

Friday 13th January 2023

Dear parents/carers,

I hope you and your families are safe and well. We have welcomed some new children and their families to our Connor Downs community and they are all settling in well and making new friends. We have had a busy and exciting week across our academy.



Year 5 – PE

This week Year 5 began the first of three sessions at Crossfit in Hayle. The children were able to take part in a variety of activities to enhance and build on their core skills.



T: 01736 753135

E: hello@connordowns.org.uk

W: www.connordowns.org.uk

Connor Downs Academy, Mutton Hill, Hayle, Cornwall TR27 5DH

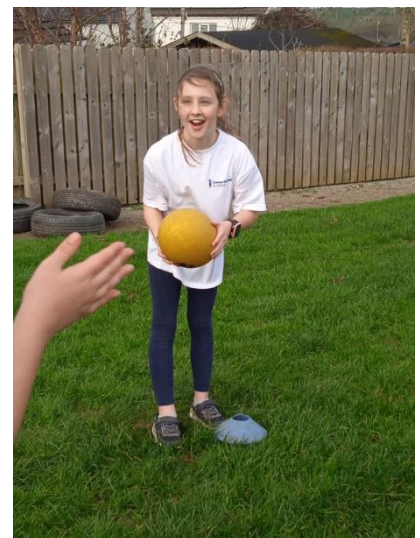
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Pirates Rugby Session – Years 5 and 6

Both Year 5 and Year 6 have had their second sessions with Sam Teasdale from the Pirates rugby team. Sam, over a number of weeks, will be teaching the children new rugby skills.



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Year 6 – History

This week the children in Year 6 have been learning about the lives of the people in the Kingdom of Benin in their History lesson. Following this lesson, one of our Year 6 pupils, Flora, not only brought in a cassava, which is a root vegetable eaten by the people in Benin, but also wrote a fantastic description to share with the class. Well done and thank you Flora for enriching our learning.



Aspire – Parent Code of Conduct

Support our Parent Code of Conduct

By working in harmony together, we create a positive learning experience for all. We are fortunate to have a dedicated and supportive community who recognise that at the heart of each and every school's success, is a valued and trusted home/school partnership. The Aspire Parent Code of Conduct supports your child(ren) during their time in an Aspire academy/school and sits on every website under the **PARENTS** heading. The Parent Code of Conduct can also be obtained by visiting www.aspireacademytrust.org/policies and a copy is included with the email sending this newsletter. Thank you for your continued support.

Census Day Menu – Thursday 19th January

The Spring term Census is taking place next Thursday 19th January. The number of pupils taking up a school meal on census day affects the funding provided to the school for the year, so in an effort to encourage as many pupils as possible to try a school meal, our catering provider is providing a special menu, as detailed on this poster. The options shown on ParentPay are as per the usual menu, but please book either the meat or vegetarian option that your child/children would like on this day and they will be given the special menu options.



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Please note, on special menu days, these are the **only** options available. **There will be no pasta or jacket potatoes.** Please ensure your child/children has/have a home packed lunch with them if they do not want either of the options on offer. Thank you for your support.

Safeguarding

Child Safety and the Metaverse

Following the Christmas holiday, many children will be talking about the gifts which they have received. For some children they will have received electronic gifts and or games such as 'a Fortnite battle pass, a new PC, a PlayStation 5 etc.'. All devices which allow both unfettered access to the internet and expose children to voice chat, text chat and photo sharing with complete strangers are a major safeguarding concern.

This year presents an acceleration of vulnerability window as, VR headsets, connected to Facebook's Metaverse have been released onto the marketplace.

The Metaverse seeks to link users to the internet as a Virtual Entity through the use of Virtual Reality Headsets. This amplifies the safeguarding danger which children are exposed to online.

To help you understand this new, fast changing issue the NSPCC has published a guide to both the Metaverse and VR headsets.

To find out more please follow the link: [VR safety - Metaverse](#)

We would also like to draw parent/carers attention to suggested age limits surrounding certain TV shows being streamed over a variety of platforms. One such programme, currently being streamed on Netflix, is 'Wednesday'. This has an age rating of 14+ but we have had reports this week of some of our children discussing this show with others after watching it and going into specific details which have been frightening and upsetting to those children.

Please can we kindly remind parents/carers to be extra vigilant not only surrounding online access but also to monitoring that your child/children are watching age-appropriate TV programmes. Thank you as always for your support.

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Final Reminder - Starting School – September 2023

If you have a child that is due to start school in September 2023, the deadline for applications for a school place is this Sunday, **15th January 2023**.



Together 
for Families

The
deadline for
applications is
**15 January
2023**

Starting school September 2023

Applying for a place in a reception class for children born between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019

Attending a nursery or pre-school

You will need to apply even if your child attends a school's nursery or pre-school class. Please note that if a school is oversubscribed the fact that a child attends a school's nursery or pre-school, or a local nursery or pre-school, does not automatically guarantee a place at that school. The school's oversubscription criteria will be used to allocate places. Visit our website or contact us for more information.

Information and guidance

Website and application form: www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions

Email: schooladmissions@cornwall.gov.uk

Post: School Admissions Team, County Hall, Truro, TR1 3AY

Telephone: 0300 1234 101

Need help with your application?

Contact the Family Information Service on 0800 587 8191



Applying for a reception class place for September 2023

Special Educational Needs

If an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan has been issued for your child you do not need to complete an application form. Please contact the Statutory SEN Service for more information: Tel: 01872 324242 Email: statutorysen@cornwall.gov.uk

1 Decide on your preferred schools

You are strongly advised to name **three** preferences on the application form. **Naming a second or third preference does not give you any less chance of getting a place at your preferred school.** When making your decision you should...

...think about **how you will get your child to school.** Go to www.cornwall.gov.uk/schooltransport for more information on whether your child would be entitled to transport to school.

...look at the **admission arrangements** on our website that will be used to allocate places for each school.

...consider naming your **nearest or designated school** as one of your preferences. You can find your nearest or designated school on our website.

...look at the detailed **admissions information** on our website, also available on request.

2 Submit your application by 15 January 2023

Apply online at www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions

3 Wait to find out which school you have been allocated

If you applied on time you will be notified of your allocation on **National Offer Day: 17 April 2023. Apply on time!** Late applications will only be dealt with after National Offer Day and there may not be any places left at your preferred schools.

Photo © iStock jns2606 06/22

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Dates for Diary – Spring Term

Monday 16th January 2023 – Swimming – Year 4 – Week 2

Monday 23rd January 2023 – Swimming – Year 4 – Week 3

Monday 30th January 2023 – Swimming – Year 4 – Week 4

Monday 6th February 2023 – Swimming – Year 4 – Final Session

Friday 3rd February 2023 – Friends of Connor Downs Academy – Meeting – 3:30pm

Thursday 9th February 2023 – Last day before half term – FINISH at 3:15pm

Thursday 9th February 2023 – Friends Disco's

Friday 10th February 2023 – **INSET DAY – School Closed to pupils**

Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February 2023 – HALF TERM

Monday 20th February 2023 – First day back after half term

Attendance

| | | |
|--|--------|--------|
| Attendance Our school target for attendance is 97% | | |
| 1 st Place | Year 1 | 99.6 % |
| 2 nd Place | Year 4 | 98.9 % |
| 3 rd Place | Year 2 | 98.8 % |

Shine Celebrations

Please see below our Shining Stars for this week.

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Connor Downs Academy Shining Stars Friday 13th January 2023

*We are delighted to be able to invite the parents/carers of the winners below to join us at our first Shine assembly of the spring term, on **Friday 20th January** 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 – Nathan

For his positive and enthusiastic attitude to school everyday. Nathan is making amazing progress. Well done Nathan!

Year 1 – Hudson

For his improved attitude towards his learning. Hudson is willing to take on lots of different challenges and is making great progress in his reading and writing. Well done Hudson!

Year 2 – Miriam

For always trying her best with her resilience and enthusiasm in every subject. Well done Miriam!

Year 3 – Noah

For great work with reading comprehension. Noah worked really hard this week to find detailed answers in the text about volcanoes. Well done Noah!

Year 4 – Evie

For settling in so well to Year 4 in her first week at Connor Downs Academy. Well done Evie!

Year 5 – Charley

For making reference to the text when answering reading comprehension questions. Well done Charley!

Year 6 – Ella C

For a superb attitude towards your work and always trying your best with everything you do. Well done Ella!

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Writer – Penelope (Year 1)

For her amazing sentence writing to describe her alien and using her sound mat to help her with phonetically plausible spelling. Well done Penelope!

EYFS/KS1 Reader – Nell (Year R)

For trying so hard everyday in phonics. Nell is reading and writing more words and even attempting sentences. Well done Nell!

KS2 Reader – Navarre (Year 6)

For reading your book with such intense concentration this week - keep it up! Well done Navarre!

Mathematician – Mabel (Year 4)

For believing in herself and persevering when dividing a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number. Well done Mabel!

Performer – Cooper (Year 5)

For his effort and enthusiasm during cross fit and Pirates rugby training. Well done Cooper!

Moki Fitness Tracker – Eve (Year 3)

For recording the greatest number of steps in a week using the Moki Fitness Trackers. Eve's total was an incredible 51,025 steps. Well done Eve!

Citizen – Perran (Year 3)

For being such a kind and caring role model with reading a story to a younger child during wet play. Well done Perran!

Kind Regards,



Mrs Eddy
Head of School



**Connor Downs
Academy**

Connor Downs Academy

Head of School: Mrs J Eddy

Positive Parenting Bitesize (formerly Behaviours that Challenge) Virtual/On-line Support Group

Information Classification: CONTROLLED

**Tuesday 24 January 2023 at 12:30-2:30pm – Healthy Lifestyle
and Preparing for Pregnancy & Parenthood**

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 344 337 286 305

Passcode: kFeeRe

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+44 20 7660 8305, 631655044#](#) United Kingdom, London

Phone Conference ID: 631 655 044#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

**Tuesday 21 March at 12:30-2:30pm – Guest speaker Tigger
Pritchard about Autism and Neurodiversity**

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 314 916 459 495

Passcode: kuTyBb

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+44 20 7660 8305, 172520886#](#) United Kingdom, London

Phone Conference ID: 172 520 886#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

**Tuesday 28 February at 12:30-2:30 pm - Wild - young parents
and dads**

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 340 189 779 690

Passcode: b8YKBk

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+44 20 7660 8305, 573855810#](#) United Kingdom, London

Phone Conference ID: 573 855 810#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

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**Tuesday 18 April at 12:30-2:30pm – Passionate about Being
Calm**

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 320 950 692 727

Passcode: KANrH2

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+44 20 7660 8305, 807628643#](#) United Kingdom, London

Phone Conference ID: 807 628 643#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

For further information please contact

Julie Attwell Email: julie.attwell@cornwall.gov.uk



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Early Help Newsletter – Spring 2023

Information Classification: CONTROLLED

Free information, support and guidance for Parents and Carers

Parenting Support Courses

We offer interactive parenting courses both online and face to face. Service requests can be made through the Early Help Hub.

www.cornwall.gov.uk/earlyhelphub

The courses available are:

- o Being Passionate About Parenting - Early Years 1 - 3 years (3 x 1½ hours)
- o Being Passionate About Parenting - 4 - 11 years (3 x 2 hours)
- o Being Passionate About Parenting with basic introduction and an awareness to ADHD - 5 - 11 years (3 x 2 hours)
- o Being Passionate About Parenting with a basic introduction and awareness about the "Spectrum" 5 - 11 years (3 x 2 hours)
- o Being Passionate About Parenting – The Teenage Brain 12 -17 years (3 x 1½ hours)
- o Take 3 – Supporting Teenagers 12 – 17 years (5 x 2 hours virtual or 10 x 2 hours face to face)

Following completion of Take 3 you can book for an optional session). All 2 ½ hours via the EHH.

- o Introduction to Teenagers with Sensory Challenges
- o Introduction to Teenagers with Traits of ADHD
- o Introduction to Teenagers with Autistic Traits

Just for Dads

You can also find information tailored just for you on the Family Information Service –

www.supportincornwall.org.uk/fordads



Need help?

Contact the Early Help Hub on 01872 322277 for support, advice and guidance.

If you have immediate concerns or are worried about a child or young person's safety, please telephone the Multi Agency Referral Unit (MARU) on 0300 123 1116

For further updates and information on what's happening in your area visit us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/TFFCornwall

Future Highlight

Autism Cafe Cornwall



For Parents/Carers run by Parents/Carers. This group hold regular meet ups offering an opportunity to speak, be heard, meet and support whilst enjoying tea/coffee and biscuits.

Find them on Facebook or email

Autismcafecornwall@gmail.com for information about meet ups.

Positive Parenting Bitesize

If you would like to be able to talk in confidence and meet other parents experiencing similar challenges, come along. All sessions run from 12:30pm to 2:30pm

Tuesday 24 January 2023 - Healthy Lifestyle and Preparing for Pregnancy and Parenthood

Tuesday 28 February - Wild young parents and dads

Tuesday 21 March – Guest speaker Tigger Pritchard about Autism and Neurodiversity

Tuesday 18 April – Passionate About Being Calm

To get your Microsoft Teams link for the session contact:

julie.attwell@cornwall.gov.uk

Want to support and understand your child's emotions as well as your own. Why not attend SPACE Supporting Parents and Children Emotionally request your space through the Early Help Hub.



Let's Talk
Teenagers!

Let's Talk Teenagers' webinars set up to help parents and carers understand and support their teenagers to navigate the challenges of today's world.

The sessions are being run on:

Tuesday 21 February

Tuesday 28 February

Tuesday 7th March

The Eventbrite link will be sent out through schools and organisations. The 90-minute sessions will be delivered on Teams, and a free booklet will accompany the online event, which will be sent out to delegates afterwards.



**CORNWALL
COUNCIL**
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Useful Website Links

Provides useful links to other areas of support.

www.cornwall.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/childrens-services/early-help/useful-websites-for-early-help/

Family Information Services

For useful parenting information, updates on parenting programmes and **Parenting Podcasts** please access the Family Information Service website

www.supportincornwall.org.uk

[Solihull Approach | inourplace | Understanding your child](#)

Access to resources about becoming a parent or being a parent from children aged 6 months to 19 years including children with additional needs and children's health and wellbeing.

Free Access Code: TAMAR



Parents and carers wellbeing workshops providing support to help you navigate the journey of raising a child in a fast-changing world and to guide you to available services and support and to promote helpful conversation.

For further information please visit:

www.headstartkernow.org.uk



Parents can struggle at one time or another. You are not alone. Home-Start's volunteers work alongside families to give compassionate and confidential support. They help people to regain the confidence to be the parents they want to be.

Take a look at the website:

www.homestartkernow.org.uk



Join the Library **FREE** and download the **BorrowBox** app which makes it easy to browse, borrow and read or listen to your library's eBooks and **eAudiobooks** anywhere, everywhere.

www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Giving people the knowledge and confidence, they need to find their way forward - whoever they are, and whatever their problem - **Adviceline**: 0800 144 8848 or text the word **ADVICE** to 78866 and they will call you back within 48 hours (excluding weekends).



Video Links

Some short videos around neurodiversity

Amazing things happen:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RbwRrVw-CRo>

Can you make it to the end:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aPknwW8mPAM>

Adolescents with ADHD:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uGSHcHcVnIq>

Walk in My Shoes:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KSKvazTTLv8>

Brain & amygdala hand model

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xeDcPBD5Fk>

For more information on Neurodiversity go to:

www.adhdfoundation.org.uk

www.autism.org.uk/

www.pdasociety.org.uk



If you would like this information in another format, please contact:

Cornwall Council, County Hall, Trevel Road, Truro TR1 3AY

Email: equality@cornwall.gov.uk Telephone: 0300 1234 100

T: 01736 75313!

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Connor Downs
Academy

Connor Downs Academy

Head of School: Mrs J Eddy



SCAN THE QR CODE
TO REGISTER

GIRLS CRICKET 2023

REGISTER TO PLAY!

OPEN TO AGES 7-18 | ALL ABILITIES WELCOME

FOLLOWING THE REGISTRATION PHASE ALL PLAYERS WILL BE GROUPED
INTO GEOGRAPHICAL TEAMS TO PLAY FIXTURES IN THE SUMMER

CONTACT KELLIE WILLIAMS FOR MORE INFORMATION:
wgdo@cornwallcricket.co.uk

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