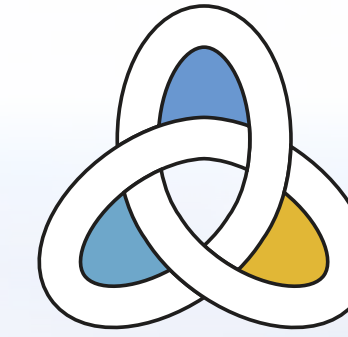


newsletter



LEARNING TOGETHER
CORNWALL EDUCATION LEARNING TRUST

END OF TERM - March 2024

Bodmin College | Brannel School | Carclaze CP School | Fowey Primary School | Lostwithiel Primary School | Luxulyan School | Mevagissey Primary School | Mount Charles School | Newquay Junior Academy
Newquay Primary Academy | Newquay Tretherras School | Newquay Tretherras Sixth Form | Penrice Academy | Poltair School | Pondhu Primary School | Port Isaac Community Primary School | St Mewan CP School



FINDING BALANCE
AT BRANNEL



READYMONEY TRIP



PENRICE PRODUCTION LEAVES
CROWD WANTING MORE



BRINGING HISTORY TO LIFE
AT LOSTWITHIEL



MCS WORLD BOOK DAY



PONDHU GIRLS FOOTBALL

COLLABORATE • EMPOWER • LEAD • TRANSFORM



Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: Keeping our school green and clean!

Every Wednesday, our Pathways students carry out a recycling collection service across the college campus. This supports the college's drive to be eco-friendly and sustainable. School students are becoming increasingly concerned about humanity's impact on the environment and are eager to help in any way they can.

Pathways student, Taylor said "It's made me think about recycling at home and now I recycle more". Pathways student, Damien added "I think it's good for the environment and I like doing our bit for the school". Finally, Pathways student, Xzavier also said "We recycle to help protect and save the animals".

Not only does this help the environment it also gives our Pathways students an insight into job roles, managing their time effectively, demonstrating commitment and of course maintaining a positive attitude toward the work they complete.

Miss Barrow, Head of Technology, commented by saying "This is such a brilliant service offered by our students here at Bodmin College. In our food lessons we use many packaging items which can be recycled, this service has been

Mrs E Pope, Pathways Teacher said that "Running our recycling programme has supported our scheme of work throughout the year. Unit 11 Communicating with Others and Unit 17 Engaging in a team activity, to improve our immediate environment. It's encouraged conversations and awareness of our responsibilities around waste and recycling".

We look forward to seeing our Pathways students collecting the weekly recycling and hope that we can continue to support the college's drive to be eco-friendly and sustainable.



Doing our part to keep our oceans clean!

Across the last couple of years our 6th Form Work Skills students have been working alongside Beach Guardian, a community interest company based in Cornwall, co-founded by father and daughter duo: Rob and Marine Biologist Emily.

Beach Guardian organise community beach cleans and conduct educational workshops with schools and other groups to connect people with the environment to improve health and wellbeing of both people and planet.

Our students have completed many different 'beach cleans' across all four seasons of the year. This is such a vital role which anyone can get involved in.

Beach Guardian commented by saying "We had a brilliant time with Bodmin College 6th Form students spending the morning at Treyarnon Bay doing a beach clean and a mini marine biology session. Followed by lunch back at our "Lab" for some creative artwork using marine plastics. We're looking forward to doing much more with them this academic year!"

Work Skills students have also been involved in the planting of last year's Christmas trees to protect the erosion of the sand dunes at Constantine Bay. Beach Guardian added "The students worked really hard, helped us place more trees and worked incredibly well as a team; it was lovely

seeing them happy on the beach. Learning Outside the Classroom is a really positive experience".

Work Skills student also added "We really enjoy helping Rob and Emily at Beach Guardian, it is really important that we do our bit for the environment".

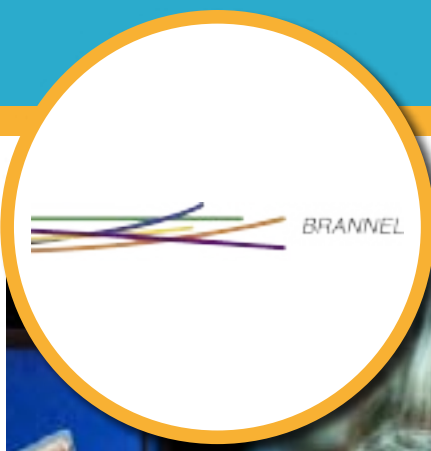
From working alongside the Beach Guardian, Students have been made aware to all of the problems on our shorelines and that even the smallest actions can make a big difference when it comes to preserving our oceans and combating plastic pollution.

Mrs Perrin, Work Skills lead said "Our students are leading force in wanting to raise Environmental and Sustainability awareness across the College. I am so proud that they are actively engaging in such projects both in school and in the community."

We would like to say a huge thank you to Beach Guardian for organising so many opportunities for our students. We look forward to spending more time with the team and doing as much as we can to help preserve our beautiful coastlines.

For more information about Beach Guardian, visit <https://www.beachguardian.org/>





Embracing Our Global Mosaic: Cultivating Diversity and Inclusivity in School Communities.

Following the successful display of artwork in our reception from our collaborations with Black Voices Cornwall we are continuing to celebrate diversity and inclusion with our display for LGBT+ history month as we move towards attaining our Rainbow Flag award. This is our commitment as a school to improve the lives of all the young people that we work with, as well as the LGBT+ young people in our care, those from LGBT+ families, and LGBT+ staff members.

'We will all profit from a more diverse, inclusive society, understanding, accommodating, even celebrating our differences, while pulling together for the common good.' Ruth Bader Ginsburg.



Finding Balance: Nurturing mental health and well-being for young people to thrive and discover their place in the world.

It's important for young people to realise that there is help and support for them not just in school but through other organisations. During Children's Mental Health Week, we created a mental health and well-being fayre for students to meet some of the organisations that are available to them. There were stalls, activities, sweets given out and of course lots of information about well-being and mental health. It was amazing to see so many students popping in and getting involved.



Careers talk in our Community Lunch.

Our community lunch initiative brings together both staff and students over a meal and fosters meaningful conversations, forging connections beyond the confines of the classroom. During careers week the talk around the table delved into diverse career paths across various sectors, exploring salary scales, and empowering students with insights on achieving their dream professions in the future and helping them to find their place in the world.

Community lunch is all about building relationships, developing good conversation skills and table manners and creating a sense of community and belonging.

One student said: "it's lovely to get to know teachers outside of the classroom in a more social setting, seeing them as real people."



Royal Opera Revelry: An Evening of Cultural Grandeur.

It's important for students to venture beyond their classrooms and embrace the world's wonders. Year 11 students seized this opportunity, immersing themselves in the grandeur of London's Royal Opera House to witness the timeless masterpiece, La Bohème.

Getting to spend time in London students also got a backstage tour of the Royal Albert Hall, while Cirque du Soleil set up and rehearsed their new show, Alegria! Then, we took in some iconic sights as we walked back through London before dining out at an Italian restaurant. What a fantastic couple of days and an equally amazing group of students.

Dressing for the occasion students got suited and booted which did not go unnoticed by staff at the Royal Opera House. The general consensus from students was that 'It was amazing! The singing, the orchestra, the staging, just the venue itself... wow!'





Watty considering the thoughts of Matthew Henson in the North Pole.

Our Place in the World Lantic Class: Reception and Year 1

Lantic children have enjoyed their Explorers topic this term! We had a launch day, deciding what an explorer is and what she or he would need. We all learnt a playground pirate game and sang some pirate songs.

Reception have been out exploring with compasses, binoculars and magnifying glasses, spotting all sorts of things in their imaginary play such as a kimono dragon! They have drawn treasure maps, replicated maps with bricks and tissue paper and made journey boards while travelling around the school grounds!

Year 1 have found out about travel in the past and today. They have learnt about the explorers Matthew Henson, Christopher Columbus, Mary Kingsley and Dame Ellen MacArthur and their achievements. We have imagined being an explorer and how great they must have felt when they achieved their goal but we have also considered whether it is right or wrong to take things that belong to a specific place.

In Drawing Club, we have been motivated to draw and write about story characters on a mission... Jack becoming rich by taking from the giant, Emma Jane and her aeroplane exploring the world and St Piran thrown into the sea but setting up a community in Cornwall! We have imagined how the police might catch Jack, what animal might join Emma in her aeroplane and a different method for the king to get rid of St Piran!

We have even had an explorer visit our classroom! George Forrest, Plant Hunter, fell out of a time machine with a case... the children pieced his clues together to work out his job and who he worked for, what he discovered and who helped him. He had to dash back to the time machine to return to the mountains in Yunnan in China where natives were threatening to destroy the seeds he had collected. We have found out what he took on his camping expeditions and what plants he is famous for discovering... many of which are growing in Cornwall!



Matilda, Reception, drawing and writing about how the police will catch Jack.



George Forrest, plant hunter, unexpected visit!

Readymoney Trip

Readymoney class have been learning about the oceans in Geography. They have had a visit from Cornwall Plastic Pollution who informed us about the huge problem there is with the amount of plastic in the ocean. They have been so inspired by their learning that they have written and performed their own speeches about plastic pollution in the ocean asking everyone to change their habits and protect the oceans.

As part of their learning, they walked down to Readymoney cove in Fowey to examine the marine environment. On the way they used litter pickers to collect rubbish and were shocked that they managed to half fill three bin liners full of rubbish- mainly made up of single-use plastics.

Once on the beach, they explored the rockpools for signs of marine life, and considered the natural and non-natural materials that could be found on the beach. They even made some sand sculptures with their findings



Life cycles through dance

In year 4 we have been exploring 'our place in the world' by looking at life cycles through dance. We have experimented with different movements to show the life cycles of plants and flowers growing. As well as this, we have created group dances to show different methods of seed dispersal, such as wind and water.



Fowey Year 3

In Year 3 DT, we have been thinking about which foods can be grown naturally in the UK and the benefits of these natural grown products to our World. We developed our peeling, chopping and slicing skills when sorting and preparing our ingredients for a seasonal tart.





Beach Clean

After their visit from local author Ellie Jackson in January, who spoke to them about pollution in the sea and on our beaches, Severn and Tamar took to Porth Beach to litter pick. The weather was on their side and both classes had a fantastic morning clearing the beach of rubbish and building sandcastles. They learnt how important it is to keep our beaches and seas clean to ensure that everyone can enjoy them.



Peaceful Protests

Keeping with the theme of keeping our beaches clean, Severn have been learning about protests as a way of getting their point of view across. They decided to focus on Fistril Beach and the River Gannel, following on from research they had conducted and images they had seen. They came up with their own catchy slogans and chants to persuade an audience to help reduce pollution and protect sea creatures and wildlife living in the area. Their posters were amazingly creative and they really got stuck into their protests.



St Piran's Day

At the start of March, the sun finally made an appearance, making the Newquay St Piran's Day Parade a lovely affair. Having learnt about St Piran in the classroom, and what it means for Cornish people, pupils from all three classes had a great time taking part, waving their flags as they walked through the town centre. The parade ended up at the Hotel Victoria where they performed a beautiful rendition of 'Row, Row, Row your boat' – complete with some impromptu actions! Everyone had a fabulous afternoon, and we were really proud of the pupils who came along to represent the academy.



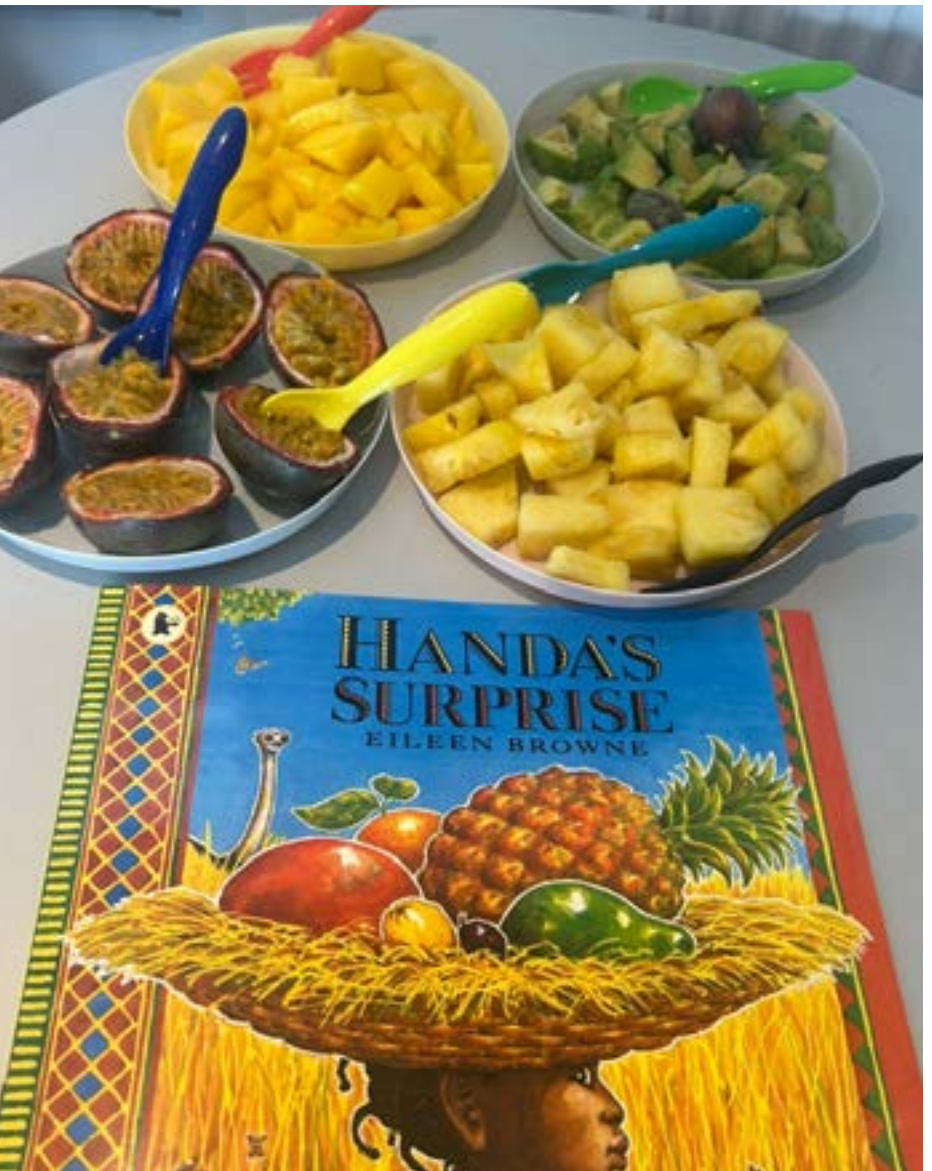
Comic Relief

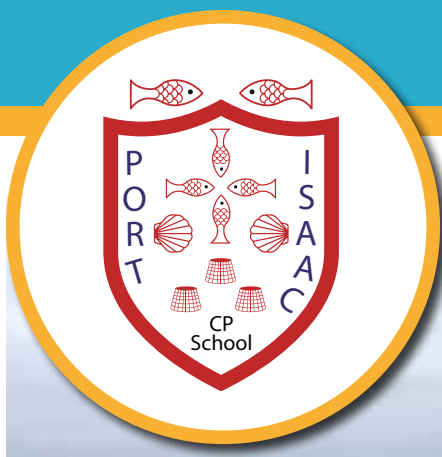
For Red Nose Day our academy pupils and staff all pulled out their best red clothes and accessories to raise awareness for all the amazing work Comic Relief does, not only in the UK but around the world. We even had some 'crazy hairstyles' too! Our PTA kindly donated lots of yummy baked goods to sell and we did a fantastic job of raising £136.77.



Handa's Surprise!

To finish off their D&T topic of Handa's Surprise, the children from Tamar class got to try and walk with a basket on their heads, just like Handa herself. The children then got to try some fruits from Handa's basket, such as passion fruit, mango, pineapple and avocado. Great work Tamar!





Our Place in the World Dolphin Class

Over the past term, Dolphin class have engaged engagement with the local community.

Studying the changes in human and physical activity in Port Isaac, students took part in a geographical fieldtrip which provided a hands-on opportunity to observe geographical phenomena and understand the impact of human actions on the environment. Exploring the positives and negatives of tourism in the area lead to insightful discussions about economic benefits, cultural exchange, environmental conservation, and potential drawbacks such as overcrowding and pollution.

The visit from the community police team to discuss internet safety was eye-opening; students to learnt how to navigate online platforms safely, understanding the potential risks and how to mitigate them.

As part of our history studies on World War II in Cornwall, our class embarked on a poignant journey to Bodmin Keep, a historical site steeped in the memories of wartime. Walking through its halls, we were transported back in time, surrounded by artifacts and stories that brought the past to life. At Bodmin Keep, we delved into how Cornwall was deeply impacted by the war and learned about the resilience of its communities during those trying times. The exhibits vividly illustrated the sacrifices made and the efforts undertaken to protect England's shores. It was a somber yet enlightening experience, witnessing firsthand the realities of wartime.

Puffin Class

Puffin Class had an enriching experience at the Farm & Country Day held at the Royal Cornwall Showground. It was a hands-on discovery day where our students learned firsthand about the vital connection between farming and food production.

Engaging in various interactive activities, the children explored the journey of food from farm to table, deepening their understanding of agricultural practices and sustainability. This immersive experience provided valuable insights into the importance of responsible farming and its impact on our daily lives.

We extend our gratitude to the organisers for providing this educational opportunity, and commend our students for their curiosity and enthusiasm throughout the day.



Songfest Choir

We're thrilled to share that our choir rocked the stage at Songfest, organised by AsOne Music Hub! Singing spirited sea shanties, they showcased their talent and teamwork, making us proud. Kudos to our dedicated singers and music teachers for their hard work and passion. The whole school are warming up for the Shanty festival after the Easter break.



Seal Class and Nippers Nursery

We are thrilled to share the exciting outing our Seals and Nippers classes had at Port Isaac Beach, where they had the pleasure of meeting with our dedicated RNLI volunteers. This hands-on experience was a fantastic opportunity for our students to immerse themselves in their current topic of "People Who Help Us," drawing inspiration from the courageous deeds of individuals like Grace Darling.

The day was filled with valuable learning moments as our young learners engaged with the RNLI volunteers, gaining insights into their vital role in ensuring safety at sea. From learning about rescue operations to understanding the importance of teamwork and bravery, our students were captivated by the real-life stories shared by these remarkable volunteers.

We are incredibly fortunate to have such a rich and meaningful experience right on our doorstep, allowing us to bring learning to life in a tangible and memorable way. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the RNLI volunteers for generously dedicating their time, energy, and enthusiasm to educate and inspire our students.





Penrice Students Experience Youth Election

Tuesday 20th February marked voting day for Penrice students as children across the UK were encouraged to 'Make Their Mark'. Year group by year group, they visited the Assembly Hall to cast their vote for the next member of Youth Parliament. There were four candidates standing to represent the Newquay and St Austell constituency.

The Assembly Hall was set up to represent a full example of what to expect in a polling station when Penrice students reach adult voting age later in life. As each group of students queued to enter the polling station, they listened to a brief but powerful message about the importance of democracy and how people in other countries do not get to have their voices heard in equal measure.

Thank you to Councillor James Mustoe for visiting in the morning to mark the occasion and talk to our students about the voting processes in the UK.



Students Awestruck on Imerys Careers Trip

Over 100 Year 9 students donned high-vis jackets, safety goggles and hard hats in March as they headed on a memorable field trip to local Imerys facilities.

Imerys is a multi-national company that specialises in the production and processing of industrial minerals. They employ 16,900 people worldwide and have major China Clay operations here on our doorstep in Cornwall.

Students first visited Littlejohns China Clay Mine which is the largest open cast kaolin mine in the world – located just outside of Roche. Despite many of the pupils having strong family links to mining, it was the first time they had seen the scale of the industry. They then visited a drying site just outside of Bugle, known as Rocks Tube Press. There are 120 tubes on site and each tube can process 80kg of clay per 5-minute press. The entire facility can produce a staggering 500,000 kilotons of clay over a 12-month period. After an introduction at the tube press plant, students were split into 4 groups where they enjoyed a carousel of department talks in which they met the EHS team, scientists, operators, geologists, managers, apprentices and lithium experts.

Penrice would like to take this opportunity to thank Imerys for hosting us and for inspiring our students.



Local Author Justyn Edwards Visits Penrice

A massive thank you to Justyn Edwards, author of the Great Fox series, who visited Penrice on 1st March to inspire our Year 7 students.

Mr Edwards began the day by speaking in assembly to all Year 7s, explaining how he became a published author only as recently as 2022 before wowing students with an incredible magic trick! He then headed to the English department to lead some creative writing workshops during Periods 1 and 2.

Mrs Alison Hague, Reading Champion at Penrice, said: "Meeting Justyn was a fantastic experience for our students! I really saw their thought processes develop as creative writers during the workshops. There were really nice interactions between Justyn and our students and they were really encouraged. As an ex-English teacher, I can really see how much thought they put into their character development during the workshop. Justyn was most impressed about how confidently our students spoke in front of the class when sharing their ideas."



School Production Leaves Crowd Wanting More

There was a memorable spectacle at Penrice Academy in early March as the curtain rose on their highly anticipated 2024 school production of Oliver JR.

Full of classic, iconic songs like "Consider Yourself", "Food Glorious Food", and "Oom-Pah-Pah", the audiences across three nights toe-tapped and clapped along throughout the shows.

Performing to over 200 people on each night, the Assembly Hall was buzzing and Penrice students received rapturous applause at the end of each night.

The week of shows finished with a special daytime performance to visiting Primary Schools on Friday.





Science Trip

At the end of February, a group of our GCSE Science students embarked on a fascinating journey through the realms of knowledge, at the Science Museum and Natural History Museum in London. From delving into the depths of the universe to exploring the wonders of our own planet's history, our students immersed themselves in a world of discovery and inspiration.

At the Science Museum, they marvelled at the ingenuity of human innovation - from the earliest inventions to cutting-edge technology which is shaping our future. Meanwhile, at the Natural History Museum, they encountered the awe-inspiring diversity of life on Earth, coming face to face with ancient fossils and majestic specimens from across the globe. We are incredibly proud of our students for their enthusiasm and engagement throughout the trip.



Curriculum Enrichment

Earlier this month, our Year 9 students took part in a Careers Day, as part of our Curriculum Enrichment Day. We were thrilled to host a dynamic Careers Speed Meeting session, where we had the privilege of welcoming 30 incredible employers to Poltair. They engaged with our students, sharing invaluable insights about their career paths, the steps they took, their experiences during school and the essence of their professions. It was an enriching experience, aimed at guiding our Year 9s as they gear up to select their options.



Paignton Zoo Trip

On 6th March, Year 7 students had an unforgettable adventure at Paignton Zoo. Surrounded by the wonders of the animal kingdom, it was incredible to see the excitement and curiosity on the faces of our students.



Mental Health Talk

Last week, our Year 10 and 11 boys actively engaged in an insightful male mental health talk, led by Mr. Pyle. In a world where societal pressures often dictate what it means to be a "man," it's more crucial than ever to redefine and celebrate positive male image. The session delved into breaking stereotypes, embracing vulnerability and fostering open conversations about mental health. Mr. Pyle provided students with invaluable guidance on what to do if they're ever feeling overwhelmed or worried. From seeking support to practicing self-care, our young men were equipped with the tools to navigate through any challenging moments.

The boys' mental health talk served as a powerful reminder of the importance of addressing mental health issues among young men. By promoting a positive male image, delivering uplifting messages and providing essential support resources, the initiative empowered Year 10 and 11 students to prioritise their mental well-being.



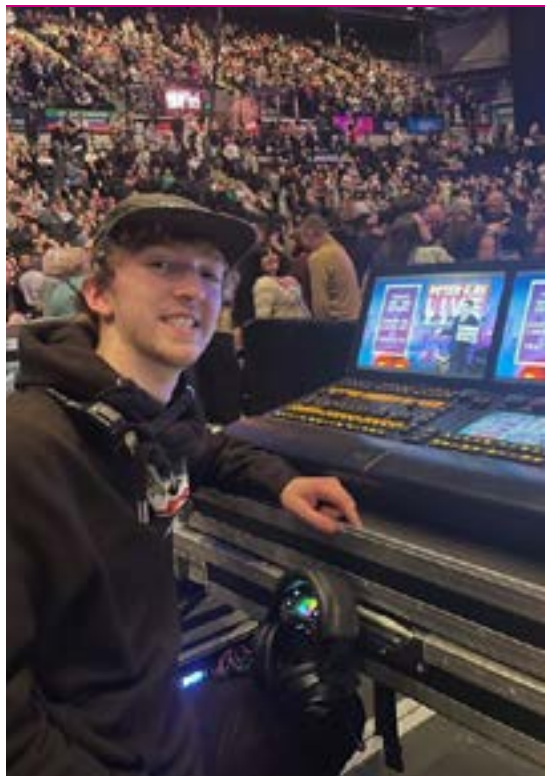
World Book Day, 2024

As is tradition here at Poltair, we celebrated the magic of storytelling and the power of books on World Book Day. Students shared their love for reading, by donating used books to the school - for others to enjoy. For each book the students donated, they received a merit. New for 2024, was our Masked Reader competition, which ran throughout the day. Each lesson started with a Masked Reader from each Year group. The students' task was to guess each reader throughout the day, based on their voice alone - not an easy task, but one our students thoroughly enjoyed. As always, our staff embraced the spirit of the day, by dressing up.



Poltair Alumni

We are thrilled to share the exciting journey of one of our outstanding former students, Dexter. Currently in his final year studying Production Arts & Live Events at college, Dexter recently embarked on the leg of a UK tour with renowned comedian, Peter Kay, working alongside his main lighting crew. This included working at the iconic O2 Arena in London and various other venues across the UK. Last summer, Dexter supported at various festivals, including working the main stage at Board Masters and the Great Estate festival! As Dexter prepares to graduate, he's been asked to join big production companies on more tours/events. He said, "From the moment I received my first disco light at 3 years old, after seeing the DJs setup at my parents' wedding, my passion for lighting ignited. Despite not excelling academically, and facing numerous challenges, I kept going, never letting go of my dreams - if you remain dedicated to them, they will eventually become a reality." Thank you, Dexter, for inspiring us all with your dedication and success. You're a shining example of the incredible potential within our Poltair family.



Girls' Netball

Congratulations to our amazing Year 7 Netball Team, for their outstanding performance at the recent U12 County Netball Finals, held at Truro School. The girls showed immense skill, teamwork and determination throughout the tournament, making us incredibly proud!





Team 12 tackle local litter!

Team 12, our school council, have been incredibly proactive this year. They have been working closely with Lostwithiel Town Council to improve our local environment. Firstly, they have worked with the town's mayor, Karin Henderson, in a focus group about the town's play areas and this half term they have braved all kinds of weather to undertake a litter pick around Lostwithiel. During the afternoon, lots of local residents were kind enough to thank our pupils for being so responsible and helpful around the town and the team collected a large amount of rubbish. Team 12 were delighted when they were rewarded with a hot chocolate from The Mess Hall, which warmed them up after the hail and rainstorms! Team 12 plan to do a litter pick every half term so that our school can continue to keep our town clean and tidy.



Eco-Committee Commit to Climate Change

Lostwithiel Eco-Committee meets once a week on a Friday lunchtime. Their focus this term has been on reducing our carbon footprint and the amount of electricity the school uses. They are in the process of planning an Eco Week in the Summer Term and have already organised a 'No Electricity' day and have written to local environmental charities and organisations to invite them into school to speak to all of the pupils about how they can continue to make a positive change to help the future of the planet.



Children's Mental Health Week

It was a lovely end to Spring 1 as we celebrated Children's Mental Health week. We were delighted to see so many parents attend our information session at the beginning of the week and then visit the classrooms to see the vast range of activities that were on offer to help maintain positive mental health - worry dolls, mindfulness colouring and painting, making our own stress balls, calm breathing exercises, clay therapy, making emotion cubes and animal therapy to name a few.



Bringing History to Life

This term we have had multiple visits from 'Blast From the Past' history workshop providers. Children across the school have learnt about Romans and Greeks and significant individuals such as Howard Carter and Samuel Pepys.



Royal Navy STEM workshop

We love having visitors in school and Conkers class were treated to a STEM workshop thanks to the Royal Navy! Pupils designed and tested flares, took part in team building challenges and asked lots of questions! A fantastic morning!



Apple Class Out and About!

Our Reception pupils have been super busy this half term. In late February they enjoyed a trip to St. Bartholomew's Church to learn about baptism and christenings. Pupils really enjoyed the experience of 'baptising' our baby Rosie. Thank you to Reverend Sheila for inviting us.

Then in March then took an expedition to Lostwithiel train station, the museum and the fire station to learn all about what is around them in the local area.



Gruffalo's Child Trip

On 20th March our Nursery, EYFS and KS1 children travelled to Truro to the Hall for Cornwall to watch the Gruffalo's Child. The pupils were so excited to watch the show and, for many, it was their first trip to a theatre. One pupil wondered where the 'screen' was and was enthralled for the whole hour when the curtain went up and they realised that there were actors on the stage!

We were so proud of them all - they behaved impeccably and loved the show from start to finish!





Nursery – Busy Little Learners

This half term Nursery have had a very busy time finding out about their place in the world. They've been on soil hunts and planted their own seeds; they've been to the local garden centre to buy their plants and have a drink and some cake; they've made pasties and participated in St Piran's Day celebrations including scones and Cornish Dancing; they've been part of World Book Day and the family reading day & they've been to the theatre!



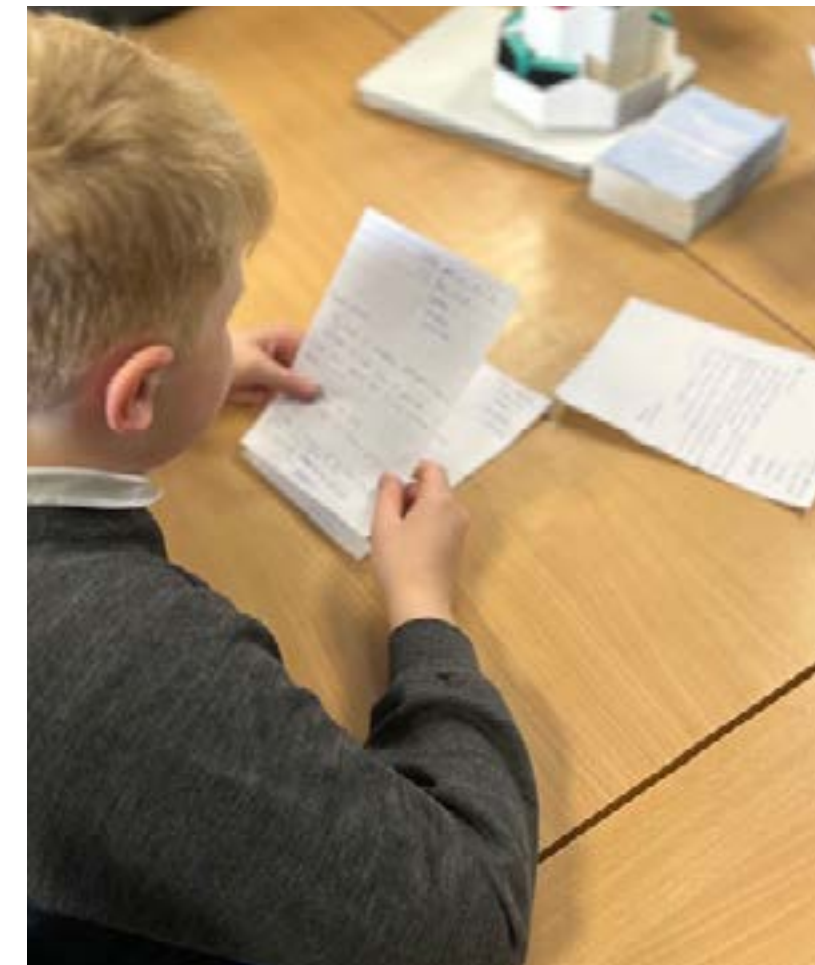
World Book Day – Books Around the World

For World Book Day this year, we took our children on a journey around the world. Every year group visited every year group in the school and learnt about a different continent. Year 6 read the books 'The National Parks of the USA' and 'Carson crosses Canada' and taught children a little about the North America. Year 5 read 'Sonia Rainforest' and a non-fiction book about South America. Year 4 read 'Lila and the secret of Rain' and 'Amazing Africa'. Year 3 read 'Animal tales from India' and a non-fiction book called 'Himalyas' to teach pupils about parts of Asia. Year 2 read 'Madeleine' and 'The buildings that made London' as part of their reading about Europe. Year 1 read a non-fiction book about Australia and 'Wombat goes Walkabout' and Reception read 'Penguin Huddle' and a non-fiction book about antarctica. Every child had a passport and travelled around the world by travelling around our school. By the end of the day every child had listened to seven stories and explored pages from seven non-fiction books and listened to at least seven different adults read.



Uganda Letters in Year 5

Year 5 received some exciting letters last week that had come all the way from a school in Uganda! Our pupils loved finding out about their new Ugandan pen pals so much that they have already written their replies. Mr Lloyd visited Uganda a few years ago and recently received the letters from people he met during this trip. He shared photos and stories of his experience with both Year 5 classes which really helped our pupils have a clearer idea of where their pen pals are from and the sort of lives that they may live.



Family Reading Day

On February 22nd, we had a Family Reading Day at St Mewan. We invited all our families in to share in a day of reading with some local authors. Every child in KS1 and KS2 listened to the authors Ellie Jackson and Naomi Jones read some of their stories and talk about being an author. Children in Nursery, Reception and KS1 also spent some time with Mr Grinling (from the Lighthouse Keeper's lunch) and Percy the Park Keeper when Blast from the Past came in to share some story telling and story-related activities in role. Many parents and extended family members joined us for the story-telling sessions and some related activities in class. The parents in Year 3 helped to create a new display with the slogan 'We may all be different fish, but we swim in the same sea' as we have been exploring equality and diversity this term through our personal development curriculum.



Geevor Cornish Heritage visit in Year 6

Year 6 had a fantastic time at Geevor Tin Mine at the start of this half term, exploring and learning about our local heritage. They had a great time learning about mining through the different periods of history and even had the chance to experience an actual mine! Thank you to the Cornwall Heritage Trust for funding a part of this trip and making it possible. This kick started our Cornish Rebellion mining history unit as well as preparing us for our Cornish Mining Diary writing in English.



Police Visit in Year 4

Year 4 had a very special last week one wonderful pupil wrote to the police about his aspirations to become a police officer. The police officers were amazing, and they talked about the equipment they use and why they used it. The children got to try on their different types of hat and protective vests. Some children even had their fingerprints taken. One lucky birthday girl was selected to call the police station on their radio and the officer receiving the call even sang her 'Happy Birthday'. After this, the children went down to the playground and looked around the police car. The officers turned on the lights and the siren. We love having people from different careers in to share with our pupils and have more coming in next term.





Dydh da!

At Luxulyan School, we want everyone to enjoy their own sense of Cornish-ness and to feel part of our unique Cornish language and heritage. We are therefore taking part in the Go Cornish for Primary Schools project and have so far achieved our Bronze Award.

The Go Cornish programme is split into three different sections; Awareness - cultivating a familiarity with and appreciation of the Cornish language.

Enjoyment - having fun with Cornish in and around school.

Engagement - learning the language and putting it to good use.

We have done things such as displaying bilingual signs around the school, including welcome signs and also signs for places such as the library, toilets and staff room and have created a Cornish area in our library.

We take the register in Cornish, make greetings cards with bilingual messages and read the Tales from Porth stories by Will Coleman. We regularly use the Cornish language throughout the day and have also learnt some songs with Cornish sections.



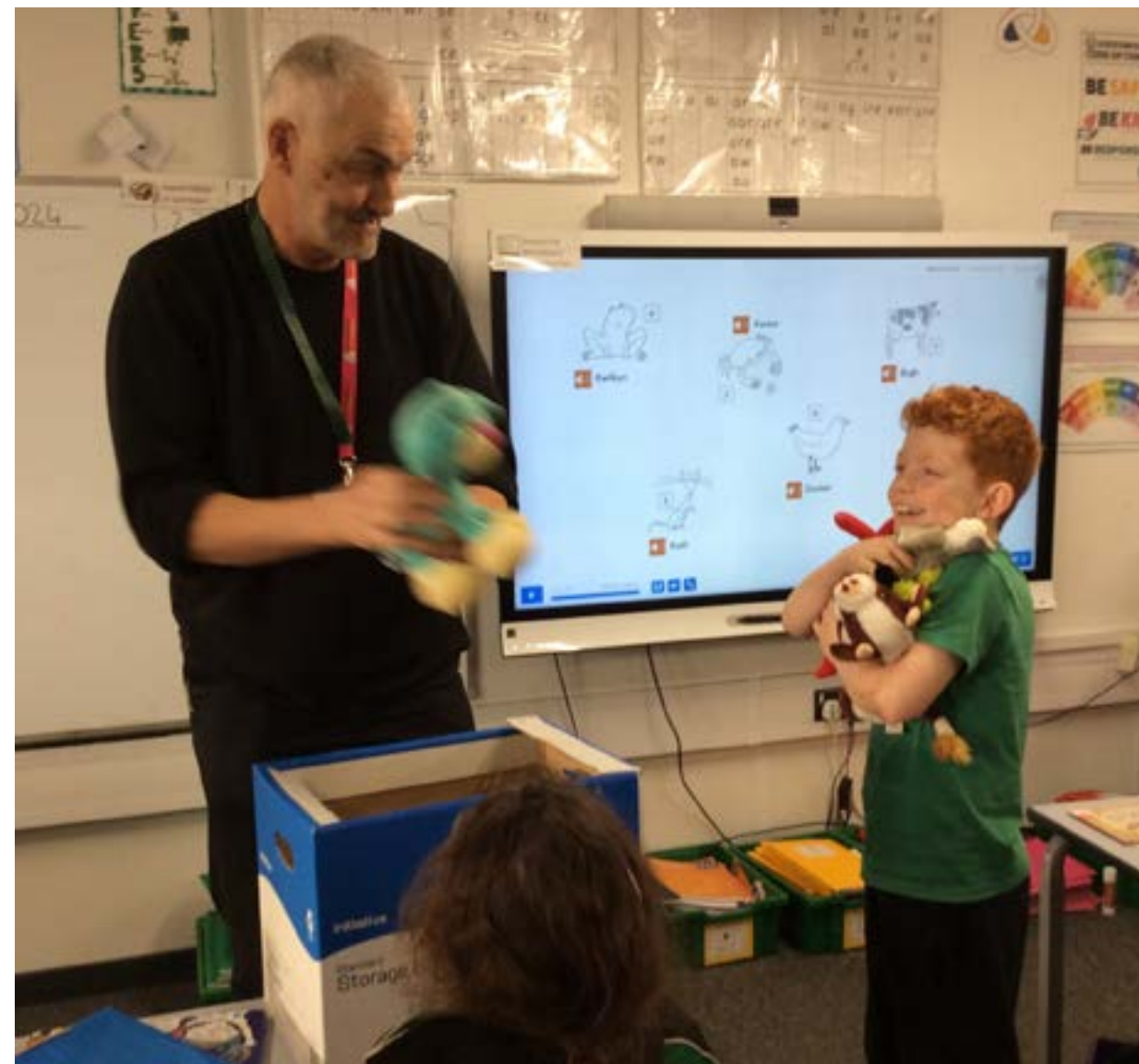
We are Kryw Kernewek (Cornish Club). We meet at least once a half term. We also teach each class a new Cornish word or phrase each week.



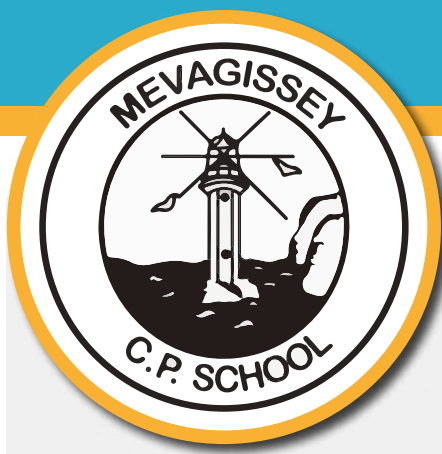
These are our four basic vocabulary words that all members of the school community use regularly.



We were very lucky to have a visit from Will Coleman, who worked with each class on one of his Tales from Porth - "Kanker" (crab).



Sycamore Class have had an amazing time celebrating St. Piran's day at Bodmin. We waved our banner and St. Piran flags proudly during the parade through the centre of Bodmin. We listened to the Mayor of Bodmin talk about the importance of celebrating being Cornish and joined in with a traditional dance with all the other schools. We then ventured to the St. Petroc's church at the heart of Bodmin to listen to poems and songs performed by other schools. We then performed our version of Cornwall my Home with a chorus sung in Cornish.



At Mevagissey, we like to make links to our place in the world through community events, weekly assemblies on current events and how it might impact us, and of course, through our curriculum. This term, Starfish class have been exploring Africa in their geography learning. One of the key skills has been comparing the village of Mevagissey to the village of Mugranemo, Zambia. In science week we have been looking at how different scientists have made their impact on the world and how might we change it. Year 6 have been looking at food farming and fair trade and are currently producing their own version of a sustainable three course meal, considering food miles and the impact on the environment. We can't wait to show off all this learning and more at our end of term show case and community tea where parents and the community are coming in to see our end composites of this year's learning.

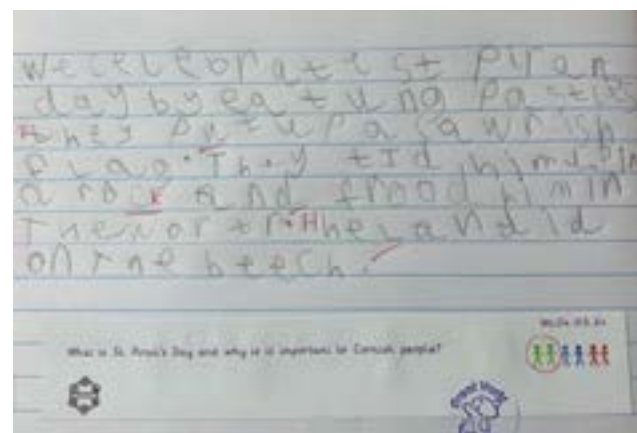
World book day

We celebrated World Book Day by inviting parents in for a 'Book and a biscuit' morning. The children made biscuits and enjoyed sharing their books. The older children also showed their parents what a guided reading session looks like with parents joining in with the lesson. A day full of different activities followed in each class with the children dressed up in style. This year we used the World Book Day vouchers and collected the books in advance. This meant we could set up our own book shop and ensure every child went home with a book at the end of the day.



St Piran's day

The whole school celebrated with a pasty lunch and children learnt about the story of St Piran and how St Piran's day is celebrated by Cornish people.



Transported to Russia

Year 6 were transported to the snowy scenes of Russia during their hook day for their novel 'Wolf Wilder'. They read the first chapter whilst snow was falling outside their classroom and of course had to go outside for a play.



A Child's War

Sea Turtles class were transported to VE day enjoying creating their own VE day celebrations, planning the menu whilst still on rations. We were extremely lucky to have a real gas mask that was used in the war for the children to admire and hear the journey it had been on.



Red Nose day

We celebrated Red Nose Day by running a joke competition and wearing non uniform. The children spoke about the importance of charity and helping others.



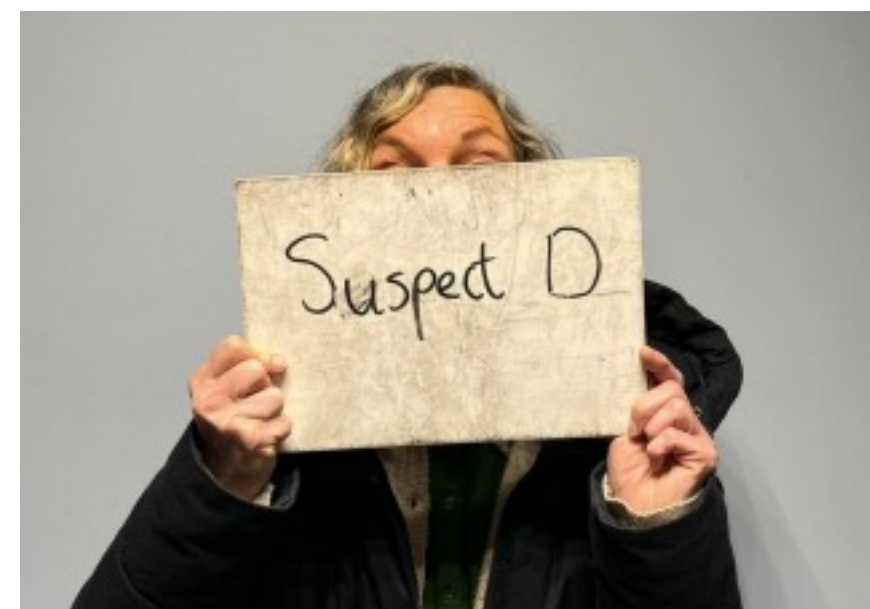
New Students!

Meet Bob and Nora (names voted for by the children)! Our new school mannequins are ready to greet guests in the school entrance showing off our smart school uniform.



Crime scene found in school hall!

Sea turtles class are currently investigating a crime that has taken place overnight in the school. Who could be responsible for this wicked crime?! The children will become investigative journalists and write their own newspaper reports. Mrs Ball is currently the number 1 suspect!





World Book Day

What a day for World Book Day 2024!! Our children were invited to attend school dressed as either:

- "What would you like to do when you're older?,"
- "Where would you like to go?,"
- "Who would you like to meet?,"

Our theme in school was "Someday" based on the book by Eileen Spinelli. The book focuses on a character called Today who is 'stuck being a kid' and who imagines her life when she is no longer a child. Our children were encouraged to think about their own 'Someday' and what they hope that may look like when they are grown up.



Space

In Year 5 science, the children researched the size of the planets. They used this information to create models of our solar system using balls to represent the planets. This model allowed them to see the size of the planets relative to one another. The children learnt about the lunar cycle and used biscuits to re-create the phases of the moon.



Characteristics

Year 6 used some fantastic models to learn more about inheritance in science. The children observed the characteristics of the male and female and then invented their own off-spring. They were able to explain that some characteristics (such as dark hair) are more dominant and therefore more likely to be passed down. They have been working on writing explanations in science so that they can pass on their knowledge to others which is one of our scientific skills.



Life through the ages

Year 2 had a great trip to Pendennis Castle on Friday 8th March! The visit began with a workshop where the children learnt the history of the castle and compared how life has changed since the Tudor times! The children enjoyed dressing up as King Henry VIII! They walked around the dry moat and discussed the different features of the castle and their purpose. The children also witnessed a special 'gun shoot' of the canons to celebrate International Women's Day.



St Piran's Day

Our place in the world – Cornwall! Our children celebrated St Piran's Day in school on Tuesday 5th March. They discussed the Cornish flag, our patron saints and what makes Cornwall so special. Of course, we can't celebrate St Piran's Day without a pasty lunch!



Songfest

Some of the children from our choir took part in Songfest at St Petroc's on Wednesday 20th March. They loved singing 8 sea shanties with other schools and a live band to a church full of parents. A great musical evening was had by all!



Living Things

Year 5 have been enjoying their 'Allotment' topic. All the children planted basil, chives and a sunflower seed at the start of term and have enjoyed monitoring them to see whose has grown the tallest!





International Women's Day

On International Women's Day, we proudly participated in the #LetGirlsPlay initiative!

We had over 120 girls access these sessions over both of our lunchtimes. It was awesome to have some of our Year 6 girls taking on leadership roles. We welcomed Ruby back to the academy from Newquay Tretherras, to

What is #LetGirlsPlay?

The FA's aim is for girls to have the same football opportunities as boys in schools and clubs. #LetGirlsPlay is a campaign to influence and drive change, showing that football can and should be played by girls. It is bringing

support and inspire our players.

together a growing community of people of all genders, ages and backgrounds who want to champion equal access for girls, helping create independent, resilient young girls who will be a force for good in all local communities.

St. Piran's Day

Bright blue skies and sunshine - perfect for some of our pupils to enjoy Newquay's St Piran's Day Parade.

A small number of our NJA choir celebrated St Piran's Day by singing some sea shanties at Newquay Library. They were even joined by Newquay's town crier and the wonderful library staff provided the pupils with some goodies when they finished performing. Well done to our performers and Gool Peran Lowen to all!



SongFest

Some of our Newquay Junior choir pupils performed at the Songfest concert in Truro Cathedral with over 130 other children from across Cornwall: we are so proud of their efforts and the entire concert was wonderful!



Year 5 Outdoor Cookery

Each Year 5 class took their learning outdoors. Earlier in the term, they had read 'The Explorer', a story about a group of children crash landing in the Amazon. In these sessions they considered what the survival priorities might be in an extreme situation like this, as well as learning how to light and maintain a fire.

Pupils worked in small groups to prepare a South American style, black bean stew. They learnt how to chop vegetables with the 'bridge' and 'claw' methods, before cooking their stew on their own open fire. At the end, they learnt how to tidy up a fire so that they 'left only footprints' and tucked in to their tasty stew, along with nachos and cheese!



British Science Week

Year 4 have had the opportunity to remember their previous learning in Year 3 and make links to what they are currently studying in Year 4. They have seen magnetic fields around both permanent and electromagnets and have gone on to see how magnetic fields interact to produce movement. The two classes today showed great scientific thinking as they considered how they could change the direction that their motors would spin in.

In Year 6, it was 6MR's turn to investigate the structure of a lamb's heart: they were surprised to see how much larger the left side is when compared to the right.



NJA Handball Tournament

This half-term saw the start of the first ever NJA Handball Tournament. Pupils from all year groups participated in the four-day event during their lunchbreaks. Knockout stages lead to eventual winners - George, Sorrel, Zac & Alfie. Thank you, Mr Murphy, for organising and overseeing the event - a great time was had by everyone who participated and all the pupils and staff cheering on from the sideline! Well done to everyone involved.





World Book Day

We kicked off this year's World Book Day Celebrations in our 'Starbooks Café', rewarding readers from all year groups with a hot chocolate and the chance to read some new books and magazines from the library. Students have been enjoying the Where's Wally hunt across the school, and the book swap in the English department at lunchtime. We've also had some amazing entries for the National Book Tokens design a book token competition.



Cornwall Youth Council 2024-2026

Congratulations to Gabby who found her own place in the world as she has been elected as a youth councillor for the Cornwall Youth Council 2024-2026.

"On Monday the 4th of March, I attended the election results of the new Cornwall Youth Council 2024-2026 and found out that I have been successful in becoming a Youth Councillor for the next 2-year term. On Saturday, I attended the induction New County Hall where we learned about the role and how we can progress our campaigns during our time in office. Over my term, I hope to work alongside the council to improve youth voice in schools so young people have a greater say in decisions that affect them in their school life."



Sporting Success

Well done to our netballers who went to the South West State Schools Tournament in Paignton and came away only losing one match and finishing 5th out of 16 overall.



U12 girls through to the county quarter finals with an excellent 7-2 win against Wadebridge.



U14's showing excellent resilience, teamwork and determination to turn around a match from 3-1 down, to finish in the final minutes with a winner to make it 5-4. Into the county semi-finals they go!

Our Young Enterprise Group

Our Young Enterprise Group - Re:Capped, have come 2nd place in the National Young Enterprise Ad Competition - competing with other Company Programme businesses across the UK.

Quote from Mrs Bissenden: "I am thrilled, Re:Capped are innovative professionals who will go far in this year's competition. Watch this space."





Reception – Montessori Class

Reception have had a fantastic time celebrating St Piran's day! They were very interested to learn about the history of where they live in Cornwall and how St Piran's day came to be. In order to better their understanding, they made their own St Piran's flags to wave during their celebration. We also enjoyed pasties in school for lunch!



Year 1 – Anning Class

As part of our history learning about old and new toys, Year 1 went on a trip to Lanhydrock House. We travelled by minibus to St Austell Train Station and caught the train to Bodmin Parkway. We then walked along the Respryn trail to Lanhydrock. It was a 1.8 mile long walk but everyone did a super job and we got to Lanhydrock just as everything was opening. First we visited the kitchens so that we could see how different they are to our own kitchens. Then we went to the nursery where we could explore old fashioned toys. We particularly enjoyed dressing up, building with blocks and riding the old fashioned rocking horse. After enjoying our lunch, we walked through the gardens and visited the small church, before returning to school.

World Book Day

We've had a fantastic day celebrating World Book Day. We have seen lots of impressive costumes and the children have had a great day consisting of Virtual Author and Draw Along sessions, Buddy Class reading and stories shared from a range of different characters (teachers!) We've enjoyed many book related activities such as describing ourselves as a readers and designing book marks and book tokens. We've had lots of discussions about our favourite books and what types of genres of books we like best.



Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 Athletics at Poltair

It was a great day when thirty six children represented Pondhu in the Cornwall School Games athletics. The Year 3 /4 children enjoyed taking part in a range of field events, running and obstacle events. All the children tried their very best and did Pondhu proud. All of the athletes enjoyed the event and competed with enthusiasm and with plenty of smiles. The Year 5 /6 team competed against other schools in running and relay races along with jumping and throwing activities. Each child was outstanding, committing to every event and doing the best that they could resulting in us qualifying for the school games final in Bodmin. Congratulations everyone.



Year 5 and Year 6 Girls' Football

Pondhu's Year 5 footballers took part in the second round of the Cornwall School Games this week, performing admirably once again. The team of Ella, Summer, Aimee, Eden, Lucy and Allison played every game with determination and commitment, while always wearing a huge smile on their faces.



Year 5 - Owens

The children from Year 5 took part in a series of workshops at Holy Trinity Church, St Austell, to learn the true meaning of Easter. The varied and creative activities corresponded to events in the Bible like the Last Supper. It was great to see the children interacting so well in a different community setting while learning that there is more to Easter than just Easter eggs.

