

Animal Themed Mufti Day Next Friday

Dear Families,

Animal Themed Mufti Day

Next Friday 26th May the School Council are organising an animal themed mufti day. In their School Council meetings, the children have decided to support the RSPCA as part of their fundraising beyond ourselves. The School Council visited the RSPCA in Godshell as part of this work. Now they would like the children to dress up next Friday as an animal and bring into school a donation of money that will go to the RSPCA. I can't wait to see the costumes!



Staffing News

Mrs Barnett will be leaving us next Friday to go on maternity leave. Mrs Heng, will be taking over the RAB class. We wish Mrs Barnett and her family well.

Miss Sears is leaving us next Friday too. She has been with us for the last thirteen years and has worked right across the school. She is off to work at Lakeside Hotel, so we wish her every success with that.

Mr Palin, who came to Queensgate as a pupil and an apprentice is moving into the world of Estate Agency and will be leaving us on Monday 3rd July. He will also be becoming a dad very soon too. Best wishes to him over the coming weeks.

This week I have appointed our most recent apprentice. Miss Whiten will be joining us in our Reception team. Miss Whiten was also a pupil at Queensgate and has chosen to come back and start her career with us.



World Bee Day

Bees are so important to the health of our planet that they have their own special day. World Bee Day takes place on 20th May each year, and its aim is to spread awareness of the significance of bees. Many of the children have been designing fantastic bee posters to raise awareness of the day.

PTFA

There is a PTFA meeting on Tuesday 23rd May 7pm via Teams (please look on the PTFA Facebook page or Classlist for the link). We are desperate for more help. Sadly, the Summer Fair has had to be cancelled due to a small committee that are unable to put on big events without more help. There are still other events organised for example, the Magnificent Men shop on Friday 9th June and the end of year discos that will need to be organised and run.

Calling Reception Parents

Mrs Dye's class would like to invite parents into school for a visit to The Patch with your children next Wednesday. Here are the times RSD 9.15am - 11.15am, RAB 12.45pm - 2.30pm.

School Improvement Managers

Both the outgoing (Rebecca Kingsland) and the incoming (Julia Roberts) School Improvement Managers will be visiting Queensgate on Thursday 25th May.

Half Term and INSET

We break up next Friday 26th May and will return to school on Monday 5th June. Please note there is also an INSET day planned for Monday 19th June. This is Festival Monday and there will be a one-way system running along Beatrice Avenue.

More Assessments

As you know Year 6 and Year 2 have now completed their SATs. Next is the turn of Year 4. They have to sit a national multiplication test on the computer. These tests will be during the week beginning the 5th June. Year 4 need to know all of their times tables and division facts by then please. It would be good to have a practise over the half term break.

Year 1 children will be doing their phonics screen in the week beginning Monday 12th June.

Totally Rad Piano Lessons



Totally Rad Music Company who provide our piano lessons in school have changed their sign up page. If your child is already having lessons, you do not need to do anything because your child is already registered. If any other parents would like to sign up for lessons, please see the link to the new sign up form on the school website.

<http://www.queensgateprimary.co.uk/parents/totally-rad-music-tuition>

Guitar Lessons after Half Term

After half term we are hopefully going to have a teacher from the Isle of Wight Music Tuition Service coming in on Fridays to teach guitar. He will teach groups of four children at a time and lessons cost £8 per child. We have just bought a number of guitars, so children signing up for lessons would have access to an instrument which they can bring home to practise. We can initially start up to 16 children in our first cohort so if your child wants to learn, please email Mrs Webb on wwebb@queensgateprimary.co.uk with your child's full name and class. I will then email you back with further details about how to sign up with the Isle of Wight Tuition Service.

This is for pupils in Years 2, 3 4 and 5 only.



Osborne Junior Coronation Prom



On Tuesday, the school choir walked up to Osborne House to take part in the annual junior prom which this year, was themed around the coronation. We prepared two pieces to sing, "Sing for the King" and "Coronation Day". We enjoyed a picnic in the grounds and it was exciting to see our families arrive to join the large audience. We had to wait quite a while as we were the last primary school to sing but it was great fun listening to the other schools and the Isle of Wight Wind Band who performed the theme tune to Game of Thrones. When our turn finally arrived, we did ourselves proud and sang our hearts out.

This was our last combined KS1 and KS2 choir event for the year and it was a real celebration of all we have achieved. Well done to everyone!

A special big THANK YOU to Mrs Kingsbury who supports the choir in so many ways throughout the year and also to Mrs Heng who came along to help us with this event.

Choir after half term

Choir will run for five weeks after half term from Tues 6th June – Tues 4th July and will be for KS2 only. Our main focus will be on preparing our own version of "True Colours" by Cyndi Lauper and we will be recording part of it for use on Miss Croutear's Dance Live 2024 music track. We welcome old and new KS2 choir members and there is no limit on numbers. Please sign up on Clubbly when it is released.

Dance Live Update

The fundraising have been working super hard and have come up with some amazing ideas. After half term a tuck shop will be running from the cookery room each Friday Breaktime for two year groups at a time (timetable below). They will be selling a selection of goodies such as toast, crumpets, muffins and milk. Please check when your child's year group slot is and send them in with some money if they would like to buy from the tuck shop. Everything will be 50p.

Date	Year Group
9 th June	3 - 4
16 th June	5 - 6
23 rd June	3-4
30 th June	5-6
7 th July	3 - 4
14 th July	5 - 6

They are also planning a cinema themed night for next half term for both key stages. More information to purchase tickets for this will be in the newsletter and sent home as a letter next half term.

This week we have officially registered and got our place at Dance Live 2024! I will find out the exact date next month but this means we will definitely be attending. Dates for next terms rehearsals will be going out in a letter over the next week as well so please keep an eye out!

Easter Reading Challenge

Congratulations to Su A for recording the most minutes of reading at 480, and to Emily and Daisy B for raising the most money at £22 each. All three children have chosen a book as a prize.

Ash Randall visit

On Monday 22nd May freestyle footballer and world record holder, Ash Randall, will be visiting school and sharing an assembly with both KS1 and KS2 children. This assembly will involve Ash showing the children his skills, talking to the children about his world record and answering some questions – he may even involve some children and staff in the assembly. If children have their own copies of the Guinness World Records book (2013, 2016, 2021, 2022 or 2023 books), they are welcome to bring them in and Ash will sign them. As a reminder of the day, there is the option of buying a signed A3 poster or a silicon wristband for £1 each. 50% of all sales will be donated back to the school – children must bring the money in on the day and let their teacher know what they want.



Attendance

Whole School Attendance since September is 93.67%

Whole School Attendance this week is 93.26%

KS1 Class with best attendance this week is RSD with 97.22%

KS2 Class with best attendance this week is 4MC with 97.62%



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 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 Served with Potato Wedges and Two Vegetables	Butter Chicken Curry Served with Wholegrain Rice and Two Vegetables	Roast Pork Served with Roast Potatoes, Gravy and Two Vegetables	Cottage Pie Served with Two Vegetables	Breaded Fish Fingers Served with Chips and Two Vegetables
Vegetarian Bolognese Served with Wholemeal Pasta and Two Vegetables	Tomato Vegetable Burger Served with Potato Wedges and Two Vegetables	Cheesy Ploughman's Picnic Plate Served with Bread	Macaroni Cheese Served with Two Vegetables	Vegetarian Dippers Served with Chips and Two Vegetables
Jacket Potato or Tomato Pasta	Jacket Potato or Tomato Pasta	Jacket Potato or Tomato Pasta	Jacket Potato or Tomato Pasta	Jacket Potato or Tomato Pasta
Berry Flapjack with Fruit	Shortbread	Chocolate Brownie with Fruit	Ice Cream	Pineapple Upside Down Cake

Mental Health at Queensgate

The Youth Trust have sent us the following information: From the date of referral, it will be approximately a 8 - 10 week wait for an assessment appointment and then a further 4 - 5 months until we can provide counselling sessions. As the wait time is so long they have provided some links to some useful sites and resources.

Little Book of Sunshine [click here](#), a helpful booklet for children and young people in Hampshire, Southampton and Isle of Wight (see page 29 for other IOW support links)

See www.charliewaller.org/resources for free guides and workbooks for professionals, parents, young people and others interested in mental and emotional wellbeing.

Family lives (advice and guidance on parenting) 0808 800 2222 or email; askus@familylives.org.uk

<https://themix.org.uk> Freephone: 0808 808 4994 (daily 13.00 – 23.00), Provides a confidential helpline, email, webchat and telephone counselling service for young people under the age of 25. Advice and information on support services for young people including counselling.

Young Minds – www.youngminds.org.uk Lots of useful information for both Young people and parents, including a Parents Helpline open from 9.30-16.00 Mon-Fri on 0808 802 5544.

For some self-guided books take a look at [Books by Dr Sharie – Dr Sharie Coombes](#) and also 'Grief Episode Guide For Teens' www.inukshuk-publishing.com.

If you under 18 and experiencing crisis...

Call [Childline](#) on 0800 1111 for free to speak to someone about what's happening and how you're feeling. They are available 24hours a day, 365 days of the year.

If you are over 18 and experiencing crisis...

Call the [Samaritans](#) free helpline on 116 123. It's open 24 hours, 365 days of the year.

[Shout](#) provides a free 24/7 text crisis support service, to start a conversation, just text the word 'SHOUT@ to 85258. It's a confidential, anonymous service for anyone of any age in the UK and details won't appear on your phone bill.

If it's an emergency...

If your life is at imminent risk or you need urgent medical attention – call 999 and ask for an ambulance.

If you feel that you are likely to harm yourself or are in danger of harming other, please call NHS 111 or attend St. Mary's Hospital A&E.



Thrive 365

Dragonfly: Impact Education



Did you know?

Neuroscience is revealing fascinating links between gratitude and generosity. Landmark studies by psychologists have found that these two virtues share a pathway in the brain. Christina Karns at the University of Oregon did a study in 2017 that looked at what happens when you receive a gift versus when you give a gift. She found that gratitude practice increased generosity in the subjects at least temporarily. This has amazing implications for schools in terms of increasing generosity in the community using gratitude.

1 Gratitude Journal

There is empirical evidence to support the practice of gratitude journaling. This involves reflecting on what has happened during the day and finding key moments that you are grateful for. Gratitude journals can be in paper form or completed on a device. The format is less important than the process. Some key questions include:

- What has happened today that made me smile or laugh?
- Whose qualities do I admire and appreciate having in my life?
- When I look out of the window, what am I grateful for?

2 Gratitude Cards

In addition to reflecting on your gratitude, writing to others to express your gratitude can impact wellbeing. How often do you send a greetings card and just sign your name rather than write a message? Adding a couple of sentences about why you are grateful to have the person in your life is good for you and will be meaningful to them too. If this doesn't come naturally to you and feels too 'emotional', you could choose a card that has the message you want to say already printed on the front or you could use a quotation from a famous person. Using humour and combining it with genuine gratitude is also a way to lighten the tone if that sits more comfortably.

3 Give experiences

Studies have found links between the giving of experiences rather than material goods increased gratitude in the recipient. Next time you are searching for an idea for a present for someone, consider whether you could gift an experience rather than a thing. It doesn't have to be a huge gesture, it could simply be a walk where you plan the route and bring the picnic. Or alternatively, gifting to a charity that means something to the person shows that you care about their values and what is important to them. In a time where a lot of people have a lot of 'things', some of the most meaningful gifts include your time and thought.

www.dragonflyimpact.co.uk @dragonflyimpact   
www.dragonflyimpact.com/how-we-can-help
Email: info@dragonflyimpact.co.uk



Islands in the Stream
Senior Mental Health Leads
in Schools
by Claire Pass & Rachael Bushby



Out & About

On Tuesday morning the **RAB** Out and About children visited St Helens beach in readiness for next half-term's topic on the seaside. The children enjoyed baking in the 'sand kitchen', exploring water with drain pipes and containers, digging holes, playing frisbee and turning each other into mermaids! At snack time we shared seaside stories and the group demonstrated great listening skills. It was wonderful to see the children all playing so well together and engaged in activities on the beach.



This week's **Year 5** Out and About team visited The Needles New Battery on Tuesday afternoon. To tie in with their Science topic about space, the children walked from the Needles car park up to the New Battery to learn more about the High Down rocket testing site. The site was used in the 1950s -1970s to test the Black Knight and Black Arrow rockets, designed to launch satellites into Space and manufactured by Saunders Roe in East Cowes. The children all showed great enthusiasm and were fantastic at completing our walk (against the clock!).



On Wednesday morning the **4MC** Out and About team went to Bembridge Windmill. The children have been studying the book *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*, during their visit they talked about the history of wind power and how it has changed since the mill was built about 1700. The children explored different drawing challenges, using pen to draw the windmill. They then used maps to navigate their way from Bembridge Windmill to Whitecliff Bay. The children enjoyed a quick breather (and biscuit) on the beach before heading back to the minibus. They demonstrated great team work and stamina!



Out & About con't

All of **6TM** went orienteering in Firestone Copse on Wednesday afternoon. The children worked in two teams to try and locate as many orienteering markers around the copse as they could. They used maps and compasses to hunt for the markers, working together to decide which routes to take and where they were within the woods. The groups used walkie-talkies to check in with each other. Both groups had great fun, with Group 1 finding the most mud and Group 2 finding the most orienteering posts!



Out and About next week...

Tuesday 23rd May am RAB

St Helens Beach

Please wear play-clothes, bring wellies and waterproof coat/sun hat (depending on the weather).
Jacob, Lexi, Titan, George, Jaxson, Vienna, Declan, Isabelle, Holly, Jake, Poppy, Nathan, Sully and Talima.

Tuesday 23rd May pm Year 5

Needles New Battery

Please wear play-clothes, trainers and bring a waterproof coat/sun hat (depending on the weather)
Logan, Harrison B, Oliver, Sarah, George, Lexie, James D, Evie, Mason, Jacob, Harrison P, Harrison F, Toby H, Amber J and Amelia.

*Parents/ carers- apologise in advance, please be aware we may arrive back to school shortly after 3pm. Many thanks in advance for your support and understanding.

Wednesday 24th May am 4MC

Tennyson Down

Please wear play clothes, comfortable walking shoes or trainers and waterproof coat/sun hat (depending on weather).

Ryan, Emily B, Teddy, Skyla, Maya, Amelia H, Arthur, Evie, Ava, Jake, Zachary, Emily T, Isabella, Denys and Artem.

Wednesday 24th May pm 6LR

Orienteering at Firestone Copse

Please wear play clothes, bring wellies or old trainers and a waterproof coat (depending on weather forecast).

Whole class.

Cricket

On Thursday, Years 3, 4 & 5 had a cricket session lead by Martin from Ventnor Cricket club. The children enjoyed learning some skills and playing some diamond cricket. They were also encouraged to consider joining a club out of school to continue learning more skills. It was good to see all the children getting involved and Martin even had some children asking to play more cricket at break time. At the end of the day, Martin told me that he was impressed with the attitude of the children and the way the children worked together. Well done everyone in Years 3, 4 & 5.



Orienteering

On Wednesday, we had an EYFS/KS1 and a KS2 orienteering course installed in school - you may have noticed some red markers around the inside of the site. Not only will this offer a great opportunity for the children to learn orienteering skills such as map work and team work in their PE lessons, it will also be used to encourage active learning in a number of different subjects as different question cards can be attached to the permanent markers. Staff had training on how to use the resources on Wednesday and I am sure it won't be long until the children are using the course.



Friday 12th May - Handball

Last Friday some of Year 6 attended a handball tournament at Smallbrook. We had three games to play in the group stages and came second out of four, meaning we went on to play in the semi-final. This game was a tough one with the score remaining close, however the other team took the win. Having just missed out on the top four spots, we went on to compete for a final place in the competition. After another tough match, we took the victory in our last match, meaning we finished in 5th place out of 14 schools. The children played really well and showed some great sportsmanship throughout.



Wednesday 17th May - Basketball

On Wednesday some Year 6 children went over to Cowes Primary to take part in the Cowes Cluster Basketball Festival. We took on four other teams and played our absolute best. We won two games and lost two but we didn't give up the whole way through. There was a massive improvement in skills from all of the children, representing Queensgate really well.



Instead of looking at how far you still need to go... take a moment to feel gratitude for every step you've already taken.



Year 3 Roman Villa Trip

3PT will be visiting the Roman Villa on Thursday 22nd June.

3AH will be visiting the Roman Villa on Thursday 29th June.

The trip will cost £4.17 per child and will last approximately 2 hours, returning to school before lunch break. In order to keep costs down we will be travelling in the school's minibuses.

Please make a payment of £4.17 via SCOPAY between Monday 5th and Monday 19th June.



And finally...

Have a wonderful weekend. Remember to chat, read and play together.

Best wishes,

Samantha Sillito

Headteacher

Wight Orienteering



Find out more about the sport by joining one of our **Summer Events for 2023** –
Registration opens at 10am. Starts from 10.30-12.00

Sunday 21st May at Compton and Brook Down (parking at Compton Farm Campsite)

Saturday 8th July a Quiz walk will be organized.

Cost for adult non-members £5, family groups £6.00 and juniors just £1.00

Courses for all abilities with advice and training offered if required to new members. See website for parking details: www.wighto.org.uk

We also have a Facebook page: Wight Orienteers

<http://ab1academy.com/isleofwight-camp/>

GOALKEEPER
ACADEMY
ASMIR BEGOVIĆ

ISLE OF WIGHT

HOLY CROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL
MILLFIELD AVENUE
EAST COWES
PO32 6AS

30 MAY
TUESDAY

GK CAMPS ARE FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGES 7-16.





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**WEEKEND AND FAMILY TICKETS ALSO AVAILABLE. TICKETS CAN BE
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Squashbox Theatre presents...

Journey to the Stars

Sunday 28th May 2023 @ Quay Arts Centre, Newport
Show starts 2pm (50 mins running time with no interval)
Tickets: £8 | £30 Family of Four

Journey to the Stars! is a marvellous blend of puppetry, storytelling, live music, and comedy, sprinkled with astounding science and astronomy facts, and all contained within an accessible, funny, and unique family show. Join Squashbox Theatre at Quay Arts on Sunday 28th May, for a spectacular theatre performance, suitable for all the family.

Since the dawn of time, human beings have gazed up at the night sky and wondered... What's up there? How far does it go? Does it ever end? Well, wonder no longer! All these questions and more will be answered in 'Journey to the Stars'!

Let Squashbox Theatre be your guide on a journey through the cosmos: across the solar system, past twinkling stars, towards distant galaxies... to the edge of space and time itself! Using only silly puppets, ridiculous and unnecessary props, ludicrous wigs and assorted fruits and vegetables, Squashbox Theatre will reveal the secrets of the universe!

To Book tickets please go to <http://www.quayarts.org> or call Box Office on 01983 822490.



For further information please contact Tayla Smith, Marketing Co-ordinator marketing@quayarts.org T: 01983 822490

Quay Arts, Sea Street, Newport Harbour, Isle of Wight, PO30 5BD | Quay Arts Registered Charity No. 272007 (Steve Ross Foundation for the Arts)



Saturday Beach School

Starting Saturday 10th June

4 week programme

10am - 11.30am

£10 per child

 **APPLEY BEACH, RYDE**

For more information, please contact us via @thenurturecabin on facebook
or email thenurturecabin@gmail.com



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SOCCER CAMP

30TH, 31ST MAY, 1ST JUNE

RECEPTION - YEAR 6

10:00 - 2:45 PM



ST MARY'S, RYDE

£12 A DAY

ALL OF OUR COACHES ARE FULLY FA QUALIFIED COACHES WITH FIRST AID AND ARE DBS CHECKED.

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 **LJR COACHING**

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SOCCER CAMP

30TH AND 31ST MAY

RECEPTION - YEAR 6

10:00 - 2:45 PM



ST THOMAS', NEWPORT

£12 A DAY

ALL OF OUR COACHES ARE FULLY FA QUALIFIED COACHES WITH FIRST AID AND ARE DBS CHECKED.

 **073688 86639**

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27th May - 3rd June

ONCE UPON A TIME AT TAPNELL...

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(*see website for full T&C's)

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FAMILY FUN

CLAY DAYS

AT NEWPORT ROMAN VILLA

Make a face pot

ONLY £1*
No need to book, just turn up and explore.

Half-term activity

- 10am to 2.30pm
- Wednesday 31 May
- Friday 2 June

*£1 per person. Includes admission and all activities.
 • COVID-19 precautions in place.
 • If the activity room is full we will provide clay for you to create your masterpiece at home.
 • Card payments limited; allow extra time if you wish to pay this way.

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iow.gov.uk/museums

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