



# Queensgate Newsletter

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



## Happy New Year Everyone!

Dear Families,

### Happy New Year!

I hope you have had a good Christmas with your children. It has been great to welcome the children back to school this week, refreshed and ready for learning.

### New Starters

Do you know anyone who has a child starting school this September? Please do talk to them about Queensgate Primary and remind them of our recent Ofsted where they said, "Pupils enjoy attending this vibrant and caring school." And "Staff are ambitious that every pupil will achieve their best." And of course gave the rating for Personal Development as "Outstanding." The deadline is Wednesday 16th January for applications into school for September 2025.

### In Case you missed it!

I know a few of you are still struggling with the Compass App or email. Just in case you missed it there were two important letters that came out this week; one from me and one from the Chair of Governors, Peter Genari.

Please read these on the next page...

### INSIDE, WE ALSO TALK ABOUT:

Important dates  
- P9

Out & About -  
P3

Sports Report -  
P6

Menu - P7

Here is the letter from Peter.

Dear Parents, Carers and families

Sadly, today we have accepted the resignation of our founder Head with effect from Friday 18th April 2025. It is a bittersweet moment; however, we appreciate that her new role gives Mrs Sillito a chance to advance her educational career, it also allows the Island to retain her services as she heads up the Local Authority Schools' Improvement Team.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank her for her many years of dedicated service to pupils, staff, parents and the Governing Board of Queensgate.

During her time at Queensgate, we have seen many achievements. The creation of an altogether new school, a string of successive good Ofsted results, a vision, a code, a revamped curriculum, out and about, music, a platinum award for School Sport, The Patch, cookery, a new site on the Osborne Middle Site, a new building, strong leadership through the challenging Covid pandemic, and raised attainment for children amongst many others.

The Governing Board will immediately commence a thorough process to recruit a new Head for the School with a view to fill that position by 1st September 2025. It will be a challenge to fill Mrs Sillito's shoes and recruiting a Head to fit the ethical standards and ethos of our amazing school, however we have a strong and fully staffed Board to carry this out along with representation of the Local Authority.

We would also like to thank Mr Robin Chubb and the Senior Leadership Team for taking on additional responsibilities from April, until a new Head is appointed for September.

Until April there will be no change and even after that, given our strong leadership team, I can assure you that it will be business as usual.

We will keep you informed and look forward to keeping you in the picture. The post will be advertised this month.

Yours sincerely

Peter Genari

Chair – Governing Board

Here is the letter from me.

Dear Families,

In 2010 I moved to the Isle of Wight with my young family to start a brand-new school from scratch, bringing two primary schools together to become Queensgate Foundation Primary School. That was over fourteen years ago.

I have absolutely loved being headteacher of Queensgate and am immensely proud of our wonderful achievements over this time, including four good Ofsted Inspections.

I am now eager to take my school improvement expertise to the wider Island audience and bring about sustainable change in the Island education system in a new role as Senior School Improvement Team Leader for the Isle of Wight.

I will remain at Queensgate until Friday 4th April 2024. Mr Chubb will take over as Interim Headteacher for the summer term, whilst the Governors recruit for my permanent replacement by 1st September 2025. Mr Chubb will be ably supported by the senior leaders: Mrs Grant, Mr Tilling and Miss Hunter, as well as the fantastic Queensgate staff and Governors.

I would like to assure you that it is business as usual this term with our staff team striving for outstanding education for every single child at Queensgate. As always, I would like to thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes

Mrs Sillito

# Queensgate Out & About

## **Out and About this term...**

This term our Reception children and Year 4 classes will be enjoying Out and About sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. In addition to this, all our Year 3 and Year 5 children will be taking part in swimming lessons on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons.

## **Out and About**

Please send your child to school wearing warm, old play-clothes and bring wellies (extra socks), a warm and waterproof coat, hat, scarf, and gloves. We will be going out whatever the weather so please ensure your child is dressed appropriately. Many thanks in advance for your support.

## **Tuesday 14th January am**

Reception RJB

Nettlecombe Farm

Ethan, Rafferty, Zia, Loui, James, Alex, Oscar, Clover, Cece, Darcie, Rosie and Ada.

## **Wednesday 15th January am**

Year 4

Beach Sculptures

Ethan, James, George, Johnny, Luca, Ayia, Annie, Daniel, Jamie, Nathan, Adeline, Layla and Maddie

## **Tuesday 21st January am**

Reception RJB

Nettlecombe Farm

Toby, Jaxon, George, Jack, William, Noah, Mavrick, Tilly, Marcy, Chikaima, Elysia and Flora.

## **Wednesday 22nd January am**

Year 4

No Out and About

London Sinfonietta workshops being held in school for all Year 4 children.

## **Swimming- Year 3 and Year 5**

We are looking forward to starting swimming lessons next week at the Waterside Pool in Ryde, on Tuesday 14th January (Year 3) and Wednesday 15th January (Year 5).

Swimming lessons will take place for the next 10 weeks.

Children need to wear their PE kit with navy joggers or leggings and bring a separate bag to school with their swimming costume/swim-shorts, towel and goggles (if they have a pair).

Please ensure all uniform and swim kit is named to avoid any confusion in the changing rooms.

Please note, children won't return to school, on the coach or minibus, until approximately 3.20pm each week. Children in Year 3 will need to collect their belongings in school before being dismissed at the side door, as normal.

# Music at Queensgate



At Queensgate we are delighted to be able to offer peripatetic music lessons with our fully qualified music tutors.

**Shirley Camfield** offers lessons on piano, violin and **NEW!** Small group lessons on recorder.

15-minute lesson = £8

20-minute individual lesson = £10 (violin and piano)

20-minute group lesson = £8 (recorder)



**John Sharpe** from Wight Music Tuition offers group lessons on the guitar.

20-minute group lesson = £8



Children will need access to an instrument to practise on at home. School can help you with this, we have spare violins, keyboards, recorders and a lovely set of new guitars with carry cases available for free loan.

**To sign up with Shirley** for piano, violin or recorder please email her direct at: [shirleycamfield@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:shirleycamfield@yahoo.co.uk)

**To sign up with John** for guitar lessons please sign up on: [iwmt.org.uk/apply-online/](http://iwmt.org.uk/apply-online/)



*If you sign your child up for instrumental lessons please encourage them to practise regularly at home. It only takes ten minutes a day to make great progress!*



## Did you know?

We are sure you do! The work on our Solar Panel Installation finally began on Monday.

We appreciate everyone's support whilst the car park is out of action.

The children were very excited to watch as the large crane lifted the panels onto the school roof ready to be installed.



## Eco Tips!

As always, here are a few tips for the New Year, which we hope will help. Nine sustainable New Year Resolutions!

- Think about growing your own food this year
- Plant a tree
- Avoid single use plastic items e.g. carrier bags and coffee cups
- Shop locally, long distance has a higher environmental impact
- Turn off appliances at the wall and switch lights off when not in use
- Encourage others to be Eco Friendly
- Consider investing in sustainable cleaning and beauty products
- Check your water butt is ok, ready to collect rainfall
- Try Meat Free Monday



*Inspiring children to contribute to a greener environment and world is something we could and should do*

## Sports Reports

### Year 6 boys football

On Friday 13th December, our Year 6 boys football team competed in a quarter final game against Hunnyhill. Queensgate dominated the first half, scoring 4 goals in quick succession, going into half time with a healthy lead. As the second half started, Hunnyhill had certainly upped their game. Despite this, our boys went on to score another 5 goals and as the final whistle blew, Queensgate flew through to the semi-final with a 9-0 win. Well done Queensgate.



### Island Athletics Final

On Thursday 9th January, our athletics team from Year 6 attended the Sportshall Athletics final at Medina. The team were equally nervous and excited about competing against the other top nine schools on the Island. First, the girls took on their field events: triple jump, standing long jump, vertical jump, speed bounce, chest push and javelin. After that, the boys completed the same events. The team did amazingly well in their respective events, putting them in a good position ready for the track events. It was finally time for the running, nerves were high and there were some shaky legs on the start time. This only drove them to do even better. Every single member of the team put their all into their races, pushing themselves more than ever before. All their hard work paid off in the end as the results were read out... "3rd place Queensgate!" and bronze medals all round. We are extremely proud of this Year 6 team, for their hard work, determination and drive to be the best they could be. Well done Queensgate.





# What's for lunch next week ...



**Chartwells Schools**

## WEEK 3

W/C: 18/11, 09/12, 13/01, 03/02, 03/03, 26/03

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>HOT SPECIALS</b>	Cheese and Tomato Pizza 🍕 Served with Potato Wedges	Pork Sausages Served with Mashed Potato and Gravy	Roast Chicken Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken and Vegetable Korma 🍗 Served with Wholegrain Rice	Fish Fingers Served with Chips
<b>JACKET POTATO</b>	BBQ Quorn Fillet 🍗 Served with Wholegrain Rice	Quorn Sausages 🍗 Served with Mashed Potato and Gravy	Roasted Vegetable and Cranberry Slice 🍗 Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Tomato and Sweetcorn Pasta 🍝 🍅 🍅 🍅	Cheese and Sweetcorn Omelette 🍳 Served with Chips
<b>JACKET POTATO</b>	Jacket Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings
<b>Tomato Pasta</b> Fresh, homemade tomato sauce with penne pasta 🍅 🍅					
All main meals are served with two vegetables					
<b>DESSERT</b>	Chocolate Brownie with Orange Slices 🍫	Bread and Butter Pudding with Custard 🍰	Oat Cookie with Fruit 🍪	Lemon Shortbread 🍪	Vanilla Ice Cream 🍦



Please note that Thursday and Friday menus have been swapped over this week.

## And the week after...

**Chartwells Schools**

## WEEK 1

W/C: 04/11, 25/11, 16/12, 20/01, 10/02, 10/03, 31/03

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>HOT SPECIALS</b>	Macaroni Cheese 🍝	Classic Beef Burger Served with Potato Wedges	Roast Gammon Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	BBQ Chicken Pizza 🍕 Served with Plain Pasta	Fish Fingers Served with Chips
<b>JACKET POTATO</b>	Cheesy Bean Burrito 🍌 🍅 🍅 🍅	Quorn Burger 🍗 Served with Potato Wedges	Roast Quorn 🍗 Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Meatless Feast Cheesy Pizza 🍕 Served with Plain Pasta	Veggie Fingers 🍌 Served with Chips
<b>JACKET POTATO</b>	Jacket Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings including Salmon Mayonnaise 🐟	Jacket Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍟 with a choice of hot and cold fillings
<b>Tomato Pasta</b> Fresh, homemade tomato sauce with penne pasta 🍅 🍅					
All main meals are served with two vegetables					
<b>DESSERT</b>	Flapjack with Fruit 🍪	Apple Crumble with Custard 🍰	Rice Pudding with Jam or Chocolate Spread 🍡	Raspberry Jelly 🍮	Chocolate Brownie 🍫

AUTUMN/WINTER 2024



**NHS**

**Hampshire and  
Isle of Wight Healthcare**  
NHS Foundation Trust

The school nurse will be offering drop-in sessions each term bookable via school.

Your school nurse can support with the following health concerns: -

- Physical Health concerns related to school absences: not chronic or persistent absenteeism.
- Long term conditions e.g. asthma, eczema, impacting on schooling.
- Support for healthy lifestyles- diet and exercise.
- Growth concerns.
- Support around Sleep.
- Continence i.e. night/daytime wetting, soiling, constipation.

Drop in sessions at Queensgate will be:

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January; Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February; Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March; Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April;  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June and Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July.]



## Dates for your diary for the Spring Term

**Monday 13th January** - 9 – 1pm Nurse clinic (Lorna Worthington) in the training room

**Tuesday 14th January** - pm Year 3 Swimming session 1

**Wednesday 15th January** - 9am PTFA meeting, pm Year 5 Swimming session 1

**Thursday 16th January** - CENSUS Day please encourage your child to have a school meal

**Friday 17th January** - School Council Trip to Wildheart Animal Sanctuary

**Monday 20th January** - Eco Council meeting

**Tuesday 21st January** - Pm Year 3 swimming session 2

**Wednesday 22nd January** - Sinfonietta Workshop for Year 4, Pm Year 5 swimming session 2, Anti-Bullying ambassadors meeting

**Tuesday 28th January** - Pm Year 3 swimming session 3

**Wednesday 29th January** - Pm Year 5 swimming session 3

**Tuesday 4th February** - Pm Year 3 swimming session 4

**Wednesday 5th February** - Pm Year 5 swimming session 4, Anti-Bullying ambassadors meeting

**Thursday 6th February** - Road to RIAT STEM Challenge Space (Year 5), School Council meeting

**Friday 7th February** - Dance Live at Portsmouth Guild Hall

**Monday 10th February** - Skipping workshops

**Tuesday 11th February** - Skipping workshops, pm Year 3 swimming session 5, 3.20 – 4.50 Parents Evening 1

**Wednesday 12th February** - Pm Year 5 swimming session 5

**Thursday 13th February** - 3.30 – 6.50 Parents Evening 2

**Friday 14th February** - Wear what you love day (MUFTI) – bring items in for Rainbow Raffle

Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February - **Half Term Holiday**

**Tuesday 25th February** - Pm Year 3 swimming session 6

**Wednesday 26th February** - Pm Year 5 swimming session 6, Anti-bullying Ambassadors meeting

**Thursday 27th February** - MHST Feelings in our Body (Reception classes), Year 6 Bikeability (12 pupils)

**Friday 28th February** - Rainbow Raffle being called today, MHST Understanding Emotions Workshop for Year 1, Year 6 Bikeability (12 pupils), Choir Music Festival (TBC)

**Monday 3rd March** - Eco Council meeting

**Tuesday 4th March** - Pm Year 3 swimming session 7

**Wednesday 5th March** - Pm Year 5 swimming session 7

**Tuesday 11th March** - Pm Year 3 swimming session 8

**Wednesday 12th March** - Pm Year 5 swimming session 8, Anti-bullying Ambassadors meeting

**Thursday 13th March** - NHS live stream careers for Year 6, MHST Worry Management Skills workshop for Year 5

**Monday 17th March** - Start of Year 6 Mock SATs week

**Tuesday 18th March** - Pm Year 3 swimming session 9

**Wednesday 19th March** - Pm Year 5 swimming session 9

**Tuesday 25th March** - Pm Year 3 swimming session 10

**Wednesday 26th March** - Pm Year 5 swimming session 10, Anti-bullying Ambassadors meeting

**Friday 4th April** - Bunny hop event, last day of term, Mrs Sillito's last day

**Easter Holidays Monday 7th April to Friday 18th April**

## Attendance

Whole School Attendance since September is 94.2%

Whole School Attendance this week is 94.35%

KS1 Class with best attendance this week is 2KG with 98.1%

KS2 Class with best attendance this week is 4BM with 98.36%



### PTFA Committee

New members are needed for the PTFA. The PTFA host numerous events and fund raising schemes which benefits all children in the school. It is such a worthy committee and we really value their contributions. The next meeting is on Wednesday 15th January at 9am - please do come along and join as you are greatly needed!

Chat

READ

play

Have a lovely weekend!

Best wishes,

*Sillito*

Samantha Sillito  
Headteacher



East Cowes Based

# INCLUSIVE DANCE CLASSES

ACCESSIBLE TO ALL!

## Classes in Lyrical and Freestyle

- IDTA QUALIFIED TEACHER
- FULL DBS
- PAEDIATRIC FIRST AID TRAINED
- CHAPERONE LICENSED
- FULLY INSURED
- EXPERIENCED WITH ASD, ADHD AND SEND
- MAKATON SIGN USED



**CREATIONZ**  
DANCE ACADEMY

Great Performance Opportunities with Our Creationz Tribe Performance Group!

Discover the joy of movement in a welcoming space that celebrates diversity and embraces every unique dance journey. No matter your background, ability, or experience level, our dance floor is open for YOU!

**JOIN NOW**

@CreationzDanceAcademy  
CreationzDanceAcademy.org  
CreationzDanceAcademy@outlook.com



# DRILL

EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMME



**Hampshire & Isle of Wight**  
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

A **FREE** programme to help young people **develop** resilience and **positively** impact their **community** around them, by recognising **risks** and learning how to keep **themselves** and **others** safe.

Where: Sandown Fire Station

When: 19<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> March

Who: Aged 13-16

For more information:

✉ cypearlyintervention@HantsFire.gov.uk

☎ 07918 887897

Only 12 spaces available!



Sign up today!



# SANDOWN SUNDAY SOCCER



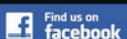
**Sandown Soccer**  
Love The Game

## INTRODUCING OUR FUN FOOTBALL SESSION AT THE BAY PRIMARY SCHOOL SANDOWN!

**OUR FUN SESSION WILL BE:**

Every Sunday 10am-12pm  
at The Bay Primary School,  
Winchester Park Road, Sandown.  
£6 for the 2 hours per child.

To Book: Text your child's name, school, year group and parent name to **07594 389531**



Sandown Soccer - Isle of Wight



**DOES YOUR CHILD ENJOY BEING ACTIVE AND HAVING FUN?**

**IS YOUR CHILD TOO YOUNG TO JOIN A TEAM?**

**DOES YOUR CHILD WANT TO BUILD THEIR CONFIDENCE IN A SPORTING ENVIRONMENT?**

**DOES YOUR CHILD WANT TO PLAY FOOTBALL BUT NOT IN A TEAM YET?**

IF YOU'VE ANSWERED YES TO ANY OF THOSE QUESTIONS, WE'VE GOT THE PERFECT SOLUTION! WE PROVIDE A SAFE, ENJOYABLE AND NON-COMPETITIVE ENVIRONMENT WHERE CHILDREN CAN HAVE FUN WHILST DEVELOPING AND IMPROVING THEIR FOOTBALL SKILLS.

### OURS AIMS ARE:

- TO ALLOW CHILDREN TO HAVE FUN THROUGH FOOTBALL
- TO IMPROVE CONFIDENCE AND SOCIAL SKILLS.
- TO LEARN AND IMPROVE BASIC FOOTBALL SKILLS. CONTROL, PASSING, DRIBBLING.
- TO DEVELOP AGILITY, BALANCE, CO-ORDINATION, SPEED (ABC'S).

Our fully FA qualified coaches have up to date First Aid training and are DBS checked. Each session will be packed full of fun games played in teams, and as individuals, to help children build friendships as well as independence.

To Book: Text your child's name, school, year group and parent name to **07594 389531**

