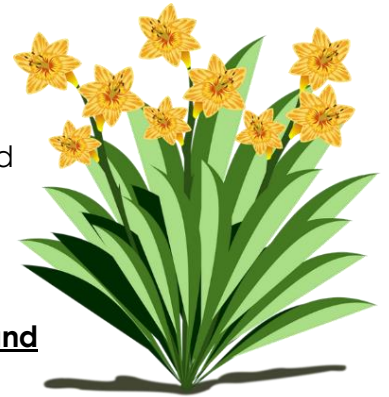


Friday 24th February 2023

Dear parents/carers,

Welcome back to the second half of the spring term. I hope you and your families all had a lovely half term break and are safe and well. We have had a very busy and exciting week in school.



Year 5 – Geevor Tin Mine Outreach Programme and visit



On Monday, in preparation for their visit to Geevor Mine on Thursday, a representative from the mine's outreach programme came to school to share a number of tools, clothes and photographs from the mine's history. The children had lots of fun hearing about the conditions the miners had to work in, the clothes they would have worn and the tools they used. We would like to thank Mr Hosking for coming to school and giving such an

insightful talk. The children were all excited to visit the mine and enhance their learning. They donned their helmets and split into groups to visit the



hard rock museum and experience hand

drilling. For an authentic experience, the children then made their way underground via the mill. It was an amazing day, filled with great learning experiences. We would like to thank Mr Gallagher and Mr Lewis for driving the minibuses and our parent volunteers for making this visit possible.



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Connor Downs
Academy

Connor Downs Academy

Head of School: Mrs J Eddy



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Year 4 – Kresen Kernow visit



On Tuesday, Year 4 visited Kresen Kernow in Redruth. The children enjoyed going into the strongroom and seeing where Cornish birth, marriage and death certificates are stored along with other important historical documents. They also explored the library and looked at exhibits which explained the history of the site.



To finish our crime and punishment topic, the children took part in a mock trial and looked at original documents to find out more details about crimes in the local area.

Kresen Kernow is an amazing place to find out more about Cornwall and explore the archives. It is free to visit and is open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.



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Sally Crabtree – Poetry visit

An incredible day of poetry!

We were visited on Wednesday by the local poet, Sally Crabtree, who worked with every class throughout the day. Sally has published children's books herself and understands the importance of creativity and fun when it comes to learning and language.

Some classes literally 'ate their words' by creating edible poems on biscuits which they then devoured! Sally

explained to the class that forever more, the words of their poem would now emanate from them.

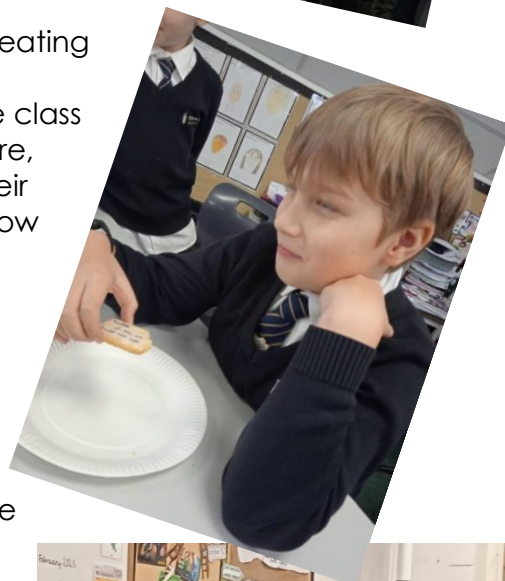
Year 6 created a piece of

performance poetry about

'love' - without mentioning the word 'love',

which culminated in a flurry of love heart confetti being thrown into the air at the end. Sally brought her guitar and with the children's help, created new verses to her song about a fish eating unusual things!

The children were inspired to think of words as 'little treasures' and to embrace the 'whimsical' with enthusiasm and joy. Thank you, Sally, for sharing your passion with all the children in our school.



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Bags2School

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

Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations are being held on Tuesday 7th March and Wednesday 8th March. 10-minute appointments will be available between 3:30pm and 6:20pm on both evenings for Years R, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

For Year 1 Miss Pedlar will have appointments between 1:00pm and 6:20pm on Tuesday 7th March **only**.

Miss Norton, for Year 6 will have appointments from 3:30pm until 6:20pm on Tuesday 7th March and between 4:30pm and 6:20pm pm on Wednesday 8th March.

Bookings should be made via the Arbor App and will open at 7:00pm on Monday 27th February and close at 7:00pm on Sunday 5th March.

Please email hello@connordowns.org.uk if you encounter any difficulties. Thank you.

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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 Thursday, 2nd 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 on Thursday 2nd March.



CALLING ALL GIRLS: YOU ARE INVITED TO THE BIGGEST EVER GIRLS' FOOTBALL SESSION

On **Wednesday 8 March 2023**, Connor Downs Academy is taking part in the *Biggest Ever Football Session* as girls from across the country try out their football skills throughout the course of the day.

All the girls will enjoy a football session in their year group with our qualified football coach, Miss Raven. The girls will require their PE kit and a drink for the session.



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 children's hospice SOUTH WEST

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Attendance

<u>Attendance</u> Our school target for attendance is 97%		
1 st Place	Year 4	99.1 %
2 nd Place	Year 6	98.9 %
3 rd Place	Year 5	97.8 %

Shine Celebrations

Please see below our Shining Stars for this week.

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Connor Downs Academy Shining Stars Friday 24th February 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 3rd 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 – Isaac

For his understanding and progress when learning number bonds to 10. Well done, Isaac!

Year 1 – Remy

For his increased confidence towards his learning and sharing his ideas and work. Remy confidently stood in front of the whole class and read his senses sentences out loud. Well done, Remy!

Year 2 – Barney

For wonderful writing progress and sharing his writing with pride and enthusiasm. Well done, Barney!

Year 3 – Eve

For super effort in learning her 8 times tables. Well done, Eve!

Year 4 – Jenson

For developing in his maturity, taking responsibility in the classroom and being more organised for learning. Well done, Jenson!

Year 5 – Alice

For her amazing concentration and control of her watercolour brush when painting her bamboo or Chinese calligraphy. Well done, Alice!

Year 6 – Layla

For taking part in the play during assembly this week. Well done, Layla!

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Writer – Robyn (Year R)

For writing a wonderful list of ingredients for her pancake, amazing spellings Robyn!
Well done!

EYFS/KS1 Reader – Elowen (Year 2)

For excellent reading progress and outstanding AR scores. Well done, Elowen!

KS2 Reader – Lily-Mae (Year 5)

For reading her poem to the class so beautifully before eating it as part of Sally Crabtree's visit. Well done, Lily-Mae!

Mathematician – Otis (Year 1)

For his fantastic reasoning skills and explanation to the whole class when using objects for measuring length. Well done, Otis!

Performer – Mabel (Year 4)

For her amazing and thoughtful answers during our trip to Kresen Kernow. Our guide was so impressed with Mabel's answers to two of his questions. Great work Mabel!

Moki Fitness Tracker – Noah (Year 6)

For recording the greatest number of steps in a week using the Moki Fitness Trackers. Noah's total was an incredible 25,970 steps. Well done, Noah!

Character – Isaac (Year 3)

For being a great role model, always stepping into help his friends in class and offer help to the adults. Well done, Isaac!

Kind Regards,



Mrs Eddy
Head of School