

Friday 20th October 2023

Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you and your families are safe and well. We have had another very busy and exciting final week of the first half of the autumn term. We hope that you will all enjoy some rest and relaxation with your families and look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 30th October 2023.



EYFS/KS1 Sponsored Sports Event



On Monday afternoon EYFS and KS1 thoroughly enjoyed their sponsored event. The children took part in a range of sporting activities showing lots of different skills. They scored goals in the basketball hoop, shot footballs in the goal, counted how many times they could jump over a hurdle, how many times could they bounce the ball without stopping, how many laps of the netball court they could run and showed throwing accuracy with how many beanbags they could throw

in the hoop. We would like to say a massive thank you to all the parents, carers, families and friends who have kindly sponsored and supported the children with our event. We have currently collected just over £600 towards our new reading resources which is fantastic! Please can we ask that any remaining sponsorship money be paid in via ParentPay by the end of October. Thank you.



T: 01736 753135

E: hello@connordowns.org.uk

W: www.connordowns.org.uk

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

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Registered in England & Wales - Company No. 07387540

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Year 3 – Stem Visit



Year 3 had an exciting afternoon on Tuesday with a visit from Megan who is a member of the Royal Navy based at Culdrose.

Megan explained to the children about her life and role in the Navy as a

weather forecaster.

The children were very interested to hear all about life at sea on the ship and the different countries that Megan had visited. It was brilliant to see the children asking mature questions and many decided that they would like to join the navy in the future!



Art Club



Art Club had a great session learning how to make reflections in landscapes. They used wax crayons and oil pastels to create a wax resist to achieve great effects.

Year 4 – Stem Visit

On Wednesday, Year 4 had a special visitor: Megan, from the Royal Navy, came to visit to tell us about STEM and her job as a meteorologist.

We learned how it would feel if we travelled to a different country and she told us about the opportunities and sports you can do in the Navy, like netball, bob sledging and skiing. Megan told us about life onboard ship and how she shared a cabin with six people. We learned that 230 people could be onboard HMS Dauntless. Megan talked to us about how she stays safe onboard ship and about the regular

training sessions. During a recent man-overboard training session, a shark was sighted!

Megan also explained how the Navy can support you in going to university and described the different roles and subjects available.



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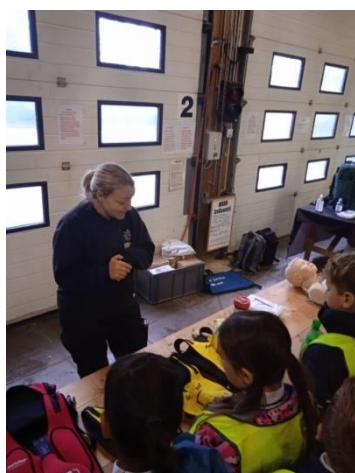
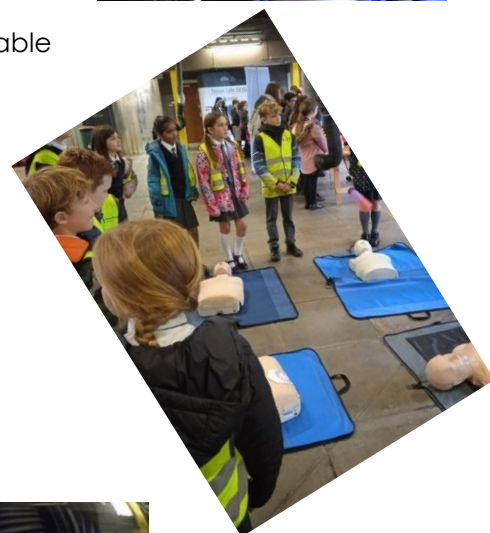
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Year 5 – Life Skills Visit

On Thursday, Year 5 travelled via minibus to Penzance Fire Station to take part in a Junior Life Skills workshop linked to our PHSE curriculum. The children learned about:

- Internet Safety – Keeping passwords secure
- Basic CPR
- How to recognise and treat a choking patient.
- Electrical Safety and Fire Alarms
- Road safety
- GWR – safe behaviour in and around stations.
- The benefits of using a bus and sustainable transport.



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**Connor Downs
Academy**

Connor Downs Academy

Head of School: Mrs J Eddy

Year 6



This week Year 6 have been enjoying their French lessons learning how to say the foods that they enjoy and the months of the year.

In Science, the children have completed their unit of work on electricity by designing and making a simple burglar alarm device.



Menu Change – Thursday 2nd November

WHIZZ, BANG Sparkle

Thursday November 2nd

Adding some sizzle to lunchtime!

Enjoy our Whizz Bang Sparkle Crackling Menu!

Bangers, Mash, beans
(M/V option's)
Bbq sauce
Chocolate pizza with sprinkles

FOOD FESTIVAL
By Aspens

On Thursday 2nd November, Aspens, our catering provider are offering the following menu change to celebrate Bonfire Night!

As the menu on ParentPay is already published the options cannot be changed so please book either the meat or vegetarian option as published and your child/children will be receive the equivalent 'banger'!

Hot Tomato Pasta and Jacket Potatoes will also be available.

Thank you!

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Request for Donations – Exercise Equipment



We are hoping to set up an Exercise Zone at Connor Downs Academy for the children and are looking to see if there are any families who may have some unwanted exercise equipment that they might be willing to donate. We are after items like, an exercise bike, rowing machine, weights and any other equipment you may have. Please contact the school office at hello@connordowns.org.uk if you are able to help!



We will soon be setting the clocks back an hour and summertime will end. The links below will help remind children, about road safety and keeping safe in the dark.

Teaching Road Safety: A Guide for Parents <https://www.rosopa.com/media/documents/road-safety/teaching-road-safety-a-guide-for-parents.pdf>

Safety First – Cycling at Night <https://www.cycletraining.co.uk/cycle-training-and-cycle-safety/safety-first-cycling-at-night/>

Keeping Children Safe in the Dark <https://firstaidforlife.org.uk/keeping-children-safe-in-dark/>

Dark Nights <https://www.childcare.co.uk/information/dark-nights-children-safety>

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Connor Downs
Academy

Connor Downs Academy

Head of School: Mrs J Eddy



Tempest Photos

On Monday, the Tempest Photographer came into school to take the children's individual and family photographs. We would like to thank all our parent/carer community for ensuring their children all arrived at school looking very smart in their full school uniforms and full of big smiles. All pictures have been sent home this week, with details of how to order online. **Please note, to qualify for free delivery to school, online orders must be received by Monday 30th October 2023.**



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Bags2School

Along with the Friends of Connor Downs Academy, we would like to say a huge thank you to all those parents/carers, family and friends, who kindly donated their unwanted clothes to our Bag2School collection. We are delighted to share that the total weight of clothes donated amounted to 290Kg which earned us **£145**. This will be put towards additional resources for all the children.

The next Bag2School collection is booked for Monday 22nd January 2024. Reminders and bags will be sent out nearer the time.



Children's Mental Health Support Team (MHST)

Information for parents/carers of primary school-age children.

What is a Mental Health Support Team (MHST)?

Mental Health Support Teams (MHSTs) work in partnership with schools and other services to offer a wide range of mental health and wellbeing support for children and young people, as well as the adults who support them.

Who are the Mental Health Support Team?

The Mental Health Support Team in Cornwall has been introduced as part of a national project to support children, young people and their families within education settings.

Working in primary schools in Cornwall we provide short term, low-intensity mental health interventions and support. We may work directly with the parent/carer or the young person, depending on the support needed.

We are a team of qualified and trainee Educational Mental Health Practitioners (EMHPs) and Supervisors, supported by Team and Service Managers. Together, we have a wealth of experience in supporting children and young people with their mental health.

Contact us

Mental Health Support Team
Shaw House, Porthpean Road,
St Austell, PL26 6AD

Call: 01726 873204

Visit our website: www.cornwallfth.nhs.uk/mental-health-support-teams

More help...

Childline | Call 0800 111 (free)
Open 7:30am - midnight (Mon - Fri) and 9am - midnight (weekends). Available to anyone up to 18 years old.

Mental Health Response Line
Call 0800 038 5300 (free)
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

CRISIS Text Service | Text SHOUT to 85258
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.


NHS Helpline | Call 111
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
In an emergency, call 999 or go to hospital.

Kooth | Visit kooth.com
For young people aged 10-18 years.
Online chat open until 10pm every night.

Headstart Kernow
Visit www.headstartkernow.org.uk
Information for parents and carers.

Your Way | Visit your-way.org.uk
Services for young people aged 10 and over.

Children's Mental Health Support Team Cornwall (MHST)



Information for parents and carers of primary school-age children

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
HEADSTART KERNOW **CORNWALL COUNCIL**

What support can the MHST offer?

Our aim is to build resilience and empower children and young people (and the adults in their lives) to get the help they need, when they need it.

The kind of support we can offer includes:

- Help for individuals (normally between 6 and 8 sessions)
- Supporting staff to offer emotional wellbeing sessions within a class or to a smaller group of young people
- Working closely with an adult who children spend time with, including school staff, a family member or carer.
- As a team we are trained to use guided self help resources with children, parents or carers, and to support staff at school to understand more about mental health. We also help schools to develop a whole-school approach to emotional health wellbeing.

Why is early mental health support important?



Did you know?

- Over 50% of all mental health difficulties will start before the age of 14.
- In Cornwall there are many services offering mental health support to families and young people. We aim to get and offer early help.
- We are not a diagnostic service. We would not be the right services for parents concerned about conditions such as ADHD and ASD.
- Specialist services can be accessed through talking to your own GP or through a referral to the Early Help Hub.
- There are also a range of online self help support services available to support young people and families.
- Our services aim to make a difference by offering support early when possible mental health difficulties may be emerging for children.

Mental Health Practitioners can help children displaying mild to moderate signs of:

- Anxiety
- Stress
- Low Mood
- Mild behavioural Difficulties
- Worry Management
- Panic Management
- Resilience
- We can also help support parents, carers and schools

You're not alone

If you have any further questions or concerns, or you'd like more information...

To begin with, please speak to your Mental Health Lead at school. They can decide if the Mental Health Support Team may be able to offer the help your young person needs, or identify another service that can offer more appropriate support.

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Diary Dates – Autumn Term 2023

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 – FOCCA 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 – FOCCA Christmas Jumper Day – Wear a Christmas jumper/favourite jumper for a £1 donation (more details to follow)

Friday 8th December – FOCCA 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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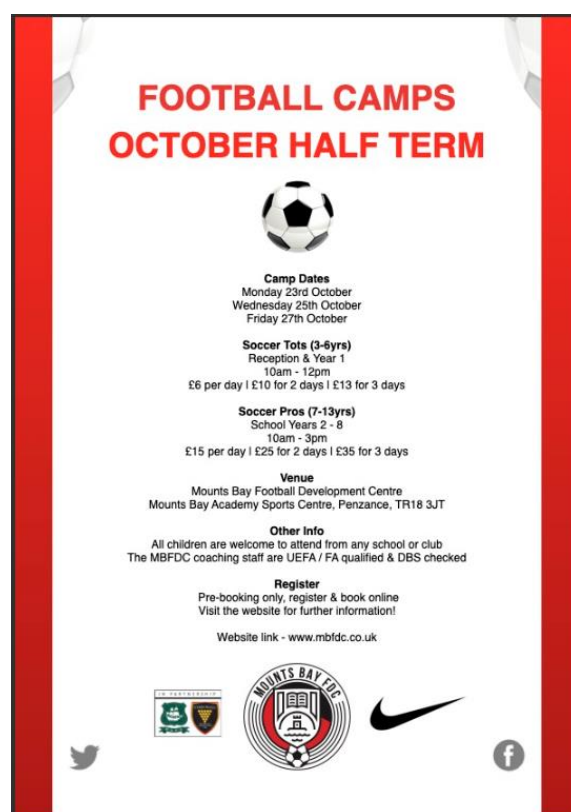
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Half Term Activities

"Reference to any specific third-party activity, product or service does not constitute or imply its endorsement, sponsorship or recommendation by Connor Downs Academy/ Aspire Academy Trust. It is for information only."



Attendance

| Attendance | | |
|---|--------|--------|
| Our school target for attendance is 97% | | |
| 1 st Place | Year 3 | 99.6 % |
| 2 nd Place | Year 1 | 98.9 % |

Shine Celebrations

Please see below our Shining Stars for this week.

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Connor Downs Academy Shining Stars Friday 20th 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 3rd November 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 – Lowenna

For showing enthusiasm and excitement when creating imaginative drawings and paintings. Well done, Lowenna!

Year 1 – Robyn

For great focus, concentration, mark making and painting in art. Well done, Robyn!

Year 2 – Ethan

For excellent attention to detail in his sketch book and art and design activities. Well done, Ethan!

Year 3 – Colby

For working hard in maths to learn to add and subtract ones to a 3-digit number. Colby is a super role model always giving 100 % effort to everything he does. Well done, Colby!

Year 4 – Idy

For always working hard in every lesson and showing great behaviour for learning. Well done, Idy!

Year 5 – Lowen

For his bravery and confidence when drafting his 5W sentence in front of the class. Well done, Lowen!

Year 6 – McKenzie

For brilliant work in phonics and maths and for always having such a positive attitude towards his work. Well done, McKenzie!

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Writer – Elowen (Year 3)

For super writing when writing a recount, learning how to mark her work using a marking ladder. Well done, Elowen!

EYFS/KS1 Reader – Archie

For his amazing effort, determination, focus and progression in phonics this half term. Well done, Archie!

KS2 Reader – Lola (Year 5)

For perseverance in re-quizzing and then passing her AR tests with flying colours. Well done, Lola!

Mathematician – Amelia (Year R)

For showing fantastic understanding when creating a repeated pattern. Well done, Amelia!

Rock Star – Ruan (Year 4)

For the highest number of coins earned in the last 7 days. Well done, Ruan!

Performer – Maci (Year 6)

For bringing into school a newspaper article from the end of WW2 and describing it to the class. Well done, Maci!

Character – Spencer (Year 2)

For being an excellent role model in the school and the classroom. Spencer is always polite and courteous. Well done, Spencer!

Kind Regards,



Mrs Eddy
Head of School

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



CORNWALL COUNCIL Together for Families

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

Transfer to secondary school

September 2024

Applying for a place in year seven at a secondary school

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

REMINDER

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 Together for Families

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

Starting school

September 2024

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

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.

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 reception class place for September 2024

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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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