE kits and trainers.

All children.



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 French Bread Pizza	Beef Meatballs in a Tomato Sauce with 50/50 Rice	Roast Gammon, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Cottage Pie with Gravy	Fish Fingers with Chips
Jacket Potato with BBQ Beans	Vegetable Hotpot	Potato & Courgette Stack with Roast Potatoes	Broccoli & Cheese Pasta Bake	Vegan Mexican Bean Roll with Chips
Coleslaw Mixed Salad	Sweetcorn Broccoli	Peas Cauliflower	Green Beans Carrots	Baked Beans Peas
Oaty Cookie Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Banana Sponge & Custard Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Chocolate & Madarin Brownie Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit	Peaches & Ice Cream Yoghurt / Fresh Fruit

Assessment Week

Next week we are having an assessment week. This is to supplement teachers' knowledge in understanding exactly where the children are in their learning and will feed in to the transition process and be passed on to your child's new teacher.

Transition

We have a move up morning planned for Wednesday 14th July. On this day, the children will meet their new teachers. Sadly, Year 6 are unable to visit their secondary schools, but there are a variety of activities, which are school specific going ahead.

PTFA

There is a Parents, Teachers and Friends (PTFA) meeting on Thursday 8th July at 2 pm. Everyone is welcome. We are particularly keen to recruit new members from our current Reception classes who have not yet had chance to be involved in events at the school. The meeting will be in the dining room, so we can spread out and have the doors open. For those of you who don't know the PTFA runs social and community events to raise money for the school for items that the school budget may not run too, but benefit the children.

Finally

Enjoy the football this weekend.

Positive Quote: "Winning doesn't always mean being first. Winning means you're doing better than you've done before."

Whole school attendance 96.74%.

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

This week 2GC achieved 100% attendance! Well done.

Thank you for your support.

Best wishes,

**Samantha Sillito
Headteacher**



Will you take on Polly's Challenge this Summer?



Polly's Challenge is an opportunity for 10 to 14-year-olds, who may not be able to afford to get back out on the water after taking part in UKSA Test the Water programme.



We ask students to raise £20* for the week through sponsorship. This then goes back into Polly's Fund to support more children in the future.

UKSA will provide all the specialist equipment your child needs; lunch will also be included. All they will need to bring is a swimsuit, towel and shoes they can get wet (full kit list will be provided).

Who can take part? Isle of Wight young people in school year 6, 7 & 8. There are limited spaces available so follow the steps below and enquire TODAY!

*This should not be a barrier, please speak to us if you require financial assistance

1

Enquire by contacting Jade



01983 203037
Mon to Fri 9am - 2pm



jade.beasley@uksa.org

Multi Activity week

5 days of land and water-based activities

July
Monday 26th - Friday 30th

August
Monday 9th - Friday 13th
Monday 16th - Friday 20th
Monday 23rd - Friday 27th

RYA Dingy Start

5 days of dinghy sailing gaining stage 1 & 2

August
Monday 2nd - Friday 6th



To provisionally book a space, you will be asked which date you are interested in, details about your child, and contact details for yourself. You will then be sent a sponsorship form which your child needs to complete by Monday 19th July to confirm their space on the programme.

2

Get sponsored

From tidy bedrooms, walking the dog to washing the car each child is asked to raise a minimum of £20 by Monday 19th July 2021

3

Complete booking

To confirm your child's place contact jade by Monday 19th July to pay in sponsored money and send in the sponsorship form.



About Polly's Fund

Polly's Fund, which supports Polly's Challenge, was set up thanks to the family and friends of Polly Birch. Polly was a much-loved vet, sailor, mum, wife, sister, daughter and friend. Above all Polly loved adventure and wanted to encourage other people to go out and experience the world.

"Appreciate the people around you, adventure with them, buy less stuff and go out to experience the world. Laugh, dance and have fun, respect the world and look after the bees" - Polly Birch

Company No 8225924 - Charity No 295348 - Patent 1808 The Princess Road



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Mountbatten

Walk the Wight has been rescheduled this year to **12 September 2021**. I am super excited to say that we are able to provide a different version of Schools Walk the Wight this year as part of the main event.

The ability to walk and log miles on a map in the run up to the event and the Schools Start at Freshwater remain the same, but we have created a code for families to buy a ticket online for this year's event.

The link and code below can be used to sign up for the event directly.

<https://www.mountbatten.org.uk/register-to-walk-the-wight>

SWTW-2021-FT09

TEACHERS CHARITY FOOTBALL MATCH PRIMARY V'S SECONDARY

The Wight
Brainy
Bunch



**SUNDAY 11TH JULY 11:00AM KO
@ WESTWOOD PARK COWES,
PO31 7NT, ADULTS £3, KIDS £1**

BAR, TEA HUT, LIVE MUSIC AND MORE



For more information contact Gareth Bricknell
01983 409121 or gbricknell@bayceschool



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

