

Friday 24th November 2023

Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you and your families are safe and well. This week in school has been another very exciting and full one with lots of activities taking place.

Year 5 – Outdoor Learning Group

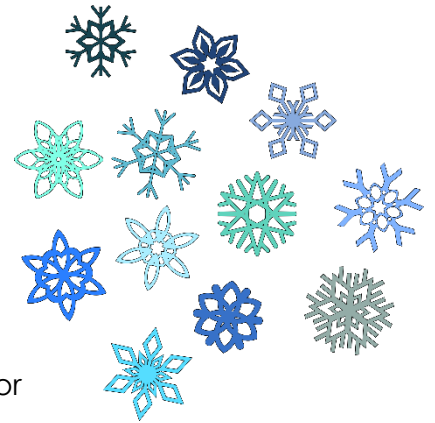


On Tuesday afternoon, our Year 5 outdoor learning group had an afternoon of exploration and discovery at Gwithian Towans, getting close to nature. They began their nature journey with a walk up to a high point where they used binoculars to observe the area, a compass to get a sense of direction and a detailed map of the area to find key features. The children also used weather

instruments to record the wind speed and temperature. They were fascinated by the amount of rabbit warrens and badger setts that they discovered in this area. They continued their journey and



stopped to relax in the marram grass where the children listened to nature, and learned more about the creatures that live there. A sand dune 'blow out' was their next stop where they learned about the formation of sand dunes while creating their own dune system. Throughout the journey the children also used a variety of magnifiers and lenses to observe what they had discovered. They all had a thoroughly enjoyable time.



T: 01736 753135

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Year 5/6 Football Festival

On Wednesday night the year 5 and 6 Connor Downs football team had a tournament at mounts bay school. It was 3:30 until 5:30 we took 2 mini buses. Mr Pascoe drove one bus and Mr Costello drove the other bus. One team was wearing a short sleeve top and the other team was wearing a long sleeve top. The short sleeve top was navy with a white stripe down the side and the long sleeve top was navy with white arms. When we got there we put our boots on. Then we had a picture of the team. Five minutes before the games started we all got in a line of our teams. The person who was running the tournament told us how long the games would be and who we were playing. There were two 7 minute halves and the full game was 14 minutes. At half time we would swap ends. It was 7 aside with rolling subs. Whenever we didn't have a game we would watch the other Connor team. Every team would have 3 games there wasn't any first place or second it was just a festival. One team lost all their games and the other team won 1 and drew 2. At the end of the tournament we lined up with Mr Pascoe and Mr Costello and then went home in the mini buses.



Thank you to Charley in Year 6 for his match report!



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Year 5 – Nexus Workshop



On Thursday, the children from Year 5 attended a workshop at Nexus on Gears, Levers and Pulleys. They were tasked with finding out if a longer lever is better than a shorter lever when lifting the same mass. In order for it to be a fair test, they used the same length of wood, the same mass (200g), the same Newton Meters and equally spaced holes. They found that as the lever got longer it was easier to lift the mass.

Thank you to Eryss for her report of the visit and to Mr Lewis for supporting.



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UPDATED DATE FOR YEAR R: Early Reading Information Session for Parents/Carers – Thursday 30th November from 09:00am to 09:45am for Year 1 and Year 2 and Friday 1st December from 09:00am to 09:45am for Year R

We would like to welcome parents and carers from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to an Early Reading session. The session for Year 1 and Year 2 is being held on Thursday 30th November from 09:00am to 09:45am. Due to the rearranged Newquay Zoo visit for Year R, their session will take place on Friday 1st December from 09:00am to 09:45am. Parents/carers will have the opportunity to observe Phonics and Early reading sessions being taught in their child's classroom. Please sign in and out at the school office on each day. Thank you.

Internet Safety for Parents/Carers – Wednesday 17th January 2024 at 14:40

Parents/carers are invited to a short, open event to inform and create discussion around the topic of keeping children safe when using internet connected devices. Presented by Giles Hill, the Digital Strategy and Computing Lead for Aspire Academy Trust.

This session will provide parents and carers with a wealth of information and considerations for keeping growing families safe and healthy with internet usage. The session will warn against potential harm and issues as children grow older and usage becomes more regular. The session will include:

- Current context of internet developments
- Achieving a balance in your home
- Tech preventions and controls
- Making it work for you



Pre-Loved Uniform



We believe that school uniform ensures all children are treated equally. Uniform still plays a vital role in promoting the ethos of a school, setting an appropriate tone for education and providing a sense of belonging and common identity regardless of background.

With this in mind, we run a pre-loved uniform shop through the Friends of Connor Downs Academy. The Friends will run pop up sales at various times throughout the year, but you can also contact them via their Facebook Page at any other time or you can come into the school office or email hello@connordowns.org.uk with your requirements.

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Connor Downs
Academy

Connor Downs Academy

Head of School: Mrs J Eddy



Friends of Connor Downs Academy Discos

Reminder: The Friends of Connor Downs Academy are delighted to confirm that the autumn term disco will take place **next Thursday, 30th November 2023.**

Reception and Years 1 and 2 from 5:00pm until 6:00pm and Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 from 6:15pm until 7:15pm.

The **entrance fee is £1.50** per child payable on the door and sweets are available to purchase from the canteen. Please note, no drinks will be available to purchase so please could your child bring a named drinks bottle with them. Please **no fizzy drinks**, thank you.

Children should be dropped off at the back door to the school and signed in by a member of staff or Friends committee. Please note that all children, regardless of walk home permissions for KS2 children will not be permitted to leave the school premises without an adult. **Please ensure you arrange for your child/children to be collected.**
Thank you.

Christmas Post Box

We are delighted to announce that the Christmas post box will be appearing in the main corridor in our KS2 building from Monday 4th December. This will be available until the end of term for the children to post their Christmas cards to their friends. **Last Day for posting will be Thursday 14th December.**

Please can we ask that parents/carers ensure that both the **recipient's name and their year group** is marked clearly on the envelope to aid our Year 6 prefects when sorting into year groups for delivery. Thank you.



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KS2 Christmas Carol Concert

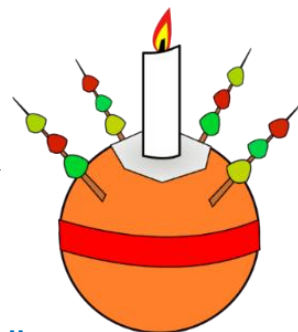


Children from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be taking part in their carol concert at Phillack Church, on **Wednesday 6th December** starting at 5:00pm. Please can we ask that children and parents/carers **arrive no later than 4:45pm**. All children to please wear full school uniform, thank you.

Silent Night, Holy Night

EYFS /KS1 Christingle

The children from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be taking part in their Christingle, being held at Phillack Church. This will take place on **Monday, 11th December** starting at 5:00pm. Please can we ask that children and parents/carers **arrive no later than 4:45pm**. All children to please wear full school uniform and to have long hair tied back, thank you.



There will be a retiring collection at both events with all proceeds going to the Church. Please do donate as generously as you can, Thank you!

Name The Elf!



In conjunction with our Christmas Fayre taking place from 3:15pm on Friday, 8th December, the Friends of Connor Downs Academy have an Elf to name!

For **£1 a go**, you can put your name against one of the elf names on the board next to the elf. The winner will be chosen at the Fayre on Friday the 8th and they will be able to take the elf home with them!

The Elf will be on display in the front office next week from Wednesday with a board full of names to choose from, so do come along and have a go, or two! Please pay Mrs Gallagher in cash, at reception for the number of goes you would like and then write your name on board under the names you choose!

Good luck to everyone – you could be the lucky winner of the elf!

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**Connor Downs
Academy**

Connor Downs Academy

Head of School: Mrs J Eddy

Time2Move Holiday Programme

TIME MOVE
Holiday Programme

CHRISTMAS 2023

Activities are taking place across Cornwall during the Christmas holidays!

Scan here to book!

- Activities including multi sports, circus skills, arts and crafts and lots more
- For children aged 5 to 16
- Every session includes a healthy meal for all children
- Funded places for ALL children eligible for benefits related free school meals

www.activecornwall.org/T2MHolidayProgramme/
Time2Move.HolidayProgramme@cornwall.gov.uk
01872 324287

Funded by
Department for Education

active CORNWALL

CORNWALL COUNCIL



Information Classification: CONTROLLED



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Funded Holiday Activity – Christmas 2023

It is with great pleasure that we can inform you that the **Time2Move Holiday Programme for Christmas 2023 is live.**

The programme offers fun physical activities, games and wider activities plus a funded meal for every child. All children are welcome to attend, and it is completely **funded** for children that are eligible for benefits-related Free School Meals.

As a parent or guardian of a child eligible for benefits related free school meals you will need your child's unique code in order to access the activities for free. You can access your child's code quickly and easily at:

www.cornwall.gov.uk/time2move

Once you have this code you can search and book on activities here:

www.activecornwall.org/T2MHolidayProgramme

The activities are all delivered by approved providers with the main focus on fun and enjoyment. So please search for activities near you, book your child's place and we look forward to seeing your child over the Christmas holidays.

For any questions regarding the Time2Move Holiday Programme please email Time2Move.HolidayProgramme@cornwall.gov.uk or phone 01872 324287.

Yours faithfully

The Time2Move Holiday Programme Team

Cornwall Council | Kinsel Kernow
New County Hall, Treyew Road, Truro, Cornwall TR1 3AY
E: Time2Move.HolidayProgramme@cornwall.gov.uk | T: 01872 323335
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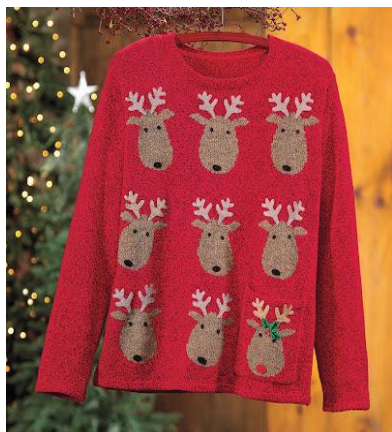
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Request for costumes

Some of our parents/carers are kindly donating some costumes that their children have worn over previous years for the EYFS/KS1 Nativities. If there are any other parents/carers that may have costumes that they no longer have need for and they would like to donate them to school, please pass them into Mrs Gallagher in the school office. Thank you!



Christmas Jumper Day 8th December 2023

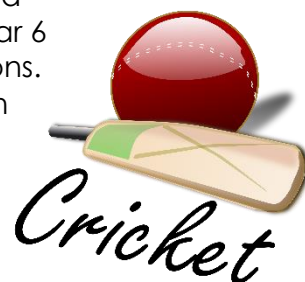
In another effort to raise funds, the Friends of Connor Downs Academy have arranged a Christmas Jumper Day to take place on Friday 8th December. Children are invited to wear a Christmas Jumper in place of their usual school jumper on for a £1 donation. Please send your £1 in cash in a named envelope to your child's/children's class on the morning of the 8th. Usual school uniform expectations still apply apart from the Christmas jumper. Thank you for your support.

After School Clubs

Reminder that next week is the final week of after school clubs, apart from French which has now finished until the Spring Term. Thank you.

Cricket Experience Day

Next week on Thursday 30th November, we have the opportunity to host a cricket experience day. Please can we ask all children from Year 1 – Year 6 inclusive to ensure they have their PE Kits in school to take part in a sessions. If the weather is not conducive, this will take part in the school hall. Each class will have a session with a professional coach.



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Christmas Fayre

FRIENDS OF CONNOR DOWNS ACADEMY CHRISTMAS FAYRE

FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2023

3:15PM – 4:45PM

**PLEASE COME ALONG AND JOIN IN THE
FESTIVE FUN!**

- ❖ **CLASS CHRISTMAS STALLS**
- ❖ **CRAFT ROOM**
- ❖ **VARIETY OF CHRISTMAS GAMES**
- ❖ **SANTA'S GROTTO (£3.50 PER CHILD) TO INCLUDE A GIFT FROM SANTA**
- ❖ **BRASS PERFORMANCE FROM YEAR 4 AND CHRISTMAS SONGS FROM THE CHOIR**
- ❖ **CHRISTMAS RAFFLE (TO BE DRAWN AT 4:30PM AT THE FAYRE)**
- ❖ **CHILDREN'S BOOK SALE**
- ❖ **HOMEMADE CAKE SALE**
- ❖ **HOT FOOD**
- ❖ **NAME THE ELF (WINNER TO BE ANNOUNCED AT 4:30PM AT THE FAYRE)**



**PLEASE NOTE, WE CAN TAKE CARD PAYMENTS AT THE FAYRE. YOU WILL BE GIVEN
TOKENS TO SPEND AT THE VARIOUS STALLS TO THE MONETARY VALUE OF YOUR CARD
PAYMENT. THANK YOU!**

Requests for donations for the Christmas Fayre

We are looking for any donations to help with this year's Christmas Fayre.

- ❖ **Cake Sale:** Are you a home baker who would be willing to provide us with some homemade cakes/buns/traybakes/cookies to sell at the Fayre? To be allergy aware, an ingredients sheet must be completed to go alongside your baking. Please note, NO NUTS.

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- ❖ **Book Sale:** Do you have any children's books that your children have either grown out of or no longer read. All donations would be greatly appreciated for our book stall!
- ❖ **Christmas Raffle:** We will be holding a raffle at the Christmas Fayre with tickets being sold on the day. We are politely requesting that if any parents/carers would like to donate a raffle prize, or has any links to any local businesses that may be able to help, please see Mrs Gallagher in the school office or email hello@connordowns.org.uk.

We know how wonderfully our parent/carer and wider community support our school, so we would like to say a huge thank you to everyone of you of you who are able to assist in any way. The more money we can raise the more opportunities we can offer our children.

Diary Dates – Autumn Term 2023

Monday 27th November – Year 5 Swimming – Week 4

Monday 27th November – Friday 1st December – **FINAL WEEK OF AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS**

Thursday 30th November – 'Friends of Connor Downs Academy' autumn term discos

- Years R, 1 and 2 – 5:00pm to 6:00pm
- Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 – 6:15pm – 7:15pm
- £1.50 entry fee payable on the door
- Refreshments available to buy

Monday 4th December – Year 5 Swimming – Week 5

Tuesday 5th December – EYFS/KS1 Nativity – Performance 1 - 2:00pm start

Wednesday 6th December – KS2 Carol Concert at Phillack Church - 5:00pm start

Thursday 7th December – EYFS/KS1 Nativity – Performance 2 - 5:00pm start

Friday 8th December – FOCCA Christmas Jumper Day – Wear a Christmas jumper/favourite jumper for a £1 donation (more details to follow)

Friday 8th December – FOCCA Christmas Fayre – 3:30pm start

Monday 11th December – EYFS/KS1 Christingle at Phillack Church - 5:00pm start

Wednesday 13th December – Christmas Dinner

Friday 15th December – Christmas Parties

Friday 15th December – Final Day of Autumn Term – **2:00pm Finish**

Monday 18th December – **Inset Day (School Closed)**

Tuesday 19th December – **Inset Day (School Closed)**

Wednesday 20th December 2023 – Wednesday 3rd January 2024 – CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Thursday 4th January 2024 - First day of Spring term

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Attendance

<u>Attendance</u> Our school target for attendance is 97%		
1 st Place	Year 3	99.2 %
2 nd Place	Year 6	98.3 %
3 rd Place	Year 1	97.0 %

Shine Celebrations

Please see below our Shining Stars for this week.

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Connor Downs Academy Shining Stars Friday 24th November 2023

*We are delighted to be able to invite the parents/carers of the winners below to join us at our next Shine assembly of the autumn term, on **Friday 1st December 2023** to see their child receive their certificate.*

*Please come along to the main reception **no earlier than 2:35pm**. A special well done to:*

Year R – Conor

For showing fantastic enthusiasm in all our topics. Conor has produced amazing homework pictures. Well done, Conor!

Year 1 – Hugo

For the great progress he has made in phonics and applying these skills to his writing. Well done, Hugo!

Year 2 – Emily

For excellent work researching and creating a fact file. Well done, Emilie!

Year 3 – Barney

For showing perseverance and 100% effort in learning to add and subtract 3-digit numbers using the column method. Well done!

Year 4 – Idy

For showing fantastic investigation skills in finding information in a persuasive advertising text. Well done Idy!

Year 5 – Isla

For her insightful contributions to class discussions and her clarity in her explanations. Well done, Isla!

Year 6 – Elessa-Fay

For asking interesting questions in class, especially during our lesson about the creation story in RE. Well done, Ella!

Writer – Sophie (Year 3)

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For super writing using openers and including speech in her descriptive writing of the Hansel and Gretel story. Well done, Sophie!

EYFS/KS1 Reader – Alexis (Year R)

For her effort and determination in Phonics. Alexis can now read her sounds and is beginning to blend to read words. Well done, Alexis!

KS2 Reader – Bella (Year 5)

For her regular reading and interesting comments during book talk. Well done, Bella!

Mathematician – Freya (Year 6)

For always watching demonstrations carefully and trying her very best every lesson. Freya always gives 100%. Well done, Freya!

Numbots/Rock Star – Carter (Year 4)

For showing during our times tables, his great use of TTRS to secure his knowledge. Well done, Carter!

Performer – Isaac (Year 1)

For his beautiful singing and enthusiasm during our nativity practices. Well done, Isacc!

Character – Daisy (Year 2)

For being a kind and thoughtful member of Year 2 and a special friend to others. Well done, Daisy!

Kind Regards,



Mrs Eddy
Head of School