



# Queensgate Newsletter

*A newsletter for the pupils, families and staff of Queensgate Primary*



## Welcome back!

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Dear families,

It has been wonderful welcoming the children back to Queensgate this week. I hope you have all had a great summer, and apart from the last week enjoyed the glorious weather we had!

There is lots of news to inform you of so if you are a regular reader of the newsletter - thank you, and please ask other parents to have a read as it really helps that everyone gets the same message.

During our INSET training days I talked to the staff about the main school drivers for the year - there are two broad headings, which are:

- **to increase outcomes in all National external measures** - A Good Level of Development (GLD) in Reception, Year 1 Phonics Screen, Year 2 Phonics retake, Multiplication Tables Check in Year 4 and of course SATs in Year 6. We had great results across the board last year and this year but we want to stay above National averages and increase children working at Greater Depth.
- **Improve behaviour** - you can read more on this on the next page

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I have spoken to the children yesterday in assembly about our new behaviour visions. These are under the headings of:

Collaboration, Compassion, Courage, Creativity and Curiosity.

### Queensgate Primary Values



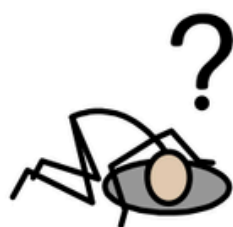
Collaboration



Creativity



Courage



Curiosity



Compassion



Queensgate

Lots of behaviours that are on the school code will fall under these main headings. Dojo will be changed to have these categories too so everyone will be earning points towards them. I am hoping that children remember these five areas and did well after the assembly. Please do ask them about these words, what they mean and to give any examples.

The children will receive more positive praise, more good news cards and more Dojo points when they match a vision word. They will no longer receive a Queensgate 'goody' as these were losing value with the children and cost quite a lot of money. When they reach 100 Dojo's (hopefully at the end of the Autumn term) they will receive a bronze badge to wear on their school uniform, at 200 Dojos - a silver badge and at 300 Dojos a gold badge plus a book. The children seemed quite excited and motivated in assembly about this.

To help with this we have relocated the Nest (which is to revert back to it's old name of The Den) to one of the mobile classrooms. Mrs Bradbury, Mrs Hill and Miss Lovett will be in the Den in the mornings and will sweep up those children that have entered the wrong zone, take them to the Den with work, get them back to the green zone, help with their work and then transition back to the class at the next appropriate point. This means that they don't miss out on learning, and the other children in the class don't get disturbed. It is very much a work in progress but the first few days have shown the possibilities of it.

ELSA support will be offered by Miss Lovett in the afternoons. I have a good feeling about this year.

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## **Timings of the Day**

I know you have received lots of messages in Compass about the new timings in the morning. Even though we extended the day by 10 minutes in the afternoon we still weren't quite hitting the statutory amount. By ensuring that the register is taken earlier this now makes us compliant.

As a reminder - gates open at 8.30am, doors open at 8.40am and doors/gates close at 8.50am. I appreciate that this doesn't help the situation when it is busy on the roads but getting them through the door at 8.40am is the goal.

As some of you have noticed, Year 5 and 6 now congregate on the Key Stage 2 playground in the morning - this gives them more space to wait in, plus frees up the walkway to the back of the school from that side. So far it has worked well.

You may have noticed a red and white chain across the top of the steps leading to the car park. This has been put there as a measure to stop children and parents from using these steps and walking through the car park. Our support staff leave at 3pm so there are always cars coming and going at this time, all children and their adults should walk past the main entrance and down the main path to Beatrice Avenue, please DO NOT walk across the car park. Thank you.

## **Uniform**

Thank you for supporting our uniform policy, the children all looked so smart this week. Please do name jumpers and coats as we always have lots left after a break especially when the weather is nice and we are on the field. Although uniform is important I am always willing to acknowledge that it is expensive and, from time to time, shoes may be different as you await an opportunity to purchase new ones. If this is the case please try and send them in with non colourful trainers as they really do stick out!

As I made it known before we broke up, Out & About children should now wear their PE kits rather than 'normal clothes'. We have made this decision for many reasons including, safeguarding (easier to spot a child in uniform), some clothes were totally inappropriate for Out & About sessions and means that children do not stand out in the classes when waiting to go or returning from their experience. Thank you for your support in this matter.

In regards to the PE kit itself, it has been brought to my attention that navy shorts for girls are very difficult to come by (unless quite baggy football style ones), I am therefore saying that navy or black shorts can be worn and the same for jogging bottoms (preferably non branded). I am happy for girls to wear cycling style shorts but the leg length must be close to the knee and not these popular very short style ones.

## **Staffing**

The Governors are busy recruiting a new Head Teacher. The closing date is next Tuesday (9<sup>th</sup> September) and interviews will be carried out on 16<sup>th</sup> and/or 17<sup>th</sup> September. If successful then we expect the new head to be in post by January. I will keep you informed about this as I know more. I am committed to continuing as Acting Head until a suitable candidate is found. Once again I thank you all for your support. Mrs Saddington is unfortunately poorly and has been signed off for next week, so we will be welcoming a familiar face back to Queensgate - Miss Mawudoku! She will work with Mrs Norsworthy in 5TS.

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# Eco-Schools at Queensgate

## WE DID IT!



For the second year running Queensgate has achieved the Eco Schools Award with Distinction! We will be receiving our plaque, to go with our flag from last year, soon.

Here is the feedback we received following our application in July:




### Feedback

Green Flag Award, 2025

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**Queensgate Foundation Primary**

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**Award Level:** Distinction

**Focus topics:**












### Your greatest overall success:

When children feel excited and passionate about sustainability, it means the message isn't just being taught—it's being embraced. That enthusiasm will stay with them, shaping their habits and perspectives well beyond their time at school. Seeing them take ownership of eco-friendly initiatives, such as completing activities based on Solar Panels to embrace the new ones you have had installed in January 2025, shows how deeply engaged they are. It's incredible how you've fostered such a positive environmental culture.

### We also loved...

- The Meeting Minutes were exceptionally professional and detailed. They truly helped our team appreciate the work and dynamics of your Eco-Committee. Thank you so much for uploading them!
- Having a variety of interesting and tangible activities in your action plan ensures that children stay engaged and actively involved in sustainability efforts. Hands-on experiences, such as starting your ongoing biodiversity improvement project and beach cleans, make learning more meaningful, helping them develop a deeper understanding of environmental responsibility.
- Pupils had the opportunity to go on a variety of eco-related trips throughout the school year. Organising enriching learning experiences can bring these global issues to life. It also highlights the importance of your Eco-Schools work and helps young people understand how their everyday actions can impact our planet.
- Embedding environmental issues into the curriculum ensures that sustainability becomes a core part of students' education, shaping their understanding of how to care for both their health and the planet. It's inspiring to see how this has led to a school-wide ethos around sustainability. Thank you for providing some wonderful evidence to support your curriculum links - the steampunk robots created by recycled materials are fantastic!

### Next year, why not try...

Your application was outstanding - you're an exceptional ambassador for the Eco-Schools programme! Next year, we would love for you to join our month-long Cut Your Carbon campaign in November. It would be an absolute privilege to have you represent us in our flagship campaign as well!

"We are no longer supplying Tapnell Farm with our shredding for use as bedding for their animals; this is due to the difficulties in getting it to them. So, we would like to offer out large bags of shredding to families for £1 a bag. The shredding can be used for your small animals e.g. hamsters, guinea pigs, rabbits and is cheaper than buying straw. If you would like a bag, please let the office know and they will add your name to the list, contacting you when a bag can be collected. This is another Eco-initiative to help the environment. We hope you can support it. Thank you".

# Queensgate Out & About

## Out and About

This term our Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 children will be going Out and About. We are looking forward to lots of adventures throughout the Autumn! Sessions will be shared with you via Compass but please check the newsletter weekly to see if there are any updates.

Children should wear their PE kits for Out and About (PE T-shirt, school sweatshirt, black or navy shorts/joggers/ leggings) and suitable trainers or wellies. Many thanks for your support.

## Tuesday 9th September am

### Year 2 (2JM)

Nettlecombe Farm

*\*Please note children need to wear wellies on the farm. If your child doesn't have any, please let us know so we can arrange for them to borrow some.*

Yazan, Felicity, Jason, Ronney, Leo, Chloe, Nova, Alfie, Owen, Eden, Ezra, Thomas and Lyla T.

## Tuesday 9th September pm

### Year 4 (4KG)

The Needles Sweet Demonstration

Arthur, Tyler CK, Pippa, Harry D, Mia, Dèva-Mae, Jesse, Gracie-Mai, Harvey H, Noah, Henry, Harry H, Jamie and Amelia-Lily.

## Wednesday 10th September am

### Year 3 (3AH)

River Yar Walk

George A, Ellis, Jasper, Francesca, Rudy, Evelyn, George F, Max, Rosie, Daniel, Vienna, Rainie, Mollie and Bodhi.

## Wednesday 10th September pm

### Year 1 (1CE)

Local Area Walk

Toby, Jaxon G, George, Jack, William, Noah, Tilly, Chikaima, Elysia, Flora and Jaxon-Paul.



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## Attendance

Attendance figure will be shared next week. Please remember that attendance is very important and children should, where possible, be in every day.

## Dates for your diary

I will provide a list of dates in next week's newsletter.

**READ**

**Chat**


**Play**

### And finally...

It was lovely to welcome back all the children and to see all of you again. I have high hopes for the school in the upcoming year and would request that you join in the positive vibes as it really does make a difference. I, and the rest of the Senior Leadership team, are always around and contactable if there is a problem - please do come to one of us rather than leaving negative comments on social media platforms. We are going for quite a push to try and encourage more children to come to Queensgate as, due to the nationwide birth rate we, along with many other schools, are experiencing a fall in numbers and social media is an important avenue for prospective parents to make decisions about the school. So please only add positive ones!

On that note thank you to everyone that completed the parent surveys at the end of the summer term. 100% said you would recommend Queensgate to another parent.

Best wishes,



Robin Chubb  
Acting Headteacher



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Dear parent/carer,

Your child's school has chosen to be part of an exciting initiative to encourage more children and their families to walk to school. **WOW – the walk to school challenge** is delivered by Living Streets, the UK charity for everyday walking, to help as many children as possible experience the benefits of walking to school.

The pupil-led challenge enables children to self-report how they get to school every day. If they travel actively (walk/wheel, cycle, scoot or Park and Stride) at least once a week for a month, they get rewarded with a badge. It's that simple!

### **What are the benefits of walking to school?**

- Children feel happier and healthier
- They arrive to school refreshed and ready to learn
- Helps reduce congestion and pollution at the school gates

### **What if we can't walk to school?**

If driving, 'Park and Stride' to help your child earn their WOW badges. Park **at least ten minutes away** from the school and walk the remaining journey.

If using public transport, hop off **at least ten minutes away** and walk the rest (recorded as 'other' on the WOW Travel Tracker).

Where walking to school isn't an option, we work with schools to establish a bespoke approach to WOW that works best for their pupils' needs.

If you have any questions on the adaptability of WOW or have suggestions of how we can improve, we would love to hear your thoughts. Please email [walktoschool@livingstreets.org.uk](mailto:walktoschool@livingstreets.org.uk)

### **What is a WOW badge?**

There are 11 badges to be earned from September 2025 – July 2026. Each badge has been designed by a pupil as part of our annual WOW Badge Design Competition. A new badge can be earned every month if pupils walk/wheel, cycle, scoot, 'Park and Stride' or hop off at least once a week.

WOW 2025/26 encourages pupils to *Walk with Joy*, with badges depicting everything from jumping in puddles to painting

The badges are made in Cornwall from material that was otherwise destined for landfill, including fridge trays, plastic plates and yoghurt pot off-cuts. For more information, visit:

**[livingstreets.org.uk/recycling](http://livingstreets.org.uk/recycling)**

Last year, around 2,100 schools and over 540,000 pupils across the UK enjoyed the benefits of walking to school with WOW. Will you join us?

### **Launching with you soon!**

The Isle of Wight will be hosting a week of WOW launches in September, with **Queensgate Foundation Primary** having its launch on **Thursday- September 25th** with a visit from our mascot Strider (pictured below) outside the school in the AFTERNOON! We hope to see you there and that you join us in the excitement for this new initiative!

If you have any questions about the programme, please contact

[juliette.cross@livingstreets.org.uk](mailto:juliette.cross@livingstreets.org.uk) or find more information and useful videos at:  
**[livingstreets.org.uk/wowlaunch](http://livingstreets.org.uk/wowlaunch)**

**Let's swap those school runs for school walks.**



## EAST COWES COMMUNITY LIBRARY



**East Side Curve**  
**Wednesday afternoons 3.30pm**  
**Free to attend, no need to book.**



Come and join us to enjoy an informal story session from 3.30pm to 4.00pm.

After stories, there will be some games and activities available if you wish to stay longer.

Email: [library@eastcowestowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:library@eastcowestowncouncil.gov.uk)  
Post: East Cowes Town Hall, York Avenue, PO32 6RU  
Phone: 01983 299082 (option 5)

## EAST COWES COMMUNITY LIBRARY



**East Side Curve**  
**Wednesday mornings 10.15am**  
About 30 minutes of songs and rhymes.

Stay for a chat and choose some books to borrow.



Fun, informal and noisy session for babies and toddlers (0 to 5 years).

Support your child's learning development through songs, rhymes and rhythm activities.

Free to attend, no need to book. All welcome!

Email: [library@eastcowestowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:library@eastcowestowncouncil.gov.uk)  
East Cowes Town Hall, York Avenue, PO32 6RU  
Phone: 01983 299082 (option 5)

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Congratulations to everyone who completed the Summer Reading Challenge this year. The Story Garden challenge officially ends on the 6th of September but we will keep going while we still have rewards in stock.

Don't forget our community library is free to access all year round.

A 0 - 16 years library card is still free. Ordering children's books is also free on this card. You can order books by bringing a list into the library or through the online library catalogue at [www.iow.gov.uk/libraries-leisure-and-heritage](http://www.iow.gov.uk/libraries-leisure-and-heritage). When your ordered book arrives in East Cowes we will contact you. (Adults are charged 80p for this service.) To access free online library services you will need your borrower number (under your card barcode) and a four digit PIN. You can request a new PIN at any library.

Due to the success of the summer holiday storytime sessions, we will be relaunching our weekly Story Time. This will be each Wednesday at 3.30pm for stories and book chat, then at about 4pm we will have some 4 - 7s board games and colouring for everyone who wants to stay a little longer. Rhyme Time will continue on Wednesday mornings for the 0 - 4s. Do check out our Town Council website for more information on community events.

We look forward to seeing you. Good luck and best wishes for the new school year!

Kind regards from library volunteer, Angie.

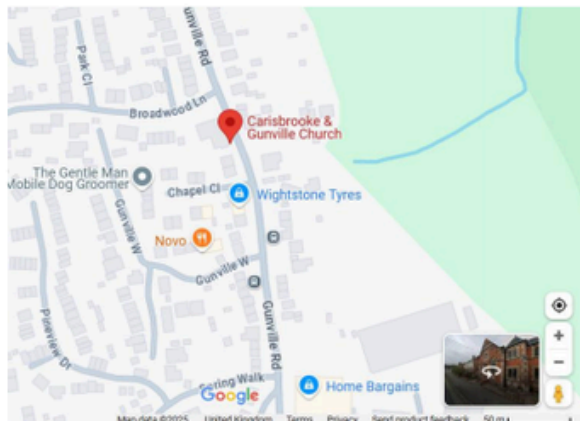




## Parent and Caregiver Peer Support Sessions

Where: Gunville Methodist Church Hall

When:



**11<sup>th</sup> September 2025 (10am - 12 noon)**

**6<sup>th</sup> November 2025 (10am - 12 noon)**

**15<sup>th</sup> January 2026 (10am - 11am)**

**5<sup>th</sup> March 2026 (10am - 12 noon)**

**7<sup>th</sup> May 2026 (10am - 12 noon)**

Come along to meet with other parents / caregivers for an informal meet up and chat about your neurodiversity journey. Refreshments provided. No need to book, just turn up.

Free onsite parking.

## Drop-in Sessions For parents of Early years children with emerging



### SEND

Please scan the QR code for  
more information and to book

Come and join us for a friendly and informal drop in session, designed to provide support, advice, and a chance to connect with other parents and carers.

We often have Occupational Therapists and Speech and Language Therapists available to offer specialist advice.

**10<sup>th</sup> September- Newport Family Centre**

**17<sup>th</sup> October- Sandown Family Centre**

**7<sup>th</sup> November- Ryde Family Centre**

**9<sup>th</sup> December- Newport Family Centre**

**9.30am - 10.30am or**

**10.30am - 11.30am**