

SPOTLIGHT



Issue 8

Parents' Information Newsletter

Summer Term 2009

Dear Parents and Carers

One of the things that is very pleasing to report is that pupils' attendance at Poltair School continues to improve. The statistics place us above national averages and were positively acknowledged during our recent inspection. This is positive and important news because all evidence suggests that pupils who attend well are also far more likely to achieve well. A pupil with good attendance is also more often than not a happy pupil. A lot of hard work has gone into securing these improvements. I would like to acknowledge the staff who have worked hard on this and the enormous support we get from the majority of our parents and carers.

However, the work needs to continue as does the call for your full support. We continue to have concerns about requests for absence for family holidays. It is not that we are unsympathetic to the reasons for booking holidays in term time; it is purely that despite the assurances that are given about children catching up work, the time off does equate to missed learning opportunities. The arguments about 'there being no real work at the end of term' are also well known to us. Unfortunately we do not agree with this; the programmes that are put together at these times are often different but no less important. Some of our most vital whole school showcases, celebration events and out of classroom learning opportunities happen at these times.

So let us look forward to this exciting time of year in the hope that all our pupils can enjoy the fantastic blend of formal classes and other learning that characterises the end of summer term.

Stephen Tong

Stephen Tong
Headteacher

Head Lice

Due to the milder weather we seem to be experiencing, we would like to bring your attention to the presence of head lice within the community.

Please could we ask all parents/carers to check (and treat if necessary) their children's hair during the weekend? If your children are older, please could you discuss this matter with them and encourage self-awareness.

Guide Dogs for Blind - Stamp Appeal

We continue to collect postage stamps for this worthy cause.

Can you please send in any of your used postage stamps (with approx. 1 cm of envelope left) to the new school reception.

Thank you.

DIARY DATES

Monday 22nd June to Friday 26th June
Year 10 Exams

Thursday 25th June
Euro Disney Parents Meeting 6.30 pm in the School Dining Hall

Monday 29th June to Friday 3rd July
Week 1 – Work Experience Year 10

Tuesday 30th June
Timing of the School Day Parents' Meeting 6.00 pm in the School Dining Hall

Monday 6th July to Friday 10th July
Week 2 – Work Experience Year 10
Activities Week Years 7-9

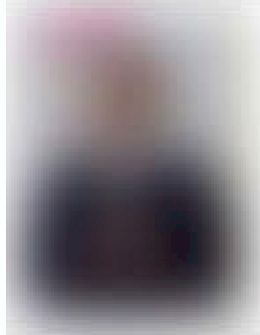
Unwanted Items of school uniform

If you have any clean unwanted items eg sweatshirts, shirts/blouses or trousers these would be gratefully received. Please pass in to the new school reception.

Please note that the weekly Spotlight and any archived Spotlights, together with news items, are available to view or download from the school website www.poltairschool.co.uk

Amy

YEAR 7 STUDENT
OF THE WEEK



For perseverance at
all times.

Louise

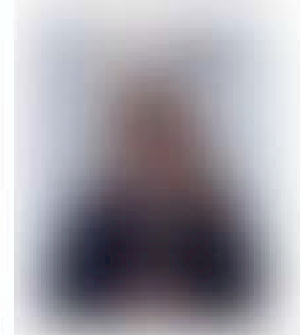
YEAR 8 STUDENT
OF THE WEEK



For outstanding progress.

Paige

YEAR 9 STUDENT
OF THE WEEK



For sustained effort

A REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS/CARERS

Please be aware that the new reception is now fully operational and the old reception is out of use. There are new signs to guide you to the reception; however you need to turn left at the main school entrance and follow along the front of the school until you see coloured panels and a slope which leads you to the entrance. To be allowed into the reception area you need to speak clearly to the voice panel on the right of the wall and wait for the receptionist to speak to you; she will then activate the door (**please do not pull against the door**) which opens automatically.