

Friday 13th October 2023

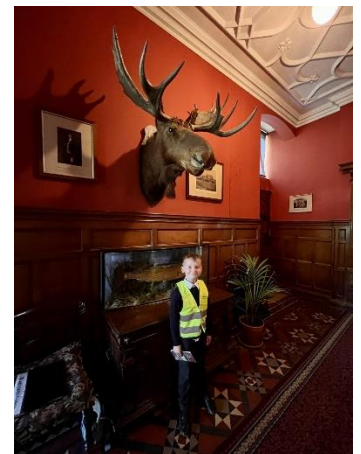
Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you and your families are safe and well. We have had another full and exciting time in school this week.



Year 2 – Lanhydrock House

On Friday 6th October, Year 2 had an exciting trip to Lanhydrock House. The children were amazing history detectives and learnt so many new things about the family that lived there and what life was like for them. They were curious and asked many questions. In particular, pupils explored different sources that can combine to tell us about life in the past. The children's learning journey will now continue back in the classroom through our exploration of the Victorian period. Thank you to all the adults for your help. It was a wonderful day.



T: 01736 753135

E: hello@connordowns.org.uk

W: www.connordowns.org.uk

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

A Company Limited by Guarantee. An Exempt Charity

Registered in England & Wales - Company No. 07387540

Registered Office: Aspire Academy Trust, Unit 20, St Austell Business Park, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 4FD

Mental Health Day – Tuesday 10th October

Tuesday this week marked Mental Health Day. We all have mental health and it affects how we think, feel and act and how we deal with life. In classes this week, the children have been looking at ways to identify behaviours which indicates where our mental health sits.



Reception class made emotion faces using yellow playdough and a range of resources. They talked about having different emotions and how if they are feeling sad or upset, they can talk to their trusted adults. Lots of children made happy faces!



In Year 1 for mental health day, they looked at positive mental health. They learnt that although everyone is unique, there are certain things that most people need to have good mental health. They drew and wrote their ideas of what helps us all to have positive mental health.



Year 3 took time out of their busy day to enjoy a mindfulness activity drawing and adding colour to patterns for World Mental Health Day, while listening to calming music by Brahms.



To celebrate World Mental Health Day, Year 6 created 'breath pictures' where following a pattern with your finger allows the children to calm their breathing.



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Year 4 – Anglo Saxons

On Wednesday, Year 4 were joined by Mr Turnham to learn about fire lighting. We related what we learned to our recent History topic about the Anglo-Saxons and our current Science topic about changing state. Mr Turnham spoke to us about how the Anglo-Saxons used fire in their daily lives and how different it is to how we now live. The children all used

firelighters to create sparks and then

took it in turns to light the fire.



Year 3 – Stone Age Hunter-Gatherer

Year 3 had a busy day learning how Stone Age Hunter- Gatherers searched for food. They began the day by working with Aspire Outdoor Lead: Mike Turnham or Mr T as he is known in Year 3.

Mr T explained to the class how life was like for Stone age people to hunt and gather different food such as wild boar, fish, berries and nuts. The children used their Science knowledge of a balanced diet in the discussion to understand how difficult it was for the stone age people to eat a balanced diet.



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The children enjoyed searching around the school grounds for berries and plants such as blackberries, hawthorn berries dandelions and nettles.

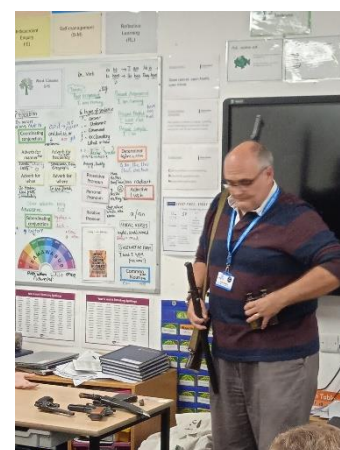
Mr T used the nettle leaves we had collected to cook nettle tea on the camp fire while the children munched on a stone age snack of sunflower seeds followed by pollack fish cooked on the fire. It was excellent to see the children developing their characters, taking risks to try the nettle tea and the fish, with many children coming back for seconds.



Year 6 – World War II

This week, Mr Gallagher visited Year 6 to share his collection of WWII memorabilia with the children. He explained what each item was and allowed the children to handle the objects as well as ask questions. Having a knowledgeable expert to share his enthusiasm really helped bring the era to life and for children to appreciate

the value of primary sources of evidence.



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Parent/Carer Consultations

We would like to extend a huge thank you to all those parents/carers who attended this week's 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 child/ren have settled into their new year groups and the progress they are making. If you were unable to attend and would like to catch up with your child's teacher, please

email hello@connordowns.org.uk and we can arrange a time after half term for you. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Tempest Photos

Tempest will be coming into school **next Monday, 16th October** to take individual and sibling photos. If you would like a sibling photo with siblings not attending Connor Downs Academy, **please arrive at the school office at 8:20am** to sign in. The photographer will be ready to take photos from 08:30am. You will be given a number and photos will be taken first to enable parents/carers to get younger/older siblings to nursery/school. Children with siblings within Connor Downs Academy will have their photos taken during the morning. Please can we ask that all children come to school on Monday looking extra smart in their full school uniforms and black school shoes. Thank you.



Bags2School

In an effort to raise funds, the Friends of Connor Downs Academy have arranged another Bags2School collection for **next Wednesday, 18th October**.

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.

PLEASE BRING BAGS INTO SCHOOL ON THE MORNING OF COLLECTION AND LEAVE IN THE PLAYGROUND WITH MEMBERS OF THE FRIENDS. THANK YOU!



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Diary Dates – Autumn Term 2023

Monday 16th October – Tempest Photographs – Individual and Family

Monday 16th October – Year 6 Swimming – Week 5

Wednesday 18th October – BAGS2SCHOOL Collection

Friday 20th October – Last Day of first half of Autumn Term – Finish at 3:15pm

Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October – HALF TERM

Monday 30th October – First day of 2nd half of Autumn term

Tuesday 31st October – DEADLINE FOR YEAR 6 APPLICATIONS FOR TRANSFER TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

Friday 3rd November – Nasal Flu Vaccinations (Letters to be emailed to parents/carers prior to half term)

Monday 6th November – Year 5 Swimming – Week 1

Monday 13th November – Year 5 Swimming – Week 2

Monday 20th November – Year 5 Swimming – Week 3

Monday 20th November – Friends of Connor Downs Academy Meeting – All welcome – 3:30pm

Monday 27th November – Year 5 Swimming – Week 4

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

Thursday 30th November – FOCDA Disco

Monday 4th December – Year 5 Swimming – Week 5

Tuesday 5th December – EYFS/KS1 Nativity – Performance 1 - 2:00pm start (more details to follow)

Wednesday 6th December – KS2 Carol Concert at Phillack Church - 5:00pm start (more details to follow)

Thursday 7th December – EYFS/KS1 Nativity – Performance 2 - 5:00pm start (more details to follow)

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

Friday 8th December – FOCDA Christmas Fayre – 3:30pm start (more details to follow)

Monday 11th December – EYFS/KS1 Christingle at Phillack Church - 5:00pm start (more details to follow)

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 – Monday 1st January 2024 – CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Tuesday 2nd 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 6	99.3 %
2 nd Place	Year 5	99.2 %
3 rd Place	Year 2	97.7 %

Shine Celebrations

Please see below our Shining Stars for this week.

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Connor Downs Academy Shining Stars Friday 13th October 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 20th October 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 – Zachary

For his sensible, mature and hardworking attitude to all aspects of his learning. Well done, Zachary!

Year 1 – Riley W

For his tremendous effort and progress in phonics this half term. Well done, Riley!

Year 2 – Arthur

For being an amazing history detective on our school trip and interpreting a range of sources to discover clues to life in the past. Well done, Arthur!

Year 3 – Aubrey

For taking a risk to drink nettle tea in our stone age hunter-gatherer morning. Well done, Aubrey!

Year 4 – Henry

For sharing his fun facts about fire with the class during our OAA session with Mr Turnham. Well done, Henry!

Year 5 – Amara

For her considered writing style and answers during class discussions. Well done, Amara!

Year 6 – Caycie

For an excellent attitude during art lessons and showing lots of creativity. Well done, Caycie!

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Writer – William (Year 5)

For a detailed chronology of Shackleton's adventures. Well done, William!

EYFS/KS1 Reader – Cecily (Year 2)

For reading so enthusiastically and transferring knowledge from her reading into her writing. Well done, Cecily!

KS2 Reader – Jacob M (Year 4)

For reading regularly at home and exceeding expectations of the amount he reads. Well done, Jacob!

Mathematician – Robyn (Year R)

For showing fantastic understanding when sorting objects and colours into groups. Well done, Robyn!

Rock Star – Isaac (Year 3)

For working hard on his times tables knowledge, answering 6,483 correctly. Well done, Isaac!

Performer – Kian (Year 6)

For talking about the object he brought into school so confidently to the children in Year 2. Well done, Kian!

Character – Nell (Year 1)

For showing spectacular behaviour for learning. Nell is always the first one ready to listen to instructions. A fantastic role model to all the class! Well done, Nell!

Kind Regards,



Mrs Eddy
Head of School

Transfer to Secondary School – Deadline to apply – 31st October 2023



CORNWALL COUNCIL *one and all - one together* **Together for Families**

Transfer to secondary school
September 2024

Applying for a place in year seven at a secondary school

The deadline for applications is **31 October 2023**

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

www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions

Applying for a secondary school place for September 2024

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 your child will get to school. Go to www.cornwall.gov.uk/schooltransport for more information on whether your child would be entitled to home to school travel assistance.

...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 31 October 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: 1 March 2024. 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.

Starting School – September 2024 – Deadline to apply – 15th January 2024



CORNWALL COUNCIL *one and all - one together* **Together for Families**

Starting school
September 2024

Applying for a place in a reception class for children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020

The deadline for applications is **15 January 2024**

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.

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...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 2024

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: 16 April 2024. 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.

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