

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear parents/carers,

I hope you and your families are safe and well. We have had another busy and exciting week in school.

## Year 2 - Music

Year 2 really enjoyed learning their new song Zootime. The children found the pulse in the music, sang beautifully and used the glockenspiels to play the instrumental accompaniment.



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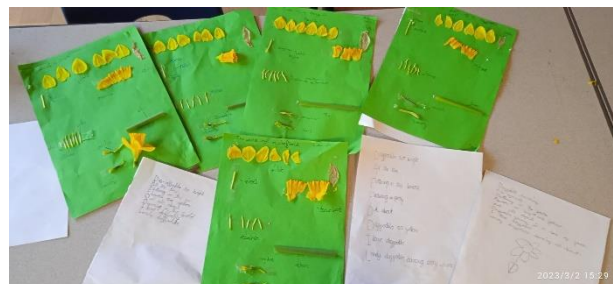
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## Outdoor Learning



This week in our outdoor learning sessions, Year 4 have been learning about pollination and the importance of insects. They carefully dissected a daffodil to help them understand the function of each part. They also created an acrostic poem.



Years 5 and 6 have been exploring our pond habitat and discovering which creatures are currently living there. They observed these closely before releasing them back to the pond.

Year 2 have been learning about the importance of plants and insects. They learned about the different types of bees and where they live. They have also been observing our tadpoles over the past few



weeks, seeing them grow and becoming strong enough to be released back into the pond, hopefully helping them towards the next stage of their lives. Finally, they observed a bumble bee closely using different lenses and a microscope.



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**Connor Downs**  
Academy

# Connor Downs Academy

Head of School: Mrs J Eddy



## Coats/Spare Shoes

Please can we kindly remind all parents/carers to ensure their child/ren come to school every day with a warm, waterproof coat. Also, a change of shoes that can be kept in school to wear at break times and lunch times to access the field is beneficial. Thank you for your support and understanding.

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## Reception Class – Welly Walk

Last Tuesday morning, Reception class went to Tehidy Woods to take part in their sponsored welly walk. We are delighted to say that so far, an incredible **£542** has been raised towards resources for Reception class and their outside area.



Please can we ask for all sponsorship money to be paid in via ParentPay by the end of **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March**. We would like to thank everyone who has given so generously to help enhance the children's learning.

## Parent/Carer Consultations

We would like to extend a huge thank you to all those parents/carers who attended this weeks' parent/carers consultations. We were delighted with the number of families that turned out to see their children's work and have the chance to catch up with the class teachers to discuss how their children are progressing.

## Year 6 Parent/Carer Consultations - Rescheduled

The Year 6 appointments will now be taking place next week, on **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March and Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March**. All parents have been notified but, should you still wish to book an appointment, please contact [hello@connordowns.org.uk](mailto:hello@connordowns.org.uk) so we can arrange this for you.

## Parking/Speeding

Please can we kindly remind parents/carers to park respectfully when dropping off and collecting their child/children to/from school. Please do not park across resident's driveways, on double yellow lines or across entrances, specifically to the cut through opposite the school linking Connor Hill and Mutton Hill. This lane is used for vehicle access at all times and should be left clear.



Please can we also respectfully ask parents/carers and their families and friends to drive carefully on both Mutton Hill and Connor Hill. There was a near miss on Connor Hill this week with a speeding driver which really shook up one of our families. Thank you for your support and understanding.

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## Friends of Connor Downs Academy

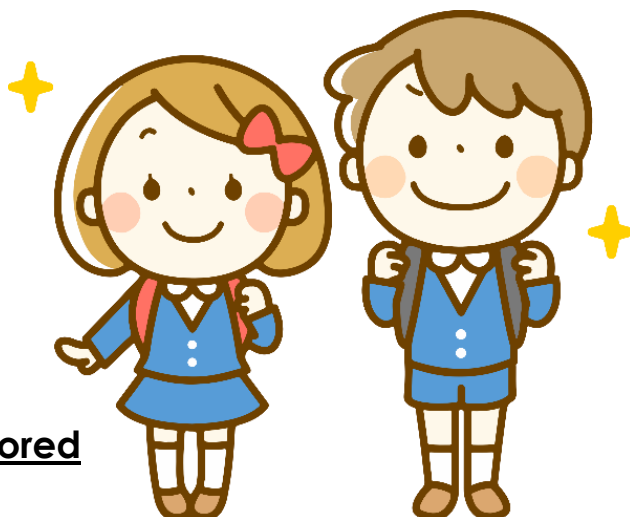
# SALE

### Pre-loved School Uniform Sale

The FOCDA will be holding a pre-loved uniform sale next **Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> March**. This will be held on the playground if the weather is fine or in the school hall if wet.

They have a great selection of shirts, skirts, shorts, trousers, logo jumpers and cardigans all available in different sizes, as well as some PE Kit.

If your child needs any school uniform items, please do come along and see what you can pick up. The friends just kindly ask for a small donation in return.



### Free Vegetables – Sponsored by Riviera Produce



At the same time, the FOCDA will be offering free vegetables to those families who may wish to partake. The vegetables are being supplied by Riviera Produce. We would like to say a big thank you to Riviera Produce for their generous offer to support our families. Please just come and help yourself.



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## **BIGGEST EVER FOOTBALL SESSION FOR GIRLS**

On Wednesday, all the girls at Connor Downs Academy, alongside over 150,000 registered schools, took part in a football session highlighting the importance of unlocking equal opportunities for girls to participate in football in schools and raise awareness for the Barclays Girls' Football School Partnerships programme.

Miss Raven, our own football coach, led the sessions where the girls were introduced to some key football skills and games. The girls will be able to continue to play at lunchtime with their new goals and girls only pitch to inspire the next generation of Lionesses.



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## Coast Activity Day – Sports/Activity Sessions

On Thursday, Emily and Vashty from the 'Coast Activity Programme' came into school to deliver 30-minute taster sessions to each of our classes.

'Coast' are a children's sports and activities holiday club that run camps over the school holidays in the local area. The holiday camps are fully funded by the Government for those who receive benefit



related Free School Meals (FSM) and all children who attend are provided with a healthy hot lunch. This provision is to tackle those inequalities and support children and families during the holidays and are available to **ALL** children.



As an Ofsted registered company, they can take childcare tax-free vouchers for those that do not qualify for FSM. Thank you to both Emily and Vashty for giving the children this opportunity to sample what is offer during school holidays.



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## Bags2School

Reminder: In an effort to raise funds, the Friends of Connor Downs Academy have arranged a Bags2School collection for Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March.

Every child in Year R – 3 has been sent home with a Bags2School bag. Unfortunately, there were not enough bags provided by Bags2School, for all the children in the other year groups however, they will accept other bags as well.

Please find on the flyer a list of the items that they will accept.

Please could **all bags be brought to school by 9:00am on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March** and be left in the playground where a member of the Friends will kindly accept your donations.

Unfortunately, due to lack of space in school, we are unable to accommodate any bags in school before the day of collection.

Please encourage all your family and friends to sort through their unwanted clothing, bedding and towels. The more we collect the more funds can be raised. All funds go towards additional resources and opportunities for all children. Thank you, as always, for your support.

## Planned Industrial Action

You may be aware from media coverage that the NEU (a Teaching Union) have declared strike action, which will take place next Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over teachers' pay and not because of any issues at our school.

I am pleased to share with you, that this action will not impact the daily operation of Connor Downs Academy and we will remain fully open both Wednesday and Thursday.



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## Attendance

<b><u>Attendance</u></b> Our school target for attendance is 97%		
1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Year 1	98.0 %
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Year 4	97.1 %
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Year 3	97.0 %

## Shine Celebrations

Please see below our Shining Stars for this week.

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## Connor Downs Academy Shining Stars Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023

*We are delighted to be able to invite the parents/carers of the winners below to join us at our next Shine assembly, on **Friday 17th March** 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 – Noah B**

For always being a kind and caring friend in our reception class. Well done, Noah!

### **Year 1 – Oliver**

For his amazing attitude towards learning and inquisitive mind during our trip to Trengwainton Gardens. Well done, Oliver!

### **Year 2 – Elsie D**

For her beautiful handwriting and amazing presentation. Elsie always gives 100% to everything she does. Well done, Elsie!

### **Year 3 – Peyton**

For a fantastic attitude to learning. Peyton consistently gives 100% and is always finding time to help support his friends. Well done, Peyton!

### **Year 4 – Jacob**

For his determination and perseverance to improve his handwriting. This is really showing in your presentation. Well done, Jacob!

### **Year 5 – Max**

For his determination to improve his TTRS speed and accuracy. Well done, Max!

### **Year 6 – Oscar**

For always offering to help and support others in class, espccailly in maths. Well done, Oscar!

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**Writer – Zachary (Year 2)**

For using amazing vocabulary in your writing to engage the reader. Well done, Zachary!

**EYFS/KS1 Reader – Penelope (Year 1)**

For her incredible progress in phonics and the pure delight and excitement she shares when sounding out and blending new words. Well done, Penelope!

**KS2 Reader – Willow (Year 6)**

For creating a superb Reading River during World Book Day. Well done, Willow!

**Mathematician – Noelle (Year 3)**

For showing super effort in solving tricky fraction challenges. Well done, Noelle!

**Rock Star – Charley (Year 5)**

For over 6000 correct answers in 7 days. Amazing effort, Well done, Charley!

**Performer – Cayden (Year 4)**

For his enthusiasm and independence when beginning our sessions at Penzance Gym. Well done, Cayden!

**Moki Fitness Tracker – Corey (Year 4)**

For recording the greatest number of steps in a week using the Moki Fitness Trackers. Corey's total was an incredible 37,242 steps. Well done, Corey!

**Character – Riley W (Year R)**

For great team-work and showing superb leadership skills when building with the water resources outside. Well done, Riley!

Kind Regards,



Mrs Eddy  
Head of School