

A happy school; Learning, caring, succeeding together.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well what can I say— the sun is shining , the skies are blue and the daffodils are blooming. At last!

Thankyou for the tremendous words and book characters that came to school today—our whole school parade this afternoon was a delight of excitement, and shared fun. Our Reading Ambassadors were kept busy looking at and choosing their favourite words. I'm glad that I didn't have to make such as decision.

Trips, visitors and World Book Day have marked the end of February and the start of a very busy March. So many exciting learning experiences have taken place across the school in all year groups and I trust the newsletter gives you a flavour of that. The children have enjoyed them all and I am also delighted to hear the words of members of the public who have commented on our children's wonderful behaviours whilst on their school trip. They all make me proud!



I hope that you are all able to visit the school over the next few weeks to attend the upcoming parents evening appointments, and of course, Year 1 have their Spring performances in the last week of term.

The PFA have also been busy—thankyou to the families who spent their pennies at our cake and second hand uniform sale just before half term. £407 was raised by our community. A wonderful contribution to the development of our STEM/Computing room. We look forward to our sponsored bunny hop once again—and hopefully this year it will happen in the sunshine. We also end the Spring Term with our annual Easter Egg Hunt. I believe a special visitor to the school on that day may join in—but the school councillors will keep us posted on that one.

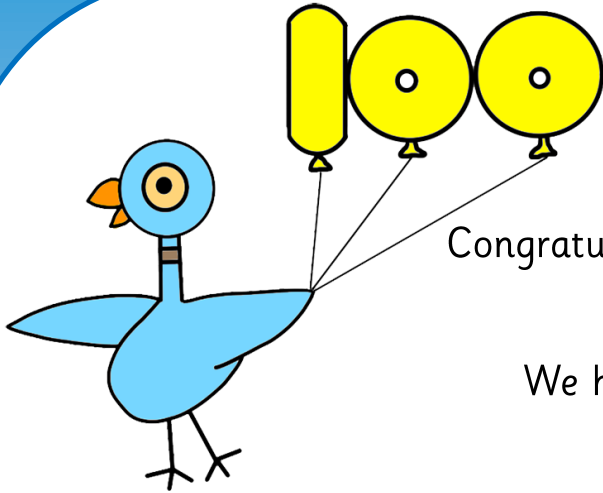
We also share some news in relation to one of our longest serving colleagues who will be leaving us at the end of this academic year—Mrs Durrant.

Lastly I would like to share some news in relation to other activities in our busy world of school life. At the end of February the School Improvement Lead for our Trust—Mr Malone -spent the day with us to support our work to create "a happy school, learning, caring, succeeding together " and of course focus on the steps identified from our Ofsted visit last May. It was noted how well the children read with their teachers and the level of enjoyment and engagement in these activities enabling children to make good progress in their reading. Phonics and Maths lessons were also seen as well as the children at play. Our school improvement work continues to strengthen good practice. Next term watch out for refreshed "Happy school rules"— words , phrases and symbols—which will reflect our motto and values even more explicitly for all to understand and use.

Happy weekend and see you over the weeks ahead

Mrs T. Edwards .
Headteacher





Congratulations to these children who have read at home 100 times!

We hope you are enjoying your book from Mrs Edwards.

Blackbirds Alexander, Tommy, Sarine, Rozina

Barn Owls Mohana, Tanvi, Ramiyah

Kingfishers Esmé, Miraya, Harriett

Robins Aadya, Freya, Leo, Yusuf, Artea, Hanifa, Reeva

Badgers Kayden, Isha, Jagoda, Konstantinos, Likhit, Oscar, Pratha

Hedgehogs Laho

Otters Mohammed, Isabella, Srilishika, Heidi, Oscar, Nainika, Chinmay

Bumblebees Waseem, Eva, Ayaan

Butterflies Kenzi, Advik, Leena, Tilly, Tasha, Joel, Amelia, Acer, Tharrshan, Willow

Dragonflies Sam, Teo, Lukas

Grasshoppers Eleanor, Henry



One way in which you can help your child get better at reading is through lots of practice.

By hearing your child read aloud at home each day, you can help them improve. Reading is an invaluable life skill and we encourage parents to hear their child read regularly (at least three times a week, daily is even better!) to supplement what we do in school as it makes a real difference. Little and often is far better than one long extended reading session.

Please speak to your class teacher if you need any support

STEM Week at QPIA



We were thrilled to celebrate our first *STEM Week* the week before half term! It was a wonderful opportunity for our young learners to explore the fascinating worlds of **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics** through fun, hands-on and engaging activities.

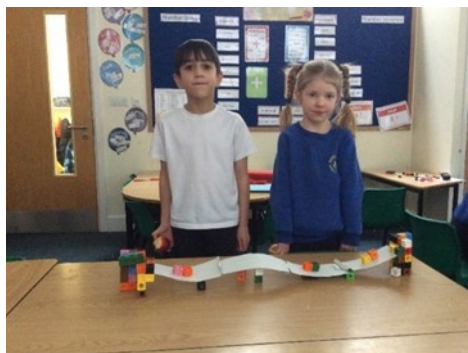


Our first science activity was great fun!

We placed skittles on a plate and created a circle shape. We poured water in to the middle of the circle and watched carefully... suddenly the colours of the rainbow started to appear! Wow!

Mrs Tansill ~ Puffins

Throughout the week, children participated in a variety of exciting activities that sparked their curiosity and inspired their imaginations. From building a variety of towers and bridges and exploring the marvels of space, to experimenting with floating and sinking and investigating the wonder of toys. There was something for everyone to enjoy!



STEM Week at QPIA

We had some amazing visitors come into school and here are some of the highlights that made STEM Week so enjoyable:

Sunseeker (Reception):

Discovering how boats move through the water, learning how to communicate with other boats and listening for the sounds we might hear on a boat.



Leonardo Helicopters (Year 1): Finding out about infrared and using infrared cameras to take selfies

RNLI (Year 2): A challenge to build a tin foil boat that could hold the most weight. "I liked making boats with the RNLI. We made them out of foil and we put rocks in until it sank!" *Thendral*



Ultra Energy (Puffins and Penguins): Exploring floating and sinking and car bowling using ramps.

Robotics (School STEM heroes): Opportunities to use basic coding, using Scratch to move a robot. "I loved doing the robotics. The robots weren't very smart, we had to programme them to tell them what to do." *Edie*



STEM Week at QPIA

Mrs Brown did a wonderful job arranging and co-ordinating all the fabulous visitors throughout the week!

STEM education is about more than just academics—it's about building important life skills like problem-solving, collaboration and critical thinking. Through these hands-on activities we nurtured the children's natural curiosity and showed them just how exciting learning can be.

We hope you enjoyed hearing about your child's projects and discoveries throughout the week. A big thank you to the companies who volunteered their time and shared their STEM - related expertise.

"I just wanted to say we had a great time this week talking to Reception at QPIA. What great children! They were well behaved and some had moments of brilliance! I hope they all found it fun and learnt a little bit."

Hilary Davies from Sunseeker .

STEM Week was an incredible success, and we're so proud of our budding young scientists, technology users, engineers and mathematicians.

"I want to be a scientist!" *Oscar in Badgers.*

"So many shouts of "I did it" and children jumping up and down when things worked." *Mrs Durrant ~ Butterflies*

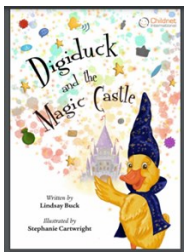
On behalf of QPIA STEM Team,
Mrs Brown – Design and Technology
Miss Lucas – Computing
Mr Waller – Science
Mr Spokes – Maths

Safer Internet Day 2025

Our school participated in Safer Internet Day on February 11th 2025 during our STEM week. This year's theme, *"Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online"*, aimed to educate our young learners about the importance of staying safe in the digital world. For our young learners this meant we talked about people pretending to someone else online.

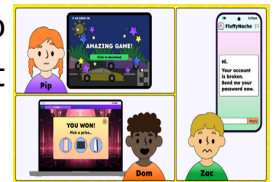
Why Safer Internet Day Mattered

In today's digital age, the internet is an integral part of our children's lives. From learning and playing to socializing and exploring, the online world offers countless opportunities. However, it also presents difficulties that we must address to ensure our children can navigate the internet safely and confidently.



Activities and Learning

Reception read a Digiduck story – he always has something to help our children when they use the alphabet. Year 1 used a story written by the Safer Internet Day to discover not everything that is online is true and to explore their emotions if they are upset online. Year 2 learnt about content and people who might be trying to trick them online.



How You Could Help

As parents and carers, you played a vital role in your child's online safety. Here are a few tips to help you support your child:

Talk to Your Child: Have open conversations about the content they see online and encourage them to share their experiences with you.

Set Boundaries: Establish clear rules around internet use and social media.

Stay Informed: Keep up-to-date with the latest online safety practices and tools.

These two websites are a good place to start looking for ways to support your child learn about online safety, more information is available on our website or ask to talk to Miss Lucas our Online Safety Champion - you can book an appointment via the office.

<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/jessie-and-friends/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/techosaurus/>

Miss Lucas - Online Safety Champion

Harold the Giraffe and the Life Education tutor Katie, paid QPIA an exciting visit last week. Firm favourite Harold met the children from inside his 'tech-filled' safari tent which made all the learning sessions extra-special.



In year 2, Harold and his friends, Kiki and Derek, helped the pupils to become 'feelings detectives' so they could recognise different facial expressions such as annoyed, excited and upset. The children also learned about the human skeleton, internal organs in the body, healthy eating as well as the safe use of medicines.

In Year 1, the children learned about the major food groups and looked at how food, water and oxygen get into the body to give it energy. The children also had to help Harold work out what he needed to create a balanced meal.

In Reception, the children learned about the importance of sleep, exercising their bodies and keeping happy and healthy.

Without exception, the children expressed their enjoyment and enthusiasm for the Life Education session and very much look forward to seeing Harold and friends next time.

'I have learnt that it is important to be healthy by drinking water, eating healthy food, getting lots of sleep and doing push-ups to get exercise'. - Layla

'I have learnt that your heart pumps your blood around your body'. - Imogen

'You need to keep medicines high up in a space place out of the reach of toddlers and little people.' - Charvi and Acer

'It is important to be kind and to apologise if you've been mean'- Sam

Wellbeing Wednesday

It was lovely to visit each classroom during our recent Well-Being Wednesday to see what the children were doing to promote good mental health. Our theme this year was 'Know Myself, Grow Myself.' Some classes had chosen to do some exercise whilst getting some fresh air, others had chosen puzzles and colouring whilst talking with their friends.



There were some wonderful pieces of art work in Year 2, which linked in with our theme. Children were engaging with their friends and adults during Circle Times and relaxing at the end of the day with mindfulness videos or sensory massage.



Every class took part in a 'circle time' with the same theme throughout the school; what can I do if I don't feel safe?

*"I can speak to my teacher", "I can talk to my mum and dad"
and "I can talk to my friends first"*

were just some of the ideas that children shared with their teachers and each other.



All the activities that the children chose were explicitly linked to the NHS '5 Steps to Wellbeing'. In particular, connecting with others, exercise, and practising mindfulness. This demonstrates just how embedded our ethos is, of looking after our minds as well as our bodies.

Miss Hardman
Mental Health Lead

Year 2 visit Marwell Zoo

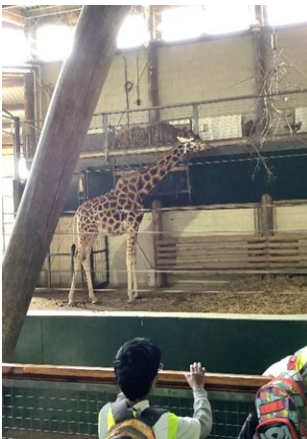
Year 2 at Marwell Zoo!

This week Year 2 went to Marwell Zoo as they are learning about rainforests. We were so lucky with the weather and lots of animals came out to see us!



The butterflies loved learning about the sloth and the layers of the rainforest in the Tropical House. We were lucky enough to see the sloth hanging in the branches too!

"My favourite was the red panda. I loved watching them climb the trees" - Riley



"I liked the giraffes the best" - Clarke

"We saw the baby Okapi with it's mother! It has just learnt to stand up!" - Reuben

We all had such a fantastic time seeing all the wonderful animals. We learned about what they eat, their habitats, how they protect themselves and where they live in the world.
It was an AMAZING day!

Forest School Update



Queen's Park Forest School

Queen's Park Infant Academy
Spring term 2

Hello everyone at Queen's Park Infant Academy!

It was a great half term at Forest School with Kingfishers, Robins and Otters all learning and exploring in the wonderful school woodland at Queen's Park. Pupils covered activities including den building, bug hunting, creating bird nests, first aid and toasting crumpets on the fire!



After School Club for Year 2 begins on 25/02/25, click below to book!

Spring term 2 will see Barn Owls, Blackbirds and Hedgehogs enjoy Forest School on Tuesdays. Across this time pupils will cover topics which include Life Skills, Fire Safety, Tools and First Aid, all within the school woodland.

To book on to the Forest After School Club book [Here](#)

Forest School After School Club will continue on Tuesdays from 15:15pm to 16:15pm for year 2 pupils. This half term pupils will try out different nature craft activities. Bookings can be made on the link to the left.

Holiday Clubs book [Here](#)

Scan to Book



To ensure your child can access the sessions, please can you ensure your child comes into school with the following clothing:

- ◆ Waterproof rain coat
- ◆ Waterproof trousers (or a puddle suit)
- ◆ Wellies/ walking boots
- ◆ Any extra layers, hat and gloves, especially when it's colder outside

I look forward to sharing updates of all the fun your children get up to at Forest School.

Best wishes,

Hannah

Donations HELP!

To help develop our forest school area we rely on donations, rather than taking your rubbish to the tip we may need it!

If you have any from the list to hand, please email admin@primary-forest-school.co.uk

Pallets, wood chippings, old sinks, plants/bulbs, tree stumps, tyres, fire pits, planks of wood, bricks, unwanted pots/pans, unwanted utensils, cable drums, outdoor clothing, wellies, craft materials.

PFA Update





We started our 2025 events with our regular uniform and cake sale on the Friday before the half-term break. Thanks to your support, we raised £406.76 to help improve the school's ICT suite. A big thank you to all the volunteers, bakers, teachers and everyone who helped make this event a success!



If you missed the sale and need school uniform, there are still some items available on the pink rail in the community corridor. These are free to take, and you can access them from the main playground during drop-off and pick-up times. Donations are always welcome.

Our next PTA meeting is on **Thursday 27th at 7 PM**. If you'd like to learn more about what we do and how you can support your child's school, please join us. New faces are always welcome!

Upcoming Events:

-  Tuesday 1st April - Thursday 3rd April (during school): Sponsored Bunny Hops & Egg Hunt
-  Friday 9th May (adult evening): Quiz Night – Sponsored by United Taxis
-  Friday 23rd May (after school): Preloved Uniform, Cake & Book Sale
-  Friday 13th June: Summer Fayre

More details on these and other events will be shared soon.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Our Community Space

Just a reminder about our 'Community Corridor'.

It is located between the medical room (next to Dragonflies class) and the Studio. You can access it through the big playground during drop offs and pick ups.

In this area you can find pre loved uniform, coats, shoes, wellies and other donated items, as well as free books for you to take home and share with your children.

Here you will also find a community kitchen where you can collect groceries to help top up your weekly shopping– we currently have lots of cereal boxes!

Supporting our Community



Did you know we also have a collection point for Bournemouth Food Bank in our community area?

You are welcome to drop donations off at the beginning or end of school. All items should be 'cupboard food items', no fresh food please.

MOST NEEDED

UHT MILK 🥛

UHT MILK 🥛

TINNED FISH 🐟

TINNED FRUIT 🍎

CHOCOLATE BARS 🍫

CONFECTIONARY 🍬



In this area you will also find a recycling collection point for used batteries and clean aluminium cans.

BAG 2 SCHOOL

FREE FUNDRAISING FOR SCHOOLS

In partnership with your school or organisation



www.bag2school.com



Queen's Park Infant Academy

Bag 2 School is a company that specialises in the reuse and recycling of good quality second-hand clothing and we have arranged to make a collection from your school. All the bags will be weighed and your school will be paid for the total weight collected. Remember, the more you collect the greater the benefit to your school!

PLEASE USE YOUR OWN BAGS (THERE IS NO LIMIT)



When the clothes have been removed from the bag the plastic will be packed and sent for recycling.

We are collecting good quality items for RE-USE:

Men's, ladies' & children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts & accessories.

(No uniforms, workwear, pillows, duvets or pieces of fabric please)

The more we weigh the more we pay!
Extra bags are welcome - there's no limit

Please return your Bag2School on:

**Wednesday 19th or
Thursday 20th March**



01609 780 222



www.bag2school.com



helpdesk@bag2school.com

Staffing Update

Mrs Kate Durrant has made the difficult decision to finally retire at the end of this academic year.

Mrs Durrant has served the teaching profession for almost 40 years and this is an exceptional commitment, working and caring for so many children. This commitment is demonstrated in her desire to support the class during this transition time.

Mrs Durrant will continue to teach in Butterflies for 3 days each week during the summer term. We are delighted to make this happen with the support of Mrs Fernand who will teach in Butterflies on Thursdays and Fridays after the Easter Holidays.

We know that you, and the rest of the QPIA community, will want to wish Mrs Durrant the very best for a long and happy retirement, and thank her for all her hard work and dedication during her time at the school.



Road Safety



Walking, cycling and scootering to school with your child is a great way to teach them about road safety and check their understanding of the road and possible dangers.

It is important that your child stays close to you at all times.

If they are on a bike or scooter they should also wear a well fitted helmet to keep them safe.

The Green Cross Code



Whether walking to school, or using a bike or scooter, it is likely you will need to cross a road at some point. You can do this safely together with the help of the Green Cross Code.

1. **Think**– Find a safe place to cross the road.
2. **Stop**– Stop at the edge of the kerb, making sure you can see the traffic. Never stand on the road.
3. **Look and listen**– Check around for traffic, looking to your right-hand side first, then your left-hand side, and finally to the right again. Listen for oncoming traffic too.
4. **Wait**– Don't cross until it's safe to do so and if you're at a pedestrian crossing, wait until all the vehicles have come to a standstill.
5. **Look and listen (again!)**– Once you think it's safe, look and listen one last time before crossing the road.
6. **Cross safely**– Walk across the road making sure not to run or skip as you could fall over.

Dates for “An Introduction to Autism & Neurodiversity for Parents”. Available to book by emailing ltsa@linwood.bournemouth.sch.uk No diagnosis is necessary. No charge to attend. 1 or 2 spaces per family available. Please note these sessions are available to BCP families. **PLEASE CLEARLY STATE WHEN EMAILING TO BOOK , WHETHER YOUR CHILD ATTENDS THE SCHOOL THAT IS HOSTING THE SESSION. THIS IS TO ENSURE WE ALLOCATE YOU EITHER AN INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL SPACE ON THE SESSION AND THEREFORE KNOW HOW MANY OF EACH SPACE WE HAVE LEFT.**

Spring Term 2025			
Wednesday 15 th January 2025	9.30am	12pm	The Epiphany School, Shillingstone Drive, Muscliff, BH9 3PE
Thursday 27 th February 2025	9.15am	11.45pm	Talbot Primary School, Talbot Drive, Poole, BH12 5ED
Tuesday 4 th March 2025	9.30am	12pm	Corfe Hills School, Higher Blandford Road, Broadstone, BH18 9BG
Friday 28 th March 2025	9.30am	12pm	Somerford Arc – 20 Southey Road, Christchurch, BH23 3EH
SUMMER TERM 2025			
Tuesday 29 th April 2025			The Grange School, Conference Room, Redvers Road, Christchurch, BH23 3AU
Monday 19 th May 2025	9.30am	12pm	Moordown St John’s School, Vicarage Road, Moordown, BH9 2SA
Tuesday 17 th June 2025	9.30am	12pm	Oakdale Junior School, 3 School Lane, Oakdale, Poole, BH15 3JR.
Monday 7 th July 2025	9.30am	12pm	Virtual delivery via Zoom



Dorset
Mental
Health
Support
Team in
Schools



Dorset HealthCare
University
NHS Foundation Trust

PARENT/CARER DROP IN

The Mental Health Support Team in Schools (MHST) is an early intervention and prevention service working within set schools in Dorset. We support children, young people and families with their emotional well-being.

**Come along to our drop-in and
see how we can support you
and your child.**

**Queen's Park Infant Academy
Wednesday 12th March
8.45am until 9.45am**

SCAN
ME  FREE
RESOURCES

  
@DORSET
MHST

After School Clubs

QPIA Bee Happy

We offer a secure, fun and caring after school childcare environment exclusively for children who attend Queen's Park Infant Academy, from 3.10-5.30pm

For new reception children and for all new enquiries, please send an email with your child's name and class. I will then send out a welcome letter including details of how to book sessions for the new term. Reception children can only be booked in from their first full school day on 16th September.

Please can all payments for Bee Happy sessions be made at the time of booking as follows:

For online payments: top up is required before booking.

For childcare voucher payments: Please transfer childcare vouchers, (we are registered as Queens Park Infant Academy), at time of booking. You will also need to advise Miss Abel by email, of the amount sent along with the date transferred. This can then be verified and added to your account.

Email address is: bee.happy@coastalpartnership.co.uk

New parents using childcare vouchers: please advise Miss Abel on the above email address if you are using Bee Happy for the first time and wish to pay using childcare vouchers. She can then adjust your child's account so you can book sessions while waiting for the payment to arrive.

Foundation Sports

An award winning and Ofsted registered childcare provider.

After-school Club: A specific sport each day

15.15pm - 16.30pm £6.50

Mondays- Football

Tuesday- Gymnastics

Wednesday- Multi sports

For more information and to book please click the link below;

<https://www.foundation-play.com/qpia>

Forest School After School Club– Year 2 Only

Forest school runs on Tuesday straight after school, until 4.15pm, to book please click the link below.

<https://www.primary-forest-school.co.uk/bookings>

Office Reminders

The Late Book

If you arrive at school after the gates have been locked and enter through the main office please sign your child into school by completing the late book.

Medication

If your child needs to take a dose of prescribed medicine during the school day, (4 x a day only) please come to the main office where you will need to fill in a form with one of our first aiders. Please do not send medicine into school in book bags.

Please be aware that we are unable to administer Calpol to children unless prescribed as part of a medical plan.

Named Clothing

Please can all items of clothing including: School uniform, hats, coats, PE kit, lunch boxes, drink bottles etc be clearly named.

It makes it much easier to reunite them with the right person if they are lost.

Bikes and Scooters

The school cannot accept liability for bicycles and scooters left on the school grounds. The gates and bike sheds are locked during the day between 9am and 3pm, but at all other times they may be insecure and unattended, so please take bikes and scooter home at the end of each day.

Please remember bikes and scooters are not allowed in the playground unless being carried by an adult.



Second Hand Uniform

Please email the PFA for all second hand uniform enquires on; qpia.pfauniform@gmail.com

Parking Outside School

To keep children safe & healthy, please **turn your engines off** when parked on the road outside school.



ARBOR—PARENT PORTAL

Thank you to those that have signed up for the Parent Portal already.

Did you know on the Arbor Parent Portal you can:

- Check the contact details we have registered for your child
- Amend contact details
- Add dietary requirements
- See your child's attendance
- Pay for trips online
- Book Bee Happy After School Club

It is best, once you have registered via the Arbor website, to then download the App onto your phone with notifications activated, as you can also receive messages via the App.

If you need the register email re sent, please email the office on

gpia.office@coastalpartnership.co.uk

Important Information regarding Absence Messages

If your child is unwell and going to be absent from school please telephone the school office and leave a message on the absence line.

The phone number is **01202 528805** and choose Option 1. Please leave your child's name, class and reason for absence.

If no explanation for absence is received, you will be sent a text via the Arbor system, you can then either respond to this text or phone the school.



Attendance

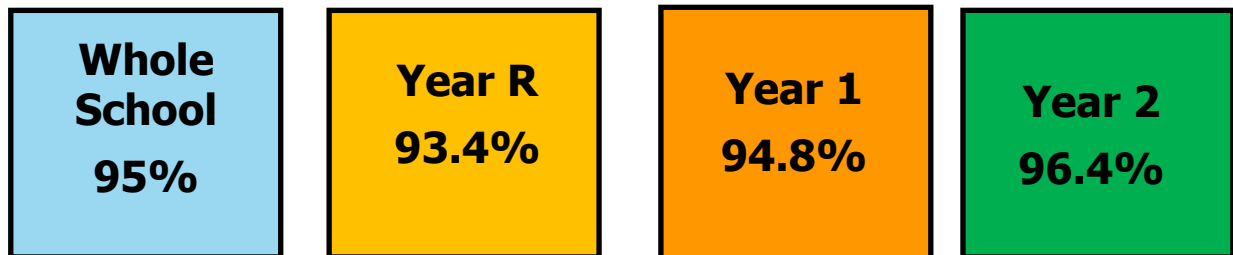
School Matters!



At QPIA we continue to work together to ensure that every child's attendance is the best it can be. Quite simply, children do better at school if they attend regularly and we aim for at least 96%.

Well done to Year 2 who have the highest attendance!

Attendance figures since September 24.



If your child has a medical or dental appointment during the school day, please let the office know in advance of the absence.

We will ask for an appointment letter to be seen.

Please remember you can speak with Mrs Parker, our Family Support Worker, if you have worries or concerns in regards to attendance and thankyou for your ongoing support.

Attendance Matters



Dates for your Diary



2025

Spring Term:

Monday 10th March

Tuesday 11th March

Tuesday 25th March

Tuesday 1st April

Wednesday 2nd April

Thursday 3rd April

Foxes trip to The Museum of East Dorset

Hedgehogs trip to The Museum of East Dorset

Reception parents evenings- more information to follow

Years One and Two parents evenings- more information to follow

Year One Spring Assembly- more information to follow

PFA Bunny Hop Event

Year One Spring Assembly- more information to follow

PFA Bunny Hop Event

PFA Easter Egg Hunt

Last day of term

Monday 7th – Friday 18th April

Easter Holidays

Tuesday 22nd April

Children return to school

Friday 23rd May

PFA Pre-loved uniform and cake sale

Last day

Monday 26th – Friday 30th May

Half term

Monday 2nd June

Children return to school

Tuesday 22nd July

Last day—1:00pm finish

Staff Training Days

Friday 4th April - CLP Trust Inset

Bank and Public Holiday

Monday 21st April - Easter Monday

Monday 5th May - May Day Bank Holiday

Monday 26th May - Spring Bank Holiday