

Annual Newsletter 2024: One organisation over six sites

Each year I ask the Headteachers from across the Trust to select their best news stories from the year to share in this annual newsletter. It is an excellent way to really celebrate just a few of the amazing opportunities provided by staff in all our schools. These opportunities inspire children and adults in our community and you can see later in the newsletter some of the exceptionally high quality creative work this has led to. This newsletter provides me with another opportunity to say a massive thank you to all the staff who make this magic happen, day in and day out.



Dan Buckley

I would also like to celebrate the exceptional work of the central team in our Trust which has my P.A. Rachel at its heart. She makes us actually, rather than theoretically, a truly collaborative trust. At the start Jo and I were the whole central team and her financial expertise has once again expertly navigated us through to a clean audit despite enormous national turmoil. This has been especially hard for primaries and Seth has done an outstanding job with helping them steer through the financial challenges of this past year whilst Anne has supported them in all educational developments including the impressive poetry slam this year.

Our websites and publications such as this one are of a consistently high quality thanks to the excellent work of Diane. Andy and Steve are welcomed warmly by all the schools, as they have co-ordinated the considerable investment in our buildings. We have a national award winner as our governance professional across all of our schools in Kate, and she has continued to do an excellent job as the demands placed on governance have steadily grown.

This was the year that we have been able to grow this team further by restructuring and centralising some of these services, appointing some excellent new colleagues. Di has really accelerated our central HR services bringing enormous expertise to the team, supported exceptionally well by our new office administrator Tamsyn who also supports Rachel in operating SMART Nurseries. Anton has a new title as Head of ICT and has recruited really well to now operate one network across all the sites. Ian has managed the brand new team of operations managers and has laid the foundations for a new central estates team that will be led by Nigel. Kristien

SMART schools - working together

introduces himself later in this newsletter as our new Director of Education and we now have an exceptional team of Education Welfare Officers in Sophie and Helen who have already had a marked impact with pupils who have struggled to attend.

I'm also extremely proud of the part our trust has played in establishing the Cornwall Education Partnership and CACE networks as well as more locally through developing TAS as a focal point for all local charities and organisations working with families. Add in the four successful OFSTED reports and it has been an excellent year all round.

I hope you enjoy reading more about these successes and many others, in this newsletter.

Regards

Dan

Dan Buckley
Chief Executive Officer
SMART schools Trust



Photos from TAS Live networking event

SMART schools - achieving together

Who's Who in TSS (Trust Shared Services)



Rachel Yelland



Jo Lumbard



Seth Gent



Anne Bull



Diane Corrigan



Andy Sanders



Kate Williams



Di Saunders-Brewer



Tamsyn Hicks



Anton Steinhardt



Ian Foy



Helen Priestley



Sophie Hembroke

SMART schools - working together

Kristien Carrington appointed to the new post of Director of Education

Since joining SMART in January, I have thoroughly enjoyed working across all six schools and within the TSS Offices and getting to know the brilliant people who, through their expertise and passion, make them all special places to be. I have spent 26 years working in state education in a wide variety of schools across the country. Since 2006 I've worked in the Southwest teaching at the Sir James Smith's School in North Cornwall and, as Headteacher there for the last 5 years, leading them through their most recent successful inspection in 2022. Moving to a role where I get to work with lots of schools is a new challenge for me but one I am thoroughly enjoying because of the great people I've had the pleasure of meeting so far.



Kristien Carrington

Curriculum

Key to the new Director of Education role is the curriculum. Working with Curriculum Leaders across the Trust on Concept Review days and in mapping each school's curriculum has been fascinating. It is a real privilege to be able to meet children from Year 1 through to Year 13 to investigate when key concepts are understood and where misconceptions arise. To be able to discuss the way in which subjects are planned out in light of what has been heard from the children has been just brilliant in RE, History, MFL, DT and Science this year. Whether it was pretending to be angry with Hayley (What are you doing?), finding out that it was in fact Newton who invented the light bulb or that those pesky germs are just there hiding behind the air, I look forward to doing the same with Maths, Geography, PE, Performing Arts and PSHE next year.

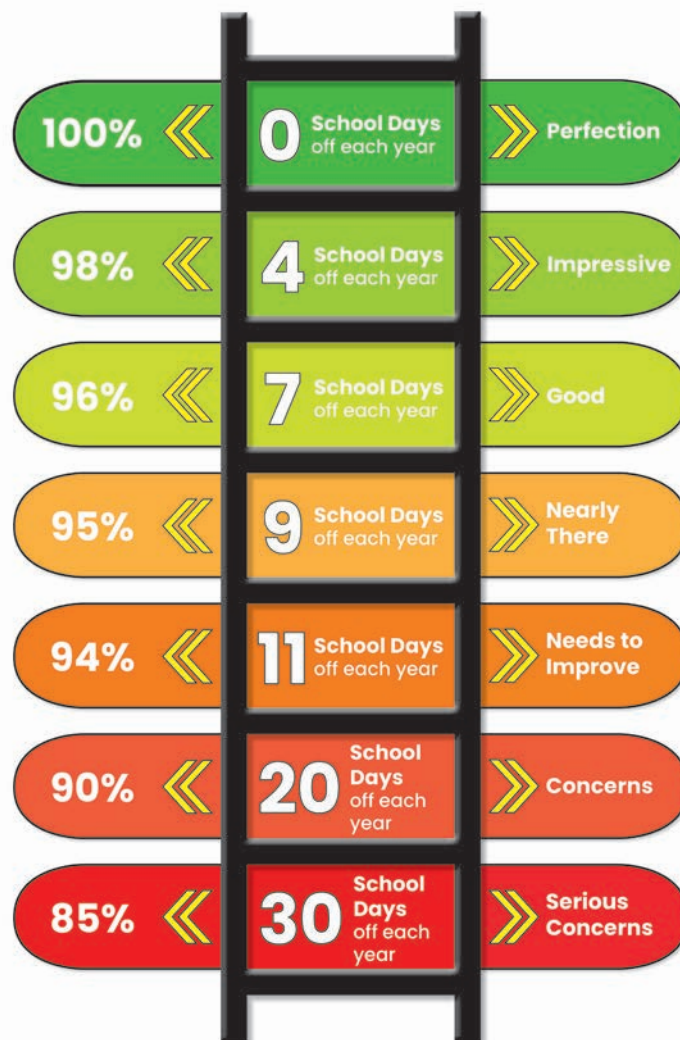


SMART schools - achieving together

Attendance

Schools throughout the country have been working hard to try new ideas for bringing attendance back to pre-covid levels. It was, therefore, really great to have the DfE advisor for attendance recognise the new models we have been trying in the Trust and praise the work we have been doing. Since starting in January I have been helping schools get these new policies working and seeing the improvements that are already happening. One really good example is the UK research that showed parents were much more likely to take it seriously when letters told them how many lessons their child had missed rather than what their percentage attendance was. Sarah Moss in Saltash skillfully navigated SIMS and worked out how to show this data. Then she was able to personally visit all the schools and work alongside their attendance leads to share this. An excellent example of research led collaboration and local innovation serving the families of all our children directly. In all but two of the weeks since Christmas the majority of our schools have been above the Cornish average.

Attendance Ladder



Safeguarding

This year the Trust have chaired the CACE Safeguarding network covering over 90% of Cornish schools. We were commended by the county for our practice at Liskeard and through each of our four successful OFSTEDs in the year and from September will be all on the same system for recording safeguarding information which is CPOMS. I have been working with the excellent teams in all the schools to see if we can all use the same codes in CPOMS so that we can get even more benefit from sharing the same system.



SMART schools - working together

Student Leaders across the Trust

Our nominated Trust leaders from each of our six schools have done an excellent job of representing their peers once again this year. Our decision to limit the term of this role created an influx of new talent to the group and it was great to see their confidence build as we moved from virtual meetings at the start of the year, through to classroom based and then the student led face to face leadership conference which this year took place in Saltash.



Throughout the year I'm proud to say that over five hundred of our pupils were given leadership opportunities by their schools, organised by student leadership co-ordinators in each school working alongside young leaders. The Trust representatives played a key role in sharing news of these achievements culminating in our annual student leadership awards held in Trewidland in which twenty two students were recognised for their outstanding contribution to their peers and their community, including running successful bids, running clubs, representing their peers as a Cornish councillor, setting up support networks for other students in their school and a whole host of other activity requiring genuine leadership talent.

Throughout the year, our student leaders ask for feedback from their peers in a range of topics and this year they helped to devise a student questionnaire that has gone out to all students and will be repeated each year so that we can chart the improvements we make over time. The number one issue that the student body asked us for support with this year was the toilet facilities in each school so we have begun work across all sites to transform these facilities in line with this student guidance. Some of this work will be happening over this summer and nearly half a million pounds of work additional to this is then scheduled for the next academic year.

SMART schools - achieving together

In September we will be starting again with new student leadership teams in each school and new representatives on the Trust student leadership group. The bar has been set extremely high by this outgoing group and we thank them for the excellent job they did throughout the year.



SMART schools - working together



SMART schools - achieving together



SMART schools - working together

Young Voices Take Centre Stage at SMART Schools Trust Poetry Slam

On Monday, 1st July, Liskeard Public Hall echoed with the passionate words of young poets as SMART Schools Trust primary schools – Dobwalls Community Primary, Landulph Primary, and Trewidland Primary and Pre-School – came together for an enthusiastic Poetry Slam.

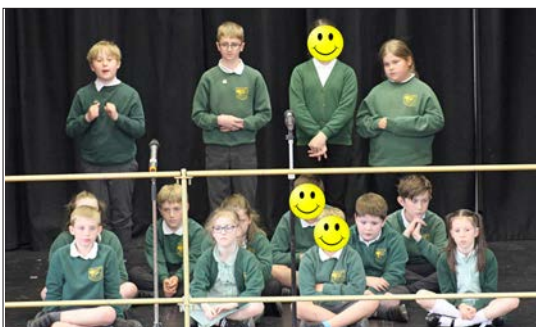
Spearheaded by Dr Anne Bull, SMART Schools Primary Advisor, the event kicked off in early June with pupils from the 3 primary schools. Through sessions and workshops, members of the community group Liskeard Poets visited the schools and helped the children to develop their ideas for writing their poems.

This brimming creativity and confidence was evident as KS2 students from each school took centre stage, performing and reciting their original poems to a captivated audience. Fellow students, teachers, school Governors, the SMART Trust CEO, and local poets from Liskeard Poets, filled the room with keen support.

In true poetry slam style, the young wordsmiths tackled the theme of “Our World, Our Thriving Future” with a vibrant diversity of voices. From powerful calls for environmental protection to optimistic visions of the future they hope to create many of the poems echoed a passion for the planet we live on and a longing to protect it and its people from harm. Truly inspiring words, delivered by the honest persuasion of children.

Adding to the excitement, Sally Butlin, specialist music teacher from Cornwall Music Service, got everyone up on their feet singing and performing lively renditions of ‘We Are the Children’ and other catchy tunes, further igniting the students’ enthusiasm.

But the impact of this event extends far beyond the stage. The culmination of this collaborative project is a beautiful anthology titled “Our World, Our Thriving Future,” which features the complete collection of poems with entries from every student from each school.

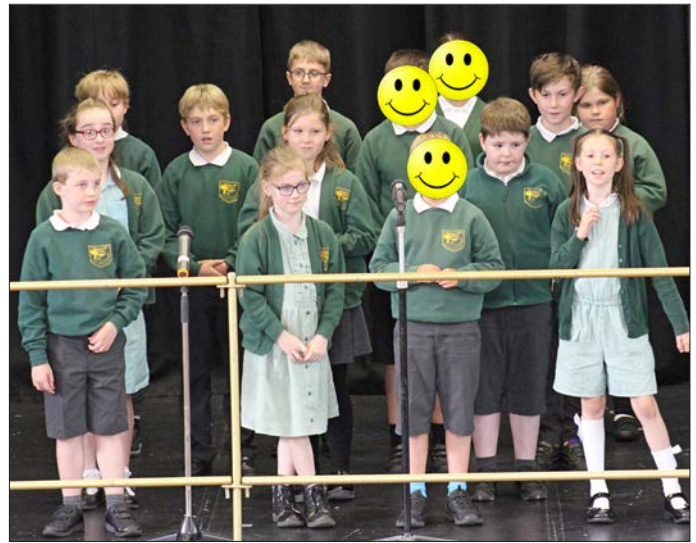


SMART schools - achieving together

Thanks goes to the artistic teaching assistant Rachel Bell, from Dobwalls School who did a fantastic job of creating the cover of the anthology. Staff and children alike have thoroughly enjoyed this fantastic opportunity, the quality of poetry produced is exceptional and we encourage you to purchase the anthology to see for yourself, the creativity and dedication of these young minds.

"Our World, Our Thriving Future", is available for purchase through the participating schools and local bookshops – Liskeard Bookshop and The Bookshelf, Saltash. To keep costs down for this publication, funding has been generously given by private donations and several local businesses.

Celebrating the power of words, the performance promoted self-expression, collaboration, and a sense of community, leaving a lasting impact on both the performers and the audience.



News from our Schools

Saltash Community School



May Fair Success!

The May Fair was an enormous success thanks to the tireless efforts of our community. A dedicated team of 24 student volunteers and several staff members played a vital role in the event. Their contributions ranged from selling raffle tickets to managing logistics such as moving barriers and erecting flags and notices.

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who volunteered their time and energy, as well as those who came out to show their support. Their collective efforts ensured a vibrant and successful May Fair for the entire community.



#TEAMSaltash on the front page!

TASH AND DISTRICT OBSERVER
Your only truly 'local' newspaper ...

2024 - Issue 383
Established 31 years

assant trumpet of trade; armoury of fearless truth without fear or favour.

Tamar Crossings a Priority

as the nation, unless petition is successful. SE Cornwall MP Murray has recently not the lack of cross support for her petition. We had hoped that this if opinion would lead cross-party effort to tolls in 2024. With link reaction, however, instead of the joint opposition.

Mersey says that Labour's mismanagement has left the bridge £41 million in debt, costing around £1 million a year to service, something the MP calls "an obscene amount of money".

Med Prison, Chair of TTAG said: "This pre-election, cross-party focus on the Tamar Crossings signifies a real opportunity to begin the work to dismantle the reliance on local users to fund the bridge and fund running costs, work which TTAG has campaigned for since the last toll rise in 2023, and has been given added momentum by the motion submitted by Cornwall Liberal Democrat councillors.

"We must ensure the work to investigate abolishing the tolls is robust, sincere and fruitful. It must be more than just 'meaningful'."

Thank You for the Music - Thank You for May Fair!

with activity as over 100 stalls filled the Street Market, a testament to the vibrancy of local businesses and community groups.

Longstone Park was the stage for diverse musical acts, ranging from the spirited pirates of St Stephens Primary School choir to Rock Choir and bands curated by volunteers, from Collin Bunting who organised the running races, to students from Saltash Community School, who were just bursting with enthusiasm. It really goes to show what a fantastic community we have here."

Expressing gratitude to sponsors and Saltash Town Council for their financial support, Hilary also empha-

News from our Schools

Saltash Community School



Oliver JR! Brought Dickensian London to Life at Saltash Community School

Our school recently produced a fabulous production of Oliver JR!, captivating audiences with the timeless tale of young Oliver Twist. Students from years 7-11 poured their hearts and talents into this musical adaptation, creating an unforgettable experience that highlighted the depth of their commitment and skill.

Costumes: Authentic and Vibrant

Thanks to the generosity of the Theatre Royal Plymouth, our performers dazzled in costumes that transported everyone straight to Victorian London. From the ragged attire of the orphans to the distinguished garb of Mr. Brownlow, each outfit was meticulously crafted to enhance the authenticity of the performance. A special mention goes to Nancy's iconic ensemble, which perfectly captured her resilience and warmth, adding depth to her lively and sympathetic character.

Incredible Teamwork and Dedication

Behind the scenes, countless hours of rehearsal and preparation paid off as our students brought this classic story to life. Their hard work was evident in every aspect of the production—from the seamless scene transitions to the expressive acting and harmonious singing. We are especially proud of our student-led technical and backstage teams; incredible teamwork.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all the cast and crew for their exceptional contributions, making Oliver JR! a true triumph. This performance not only showcased their individual talents but also their ability to work together as a cohesive team, exemplifying the core TEAM



News from our Schools

Saltash Community School



values here at Saltash.

Encore! Encore!

With the resounding success of Oliver JR!, we eagerly anticipate next year's show and can't wait to see what our talented students will bring to the stage. Thank you to all who supported and attended, making this a memorable event for everyone involved. We hope that you all consider yourself very welcome at our next show and can't wait for you to be back soon.

Bravo, students, for a job superbly done!



News from our Schools

Saltash Community School



16th Annual Ski Trip an Enormous Success!

This year, 39 students embarked on an epic 6-day adventure to St. Anton, Austria, located in the picturesque Tirol region.

Ideal snow conditions and exceptional instruction provided the perfect foundation for an amazing experience. Engaging evening entertainment and comfortable accommodation at our hotel further contributed to a fantastic week.

This trip consistently surpasses expectations, and 2024 proved no exception. The progress witnessed in many of the skiers' abilities was really exceptional.

Looking ahead, our focus now turns to Italy for next winter's adventure. Places for this trip filled up within just four days last September, highlighting its popularity. We look forward to launching registrations for the 2026 ski trip this coming September.

A massive thank you to Jen Rogers, Dan Budd, Emma Gue, and Jack Perry for their invaluable contributions as part of the dedicated team that made this trip possible.



News from our Schools

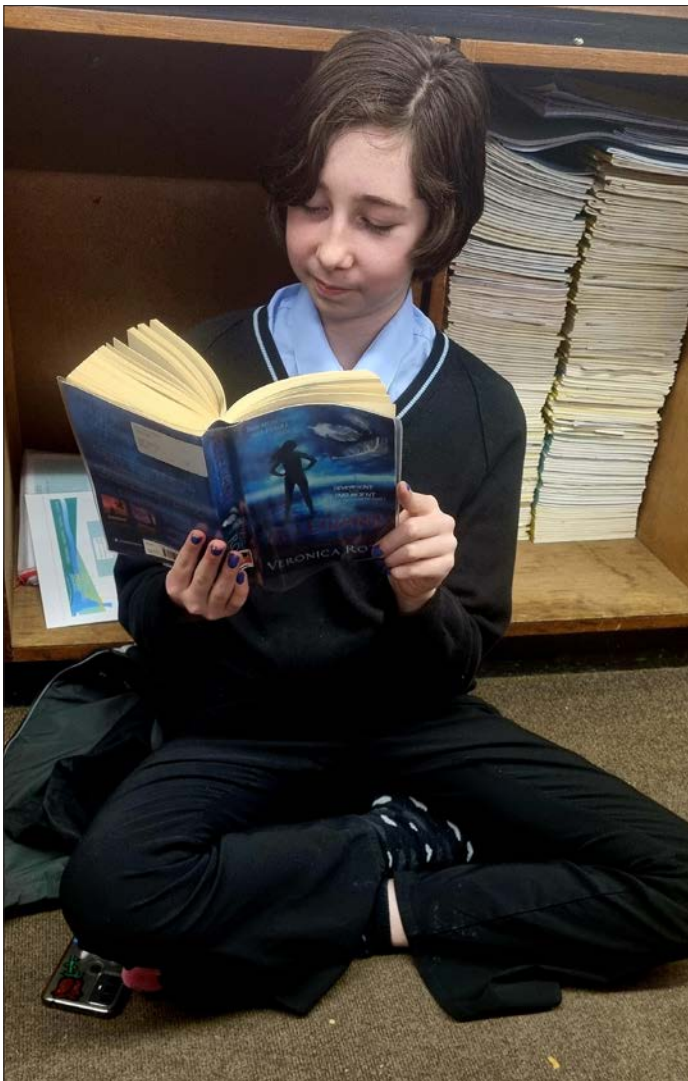
Saltash Community School



Saltash Community School Raises Over £1,900 for Eva's Little Stars

Averil Pinckney from local group 'Eva's Little Stars' delivered a very special thank you to staff and students at Saltash Community School, who raised an incredible £1,932.05 through their sponsored read event.

The initial fundraising target was set between £200 and £300, and the overwhelming response far exceeded expectations.



News from our Schools

Saltash Community School



The Big Sleep: A Night of Fun and Philanthropy

The Saltash community spirit shone brightly on Friday, November 17th, as students and staff united for a successful fundraising event: The Big Sleep. Despite the crisp autumn air, participants embraced the camaraderie and a spirit of friendly competition (a few good-natured snores notwithstanding).

The Big Sleep offered a diverse range of activities that cultivated a sense of connection while encouraging friendly competition. From collaborative team-building exercises to dodgeball matches, attendees revelled in an evening of fun and engagement. Lively rounds of Just Dance and the opportunity to gather around a crackling fire pit with classic s'mores further enriched the experience. With a screening of the much loved family film, Home Alone 2, before drifting off to sleep for the night.



News from our Schools

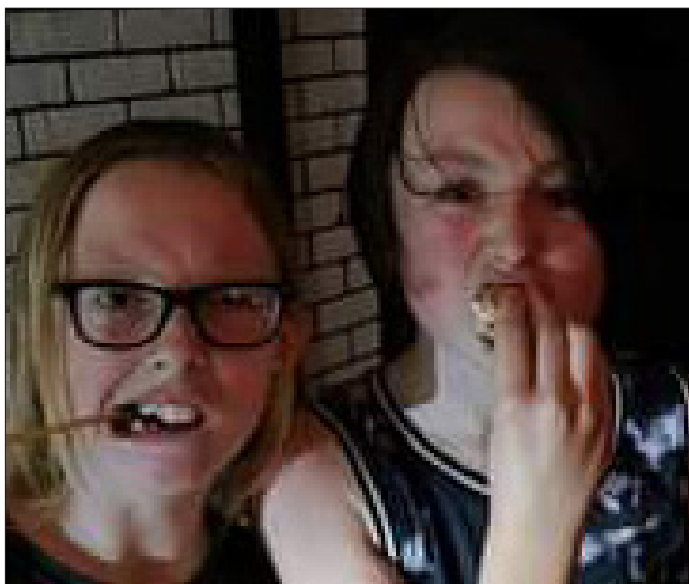
Saltash Community School



However, The Big Sleep was not all about entertainment. It served as a platform to raise awareness about the sobering issue of homelessness and those forced to sleep on the streets. This event successfully raised over £1,500 in support of St. Petrocs homeless charity. Our thanks goes to everyone who participated, volunteered their time to run activities, and contributed to the overall success of this meaningful event. Their dedication and enthusiasm truly embody the collaborative spirit and compassion that defines TEAM Saltash.



The Big Sleep proved to be a great success, and we look forward to making it an annual event.



News from our Schools

Liskeard School & Community College



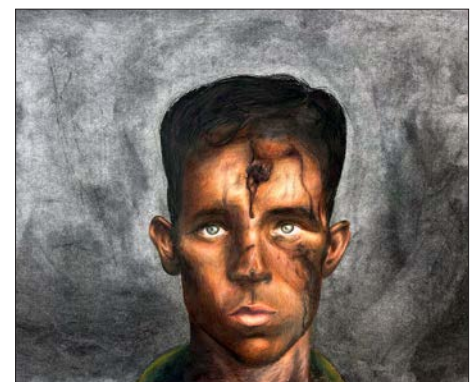
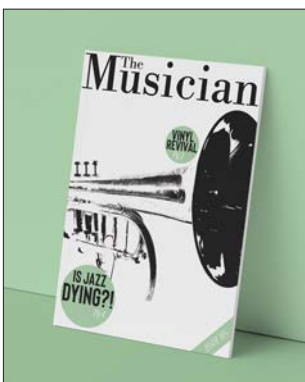
The 21st Annual Art, Design and Photography Exhibition 2024

The 21st annual exhibition marks the culmination of another remarkable year for our Art, Design, and Photography students. Ninety-seven students showcased their work, reflecting a keen eye for aesthetics, a strong visual understanding, and an abundance of energy and dedication.

The exhibition served as a platform for personal exploration, technical proficiency, and experimentation. As in previous years, the displayed works revealed a sensitivity, a perceptive approach to thematic content, and a strong grasp of visual literacy. Students meticulously applied practical skills to challenge conventions and forge new meaning within the context of art history. This dedication throughout the year resulted in a confident, independent, and visually compelling body of work, a testament to each student's unique artistic voice.

Members of the Creative and Performing Arts team would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all its students on another creative year. Your talent, creativity, and dedication are truly inspiring. Our diverse offerings, encompassing GCSE and A Level courses, performing ensembles, exhibitions, workshops, and educational trips, have fostered a vibrant and inspiring environment for the entire school community. As results day approaches, we celebrate the exceptional quality of creative expression showcased throughout the year.

A special recognition goes to all who exhibited or performed their work. Sharing your art for public appreciation and critique requires courage and self-reflection, qualities you should be immensely proud of. Whether you're embarking on further education, university degrees, apprenticeships, or the workplace, we wish you the very best as you begin this exciting new chapter in September.



News from our Schools

Liskeard School & Community College



ARC Students Shine in Collaboration with Access Cornwall!

We are bursting with pride here at Liskeard School & Community College! A fantastic group of ARC students recently participated in a remarkable work experience program with Access Cornwall, and the results are fantastic.

These dedicated students collaborated to create a valuable resource: a magazine aimed at employers, providing guidance on how to best support individuals with SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) in the workplace. The magazine, titled "SEND Careers Magazine," is a testament to their hard work and commitment, and you can view it here: [Link to Magazine](#)



Elle, Learning Support Assistant from the ARC, is commended for her unwavering support throughout the project. She ensured each student felt empowered and equipped to tackle their designated roles, ultimately stretching their abilities and promoting a safe, supportive work environment.

A Leader Emerges: Alfie's Stellar Contribution

One student, Alfie, deserves special recognition for his exceptional leadership throughout the project. From the outset, Alfie demonstrated a natural aptitude for leadership, expertly guiding his peers and diligently matching their skillsets with the most suitable tasks within the magazine production team. His initiative extended further, taking the lead in planning and conducting an insightful interview with an Access Cornwall employee. Alfie's commitment went above and beyond, as he dedicated his own time to meticulously edit and write up the interview content.

Additionally, a special shout-out goes to Alfie for his exemplary leadership qualities. Alfie, receiving a leadership certificate presented by Dan Buckley, CEO of SMART Schools Trust, is a well-deserved recognition of your exceptional contribution!

A Team Effort Steeped in Support and Encouragement

Alfie's dedication wasn't solely focused on individual tasks. He consistently fostered a positive and productive team atmosphere by encouraging and supporting his peers, ensuring everyone stayed on track to meet deadlines. His approach was characterised by kindness, humour, and exceptional organisational skills. The maturity and professionalism displayed by Alfie were truly commendable.

A Round of Applause for All!

We at Liskeard School & Community College extend our congratulations to all the ARC students who participated in this project. Their combined efforts have resulted in a valuable resource that will undoubtedly benefit employers and individuals with SEND alike.

News from our Schools

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Inspiring the Next Generation: Girls Explore Engineering

It was an exciting day for nine of our Year 8 girls when they got to participate in International Women in Engineering Day (#INWED24) at Truro High School for Girls! Over twenty different employers in various engineering sectors came together to run workshops and group activities, all with the goal of inspiring and educating young minds about the potential of a career in engineering.

The girls had a fantastic time engaging in different activities and discussions, learning about the many different engineering fields and the various job opportunities that are available to them in the future. They even got the chance to show off their own skills and creativity by coming up with their own designs. Ava impressed everyone with her designs of a Cantilever bridge and water pump and walked away with two prizes!

This event was a great way to encourage and support the next generation of female engineers. It's inspiring to see how many industry professionals were willing to share their knowledge and experience with these young girls, giving them the confidence they need to succeed in this exciting field.

A huge thank you to Truro High School for Girls for organising such an amazing event. We're so grateful that our students got the opportunity to meet with these industry professionals and gain hands-on experience in the engineering sector. We can't wait to see where their talents and passions will take them!



News from our Schools

Liskeard School & Community College



Year 10 & 12 Sports Leaders Shine at Primary Sports Festival!

Our Year 10 and 12 Sports Leaders took centre stage on Friday 10th May, as they organised, hosted, and led a fantastic primary sports festival! Basking in glorious sunshine, approximately 40 student leaders designed a competition featuring seven exciting athletic events.

Primary school students had the opportunity to:

- Test their throwing skills in the javelin, discus, and shot put.
- Soar through the air in the long jump.
- Push their limits in the 300-metre distance run.
- Race for the finish line in the sprint and hurdle events.

The photos included in this article capture the energy and enthusiasm of the day! We see primary students focusing intently on instructions from our dedicated Sports Leaders, giving their all in each competition, and celebrating their achievements.

Our Year 10 and 12 Sports Leaders demonstrated exceptional leadership and teaching skills throughout the afternoon. Their passion for sports and ability to create a fun and inclusive environment were truly inspiring.

The primary students left the festival exhausted but happy, having not only learnt new athletic skills but also experienced the joy of teamwork and friendly competition. A big thank you to our Sports Leaders for their hard work and dedication in making this event such a success!



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Chemistry Outreach team from Oxford University inspires Year 11 with Cutting-Edge Science!

Year 11 were treated to a taste of the future on Wednesday 20th March with a visit from the incredible Chemistry Outreach team at Oxford University!

Students participated in two exciting, hands-on workshops that brought the world of cutting-edge science right into our classrooms.



- **Plastics from Another Perspective:** Geared towards GCSE and Double Award Chemistry students, this workshop explored the development of sustainable polymers, a vital area of research in today's world. Students not only learned about the science behind these innovative materials, but also got practical experience using infrared (IR) instruments – the kind used by real scientists!
- **Bug Fight!:** This workshop, aimed at GCSE and Double Award Biology students, tackled the crucial issue of drug-resistant infections. Students delved into the research being conducted at the prestigious INEOS Oxford Institute (IOI) and participated in a practical investigation of potential solutions, exploring the concept of “guardian angel” molecules that could be used in combination therapies.

But the learning didn't stop there! Students had the incredible opportunity to connect directly with Oxford research professors in a Q & A session.

This visit was a fantastic bridge between the theoretical science taught in the classroom and the real-world research pushing the boundaries of knowledge. It provided a glimpse into the exciting possibilities that await our future scientists.

A huge thank you to the amazing team from Oxford University for sharing their expertise and passion with our Year 11s. We'd also like to extend our gratitude to our Year 11 students who, as always, were fantastic ambassadors for our school!

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News from our Schools

Looe Community Academy



Celebrating a Year of Excellence: Looe Community Academy Cheer Team

The past year has been both exhilarating and industrious for the Looe Community Academy (LCA) Cheer Team, showcasing their talents and dedication across various events.

Performances with Plymouth Gladiators Speedway

The LCA Cheer Team has become a regular fixture at the Plymouth Gladiators Speedway, delighting fans with up to 10 routines over several evenings. Their vibrant performances have not only entertained the audience but have also earned public commendations from the Gladiators, who have expressed their gratitude for the cheer team's unwavering support and spirited entertainment.

Academy Showcase Extravaganza

In December, the cheer teams participated in the academy's evening showcase, joining a diverse array of local dance groups. The combined teams performed over 15 routines, including the opening and closing acts, for a packed audience. This showcase also featured several individual and group performances from other students, highlighting their diverse talents. Notably, some students performed as part of the cheer team for the first time, displaying their burgeoning skills.

The success of the showcase is a testament to the dedication of the students, staff, and audience, creating a wonderfully positive and enjoyable experience for everyone.



News from our Schools

Looe Community Academy



involved. Kudos to all who contributed to this memorable event!

Celebratory Trip to London

During the Christmas holidays, Key Stage 4 Cheer Team members, accompanied by Mr Deacon, Miss Bayliss, and some peers, embarked on an exciting three-day trip to London. This trip, a celebration of their hard work throughout the term, included visits to Hyde Park Winter Wonderland, Madame Tussauds, St. Paul's Cathedral, The London Bridge Experience, and a performance of "Wicked - The Musical." The students also enjoyed exploring the city's festive Christmas markets and made a brief stop at the iconic Harrods store.

Triumph at the Looe 10 Miler

In February, the LCA Cheer Teams demonstrated their resilience and commitment by performing at the Looe 10 Miler event. Despite facing adverse weather conditions that led to the cancellation of the 'Mini Miler,' the students chose to perform outdoors, delivering spirited routines that motivated the 500+ runners tackling the challenging course. Many students also volunteered to distribute medals and goodies to the finishers, continuing to entertain the crowd with additional performances.

Their outstanding efforts were not only a credit to the school but also to the entire community. The success of the Looe 10 Miler was greatly enhanced by the cheer teams' involvement, showcasing their dedication and community spirit.

A Year to Remember

The Looe Community Academy Cheer Team has exemplified excellence, enthusiasm, and resilience throughout the year. Their numerous performances and contributions have brought joy and inspiration to many, earning them well-deserved accolades. Congratulations to all the students, staff, and supporters who made these achievements possible!



Looe Community Academy



Celebrating Diversity at Looe Community Academy: A Day of Cultural Enrichment and Awareness

On 1st March, Looe Community Academy hosted its second annual Diversity Day, a cornerstone event in the students' ongoing education about respecting differences and actively opposing hate. This year's event featured a comprehensive program designed to enhance students' understanding of various cultures and social issues.

The day began with a captivating session on Hindu deities, followed by an energetic Bhangra dance workshop led by the talented Charlotte Richards from InspirAsian Dance in Truro. This immersive experience allowed students to appreciate the rich cultural traditions of Hinduism and South Asian dance.

In the cookery class, students learned to make Hamantaschen, a traditional pastry associated with the Jewish festival of Purim. This hands-on activity provided an engaging way to explore Jewish culture and its culinary traditions.



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A thought-provoking workshop on race and language was facilitated by Black Voices Cornwall, a charity founded in 2020 to address issues of isolation, prejudice, and discrimination in Cornwall. This session challenged students to consider what constitutes acceptable language regarding race, fostering critical discussions about inclusivity and respect.

Students also watched and reflected on "Inside Our Autistic Minds," an insightful BBC documentary by Chris Packham. The documentary, which is set for a second series, provided a valuable perspective on autism, encouraging empathy and understanding.

A highlight of the day was the inspiring talk by Brandie Deignan, Chief Executive Officer of Pier Health Group and former Managing Director of Marco Pierre White Restaurants. Speaking to Year 9 students, Brandie shared her journey to success and her mindset in achieving career goals, leaving a lasting impression on the aspiring young audience.

Organiser Liz Fowkes remarked, "The sessions that students participated in really made them develop their skills of empathy for others." This sentiment was echoed in the creation of a mural celebrating human rights, a lasting legacy of the day. The mural, led by Lesa Welch, an art teacher at Looe Community Academy, serves as a vibrant reminder of the importance of respecting human rights now more than ever.

Looe Community Academy's Diversity Day was a tremendous success, enriching students' cultural awareness and empathy while inspiring them to champion inclusivity and respect in their communities.



News from our Schools

Looe Community Academy



Celebrating the Remarkable Performance of "That's Not My Pilchard"

A huge well done to the talented cast of 14 students from years 7 to 9 who delivered an exceptional outdoor performance of "That's Not My Pilchard". This original production, inspired by extensive research from the Looe Heritage Centre on the history of pilchard fishing in Looe, was performed to an enthusiastic audience of friends, families, and the notable presence of "Nelson the Seal."

For many of these young performers, it was their first experience on stage, making their achievement even more remarkable. Throughout the process, each student displayed significant growth in confidence, culminating in a performance that was truly fantastic.

Claire Turon, Drama Teacher at Looe Community Academy said: "I am personally extremely proud of each and every one of them, and the development journeys they have entrusted me to take them on this year. I hope they will continue to develop their drama skills and confidence going forward, and I wish them all the very best for their futures".



News from our Schools

Looe Community Academy



KS4 Drama Students Experience Insightful Tour of Plymouth Theatre Royal's Wardrobe Department

The KS4 Drama class recently embarked on an enriching tour of the Plymouth Theatre Royal's wardrobe department, a distinguished facility renowned for crafting costumes for productions worldwide and within the theatre itself.

During the visit, students explored the extensive costume store and examined key costume pieces, gaining a comprehensive understanding of the intricate processes involved in theatrical costume design. The department staff highlighted the vast range of production budgets, which can vary from as little as £500 to as much as £50,000, illustrating the diverse financial considerations in costume creation.

The tour emphasised that exceptional drawing skills are not a prerequisite for costume design in the modern era. Students learned that many designers now rely on tools like Photoshop and internet images to bring their visions to life.

Additionally, they were introduced to various stagecraft techniques, including clever methods to achieve visual effects economically.

A highlight of the tour was meeting a freelance wig maker, who was in the process of creating a wig for the character Joyce in the stage adaptation of "Stranger Things." This interaction provided a unique glimpse into the specialised field of wig making and its significance in theatre.

As a token of appreciation, each student was gifted a redundant costume item to recycle or repurpose, fostering a sense of creativity and sustainability.

The visit also offered valuable career insights. The staff emphasised that gaining practical experience, even at amateur or school level, is crucial for those aspiring to enter the field of theatrical costume design. Additionally, they stressed the importance of strong interpersonal skills in this collaborative industry.



Looe Community Academy



Inspiring Young Artists: Year 7 Gifted Workshop

A select group of gifted Year 7 art students recently had the unique opportunity to participate in an immersive workshop led by renowned local botanical artist Stuart Law. This event, which took students off timetable for the day, was dedicated to focused creative learning and artistic development.

The workshop offered students a rare chance to work closely with such a talented and inspiring instructor. Throughout the day, they were introduced to a variety of advanced techniques, including colour washing, the use of masking fluid, and the principles of Japanese composition. As the day progressed, it was evident that the students were growing in confidence and skill.

Each participant produced several practice



News from our Schools

Looe Community Academy



studies, which will serve as a foundation for further exploration and development in upcoming gifted artist sessions. These monthly sessions aim to nurture the students' talents, with the hope that they will eventually become gifted artist peer mentors for the incoming Year 7 cohort.

In recognition of their hard work and creativity, the students' artwork will be exhibited alongside Stuart Law's pieces at The Ebenezer Gallery in Polperro during the school holidays. This exhibition will not only showcase their impressive progress but also celebrate their artistic achievements.



News from our Schools



Trewidland Primary & Pre-School

Beam House Trip: Action-Packed Learning for Trewidland Students

Trewidland students attended a challenging and enriching residential trip to Beam House. Over the 3 days and 2 nights, they participated in a variety of activities designed to test their physical and mental abilities.

The trip combined classic outdoor pursuits like archery and high ropes with adventurous challenges like a muddy obstacle course and ziplining. Students also honed their focus and technique with fencing and abseiling.

Beyond the physical challenges, Beam House offered a sensory trail to heighten awareness and a nighttime ambush game to test teamwork. Evenings were spent socialising by the campfire with singing and marshmallows, promoting camaraderie among the students.

This trip wasn't just fun and games; it was seamlessly integrated into the PE curriculum. The activities promoted physical and mental agility, enriching the students' learning experience in a memorable way.



News from our Schools

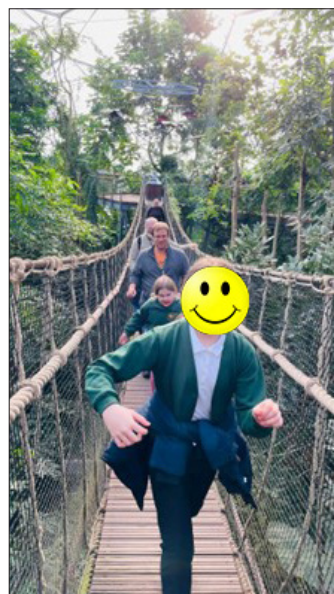


Trewidland Primary & Pre-School

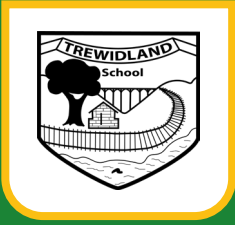
Ice Skating & Climate Change workshop at the Eden Project

Our trip to the Eden Project proved to be a big hit and valuable learning experience for Trewidland students as they explored the diverse biomes and enjoyed a spot of ice skating.

This enriching experience has not only provided our pupils with memorable moments but has also allowed them to develop an appreciation for the natural world and the joy of friendship - our home-school value for the term!



News from our Schools



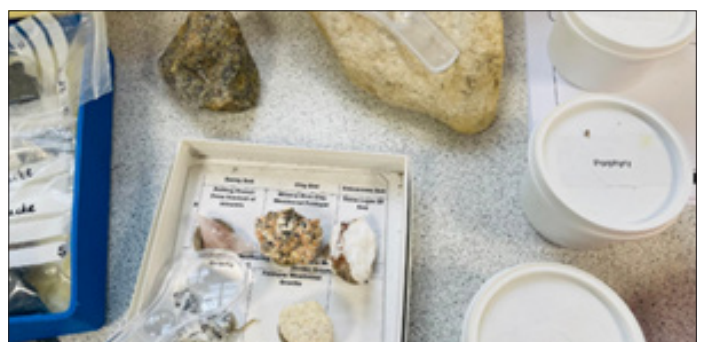
Trewidland Primary & Pre-School

Science Practical Work: Classifying Rocks

Our budding scientists in Farthing Wood Class have had a marvellous time exploring the fascinating world of rocks. Using their scientific tools and investigation methods, they have explored the classification of rocks based on their unique properties.

Through rigorous testing and observation, students have assessed a wide range of rock types, investigating their permeability, durability, density, and hardness. Building upon their newly acquired knowledge, they have successfully categorised these rocks into three main types: sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic.

To showcase their work, the class has proudly set up a display just inside the classroom door. Equipped with magnifying glasses for closer inspection, the display allows visitors to explore the distinct characteristics of each rock type.



News from our Schools



Trewidland Primary & Pre-School

Captivating Art Exhibition Celebration

A huge congratulations to all the students who participated in this year's Art Exhibition! Witnessing the exceptional entries was a true pleasure. The artwork showcased a fantastic range of artistic skills and craftsmanship, making the process of awarding certificates and prizes a delightful challenge.

The creativity, effort, and dedication evident in each piece reflect the students' commitment. These wonderful works of art stand as a testament to the students' passion and perseverance, making the exhibition a great success. We are incredibly proud of our students' achievements and can't wait to see their continued growth and future successes!



News from our Schools



Trewidland Primary & Pre-School

Silly Science: An Explosive Spectacle for British Science Week!

The extraordinary 'Silly Science' workshops exceeded all expectations! We were captivated by the awe-inspiring explosions and mind-blowing scientific demonstrations conducted by the exceptional Professor Nitrate! This event truly ignited our passion for Science as part of the British Science Week celebration!



News from our Schools



Trewidland Primary & Pre-School

Spring Show

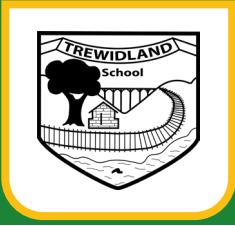
The sheer variety and ingenuity of the entries were astounding. From spring gardens delicately crafted on a biscuit tin lid to beautifully handmade flowers that exuded the essence of the season, each entry showcased the immense creativity and talent of our students. Spring was beautifully expressed through poems that captured the vibrancy and renewal of this wondrous time of year. The meticulously decorated eggs symbolised new beginnings, while the thoughtfully designed spring-themed junk models showcased resourcefulness and innovation.

The exhibition featured an array of handcrafted animals, each one sculpted and crafted with love and care. Attendees were captivated by the intricately designed spring bonnets, showcasing the artistry and flair of our students. As a delightful treat, there were chocolate nests on show, providing a delectable taste of the season. A collection of decorated pebbles and vibrant rainbow collages served as a testament to the artistic expression and imagination of our talented young individuals. To complete this delightful celebration of spring, homemade jam was also showcased, offering a taste of the season's bounty.

We owe a massive round of applause to our wonderful children - their marvellous entries truly captured the essence of the season. Your hard work, dedication, and imaginative interpretations left us astounded. The show would not have been the same without your incredible contributions, and we are immensely proud of each and every one of you.



News from our Schools



Trewidland Primary & Pre-School

SPORTS DAY 2024

We were incredibly proud of our students at this year's Sports Day. Their grit and determination to succeed were evident in every event. Each race, game, and activity showcased their hard work, perseverance, and sportsmanship. It was inspiring to see their dedication and the way they supported each other.

We want to thank the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) for their exceptional efforts. The delicious refreshments they provided added a delightful touch to the day, keeping everyone energised and happy. Their hard work behind the scenes was crucial in making Sports Day a great success.

Special recognition goes to the Dragon (Green) Team for their outstanding performance and victory. A big thank you to our Year 5 and 6 Team captains, whose leadership and organisational skills ensured everything ran smoothly. Their effort in setting up equipment and co-ordinating events was invaluable.

In conclusion, Sports Day was a fantastic celebration of our students' determination and team spirit. The support from families, the dedication of the PTA, and the hard work of our staff made it a day to remember.



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Trewidland Primary & Pre-School

Visit from Liskeard Fire Station

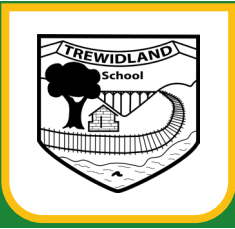
We were incredibly fortunate to welcome a visit from Liskeard Fire Station. This exciting opportunity provided us with an in depth understanding of their important role in the community and the specialised equipment they employ to accomplish various firefighting tasks.

We correlated this visit with the KS1's topic on 'People who help us' and 'The Great Fire of London'! By doing so, we were able to further our knowledge and appreciation for these crucial aspects of our society's history and safety.

Our time with the Liskeard Fire Station was fantastic; however, one particular aspect stood out above all: the opportunity to venture inside an actual fire engine! This experience brought us great joy and added an extra layer of excitement to this extraordinary day!



News from our Schools



Trewidland Primary & Pre-School

History & Heroes with Hundred Acre Wood Class

Police Visit Enhances Learning in Heroes & Heroines Topic

Our Heroes & Heroines topic took an exciting turn when we welcomed Police Community Support Officer Bex for an engaging visit. Students learned about PCSO Bex's role in the community and had the opportunity to explore a police car, further enriching their understanding of local law enforcement.



Tudor Houses Take Centre Stage in History

As part of our journey through history, we have been learning about the Tudor era by constructing our own miniature Tudor houses. Utilising straw and other materials, this hands-on experience allowed students to explore the architectural techniques of the period in a creative and engaging way.



News from our Schools



Dobwalls Community Primary School

We are an Ofsted 'Good' School

Earlier this academic year, we were delighted to hear the fantastic news that we achieved a "Good" rating in our Ofsted inspection! This recognition is a powerful reflection of the dedication and hard work of the entire school community.

The inspectors were particularly impressed by the school's welcoming atmosphere, where children feel happy and thrive in their learning environment. They commended the "high expectations for all pupils" which cultivated a positive attitude towards studies. A strong emphasis on reading at every age was also highlighted as a key strength.

"We are incredibly proud of this achievement," said Kathryn Pipe, Headteacher at Dobwalls Primary. "This wouldn't be possible without the tremendous support of our parents and carers, as well as the dedication of our exceptional staff. We are also grateful for the ongoing collaboration with our colleagues within SMART Schools Trust."

This positive Ofsted report is a significant milestone for Dobwalls Primary School. It underscores the school's commitment to providing an excellent education for all its students. Congratulations to everyone involved!



News from our Schools



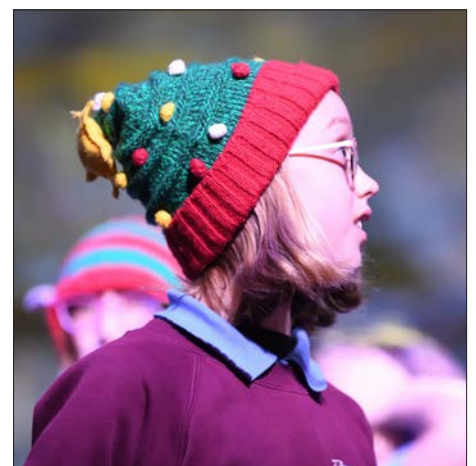
Dobwalls Community Primary School

Juniors Shine at Carnglaze Caverns Christmas Concert

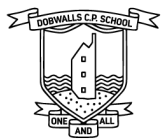
Last December, Dobwalls School juniors took to the stage at Carnglaze Caverns for a magical Christmas concert. Each class performed individual songs, as well as joint class pieces, culminating in a delightful rendition of "I Wish It Could be Christmas Everyday."

This was a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to perform in such a unique and special setting. The event created wonderful memories for everyone involved.

Our thanks go to all the parents and carers for bringing the children, as well as to the incredible staff at Dobwalls and Carnglaze Caverns for making this event possible.



News from our Schools



Dobwalls Community Primary School

Sporting Success: Cross Country Awards and Football Triumphs

Our athletes have shown exceptional dedication and talent this season, and their hard work has paid off in remarkable ways.

In Cross Country, a massive congratulations is due to the entire team. With 24 runners completing three or more races over the season, the commitment and endurance of our students are highly admirable. Special accolades go to Tilly in Year 6, who finished an impressive 2nd overall. Adding to this achievement, our Year 5/6 girls' team clinched the top spot. WOW! The spirit and determination of our runners have set a high standard for all.

Meanwhile, on the football field, our Boys Football Team has brought home the league title! Their skill, teamwork, and perseverance have led them to this fantastic victory. We are thrilled to announce that they have also won the cup - absolutely fantastic! The final match was a tense game resulting in 0-0 with extra time and Dobwalls winning on penalties. Go Dobwalls!

Well done to all our athletes for their outstanding performances and sportsmanship! We are so proud of each and every one of you.



News from our Schools



Dobwalls Community Primary School

Charity Fundraising Update: Supporting The Cornish Seal Sanctuary

This year, our pupils have chosen The Cornish Seal Sanctuary as the charity to support, and their enthusiasm has been truly inspiring. The children have actively participated in various fundraising activities, showcasing their commitment to this wonderful cause.

One of the highlights has been the introduction of "Toasty Tuesday"! Their initiative doesn't stop there; they have also set up stalls at our school fairs, drawing attention to their cause and raising even more money.

We are delighted to share that Howdens has generously contributed a £250 donation to our fundraising efforts. This kind gesture has significantly boosted our total, bringing us to an impressive £600 and counting!

The dedication and hard work of our pupils, along with the support of our community, are making a significant difference. We are excited to see how much more we can raise for The Cornish Seal Sanctuary. Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far, and let's keep the momentum going for this fantastic cause!



News from our Schools



Dobwalls Community Primary School

School Achieves Rights Respecting Bronze Award

We are thrilled to announce that our school has been honoured with the Rights Respecting Bronze Award. This award recognises schools that embed the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) into their ethos and planning.

The CRC is a comprehensive human rights treaty that outlines the civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights of children. It consists of 54 articles, each dedicated to ensuring the well-being and development of every child, defined as any human being below the age of 18.



Achieving the Bronze Award signifies our commitment to promoting and protecting children's rights within our school community. It reflects our dedication to creating an environment where every student feels valued and respected. We have integrated these principles into our daily activities, curriculum, and policies, ensuring that our students not only understand their rights but also the importance of respecting the rights of others.

This accomplishment is just the beginning of our journey. We are eager to continue building on this foundation, aiming for the Silver and eventually the Gold Award. Our goal is to foster a school culture where the rights of children are at the heart of everything we do.

We look forward to the ongoing support from our students, staff, and parents/carers as we continue to champion the rights of every child in our community. Thank you for being a part of this significant milestone.

Together, let's keep moving forward in our mission to create a rights-respecting school for all.

News from our Schools



Landulph Primary School

The 2023-2024 academic year has been (as always) a busy one, and there have been so many wonderful opportunities for our children that it is difficult to choose just a few. One of our biggest highlights of the year has to be our "GOOD" judgement from Ofsted, who quoted 'Landulph School is a happy and welcoming place which sits at the heart of village life.' Here are just a few more examples of the fantastic experiences the children have had over this year.

Curriculum Trips

School trips are such an important part of a child's life, allowing them opportunities to visit new places, understand the wider world around them, and linking their curriculum learning with real life, personal experiences.

Eden Project

One of Class 1's topics in the summer term was exploring the question "How are the plants that grow in the rainforest different to our local plants?". Living in this part of the country meant that there was a fantastic opportunity for the children to visit the Eden Project, learn all about the biomes, plants and creatures that live within them. There were some very tired children at the end of the visit, but they came into school the next day rejuvenated and full of stories to tell about their trip.



Cotehele

In the summer term, our Class 2 were learning all about plants in Science – identifying common plants, understanding the needs of plants in order to grow well, learning about

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Landulph Primary School

the life cycle of a plant and the process of pollination. With the acres of gardens and orchards that Cotehele have to explore, the children learned all about a vast range of plant life. They participated in a 'Nature Detectives' activity which helped them to understand how the environment changes with the seasons and the life cycles of plants and animals. Unfortunately, they didn't experience the same glorious weather that Class 1 did and returned to school rather wet and muddy – but still in high spirits thanks to the great experience they had.



Bodmin Keep

In the spring term, Class 3's topic enquiry question was "What causes us to change?", with a contextual focus on the Second World War. The children visited Bodmin Keep and toured their museum of memorabilia and recreated battlefields. They were given the fantastic opportunity to attend a workshop run by war veterans who shared their experiences and taught them all about the war.



News from our Schools



Landulph Primary School

School Visitors

As well as enriching the curriculum with several off-site visits, we have welcomed many visitors into school to share their expertise with us.

Brian Wiltshire

Brian manages several quarries in the South West and is a parent to one of our Year 4 pupils. Part of the Year 3 Science curriculum focuses on rocks, the different types and how they are made. Therefore, in October, we were incredibly fortunate that we could ask Brian to come in to school to share his knowledge and experience working within the quarrying industry. He showed us rocks that were hundreds of thousands of years old, explained how to identify different types of rock and the favourite part for many was watching videos of explosions within the quarry.



Police Service

Another of our fantastic parents works within the Devon and Cornwall Police Service. He visited Class 1 in March and the children enjoyed trying on vests, helmets, and hats. They got to see how a stinger is rolled out onto the road. It was most exciting for them to sit in the police squad car, hear the sirens and see the lights. They also got to see Mrs Slateford get handcuffed! We had another visit from the Police earlier in the year, organised by Mrs Plumb. They came to speak with us about road safety, in cars, on bikes and as pedestrians.



News from our Schools



Landulph Primary School

Fire Service

In May, the fire service visited school and all pupils got the chance to listen to information that they shared in classrooms and also have some more hands on experience with some of the equipment. Many children ended up getting a bit soggy whilst operating the hoses! Seeing and hearing the fire engines was a highlight for many.



River Explorers

During their first topic of the year, investigating the River Tamar, Class 2 had a visit from the Westcountry Rivers Trust. They brought in water samples from the River Tamar and gave us some information about what invertebrates to look for within the samples. The children got to use magnifying pots and hand lenses and classification sheets to work out what living things they could see. We learned that the diversity of species and number of each invertebrate found helps to indicate water quality.



RNLI

Living so close to the coast means that it is imperative that our pupils develop a strong sense of water safety. We regularly welcome the RNLI to visit our school and help to

News from our Schools



Landulph Primary School

educate pupils about how to stay safe at the beach. They never fail to deliver an energetic, interactive demonstration of what the different flags mean that are used on the beach, tips to avoid danger in the water and what to do in case you find yourself in trouble whilst at the beach.



Peter Booth

A local Landulph resident, Peter Booth, cycled approximately 3000km starting in Vietnam, travelling through Cambodia, Thailand and finishing in Malaysia. Peter was raising funds for an amazing project developing 'Landulph Orchard Green'. As a school, we tracked Peter's journey and kept in touch with him, via Clare, another Landulph resident. The children were encouraged to find out a little more about one, or more, of the South-East Asian countries that Peter travelled through and then share their findings with us. On his return, in February, Peter came in to deliver an assembly to the school to talk about his experiences along his epic journey. The children were particularly interested in the different foods that Peter tried in each country.



News from our Schools



Landulph Primary School

Chartwells

Sophie from Chartwells visited us in March and every child had the chance to cook scones under her guidance. She supplied the ingredients and recipe sheet and supported each group of children to follow the step by step instructions. The children took their scones home to share with their families. Another important Cornish tradition celebrated and encouraged this year!



Landulph School - In the News

Rights Respecting Bronze Award

September 2023 saw the launch of our Rights Respecting Schools Award journey. In a whole school assembly, the UN Children's Rights Charter was shared and the school community was informed that we were on a mission to ensure that pupils, staff and families all knew about the UNCRC and what it means to uphold these rights for all children.

Since then, there has been a weekly assembly for pupils, focusing on one or two articles at a time in depth. We discuss why that particular 'right' is important and what it looks like to have that right met. We also explore how we can get better at ensuring that, as a school, we empower children to stand up for these rights. In addition, we look at current affairs across the globe where children's rights are not being met and consider the impact of this.

A steering committee was formed in October, made up of pupils, staff, parents, grandparents, governors, and community members. We meet as a group to discuss our



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Landulph Primary School

journey so far and look ahead to set an action plan for how we progress. Staff training has been included in INSET days as it is just as important to us that all adults have an awareness of the Children's Rights Charter as it is for the children to.

We continue to strive to give pupils as many opportunities to have their voice heard as possible. This includes questions brought to year groups by their school and Trust council representatives, worry monsters, suggestion boxes, polls taken in assembly and more.

On Friday 15th March, we were thrilled to receive confirmation that as a school we had achieved our Bronze Award and that we are now recognised as being 'Rights Committed'. Much of what we are already doing lays the groundwork for our Silver application... Rights Aware. So, in the new academic year, we will evaluate our progress and establish a time line in which to complete our Silver application. Watch this space for the next RRSA announcement.

St Piran's Day

On 5th March, we had a wonderful day at Landulph, celebrating St Piran's Day. Whilst we might be within a mile of the River Tamar and therefore the Devon/Cornwall border, we are proud to be a Cornish school and, as such, it is important that we recognise our heritage and the historical significance of individuals such as St Piran.

On this day, we invited pupils to come to school dressed in the Cornish colours of black and gold/yellow. The effort that pupils and staff went to was fantastic. Flashes of Cornish tartan on jumpers, scarves and even lanyards were a real treat.

We also held a competition to revamp the Cornish flag. The only rule of the competition was that pupils had to stick to Cornish black and gold. Beyond that, their creativity could take hold. We had decorated pillowcases, sustainable reuse of McDonalds pancake trays and digitally produced designs. The standard of entry was incredibly high. It was too difficult to choose just one winner, so we awarded prizes to several of the children.

We announced the winners in a whole school assembly where we also listened to Fisherman's Friends singing Cornwall, My Home. We shared the story of St Piran's arrival



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Landulph Primary School

to Cornwall and his discovery of tin. We even spent a little time learning some key Cornish phrases. As the pupils left the assembly, we heard the wonderful Trelawny.

There was, of course, only one lunch that would've been right on a day like this and Liz did us proud with a beef or cheese and onion pasty option!

It was a day filled with a wonderful community spirit. Onen hag oll.

Grandparents Lunch

Landulph School has many traditions that we try to make happen each year – Sports Day, Christmas performances, Year 6 leaving celebrations, Harvest Festival, World Book Day. One in particular that has been hugely popular not just with the children but with their families is the Grandparents Lunch, which was also recognised in our Ofsted report. It is not often that we are able to welcome wider family members other than parents into school, so this is a particular favourite for our grandparents who love to come and see their grandchildren in school. Some of them are even former pupils themselves! They get to enjoy lunch with them and then they whisk them off into their classrooms where the children love sharing their work with them and then take them out to the playground where they enjoy playing games. Just like last year, it was so popular that we had to have two sittings, and the feedback from our visitors was that it is a really valued experience for our community.

“This is a lovely idea and opportunity for grandparents to see the children in school. You can see how much it is enjoyed by young and old alike.”

“Thank you for a lovely lunch and chance to see classrooms, the children have been amazing! All the work we've seen reminds us of how hard teachers work. What fun!”

“Thank you for the warm welcome we received today. We loved having lunch with our three grandchildren and having the opportunity to look at their books.”



SMART Students



Celebrating in Style



Talent of SMART Students





More Amazing Talent from across the Trust

