



Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you and your families are safe and well. On behalf of myself and all the staff at Connor Downs Academy, I would like to thank you all for your support over the past term. We hope that you will all have a very Happy Easter holiday and make the most of spending time with family and friends!



As you are aware, at the end of each term, we produce a termly newsletter encompassing all the exciting and engaging work that has taken place in classes during this term. Each class has produced their own 'newsletter' which can be accessed using the following link. Please do take the time to have a look at all the amazing work happening across the academy:

[Connor Downs Academy - Termly newsletter Spring 2024](#)

## Year 6 – Hayle Nature Reserve

Last Friday afternoon, the first of three groups of children from Year 6 engaged with nature and history on a visit to Copperhouse pool nature reserve and King George V memorial walk. They began the nature trail with a discussion about why and when the memorial walk was developed, and what it was previously used for. During the trail they stopped off at key points, using binoculars to observe

the variety of wildlife including the many species of birds that visit the reserve. The children used a compass to understand direction and why this location is ideal for the growth of unusual plant species. Finally, the group gathered together to make sure everyone had understood the nature quiz and to appreciate how these unique landscapes offer important habitats for

wildlife. This visit complements the children's previous visit to the dunes, focusing on local and contrasting landscapes within our local area.



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## National Surf Lifesaving Championships

Recently, 3 of our pupils took part in the National surf lifesaving championships held in Cardiff. Seth and Barney represented Portreath Surf Lifesaving Club and Spencer represented Hayle Surf Lifesaving Club. There were hundreds of children taking part from a total of twenty-nine clubs from across the country. All the boys performed brilliantly, competing in the flipper, board rescue, manikin carry and relay races. We are so proud of these fantastic achievements. Well done, boys!



## Choir and Songfest

On Wednesday 27th March, eleven members of Connor Downs Academy choir attended Songfest 2024 at St. John's Hall, Penzance. After a final rehearsal and a packed tea, the children all donned their colourful t-shirts ready to perform the songs they have been learning since January. The children all really enjoyed listening to the songs performed by other groups and joined in clapping and singing. When it was time for them to perform, the children all confidently took to the stage and performed alongside other local schools. The children all did an amazing job and the parents and Mrs Crease are so proud of them. Well done choir, you were an absolute credit to yourselves and Connor Downs Academy! We would also like to thank Mrs Guichard-Wheatley and Mrs Petrucsikne Cseh for supporting the event.



## Can you help...?

Next term, Year 5 will be needing some clean, small plastic water bottles for their next DT project. If anyone has any over Easter, please could we ask for them to be kept back and donated to school in the first week back after the holidays. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.



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## Name The Easter Bunny!

We are delighted to announce that the name of the Easter Bunny drawn today by Mrs Eddy is 'Scruffy'. Congratulations to our winner!

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Name the Easter Bunny fundraising event. The event raised a fantastic £89.

## Easter Tabletop Sale

Thank you to everyone who came to our Easter Tabletop sale and bought items that had been made by all the children. An incredible £218 was raised.

## Easter Egg Hunt

On Thursday morning, each class took part in an Easter Egg hunt around the school field where they were tasked with finding a colourful egg before exchanging it for a chocolate one! The children managed to dodge the heavy showers and all had lots of fun!

Thank you to the Friends of Connor Downs Academy for arranging this and all the Easter activities and for their donations of chocolate eggs for all the pupils.



**The Friends of Connor Downs Academy wish all the children and their families a very Happy Easter!**



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## After school clubs – Summer Term

A list of the after-school clubs on offer for next term has been sent to all families along with this newsletter. Please book your child's space via the Arbor App. **The portal will open for bookings from 9:00am on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April and close at 7:00pm on Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> April.** All clubs will begin in the first week back after Easter, beginning Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April.

## Year 6 SATs

A reminder to all parents/carers of our Year 6 pupils, that your child will sit their SATs assessments between Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May. It is imperative that your child attends school on each and every day to ensure they are able to take these assessments. Thank you for your support and if you have any questions please email [hello@connordowns.org.uk](mailto:hello@connordowns.org.uk) and a member of the Year 6 team will get back to you.

## Autism Café

An Autism Café for Aspire schools situated in the west area of Cornwall is being held on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April** from **1:30pm to 3:00pm** at Connor Downs Academy.

A representative from county's Autism team will be in attendance. The cafe is open to any parent/carer of CURRENT ASPIRE ACADEMY TRUST PUPILS and is an opportunity to share any concerns you have about your child with professionals and to meet other parents in a similar position.

To book, please contact [hello@connordowns.org.uk](mailto:hello@connordowns.org.uk) and Mrs Gallagher will reserve you a place. Booking deadline is **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April**. Thank you.

## Family Support Advice

Available from our school's link **Family Worker, Jana Cowan-Dickie** on any issues that may be affecting your family.

They offer you a friendly, supportive service that meets your needs or introduces you to a service that can help you. They also offer parenting courses and information on these can also be given.

If you feel you need some friendly advice or any kind of family support, please contact school and we will arrange for you to meet with Jana at a booked slot between **08:45am and 10:45am on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April**. To book, please contact [hello@connordowns.org.uk](mailto:hello@connordowns.org.uk) and Mrs Gallagher will reserve you a place. Booking deadline is **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April**. Thank you.

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## TTRS/Numbots



We're excited that your child has both a Times Tables Rock Stars and NumBots account! To learn all about Times Tables Rock Stars and download free resources to help your child, please visit the dedicated parent/carer information page here - [TTRS Parents & Carers](#)

Encourage your child to engage with the programme regularly. The guiding principle should be "little and often", e.g. three - five minutes, four or five times a week (spaced practice is more effective than blocked practice). Thank you for your continued support.



## Listening to Your Child/Children Read at Home



In response to parent feedback, you will find a few recommendations of the types of comments you may wish to make in your child's Home-School Link book. The intention is to aid communication between school and home and to support your child in their reading journey. As always, we would like to thank all parents/carers for their continued support.

## 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](mailto:hello@connordowns.org.uk) with your requirements.



## Diary Dates

### Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Holidays

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April – First Day of Summer term  
 Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – Swimming – Year 2 – Week 1  
 Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April – Swimming – Year 2 – Week 2  
 Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May – Year 4 – Camp Kernow residential  
 Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May – Swimming – Year 2 – Week 3  
 Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May – KS2 SATs  
 Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May – Swimming – Year 2 – Week 4  
 Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May – Science morning for parents/carers – more information to follow.  
 Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – FOCDA Discos – more information to follow.  
 Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May – Last Day of first half of summer term – **3:15pm FINISH**

### Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May – Half Term

## Attendance

Attendance		
Our school target for attendance is 97%		
1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Year R	99.5 %
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Year 5	97.5 %
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Year 2	97.0 %

We look forward to welcoming all the children back to school on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April** for the start of the summer term.

Kind regards,



Mrs Eddy  
Head of School



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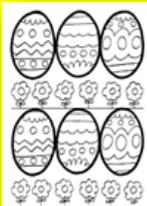
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**CONNOR DOWNS RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**  
INVITE YOU TO THEIR 18TH ANNUAL  
**EASTER EGG HUNT**  
AT THE TURNPIKE INN GARDEN  
**ON SATURDAY, 30TH MARCH, 2024**  
FROM 1.00 P.M

**TOKENS**   
WILL BE ON SALE FROM 1.00 p.m.

**TOKENS**   
**£1** each or 6 for **£5**  
A PRIZE EVERYTIME  
EVERY TIME

THERE IS A **SPECIAL SECTION**  
FOR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN 4 AND UNDER

 **£1 a token**  
WIN a Goody Bag EVERYTIME  
PLUS the Chance to WIN ONE  
OF THE 10 BIGGER PRIZES

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**SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES**

**Coast**  
ACTIVITY PROGRAMME

**THIS EASTER HOLIDAY**

**Ofsted**  
Registered  
See website for details

**FREE**

**ACTIVITIES**  
Swimming  
Dodgeball  
Tennis  
Football  
Cricket  
Rugby  
and so much more

**AGES 5-16**

**Free Half Day Places and a Hot Meal for FSM Children**

**Hayle Academy  
St Ives Leisure Centre  
Helston Community College  
Goldsmithney - St Piran's Hall**

**£18 for Non Free School Meal places**

**SCAN TO BOOK** 07939863010

[www.coastactivityprogramme.com](http://www.coastactivityprogramme.com)  
[info@coastactivityprogramme.com](mailto:info@coastactivityprogramme.com)

## Free School Meal (FSM) voucher codes

We offer free places to those who are eligible for FSM. Parents/carers can find their child's voucher code at [Time2Move](https://www.time2move.co.uk).

Our FSM meal places are for our half days. Please get in contact if you have any questions.

## Tax Free Childcare

As we are now Ofsted registered, we can accept payments through the tax-free childcare scheme. Please visit [here](https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare) to find out more.

## Healthy Cornwall – Free Family Arts Sessions

Healthy Cornwall will be holding Free Family Art Sessions in Penzance over the Easter Holidays. Please see poster for further details and to book your family a place.



**Healthy Cornwall**

**Free Family Art Sessions  
Easter Holidays**

Healthy Cornwall are working with Toughdough to bring you a fun family day of adventure and creativity in Marazion.

We will be walking to the beach to collect some beach treasures, please make sure you have suitable footwear and clothing

**Dates: 3rd, 4th or 5th April 2024 in Marazion 10am - 3pm**

**Booking is essential**

To book your family a place please email:-  
[Healthy.cornwall@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:Healthy.cornwall@cornwall.gov.uk) or call us on 01872 324200

Please note: Lunch will not be provided, therefore please bring a packed lunch for you and your family.

01872 324200 [www.healthycornwall.org.uk](http://www.healthycornwall.org.uk)

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## Hayle Academy – Super Saturday Events

### Year 5 and Year 6 – Drama Club

An opportunity for current Year 5 and Year 6 students to attend a Drama Club on Mondays from 15:30 – 16:30 dates 22<sup>nd</sup> April – 1<sup>st</sup> July (excluding school/bank holidays) if they wish to attend please can the Google form be completed: <https://forms.gle/EPPHgExjZspF7Whj8>

### Summer Super Saturday Events – Year 4 and Year 5

This is aimed at students in current years 4 and 5. Please complete the Google form using the below:

- DT Egg Drop Challenge Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April  
- <https://forms.gle/x53p5EJribVDj7JM7>
- Creative Writing Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May  
- <https://forms.gle/UGuFY9sQYxxLPJqGA>



**Super Saturday Events for Years 4 and 5**

**DT EGG DROP CHALLENGE**  
Put your problem solving and engineering skills to the test in this fun and creative challenge!  
Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April 10am - 12pm

**CREATIVE WRITING**  
Calling all budding authors; Develop skills in creative writing and learn how to take inspiration from the things around you in this interactive workshop.  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May 10am - 12pm



Sponsored by: **FAMNS** (Falmouth Amateur Netball & Soccer Club)

**The brightest fun run for everyone!**

Saturday 15 June 2024  
RAF St Mawgan, Newquay  
Sign up today!  
[www.chsw.org.uk/rainbow](http://www.chsw.org.uk/rainbow)

Raising vital funds for children and young people living with life-limiting conditions  
Register early for discounted tickets

**The 10<sup>th</sup> birthday of rainbow RUN**

Making the most of short and precious lives across the South West  
Registered Charity No: 1002314

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## TECGIRLS EASTER HOLIDAY CAMP



8th  
April

Stop Motion Animation  
Studios & LED light up art  
Hall for Cornwall, Truro

9th  
April

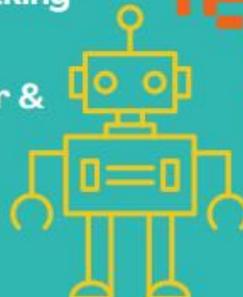
Robot Art & Coding Camp  
Hall for Cornwall, Truro

10th  
April

Micro:bit Step Counter &  
Secret Code Bracelet Making  
Hall for Cornwall, Truro

11th  
April

Design a Game Character &  
Create your own game  
Hall for Cornwall, Truro



### Who's it for?

Our Tech, Engineering and Creative digital workshops are for girls aged 8-13 as part of the Time 2 Move programme. These sessions are completely **free to children on free school meals**. A healthy meal is provided at every session. Pay for spaces are £40.

Browse all our  
Easter events  
and book your  
space here



scan me



@t.e.c.girls



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funded by:



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