



Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Dear parents/carers,

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



## Year 1 – Trengwainton Gardens



On Tuesday this week, Year 1 had a fantastic visit to Trengwainton Gardens. They were very lucky with the weather and the sun shone for most of their visit to enable them to thoroughly enjoy their sensory walk. They explored the different senses recording all the wonderful things they could see, hear, smell, touch and taste.

The children gave Miss Pedlar some brilliant descriptions; 'we can hear a fast-flowing river'; 'we can see blossom on the trees'; 'we can smell beautiful flowers'; 'we can feel furry leaves from the magnolia trees'; 'we can taste our delicious, packed lunch'.



All of the children showed great resilience and stamina to walk around the spacious gardens. Year 1 would like to say a massive thank you to all of the adults who helped support on the trip and make it possible.



## Year R Ballet Success

We are delighted to share with you this amazing achievement by one of our youngest pupils where she gained a Highly Commended in her Ballet Pre-Juvenile Award. She is also a member of Savvy Studios. We are so proud of her and of all our pupils in all their outside of school activities. Well done!



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## Elizabeth Sampson Playing Field Regeneration Project



On Thursday afternoon architects from Mei Loci visited Year 4 to help them design a new thriving play park for Connor Downs. Mr Costello and the Year 4 children have been working alongside these architects as part of the Connor Downs Elizabeth Sampson playing field regeneration project.

During the afternoon the children participated in a variety of design and creative activities. They particularly enjoyed creating their designs in a box and sharing these with each group.



Each year group will also share their ideas and create an imaginative design. These will help the team deliver a new design that will benefit the community for years to come.



## Reminders

### Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations are being held **next Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> March and Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March**. 10-minute appointments will be available between 3:30pm and 5:50pm on both evenings for Years R, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

For Year 1, Miss Pedlar will have appointments between 1:00pm and 5:50pm on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March only**.

Bookings should be made via the Arbor App and will close at 7:00pm on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

Please email [hello@connordowns.org.uk](mailto:hello@connordowns.org.uk) if you encounter any difficulties. Thank you.

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## 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.



## TTRS/Numbots

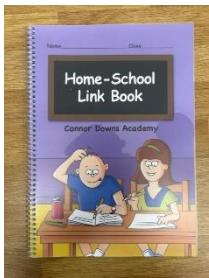


We're excited that your child has both a Times Tables Rock Stars and NumBots account! To learn all about Times Tables Rock Stars and download free resources to help your child, please visit the dedicated parent/carer information page here - [TTRS Parents & Carers](#)

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.



## Home-School Link Books



A reminder to all parents/carers to please ensure your child/children has their Home-School Link book in school with them every day. This book is a key resource for communication between parents/carers and staff.

## 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.



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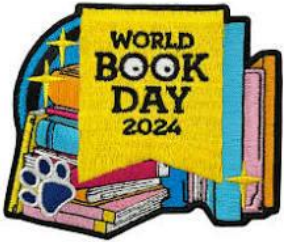
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## World Book Day – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March



World Book Day this year is taking place next Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> March. We are inviting all children to come to school on this day dressed as their favourite book character for a £1 donation payable via ParentPay. Funds raised will be used to enhance reading resources across the school. Children are more than welcome to wear costumes if they already have them or have recently purchased them, but something put together from home is perfectly suitable. We are also encouraging children to bring their favourite book to school to share with their classes. Also, courtesy of the National Literacy Trust, every child will be given a £1 book token to be used when purchasing their next book.

## Flick Up Challenge for Girls – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March

On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024, the Biggest Ever Football Session is back. We are inviting all girls to bring their PE kits to school to take part in the Flick Up Challenge. The Trust are looking to smash their record from last year, where they had an incredible 470 girls participating across all the schools within the Aspire Academy Trust.



## Parking

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. Thank you for your support and understanding.

## Drop off/collection

Please can we remind parents/carers that when arriving at school they supervise their children when getting out of the vehicle into the road. We have had some reports this week of some children being dropped off and walking straight into the road with parents/carers not getting out of their car. Please ensure you see your child/children safely onto the school site. Thank you for your support.

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## Attendance

<b>Attendance</b>		
Our school target for attendance is 97%		
1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Year R	100.0 %
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Year 6	99.7 %
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Year 2	98.9 %

## Shine Celebrations

Please see next page for our Shining Stars for this week.



## Connor Downs Academy Shining Stars Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024

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 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024** 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 – Amelia**

For writing an exciting list of words to describe her imaginary planet. Well done, Amelia!

### **Year 1 – Freddie Ox.**

For his excellent participation and working with others on our school trip to Trengwainton Gardens. Well done, Freddie!

### **Year 2 – Penelope**

For amazing writing and reading progress with excellent use of punctuation. Well done, Penelope!

### **Year 3 – Elowen**

For great answers in History when learning about the life of Roman soldiers. Well done, Elowen!

### **Year 4 – Jacob M.**

For his excellent work on length and perimeter during our latest maths unit. Well done, Jacob!

### **Year 5 – Jenson**

For his continued effort and improvement in all areas of the curriculum. Well done, Jenson!

### **Year 6 – Isobel**

For having a mature approach towards her work and supporting others. Well done, Isobel!

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**Writer – Jacob (Year R)**

For reading and writing his phase 2 sounds independently. We are very proud of you Jacob! Well done, Jacob!

**EYFS/KS1 Reader – Finlay (Year 2)**

For excellent reading and reading comprehension skills. Well done, Finlay!

**KS2 Reader – Cayden (Year 5)**

For reading every day with Miss Abel and completing your reading comprehension tasks. Well done, Cayden!

**Mathematician – Jake (Year 6)**

For showing great perseverance in mastering percentages in maths. Well done, Jake!

**Numbots/Rock Star – Zachary P. (Year 3)**

For super effort with TT Rock Stars to improve his speed in answering questions in under 4 seconds. Well done, Zachary!

**Performer – Noelle (Year 4)**

For great listening, following instructions with care and thought when playing the Ukulele. Well done, Noelle!

**Character – Zoey (Year 1)**

For being kind, caring and helpful towards her friends and adults in Year 1. Zoey always shows excellent behaviour for learning making her a great role model for her peers. Well done, Zoey!

Kind regards,

Mrs Eddy  
Head of School

For Information



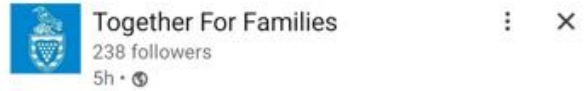
**Parent Carers Cornwall**

**Drop-in Information Event**

March 7<sup>th</sup> 2024  
10.00am-1.00pm  
Long Gallery, Eden Project

Some of the Organisations attending are

- Transport
- Social Care
- And many more
- CAMHS
- Direct Payments
- EHCP Team



**Together For Families**  
238 followers  
5h · 🌐

Professionals and parents/carers in the Penzance area are invited to the launch of the new Penzance... see more



**Penzance Family Hub**  
**Open Day Invite**

We are excited to invite you to come and have a look at our fantastic new Family Hub.

**Monday 4 March 2024, from 12pm**  
Penzance Family Hub, St John's Hall, Penzance, TR18 2QW

Start for Life | Funded by UK Government | Cornwall Council

[www.cornwall.gov.uk/familyhubs](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/familyhubs)



**A WORKSHOP FOR TIRED FAMILIES**  
presented by the Cornwall Mental Health Support Team

Sleep Wise – a short presentation by Hunrosa Sleep Consultants to help parents with sleep strategies for young people and families.



Tuesday 12th March 2024  
10:00 - 11:30 am  
Book [HERE](#)

OR



Wednesday 13th March 2024  
16:30 - 18:00 pm  
Book [HERE](#)



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