



**Connor Downs
Academy**

Connor Downs Academy

Head of School: Mrs J Eddy

Friday 21st June 2024

Dear parents/carers,

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



The ESCA U11 Hardball Cricket Tournament

West Region Finals

On Monday, our fantastic Connor Downs Cricket Team represented Cornwall, as County Champions, at Kings College, Taunton, where they played the three other

winning teams from Devon, Exeter Junior School, Dorset, Castle Court School and Somerset, Millfield Prep', in a round robin tournament, resulting in the winning side securing a place in the National Finals.

Up against three private schools, the Connor Downs Team played superbly and did themselves, their families and Connor Downs Academy very proud.

We would like to send a special thankyou to the families who made the journey to

Taunton over the weekend to support the team, with a special thank you to Mr Marrion for his amazing coaching.



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





Thank You

Careers Day

On Tuesday this week, we welcomed a variety of parents/carers and members of the community to school to talk to the children about a wide range of careers. We would like to say a massive thank you to the following people for giving up their precious time to come into school to share their careers to help build aspiration and create incredible memories for all our children:

- ❖ Mr Smith – HGV Lorry Driver
- ❖ Mr Viner – Train Driver
- ❖ Mrs Horey – Hairdresser
- ❖ Mrs Masters – Physiotherapist
- ❖ Mrs Dunn – Retail Assistant
- ❖ Ms Rosa – Artist and English Teacher
- ❖ Mr Cresswell – Paramedic
- ❖ Mr Evans – Maintenance Manager at Treliske Hospital
- ❖ Mr Maros – AI Company Director
- ❖ Mr Bartaby – Secondary School Teacher
- ❖ Mr Kevern – Builder and Sports Coach
- ❖ Mrs Bennetts – Healthy Cornwall
- ❖ Mr Smitheram – Scania Lorry Driver/Mechanic
- ❖ Fire Service
- ❖ Neighbourhood Policing Team
- ❖ Miss Pedley – First Responder/Paramedic

Year 1 learnt so much about different careers during their careers morning. They had an amazing talk from Mr Viner about being a train driver, a virtual tour around the driver's cabin, looking at the different keys the train driver uses and the high vis uniform. They also had a great time learning about hairdressing from Mrs Horey and how to plait hair. Year 1 finally explored the emergency vehicles which they found really exciting.

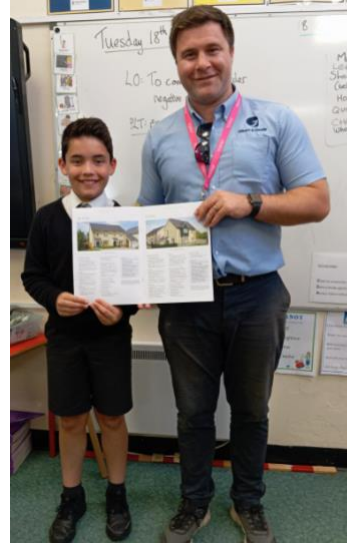
Year 6 were joined by Kevin and Jim who explained what a rewarding, highly technical, local and international career people can have with Scania. Mr Bartaby, from CSIA, also joined them to describe his career as a secondary school teacher and 3D graphic designer for computer games. The children really enjoyed exploring the VR headsets.



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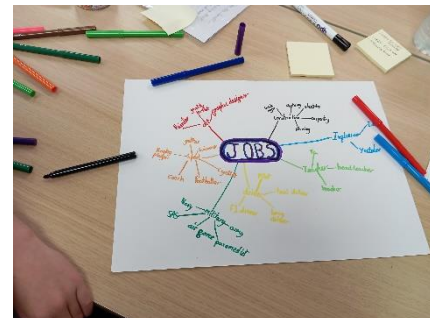
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Cricket Tournament – Years 3, 4 and 5

On Wednesday, 30 children from Years 3, 4 and 5 took part in a Cricket tournament held at St Just. We are delighted to share that teams from all three year groups have made it through to their respective finals to be played at the start of next month. Well done to all the children who took part, we are so proud of you. Thank you to the parents/carers who helped support the event.



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Sports Day



Yesterday, we were delighted to be able to hold our sports afternoon along with our parents/carers, grandparents and friends. The children all took part in a variety of races and it was very special to see the proud looks on the faces of parents/carers as they watched their child/children take part. We would like to thank the Friends of Connor Downs Academy for providing the refreshments, Mrs Prisk, Mrs Ham, Mrs Richmond, Mrs Auden, Mrs Allen, Mrs Rees and all the volunteers who ably supported in a variety of roles.

Please see next week's newsletter for pictures!

School Field Camping – Years 3 – 6

Next week, as part of our outdoor and adventurous provision, each of our KS2 classes will be camping on the school field for one night.

We have hired bell tents to make our own CDA campsite on our secure site. Children will stay in single sex tents separated by staff and parent volunteer (DBS checked) tents.

The children will come to school on their chosen day as normal. We advise that all children have a hot school dinner (please book this via ParentPay) at lunch time as the children will all require a packed tea and beverage. At the end of the day, they will be transported via school minibus to the Towans for an evening stroll along the beach and enjoy their picnic tea by the sea. The children will then return to school for some games, teambuilding and entertainment before getting ready for bed.

In the morning, the children will change back into their uniforms and have breakfast as a class in the school hall.

If the weather is inclement, the camp may have to be cancelled. In the event of an emergency in the night, there will be the option of moving the camp to the school hall and classrooms. Of course, if there is a concern your child's class teacher will call you so, please make sure that your emergency contact numbers are up to date.



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Kit List:

Please ensure that all kit is clearly labelled.

1. **Medication**
2. Sleeping bag or duvet.
3. Pillow
4. Roll mat to sleep on (we do have PE mats if you don't have a mat).
5. Warm bed clothes e.g. a onesie, pyjamas and socks to wear in the tent.
6. Book a school dinner via ParentPay.
7. **Picnic tea and drink for the evening.**
8. Change of clothes and underwear for the following day (school uniform and underwear).
9. A warm hat and coat.
10. Sun hat and sun cream individually named.
11. An extra refillable bottle of water.
12. Toothbrushes and toiletries.
13. Back pack.
14. Trainers for walking (**not** flip flops)
15. Casual clothes to wear at camp e.g. T-shirt, trousers/shorts and a hoody.
16. Torch.
17. A plastic bag for dirty items.
18. **No Mobile Phones and no electrical items.**
19. **Order a school dinner for the second day or drop in a packed lunch.**

Year Group	Date for Camping
3	Monday 24 th June
4	Tuesday 25 th June
5	Wednesday 26 th June
6	Thursday 27 th June

In order to help cover the cost of this amazing educational experience, we are kindly requesting parents/carers make a payment of **£10 per child**. Payment should be made via ParentPay as soon as possible. Thank you to all those who have already made payment and for your continued support.

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Bags2School

Final Reminder: In an effort to raise funds, the Friends of Connor Downs Academy have arranged another Bags2School collection for **next Tuesday, 25th June**.

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 25th June and be left in the playground where a member of the Friends will kindly accept your donations.

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.



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.

Thank you.

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Summer Fayre



The Friends of Connor Downs Academy will be holding their Summer Fayre on **Friday, 12th July 2024 from 3:30pm**. Further details to follow.

As part of the Fayre, we will be holding a raffle. With this in mind, we are politely requesting that if you or anyone you know owns a local business and would be willing to donate a raffle prize, please email hello@connordowns.org.uk or pass donations to Mrs. Gallagher in the school office.



We will also be having a teddy tombola, so are asking for any donations of unwanted teddies! Please bring any donations for the tombola to Mrs. Gallagher in the school office.

All donations, no matter how small, will be greatly appreciated.

Do you have a little spare time that you could give to the children of our school?

The Friends are looking to recruit some new members to the Friends of Connor Downs Academy, to help in arranging and facilitating future fundraising events to be able to support the children in our school with resources and opportunities. With ever decreasing budgets in all schools, it is becoming even more important for charities like the Friends, to be able to help schools to support a variety of ways to extend the opportunities available to all children.

The Friends are also now looking for a new Secretary. No experience is required and a full hand over period will be in place with lots of support from current committee members.

If you are interested in either becoming a committee member or in becoming the new secretary, please contact the Friends via Mrs Gallagher in the school office or by emailing hello@connordowns.org.uk. Thank you.

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Fruit Grant

We would like to say a huge thank you to GGSCF for their very generous grant that they awarded at the beginning of this academic year to provide fruit for breaktimes for our KS2 pupils. The children and staff have said:



Gwinear-Gwithian
Sustainable Community Fund

'The fruit was nice and I am grateful we have fruit that we can have at breaktime. If people don't bring a snack they can take a piece of fruit for snack!'

'I love fruit, fruit is healthy and we are so lucky to have fruit in our school!'

Mrs Eddy said: 'Providing free fruit for KS2 is a tremendous support for families and school. The free fruit provides a healthy snack and supports children's physical development. We are incredibly grateful!'

*Thank
You*



HELP

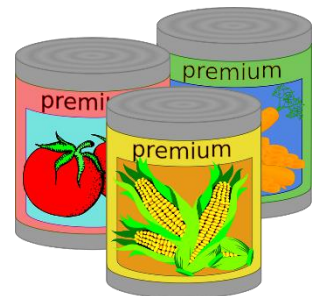
Donations for Connor Downs Food Cupboard

To help support our local community, we are politely asking for families from the Connor Downs Academy community to donate tinned goods for the food cupboard in the village. These donations will help many families during not only the school holidays, but

every day.

Please can we ask for any donations to be brought to Mrs Gallagher in the school office by Friday 19th July 2024.

Thank you for all your commitment in supporting not only our children at Connor Downs Academy, but also the Connor Downs Community as a whole.



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Cornwall Libraries - Summer Reading Challenge

Summer Reading Challenge 2024
Delivered in partnership with libraries



Organised by charity The Reading Agency (www.readingagency.org.uk) and the UK public library network since 1999, the **Summer Reading Challenge** is the UK's biggest annual reading promotion for children aged 4 to 11. Last year, in Cornwall over 8500 children took part. The Summer Reading Challenge combines **FREE** access to books with fun, creative activities during the summer holidays. Throughout the Challenge, library staff and volunteers support the children, helping them to discover new authors and illustrators and to explore a wide range of different types of books and ways of reading.

This year the challenge opens from **Saturday 6th July**. For more information, please see the letter attached to this newsletter from The Reading Agency.

Ofsted

You will recall that Connor Downs Academy received a Section 8 Ofsted Inspection on the 8th and 9th May 2024.

I am delighted to share with you the glowing Ofsted report which is now live on the Ofsted website.

[Connor Downs Academy \(ofsted.gov.uk\)](http://Connor Downs Academy (ofsted.gov.uk))



The headline Ofsted judgement is that,

Connor Downs Academy continues to be a good school.

Ofsted recognised that,

'Connor Downs Academy is a place where pupils shine.'

Attendance

Attendance		
Our school target for attendance is 97%		
1 st Place	Year 1	97.3 %

Shine Celebrations

Please see below our Shining Stars for this week.

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Connor Downs Academy Shining Stars Friday 21st June 2024

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 summer term, on **Friday 28th June** 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 – Lily-Rose

For her effort and enthusiasm when practising and competing in Sports Day. Well done, Lily-Rose!

Year 1 – Robyn

For trying so hard in her work this term, especially in maths. Robyn has made great progress in her place value knowledge to 100 and recognising tens and ones. Well done, Robyn!

Year 2 – Kingsley

For his amazing achievements at Sports Day. We are so proud of you! Well done, Kingsley!

Year 3 – Elsie B

For showing resilience and determination during the cricket tournament this week. Well done, Elsie!

Year 4 – Peyton

For excellent perseverance and determination to complete tasks to the best of his ability. Well done, Peyton!

Year 5 – Bella

For having an amazing camp at Carnyorth and being such a good friend to all the girls in her dorm. Well done, Bella!

Year 6 – Amelia H

For sharing interesting answers in reading comprehension lessons throughout the year. Well done, Amelia!

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Writer – Nola (Year R)

For her growing confidence when writing in a sentence. Nola can now write lots of key words independently. Well done, Nola!

EYFS/KS1 Reader – Maisie (Year 1)

For amazing progress in reading this year. Maisie is confident to share stories with the class, reads with fluency and is starting to add expression. Maisie also reads at home every night, well done Maisie!

KS2 Reader – Liv (Year 6)

For consistently reading every night and using her reading knowledge for adding details to her reading comprehension answers. Well done, Liv!

Mathematician – Finley (Year 2)

For excellent understanding of position and direction and using mathematical vocabulary to accurately describe turns. Well done, Finley!

Numbots/Rock Star – Barney (Year 3)

For consistent hard work on TTRS to improve his quick recall of times tables and showing progress on his heat map. Well done, Barney!

Performer – Daniel (Year 4)

For amazing leg spin bowling and fielding during the cricket tournaments this week. Well done, Daniel!

Character – Corey (Year 5)

For facing the challenge of school camp and taking it in his stride, including going underground in the mine. Well done, Corey!

Kind regards,

Mrs Eddy
Head of School