

newsletter



END OF TERM – DECEMBER 2024

Bodmin College | Brannel School | Carclaze C.P. School | CELT Hub | Fowey Primary School | Lostwithiel Primary School | Luxulyan School | Mevagissey Primary School | Mount Charles School
Newquay Junior Academy | Newquay Primary Academy | Newquay Tretherras School | Penrice Academy | Poltair School | Pondhu Primary School | Port Isaac Academy | St Mewan C.P. School



Bodmin College Dance Platform



Carclaze sing on BBC Radio Cornwall



St Austell Festival of Music and Speech

COLLABORATE EMPOWER LEAD TRANSFORM



Lisa's retirement

Having honed her craft in Headships in Hertfordshire, Lisa's reputation arrived in the county before her....

The team at Trenance Infant School were eager to meet their new Headteacher, having heard all about her successes 'out of county'. Under her leadership the school rapidly became, and remained, a source of outstanding education, and whilst there, Lisa was able to inspire and mentor many young staff with her passion for ensuring that every child achieved.

Not to be dismissed as just an 'infant school headteacher' and not accepting being told that "an Infant school would never get Outstanding", she quickly moved the school from RI to exactly that! What we now know, is that Lisa was just getting warmed up. The 'infant school' was picked out of 22,000 schools by HMCI for a national publication, Reading by 6: How the best Schools Do it. This led to 'model school' status in reading, and later a National English Hub, Teaching School, and the current Teaching School Hub. It quickly became apparent that she was a passionate, talented and innovative leader, with boundless energy to turn education provision on its head.

Lisa was at the forefront of embracing the change to the sector heralded by the Academy Act 2010, as the first CEO of a Multi Academy Trust in Cornwall. She led the development of the Learning Academy Trust (now Kernow Learning). Driven by a belief that every child should have the highest standard of education, and that a postcode lottery should not impact on this access, she agreed to simultaneously sponsor three schools from RI to Good and Outstanding, and in the process set the standard for the sector in school improvement. She consequently applied these experiences to establish herself in her role as the elected member of the South West Headteacher's Board and a National Leader of Education. There is no doubt that these leadership skills captured the attention of Westminster and were instrumental in Lisa being appointed as the Regional Schools Commissioner for the South West, where her drive to achieve excellency would influence a wider audience of school leaders.

Lisa is an inspirational leader, she is passionate about meeting the needs of pupils whom are under resourced and has championed this as a priority throughout her career. She has been instrumental in establishing CELT Community as a charitable organisation to ensure this remains a priority that is resourced. Lisa has an inclusive and empowering leadership style. She is a well-respected leader within the sector, outward facing and generous with her knowledge and expertise,





supporting and developing the next generation of school leaders. Throughout her career within the South West region, she has been at the forefront of innovation and change to ensure that children and young people receive the very best educational opportunity.

Geoff Brown, Chair of Trustees for CELT said, “we were extremely fortunate to secure Lisa as our Trust Lead at a difficult period in the potential merger of two large Trusts, with very differing ethos. Her ability to listen, assess and inspire staff was instrumental in bringing these two Trusts together, and under her skilled leadership, CELT has become a highly successful and respected Trust in the southwest. I cannot imagine anyone else who could have achieved so much school improvement in such a short space of time, whilst simultaneously both expanding CELT and welding it into a single cohesive unit. A Trust which always seeks to deliver the very best opportunities for all students regardless of their background or ability.”

Lisa is an ambassador for the social mobility education agenda and has so much passion for ensuring barriers to opportunity are removed for all young people. Her inspirational leadership instils in others that same commitment and drive. Lisa Mannall has proved to be a great asset to the wider education community nationally, and today, as she retires, we thank her for a lifetime of dedication to young people.

As two people whose careers have benefited from her coaching, mentoring, lessons in leadership, the importance of investing in relationships, we are not sure how we are going to fill the Lisa sized gap in our professional lives, but we will draw on everything she has taught us and will continue to ‘Channel our inner Mannall’

Clare Ridehalgh and Clare Crowle



Thank you for being such a strong advocate for children, especially our most disadvantaged, and for championing social mobility for young people in the South West.

Your unwavering dedication to education, the pupils and families of CELT and the people you lead has been nothing short of extraordinary.

Thank you for enabling me to find my passion for education again.

The impact you've made as the Trust Lead will be felt for years to come in the legacy you leave behind.

It is impossible not to reflect on the incredible legacy you leave behind. Your dedication, compassion and commitment to education in the South West have truly transformed countless lives.

Your story has been a real source of inspiration.



Thank you for all you have done for the children in Cornwall - you have always been their voice.

You have had a stellar career, which most of us could only dream of.

Inspiring others but always ensuring that people around you feel valued.

A strong, fearless, female leader who believes passionately in social mobility and the power of education to change lives.

You've been a true guiding force, a mother figure to so many, offering wisdom, care, and encouragement to those fortunate enough to work with you.

Your enthusiasm and commitment to education for all, is infectious.



First Annual CELT Community Christmas Meal for Service Families: A Celebration of Service and Togetherness

On 6 December, in partnership with Chartwells, our school meals provider, we proudly hosted what we hope will be our first annual CELT Community Service Families' Christmas Meal. Held at Penrice Academy, the event was a wonderful celebration of community, connection, and holiday cheer.

In addition to Service Families from secondary and primary schools across the Trust, we welcomed special guests Bishop Hugh Nelson (Bishop to the Armed Forces), Lee Moscato (Truro Diocesan Director of Education and one of our CELT Members), Colonel Paul Deakin (Commandant, Cornwall Army Cadet Force) and Lieutenant Commander Benjamin Nash (District Officer for Cornwall Sea Cadets).

Thanks to the generosity of the Chartwells team, our guests enjoyed a festive feast featuring beautifully cooked turkey, fresh seasonal vegetables, and the crispiest roast potatoes—earning high praise from all who attended. Adding to the festive spirit, a raffle and entertainment provided by our talented Clare Ridehalgh and Amy Daniels kept the evening lively and engaging.

The event provided unique opportunities for CELT students to shine. Penrice students participated in silver service under the expert guidance of Chartwells professionals, gaining invaluable skills and confidence. Their enthusiasm and professionalism were evident, and the thoughtful thank-you vouchers and certificates they received from Chartwells were a meaningful gesture of recognition. Senior cadets from our CELT Combined Cadet Force further enhanced the evening by practicing their hosting skills, joining families, and contributing to the welcoming atmosphere.

This event was more than a festive gathering—it was a testament to the strength and warmth of our CELT community. The joy, camaraderie, and generosity on display embodied the true spirit of the season and demonstrated the willingness of our staff to roll up their sleeves and embrace our Serve to Lead ethos.

Thank you to everyone who made this celebration possible. Your dedication and good cheer ensured this was an unforgettable evening, and we look forward to continuing the tradition for years to come.





Whole Trust INSET Day 2024

Our whole Trust INSET day brought together 1,200 colleagues to collaborate, connect, and inspire one another. From engaging workshops to empowering keynote sessions, this day was all about fostering professional growth, sharing best practices, and strengthening our community of educators dedicated to making a difference in the lives of pupils and students every day.



Forest school family fun

This term, parents have been joining their children in forest school sessions to experience our new curriculum alongside them. The initiative aims to strengthen the school-community bond and showcase the hands-on learning approach. The uptake has been incredibly positive, reflecting strong parental engagement. These sessions also form a vital part of our wellbeing and mental health programme, offering pupils and their families a shared opportunity to connect with nature and promote holistic growth.

Cross key stage collaboration



Our Year 6 class has partnered with our Reception children as part of a buddy programme that fosters a real sense of community within our school. This initiative helps older pupils develop leadership and empathy skills while providing the younger children with role models and a sense of belonging. The buddy system strengthens relationships across year groups, creating a supportive and nurturing environment that benefits both age groups, enhancing their confidence, social skills, and school experience. Early next term, our Year 5 children will participate in playleader training, equipping them with the skills to support and lead activities during playtimes. This programme promotes responsibility, teamwork, and leadership development, while also enhancing the play experiences for younger pupils. By fostering a sense of inclusion and active engagement, the training empowers our Year 5 pupils to contribute positively to the school community, building confidence and a sense of pride in their roles.

Growing young learners

Having a nursery allows us to provide our pupils with a strong foundation for their learning journey. Our 'Tiny Trees' children are an integral part of our school, making their transition into Reception seamless. Thanks to the dedication of our Nursery and EYFS team—particularly Kate Webber, CELT EYFS Lead, and Beccy Charnock, our Nursery Administrator—children are ready to thrive from day one in EYFS.

Kate and Beccy have also been supporting other primary schools across the world in establishing their own nurseries, recognising the crucial role of early years education. By overseeing nursery provision for future pupils, we ensure they receive the best possible start in life, reinforcing the importance of these formative years.

Community collaboration



We were invited to contribute to the Duchy Nursery Christmas tree this year. Pupils decorated a star, adding a personal wish or a unique design, making the project truly special. Some of our pupils proudly placed the stars on the tree. This collaborative effort brought our school community together in the festive spirit and showcased our pupils' creativity.

Aspiring artists



This half term, we had the privilege of collaborating with local artist Michael, whose granddaughters attend our school. Inspired by their stories about the artists they were studying—John Dyer and Picasso—Michael visited Maple and Oak classes to share his insights into the works of these significant artists and demonstrate some of their painting techniques.





At Newquay Primary Academy, we are proud to be part of CELT and to collaborate with other academies in the network. As a smaller academy, being part of this partnership makes it even more special, as it provides our pupils with experiences we might not be able to offer on our own.

Partnerships with Newquay Junior Academy and CELT

Our pupils also have the opportunity to participate in events at Newquay Junior Academy. They've visited for book fairs, author readings, harvest celebrations, school performances, and even had the chance to meet reindeer last year! Being in a temporary building with limited space can restrict what we can organise on our own, so it's fantastic that we can join forces with NJA to offer these exciting opportunities.

Being part of CELT also provides our staff with access to excellent training courses, and there is always someone available to assist with any queries, whether it's IT, payroll, recruitment, or admin. This collaborative support ensures that both our pupils and staff benefit from being part of a larger, supportive network.

Cave painting

As a smaller academy with a particularly small Year 3 class, we also benefit from our collaboration with Newquay Junior Academy. Recently, Trent Class joined a class from Newquay Junior Academy for a trip to Little Fistral for cave painting. Mr. Ellis-Davies led an art lesson where the children recreated ancient cave paintings. It's wonderful that we can draw on staff from different sites to offer the children new and varied learning experiences. Additionally, many of our trips would not be possible without borrowing minibuses from within CELT.



Sports partnership

Our strong partnership with Newquay Tretherras enables our pupils to take part in a variety of sporting events throughout the year, alongside other schools, fostering a sense of community. We've participated in netball and football tournaments, as well as cross-country events. During NPA Sports Day, we are fortunate to receive the help and support from Tretherras students. Their enthusiasm for sport and their willingness to support younger children really shines through, providing fantastic role models for our pupils.





At Newquay Tretherras, we believe in the power of partnership—whether it's with local organisations, community groups, or our own students working together towards shared goals. This theme of collaboration is exemplified through a number of recent activities that bring our school and wider community together.

Remembrance Parade

We came together as a school to remember those who have served in the military on Remembrance Day. Students and staff showed respect and solidarity, taking time to honour the sacrifices made for our freedom. The cadets proudly wore their uniforms on top of the quay building, representing the bravery and commitment of those who serve. Together, we reflected on the courage of those who fought for us, and we promised to never forget their sacrifices. Lest we forget.

Newquay Rotary Club Cooking Competition

A wonderful example of community collaboration came through our partnership with the Newquay Rotary Club. Their cooking classes, held at the school, have become an incredible opportunity for students to learn new skills while connecting with local professionals. Students from Year 9 have come together to participate in these hands-on lessons, developing their culinary expertise with guidance from experienced chefs. The Rotary Club has provided not only the resources but also the mentorship and enthusiasm needed to inspire the next generation of chefs and home cooks. It's a perfect example of how working together can enrich the lives of our students and the wider community.



Year 9 Endeavour group

Our newest Year 9 Endeavour group has been embracing the challenges of climbing and canoeing. This exciting journey has been a true testament to the power of working in partnership, as students not only build technical skills but also learn to support one another in a variety of outdoor activities.

The partnership between students has been vital in ensuring success. Working in teams, they've navigated obstacles together, offering encouragement and guidance when necessary. This cooperation is key, as outdoor challenges like climbing and canoeing require trust, communication, and mutual support. These experiences are more than just physical challenges; they are opportunities for the students to develop leadership skills, strengthen their bonds, and work together toward common goals.

Looking ahead, the students are preparing for even more adventurous challenges, including sea cliff climbing and river paddling. As they continue to master their outdoor skills, they're also building important life skills—confidence, leadership, and a growth mindset.







This year, we have seized every opportunity to work across CELT. From taking part in knowledge-rich shared inset days to welcoming experts from other schools. We are always looking to work alongside other practitioners who have children at the focus of everything they do. Our ECT, Liz Meacock, attends regular training alongside other CELT ECTs, benefiting from visiting other settings and having workshops delivered by expert teachers.

School choir

Our fantastic choir had the honour of singing with Mevagissey Male Voice Choir and the Mevagissey Ladies Choir in their Christmas concert this year. Not only did the children sing their own songs, they also had the opportunity to sing alongside both choirs learning different harmonies and singing as one big choir. We were so proud of how respectful the children were when watching the other choirs perform.

Visit to the vets

KSI had the opportunity to visit the vets this term in line with their Science curriculum; Animals including humans. They had a full tour of the practice, including the ward where poorly animals are kept, the treatment room, the operation theatre and the scanning room. We watched as Dexter was prepared for theatre and the children were superb, asking sensible questions and being respectful of the animals and people working. As well as this, we had the opportunity to dress up and explore some items that are essential for the vets to have when caring for the animals. They then got to take part in an exciting workshop comparing animal skeletons to human skeletons.



Beaver Ecology

Year four had a fantastic afternoon with The Beaver Trust and Heligan Gardens during their first workshop on Beaver Ecology and Habitat. They took part in learning about beavers and building their own dams. Once they were built, the children tested them to see how much their dams slowed the flow of water.

Our year four students have been lucky enough to be selected to take part in a three-year programme where they will learn all about beavers, the environment and conservation. They are also hoping to visit Heligan Gardens' very own beavers. We can't wait to see their progress!

Thank you very much to The Beaver Trust and Heligan Gardens for this exciting opportunity!

Church visit

The whole school took part in Christmas activities at St Peter's Church in Mevagissey. This is a special event every year where the new reception children get presented with their bibles and the older year 6 children take part in acting out the nativity story around the church. The whole school sang songs led by live musicians and were all fully immersed in the Christmas story. A huge thank you to all involved for making such special memories for our children.





At Fowey Primary School, children appreciate the importance of learning together and sharing our knowledge. They understand that through learning and collaboration, they are able to open doors and create pathways. Their successes will drive forward their ambitions.

Animation club

This term, children in animation club have been able to work with local 3D motion and GFX Designer, Paul Hupfield. The children have produced their own animations which culminated in an end 'showreel' which was shared with parents at the end of time.

Aspiration is one of our key school values and we may well have some budding animators of the future who have been inspired by the activities from animation club over the past 7 weeks.



Sensory room

Fowey Primary School has a sensory room which is available for academies within CELT to use. This is a resource is designed to provide a controlled and stimulating environment. It offers a wide range of benefits for individuals of all ages, particularly those with sensory processing challenges, autism, ADHD, anxiety, or developmental disabilities.



Sports teams

Our Year 5/6 and Year 3/4 footballers play in the St Austell & District Small Schools Football League with many fixtures played against other CELT academies throughout the year. Here are our football teams before their fixtures against our friends from Mevagissey CP School and Lostwithiel Primary School.



Bodmin College Dance Platform 2024 – A Celebration of Talent and Passion

The Bodmin College Dance Platform, held on Tuesday, 12th November and Thursday, 14th November 2024, was a stunning showcase of the incredible talent, passion, and creativity of dancers from across Cornwall. We were delighted to welcome over 200 dancers to our stage, showcasing a range of dance styles and interpretations to a variety of musical accompaniments.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the performers who made this year's event truly unforgettable. From emerging young dancers to seasoned performers, each brought their unique flair, energy, and enthusiasm to the stage, captivating audiences with their dedication and skill.

The Dance Platform featured performances from a wide range of talented groups, including:

- KBSK Performing Arts
- Jason Thomas Foundation College
- Future Youth Dance
- Newquay Tretherras
- Studio 4 Dance
- Cornwall College Performing Arts
- Bell Dance Academy
- Bodmin College's apprentice and senior dance companies
- Bodmin College's GCSE dancers

What made this event so special was the collaboration between schools within CELT community, underscoring the strength of the partnership across CELT schools in the arts. It was a true privilege to see dancers from Newquay Tretherras come together to perform their version of 'All that Jazz' from 'Chicago', sharing their musical talents, technique, and energy with a captivated audience.

Bodmin College is excited about the future and looks forward to further strengthening the connections with other CELT schools. Mrs Groom said that "We are thrilled by the success of this year's Dance Platform and we look forward to continuing to collaborate with our fellow CELT schools in the future".

The Dance Platform event was a fantastic example of how collaboration and creativity come together to enrich the cultural landscape of Cornwall. Bodmin College looks forward to expanding these partnerships and providing even more exciting opportunities for students to showcase their talents in the years to come.

We are already looking forward to next year and the exciting performances it will undoubtedly bring.





COLLABORATE EMPOWER LEAD TRANSFORM



NSN swimming gala

In November, we took 32 swimmers to participate in the annual Newquay Sports Network swim meet.

It was wonderful to see our swimmers in their element (they do a lot of training outside of the academy). We will not know the official results for another week; however, we do know they were awesome and a credit to the academy. Well done to our swimmers and a huge thank you to Newquay Tretherras for hosting a well-organised and supported event.

Christmas song 2024

Each year, Newquay Junior Academy and Newquay Primary Academy collaborate to perform and record a Christmas song. This year, pupils worked tirelessly to rehearse and perfect their performance of 'Somewhere Only We Know'. This year, we went out on the road and filming took place at several iconic locations across Newquay. The song is available to listen to on Newquay Junior's Facebook page and Radio Newquay. We guarantee that it will bring a tear to the eye!

Fundraising

We raised just over £390 for BBC Children in Need! It was wonderful to see our academy filled with colour, spots, bear ears, and cake (lots of cake!). Well done Team NJA !

A few weeks ago, Melissa wrote to Mrs. Findlay and asked if she could sell chocolate brownies at break times to raise money for Cancer Research. She said, 'I have asked to do this because I don't want people to lose others because of cancer and I want people who have cancer to get treated.'

Realising that this was quite a task, three other amazing pupils, Elsie, Erika and Jessica, offered to help Melissa with baking and selling.

Between them they raised £96, and the whole NJA team, could not be prouder of them all. Melissa also received a letter from Cancer Research's Director thanking her for her idea.

Newquay Lantern Parade

Huge thanks to Blystra Arts for organising the incredible Newquay Lantern Parade. It was amazing to see so many pupils, past and present, along with parents and staff, coming together to celebrate the season in style. The creativity and sense of community on display were truly heartwarming—we cannot wait for more festive fun ahead!





School Choir Partnership with the Community

Carclaze School Choir were invited to attend and sing at the BBC Radio Cornwall's Christmas Celebration this year! 43 children represented the school at Truro Cattle market where a special Christmas service was recorded for BBC Radio Cornwall. The children sang a beautiful rendition of 'Love Shone Down' to a packed room (including a few sheep) and were an absolute credit to the school. They had great fun entertaining the audience before the recording, singing festive favourites such as 'We wish you a merry Christmas' and 'Little Donkey' as a real donkey entered the room! The recording will be broadcast over the Christmas period and the full service will be showcased on Christmas Day. This was an exciting opportunity for our children, and they performed with professionalism and sparkle. It is great to be able to collaborate with other community groups across Cornwall to make this Christmas celebration possible.



Partnership to bring authors to Cornwall - An Audience with A.F. Steadman

Bestselling children's author Annabel Steadman made a special visit to St Austell to talk about her books, and the importance of reading and writing for pleasure.

Hosted, by Simon Pollard, the event was attended by children from all around the UK with a large number coming from CELT schools, including St Mewan where they read the Skandar books in Year 3 and 4 and some superfans from Carclaze. We are so fortunate that the St Austell Children's Literature Festival group bring these opportunities to our local area.

Christmas Fayre partnership with the Friends of Carclaze

The Friends of Carclaze School brought the community together with a very successful fayre, raising about £2400. We said farewell to our very own Santa who has been a constant presence at Carclaze Christmas events for 30 years. We are so fortunate that so many members of our local community collaborate with our school to make it a success for the children.

Cross-School Moderation and Year Group Meetings

Our Year 1 – 6 teachers from Mount Charles, Carclaze and St Mewan met together to discuss and moderate writing as well as to share best practise of what is happening in each year group. Some new colleagues from Newquay Juniors also joined us. We really valued the time in year groups to compare and discuss our writing and to share best practise.





Ambulance Experience for Future Medics Students

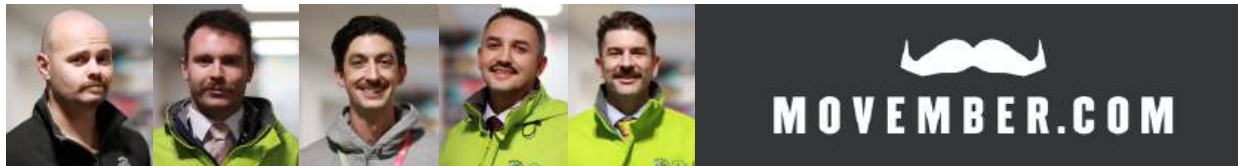
On Wednesday 13th November, Penrice Academy students who are enrolled on the school's Future Medics Programme were given the opportunity to board a real ambulance.

Emilie Rowe and former Penrice pupil Jody Ford visited from Role 1 Medical to deliver an insightful classroom session before heading outside to showcase the ambulance to students. The classroom session explored both university and alternative routes into the sector, as well as the potential for future sector growth. Once outside, students were shown and talked through the equipment found in the back of an ambulance before a very memorable highlight whereby each student was allowed to activate the sirens.

Mrs Stevenson, Future Medics Programme Coordinator, said: "Students were captivated by the hands-on experience of examining the ambulance itself and the emergency equipment paramedics rely on. The crew shared invaluable insights into the essential qualities needed to be a successful paramedic and offered guidance on how students can begin developing these skills in school and beyond."

November

Some fantastic Movember moustaches on show last month. Well done to all staff members who continue to play their part in changing the face of men's health.



Christmas Card Competition

We're delighted to be celebrating the run up to Christmas with our annual #PenriceAdvent Christmas Card competition. Thank you to all students who have entered this year's competition to appear on our official Penrice Academy Christmas Cards. We'll be sharing some of our favourites over the coming weeks, before revealing the runners up between 21st-24th December and the winner on Christmas Day.



Welcoming our newest arrivals on the farm!

We have:

- Bourbon and Biscuit, the rabbits
- Elvis and Dolly, the chickens
- George and Georgina, the geese
- Tony and Tina, the turkeys
- Fred, the Tortoise





People who help us

Reception have been enjoying a wonderful partnership with our wider community of CELT and St Austell. We have been learning all about 'people who help us' and have spent lots of time with visitors sharing what they do to support and help our community.

We had a visit from St Austell Fire Station who kindly allowed the children to explore the fire engine and learn all about the equipment they carry. Ally from St Austell Police came to talk to us about their role in keeping people safe and allowed the children to try on lots of the different uniform.

They were also inspired to set up their own 'Pondhu Police Station'! Finally, we had a visit from Critical Care Paramedic Paul from Cornwall Air Ambulance who explained about the amazing work they do all over Cornwall.



Santas on the Run – A Festive Fun Run!

What a spectacular day we had for our Santas on the Run event! The playground was transformed into a winter wonderland with a flurry of fake snow, and the cheerful appearances of a festive elf and a life-sized gingerbread man who danced and cheered the children on. Excitement was in the air as everyone donned their Santa hats, Christmas jumpers and trainers for an afternoon of fitness and festive fun.

Our amazing pupils collectively ran the equivalent distance from St. Austell to Warrington – an incredible achievement that highlights their enthusiasm and determination.

Thank you to everyone who supported this event. Your encouragement and donations have helped us spread the festive cheer far and wide throughout our community.



Sporting collaborations

This term we have had many sporting examples of collaboration within CELT. Partnering on a weekly basis with Mount Charles and St. Mewan we have come together to give children a wide range of opportunities to participate in sport and physical activity. This has been organised and facilitated by Poltair, through the 'Poltair Sports Partnership' programme.

We have also attended a CELT rugby competition organised by Penrice PE staff and students. Our children have loved participating in all of the events and sharing them with children and staff across the trust. An excellent culmination of this term's collaboration was the dance event for all year groups, hosted and organised by Poltair. From Pondhu, thirty six children, from Year 1 to 6 participated in rehearsals and a final performance, where parents were invited to see the children's amazing dances, with multiple schools coming together.



Sycamore Class

Sycamore class have been working in partnership with our local community to experience Christmas with our church group. We have also been busy participating with other CELT schools in the St Austell Festival of Music & Speech. A huge well done to our incredibly brave and confident pupils, many of whom were on a large stage for the first time.



Beech Class

This half term in Beech Class, we have focused on the story 'We Are Water Protectors' by Carole Lindstrom. We planned and created environmental campaigns to encourage and educate people on the issues facing our local river, the River Par. We also welcomed visitors from the NSPCC, who talked to us about speaking out and staying safe. We discussed where we can go for help and the 'safe adults' we can talk to if we are worried. The visitors were very impressed with how much we had already learnt in school!

Ash Class

Ash class have had a very busy half term with a variety of projects including artwork based upon famous artists.

Ash class have been working in partnership with other classes to help with Science and English too. They have been fantastic listeners to our oldest class when sharing their creative writing and the Treth has been put to good use as a source for our rivers topic in Opening Worlds.



Oak Class

We have had a very busy time in Oak Class. Our Egyptians topic finished with a visit to the RCM and a fantastic workshop where we mummified a body! It wasn't real, don't worry. The St Austell Festival of Music and Speech was a massive success once again and the support from Miss and Mrs Allison ensured a really high-quality set of performances.



PRICE Training

Several of our staff also took part in PRICE training with many other CELT staff in attendance. Thankyou Mrs LDL!



KS2 Cross Country with Wadebridge Sports Partnership

We are incredibly proud of our KS2 athletes who took part in the Cross Country event at Wadebridge School! They demonstrated our core values of Aspiration, Joy, Community, Respect, and Resilience. Competing with determination, supporting each other, and showing great sportsmanship made it an inspiring day. Well done, team—you truly embodied the spirit of Port Isaac Academy!



Lantern-Making Workshop

Our pupils created stunning willow star lanterns, thanks to the incredible guidance of Caroline. Every child contributed their creativity to these glowing masterpieces!

Port Isaac Lantern Parade – A Thousand Stars

Sadly, due to the weather, this year's Lantern Parade had to be cancelled. However, the lanterns still had their moment to shine in our Whole School Christmas Nativity, which took place in St Peter's Church during the final week of term.

The event celebrated the spirit of our community, showcasing our school values through music, light, and togetherness. A special highlight of the performance is our new school song, A Thousand Stars, beautifully written for us by Cos and C/Sh. We loved bringing everyone together for this festive celebration.

Carols by Candlelight with Port Isaac Chorale

A group of our students debuted A Thousand Stars at the Port Isaac Chorale's Carols by Candlelight concert on December 1st. It was a magical and festive way to start the month, and our children made us so proud with their beautiful performance.

Online Author Events – Reading for Pleasure

Our Puffins and Dolphins classes had the exciting opportunity to join an online session with British author and illustrator Alex T. Smith. Known for his popular children's books, including the Claude series, Alex shared insights about his latest book, Murder! By Narwhal!, an engaging mystery for 8-11 year-olds. What a fantastic way to inspire a love of reading!



Thanks Cedarcroft Nurseries!

A huge thank you to Cedarcroft Nurseries for generously donating a beautiful Christmas tree to our school! Our Seal Pups and Nippers classes had a wonderful time putting it up and decorating it. The festive spirit is truly alive at Port Isaac Academy!



Snow Day Pasty Run!

A big thank you to Malcolm Barneclutt's Bakeries Ltd for coming to the rescue when the snow disrupted our meal delivery. They ensured our pupils enjoyed a warm, delicious treat. Nothing beats a pasty in a red-and-white checkered bag on a snowy day!





Port Issac
School



Partnership through National Events

We have enjoyed participating in National Events this term to help raise the profile of communities beyond and including our own. We took part in Children in Need and Odd Socks Day at the start of this term as we feel these are causes and issues, we need to raise awareness of for our pupils and families. On Odd Socks Day, we really tried to raise the profile of Anti-Bullying and to make sure that our pupils understand that Bullying is something we stand against together. Whereas on Children in Need Day we came together to raise funds for children across the country who need our support.

Partnership through Sport Fixtures

This half term at Mount Charles we have been super busy with all our sports fixtures. We love to collaborate and compete, with sportsmanlike behaviour, with schools from across CELT and beyond.

Year 5 and 6 thoroughly enjoyed their Tag Rugby matches at Penrice against other local schools including St Mewan, Pondhu, Bishop Bronescombe, Charlestown and Biscovey. Meanwhile Year 5 and 6 girls' football at Nanphysick took place against Roche, St Mewan, Sandy Hill and Biscovey. The other football team also enjoyed a friendly match away against St Mewan, taking place on the St Mewan field. The whole of Year 3 attended the Poltair Christmas inclusion multi-skills event at Poltair school with St Mewan and Bishop Bronescombe. And, last but not least, Year 6 enjoyed taking part in a Basketball event at Poltair with other local schools. This is all alongside the Poltair School Sports Partnership events which we attend every Monday.

We are so grateful to have the Poltair Sports Partnership in our Trust providing amazing opportunities for our local schools and thoroughly enjoy visiting other schools like St Mewan where Mr Boynton puts on some fantastic events for us to participate in. Mr Yelland works incredibly hard to make all these opportunities happen for our pupils at Mount Charles and they gain so much from them.



Mount Charles School Christmas Tree Decorating

Our children across the school have collaborated well on creating beautiful Christmas crafts and decorations to brighten up the tree at our entrance and to sell to families to brighten up their homes. This also helps to raise funds for our school. Our PTA work incredibly hard to provide amazing opportunities for our pupils such as our free Santa's grotto which children thoroughly enjoyed during our Christmas fayre.

Partnership through Young Voices

Mr Bartlett, our music lead, has been working hard alongside Mrs Yeo, St Mewan's music lead, to prepare our pupils for Young Voices at the O2 Arena in London in January. We cannot wait to see what the two choirs produce and share in this amazing experience together.

Partnership through Reciprocal visits

Our Year 1 teachers across Mount Charles, St Mewan and Carclaze have enjoyed sharing in some reciprocal visits this term. We have visited each other and held return visits to share in the different practices in our school, have some time to reflect and to make the most of opportunities to learn from each other. We look forward to continuing to work in this way in other year groups to help share the excellent work our different teachers are doing and to continue learning from each other so our children can have the best of all of us.



Partnership during Parliament Week

Every year we take part in Parliament Week to help us understanding more about how our country and local councils are run. This year we collaborated with schools across the UK during Parliament Week 2024. We all read the story 'If I were Prime Minister...' and thought carefully the decisions we would make if we ran the country. We also held debates and worked on our ABC (agree, build and challenge) debating skills around issues that mattered to our classes. Parliament week helps us to understand the British Values but also to think about how communities work together at national and local levels right down to our own Trust and Schools through our school councils.

Christmas Tree Festival Partnership

Children's Hospice South West have held a Christmas Tree festival in St Austell Town Centre. This has brought Christmas cheer to the town but also helped to raise money for the hospice. At St Mewan and Mount Charles we sponsored a Christmas tree which the children then decorated. Families and members of the community can then vote for a tree for a donation to the hospice. We have loved collaborating with other local schools and the community to bring festive cheer to the town centre.



Poltair Dance Event Partnership

40 pupils were lucky enough to perform a dance piece on stage, in front of a large audience! This was part of a dance production that involved two other CELT schools and talented dance groups from Cornwall College Performing Arts and Studio 4 - 4FS Youth dance.

Our Y2, Y4 and Y6 pupils had previously attended dance workshops at Poltair where they were taught a routine by dance instructor from Studio 4 Dance, in preparation for the performance.

This was organised by Poltair School Sports Partnership to offer primary pupils the opportunity to learn and improve new skills within dance whilst also being able to showcase their talents to a live audience.



Partnership through St Austell Festival Music Festival

This last month we have enjoyed collaborating with other local schools from CELT and beyond during the St Austell Festival of Music and Speech. On Friday 29th, all our KS2 classes enjoyed competing with friends from Luxulyan school and at the start of December, our choir were delighted to see Luxulyan again at the choir competition. Many pupils from across CELT have enjoyed taking part in the festival and sharing in their talents. Congratulations to all those across our trust who entered solo or group competitions.





all the world!
Psalm 100

Psalm 150

CERTIFICATE



Christmas Hamper Appeal

We're proud to continue our heartfelt tradition of supporting local families during the festive season with our annual Christmas Hamper Appeal. This year's campaign has been bigger and better than ever, bringing the spirit of giving to life with an incredible show of generosity from students, staff, and local businesses.

The hampers, thoughtfully crafted with care, are filled with sustainable food items, toiletries, fresh ingredients for Christmas lunches, and a selection of festive treats.



Poltair and Penrice Host Joint Careers Fair

Students from the St Austell area took a bold step toward shaping their futures as we teamed up with Penrice Academy to host a dynamic Careers Fair. The event, held at Poltair School, welcomed over 400 visitors and showcased more than 30 exhibitors from a diverse range of industries and post-16 providers.

The Careers Fair was a vibrant hub of activity, with representatives from local colleges, universities, apprenticeship providers, and businesses offering students and their families valuable insights into a variety of career paths. Exhibitors ranged from healthcare and engineering to creative industries and public services, ensuring a wide spectrum of opportunities was covered.

The joint initiative reflected both schools' commitment to supporting students in the St Austell area as they explore their post-16 options. By bringing together such a rich array of exhibitors, the event aimed to equip young people with the knowledge and inspiration they need to make informed decisions about their next steps.



Winter Concert Thrills a Packed Audience

Our annual Winter Concert was a spectacular evening of entertainment and festive spirit, drawing a full-capacity crowd and leaving audience members in awe of the sheer talent on display.

The night featured a variety of captivating performances, with students singing, dancing, and playing musical pieces. The concert's highlight was the performance by the school's much-loved choir, The Howlers. Their harmonies sounded beautifully throughout the hall, reinforcing their reputation as a true school treasure.



Stepping Up for Children in Need

We've gone the extra mile – literally – for Children in Need this year with a unique and energetic fundraising challenge. Every student was invited to walk, run, cycle, or row 1km, with staff enthusiastically joining in to support the cause. The result? An inspiring display of community spirit and an impressive fundraising total for a very worthy cause.





Remembrance Day

Despite its inception just a few months ago, Brannel's Combined Cadet Force already sits at the heart of our school community. The sense of togetherness and belonging that the force is fostering, and the pride we feel for our students who represent our armed services was clear throughout this year's Remembrance Day. To honour the bravery and courage of our fallen heroes, Brannel's Combined Cadet Force led a service which saw readings of poetry and prose, along with an emotive performance of 'The Last Post', broadcast to the school body. In their service, Brannel students paid homage to the Cornish men and women who bravely gave their lives to defend their country, honing in on individual stories of local heroes from our surrounding villages. This nod to our local Cornish community was sealed by our students' delivery of wreaths to local areas of worship and remembrance, reminding all that we will never forget the selflessness and courage of our soldiers and service men and women now and forever.



Anti Bullying Week

This year's Anti Bullying Week urged adults and children alike to come together to have discussions about what it means to disagree respectfully, how to avoid resorting to bullying and how we can all choose to lead by example – joining us to choosing respect!

The theme of the week was discussed in assemblies, Tutor Time and Community Lunch with lots of activities for the students to engage with.

Also, during the week on Tuesday 12th November 2024, we participated in Odd Socks Day 2024. The Anti Bullying Alliance and the Odd Socks started Odd Socks Day in 2017. They wanted to create a new and fun way of celebrating Anti Bullying Week and what makes us all unique. Odd Socks Day is an opportunity to have fun, be yourself, and spread awareness of the core values Anti Bullying Week promotes.

Sports leaders

As part of the Brannel PE sports leadership programme, our Year 9 leaders had the exciting opportunity to collaborate with Active Cornwall to organise this term's Cornwall School Games event at Truro School. They represented the school exceptionally well, showcasing the skills they recently acquired and honed during Active Cornwall's Time2Lead initiative, a programme aimed at fostering student leadership through sports.

During the School Games primary event at Truro School, our students took on the roles of officials and leaders for the swimming and dodgeball competitions.

The PE department takes great pride in all our sports leaders and the inspiring role models they are becoming.

