

Friday 15th December 2023

Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you and your families are all keeping safe and well. At the end of each term, we produce a termly newsletter encompassing all the exciting and engaging work that has taken place in classes. Please use the link below to access the newsletter and have a look at all the amazing work happening across the academy:

[Autumn Term Newsletter 2023](#)



Friends of Connor Downs Academy – Christmas Fayre

Last Friday, the Friends of Connor Downs Academy hosted their Christmas Fayre. We were delighted to see so many parents/carers joining us to enjoy our Year 4 children's brass performance in the hall, the choir singing some beautiful Christmas songs and to see the amazing gifts made by the children. Thank you to our elves who assisted Santa! The funds raised will be used for resources to enhance the learning for all our children, thank you.



Congratulations to the following:

The winner of the 'Name the Elf' was Evelyn in Year 2. The name of the Elf was 'Glitter'!

The winner of the 'Guess the number of presents in the Stocking' was Henry in Year 4. The answer was '10'!



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

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Registered in England & Wales - Company No. 07387540

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

Choir – Pine Trees Residential Home



On Monday afternoon, the choir members from KS2 visited Pine Trees to sing to the residents. The children sang a range of traditional carols and more modern songs. The children performed amazingly and did themselves and Connor Downs Academy proud. Mr Foulds was very impressed with how hard they have all worked, and the residents and staff were very thankful for our visit and enjoyed the performance. Thank you to Mrs Guichard-Wheatley for supporting the visit.



EYFS/KS1 Christingle

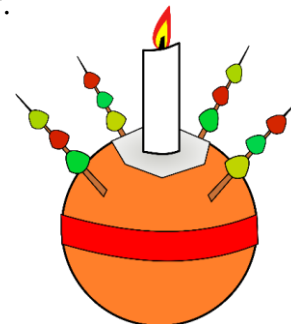
This week, our EYFS and KS1 children were delighted to visit Phillack Church in Hayle to share a Christingle Service, kindly hosted by Revd Patricia.



Building on their RE learning, the children enjoyed sharing their knowledge of the Christingle in the church setting, impressing Revd Patricia, parents and carers with their understanding of all that the Christingle represents to Christians.

During the celebration, our children performed a collection of festive songs, including traditional Christmas carols and songs from their own EYFS and KS1 Nativity, Out of the Arks: 'A Twinkly Nativity!'

Thank you to all the parents/carers, family and friends who brought their children back for the Christingle service and joined with us to make this such a memorable event.



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Education Mental Health Practitioner – Parent/Carer Information Session

The NHS Mental Health Support Team in schools has been introduced as part of a national project to support children, young people and their families within education settings. Rebecca Avery is part of this team and is attached to Connor Downs Academy as an Education Mental Health Practitioner. On **Tuesday 9th January 2024**, Rebecca will be delivering a short presentation for all parents at **14:45**. This session will be an opportunity to hear about what Rebecca's role will be in the school and for you to ask questions about how she may be able to support yourself and/or your child/ren. All parents/carers are welcome. Please come to the main school reception to sign in.



Internet Safety for Parents/Carers – Wednesday 17th January 2024 at 14:40

Parents/carers are invited to a short, open event to inform and create discussion around the topic of keeping children safe when using internet connected devices. Presented by Giles Hill, the Digital Strategy and Computing Lead for Aspire Academy Trust. This session will provide parents and carers with a wealth of information and considerations for keeping growing families safe and healthy with internet usage. The session will warn against potential harm and issues as children grow older and usage becomes more regular. The session will include:

- Current context of internet developments.
- Achieving a balance in your home.
- Tech preventions and controls.
- Making it work for you.

Health and Safety – Lockdown Practice

As part of our Health and Safety procedures, we regularly hold fire drills which all the children are familiar with. We are also required to practice a 'Lockdown' should the need ever arise. On Wednesday, every class was spoken to by their class teachers in an age-appropriate way, to explain that a practice 'lockdown' would be taking place this morning and what they should expect. On a given signal each child had to 'shelter' under their desk with all doors and windows closed, effectively locking down the classroom. This lasted for no more than a couple of minutes and the 'all clear' was then given. We would like to say how proud we are of every child who showed great behaviour.

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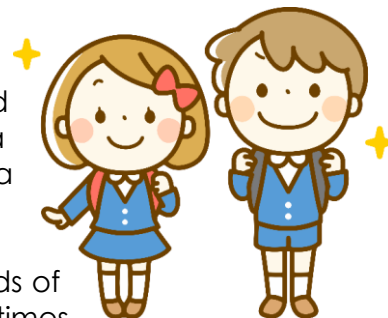
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Pre-Loved Uniform

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 with your requirements.



Attendance

<u>Attendance</u>		
Our school target for attendance is 97%		
1 st Place	Year 3	97.5 %
2 nd Place	Year 2	97.0 %

On behalf of myself and all the staff at Connor Downs Academy, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! We look forward to welcoming all the children back to school in the new year on Thursday 4th January 2024.

Kind regards,



Mrs Eddy
Head of School



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