

Friday 19th September 2025

Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you and your families are well. This week the children have all shown how well they have settled into their new classes and are embracing their new learning opportunities. Year 6 have begun their six weeks of swimming at St Ives Leisure Centre and after school clubs have begun.



Year 6 Sports Leaders and Prefects

Congratulations to all our new sports leaders and Prefects in Year 6. The sports leaders are looking forward to their training sessions over the next few weeks where they will learn to support the younger pupils to play at break and lunchtime.

The Prefects have already shown their aptitude for their roles around school and we are delighted with their willingness to take on their new responsibilities. Well done!



T: 01736 753135

E: hello@connordowns.org.uk

W: www.connordowns.org.uk

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

A Company Limited by Guarantee. An Exempt Charity

Registered in England & Wales - Company No. 07387540

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



Reminders – next week

Bag 2 School Collection

The collection will take place on **Tuesday 23rd September 2025**. Bags have been sent home with every child this week, but you can use any bags/bin liners. Please do encourage all family and friends to have a sort through and see if they can help with a donation of clothing. The more bags we collect, the more money we raise! Please see the poster alongside for a list of acceptable items and bring them into school no earlier than the morning of **Tuesday 23rd September by 9am**.
Thank you.

Royal Cornwall Hospitals Charity – Non School Uniform Day – Friday 26th September 2025

September is Children's cancer awareness month.

Connor Downs Academy has registered to help raise funds to support in the RCHC to raise awareness of childhood cancers and raise funds for Cornwall's Children's Cancer Unit.

On Friday 26th September, we will be inviting all children to come to school in their own clothes for a donation of their choice.

Please use the link below to the Charity's Just Giving Page and make your donation.

Please note, we cannot accept cash as this is not a fundraising event for School, Thank you!

[Just Giving Non School Uniform Day for Children's Cancer Unit Fund](#)



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Cauliflower Cards – Christmas Fundraising!



Cauliflower Cards is back!

The Friends of Connor Downs Academy are pleased to be involved with this annual fundraising project once again.

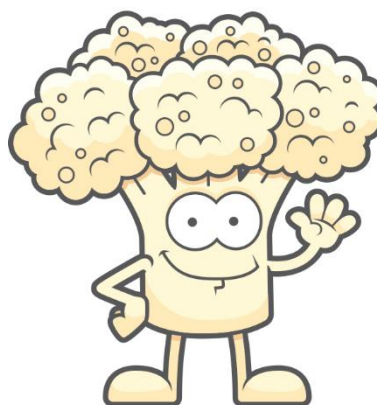


The children have been busy this week, creating their designs, look in your child/children's bookbags over the next two days for their designs.

If you would like to order a product with your child's design printed on it, the artwork needs to be returned to school, once you have placed the order online. There is a very tight deadline for the return of artwork so we can maximise the fundraising opportunity. All artwork **must** be back to school by **Wednesday 24th September**.

Please note, any order raised, where the artwork is not returned will receive blank cards, mugs etc as the company will not have any artwork to print on the order.

This is always a very popular fundraising event and we hope that you will enjoy seeing your children's artwork printed on a variety of items and at the same time raising funds for your child's school.



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Staffing Update – Mr Costello, Outdoor Learning Lead

As you will be aware, Mr Costello, our valued Outdoor Learning Lead, has unfortunately been absent from his post due to personal circumstances.

I am writing to share with you that sadly, Mr Costello has decided to take early retirement.

I am sure that you will join with me in thanking Mr Costello for his outstanding contributions in establishing Cultivating Futures and enabling it to shine as an integral part of our offer. Cultivating Futures with the animals and outdoor space is what makes Connor Downs Academy unique, and it is so valuable in supporting all of our children.

Mr Costello will be visiting school on Friday 26th September so that the children and staff can say a heartfelt thank you and farewell.

Remaining in post, to continue the amazing work established by Mr Costello, will be Miss Pedley.

Friends of Connor Downs Academy – Fundraising Events – October

Camel Trail Staff Sponsored Walk/Ride

A brave group of Connor Downs Academy staff have set themselves a huge challenge and they need your support.

On **Saturday 11th October**, this group will be cycling 18 miles along the whole length of the Camel Trail. Not content with that, they will then be walking the 18 miles back to where they started!

Meanwhile, in school, during the week leading up to this, all pupils of Connor Downs Academy will be attempting to combine their efforts to match the 36 miles that our staff will be covering, by walking laps of the school field.

Everyone involved in this attempt are doing so to raise funds to enhance our reading provision in school. We are looking to raise enough money to purchase resources and help to create inviting and comfortable book corners within all classrooms to help nurture a love of reading.

Please dig deep and sponsor our pupils and staff in this endeavour. There has been talk of dressing our staff up during their event if we can raise enough money!

[Connor Downs Go Fund Me Page](#)

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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.

Thank you.



Open Evenings

Camborne Science and International Academy

Please use the link below to book your place:
book your place:

[CSIA Open Event Booking](#)



CAMBORNE SCIENCE & INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY

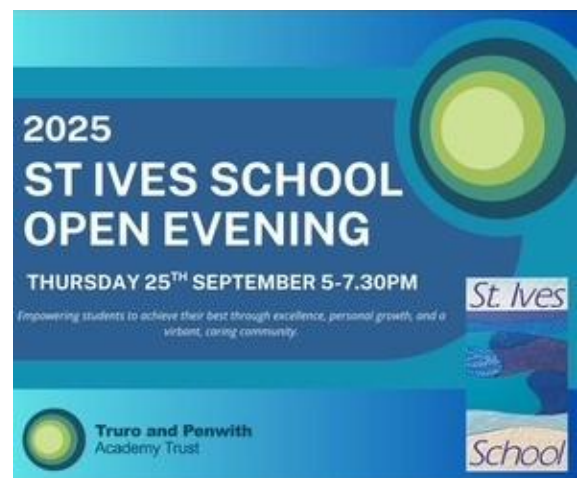
**OPEN EVENING
WEDNESDAY 24TH
SEPTEMBER**

The whole school will be open for self-guided tours from 5.30-8.00pm. You can also click here to book a slot for the welcome address with Principal Mrs Emma Haase.

St Ives School

Please use the link below to
book your place:

[St Ives Opening Event Booking](#)



**2025
ST IVES SCHOOL
OPEN EVENING**

THURSDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 5-7.30PM

Empowering students to achieve their best through excellence, personal growth, and a vibrant, caring community.

Truro and Penwith
Academy Trust

St Ives
School

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Diary Dates – Autumn Term 2025

Monday 22nd September – Swimming – Year 6 – week 2
Tuesday 23rd September – Bag2School collection – all bags to be in school by 9am
Wednesday 24th September – Deadline for Cauliflower Cards Artwork to be returned to school
Monday 29th September – Swimming – Year 6 – week 3
Thursday 2nd October – Autumn Term Census Day – Special menu TBC
Friday 3rd October – Year 5 – Rough Tor trip
Monday 6th October – Swimming – Year 6 – week 4
Monday 13th October – Swimming – Year 6 – week 5
Monday 13th October – Smarter Smiles – Fluoride Varnish – Year R and 1 – more details to follow
Wednesday 15th October – Harvest Festival assembly – more details to follow
Thursday 16th October – Flu Vaccinations – more details to follow
Monday 20th October – Swimming – Year 6 - week 6
Tuesday 21st October – Parent Consultations – 15:30 – 18:00 – more details to follow
Wednesday 22nd October – Tempest Photographers – Individual and Family
Wednesday 22nd October – Parent Consultations – 15:30 – 18:00 – more details to follow
Thursday 23rd October – Last day of 1st half term – Finish at 3:15pm
Friday 24th October – INSET DAY – School Closed to Pupils

HALF TERM – MONDAY 27TH OCTOBER TO FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER

Monday 3rd November – Swimming – Year 5 – week 1
Monday 10th November – Swimming – Year 5 – week 2
Monday 10th November – Friday 14th November – Scholastic Book Fair – more details to follow
Monday 17th November – Swimming – Year 5 – week 3
Monday 24th November – Swimming – Year 5 – week 4
Thursday 27th November – FOCDA – Disco's – more details to follow
Monday 1st December – Swimming – Year 5 – week 5
Tuesday 2nd December – EYFS/KS1 Nativity – 2pm start – more details to follow
Thursday 4th December – EYFS/KS1 Nativity – 5pm start – more details to follow
Monday 8th December – EYFS/KS1 Christingle – 5pm start – more details to follow
Tuesday 9th December – KS2 Carol Concert – 5pm start – more details to follow
Friday 12th December – FOCDA Christmas Fayre – 3:15pm start – more details to follow
Thursday 18th December – Last Day of Term – **2pm Finish**

Friday 19th December – INSET DAY – School closed

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS – MONDAY 22ND DECEMBER 2025 – FRIDAY 2ND JANUARY 2026

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Starting Secondary School – September 2026 – Application Deadline 31st October 2025



CORNWALL COUNCIL
one and all - o'nys hagyll

Together for Families


The deadline for applications is 31 October 2025

Transfer to secondary school

September 2026

Applying for a place in year seven at a secondary school

Information and guidance
Application form and information: www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions
Telephone: 0300 1234 101

 Scan me

www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions

Applying for a secondary school place for September 2026

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 2025

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: 2 March 2026. 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.

Photo © Adobe stock j0586988 06/25

Starting School – September 2026 – Application Deadline – 15th January 2026



CORNWALL COUNCIL
one and all - o'nys hagyll

Together for Families

The deadline for applications is 15 January 2026

Starting school

September 2026

Applying for a place in a reception class for children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022

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
Application form and information: www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions
Telephone: 0300 1234 101

 Scan me

www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions

Applying for a reception class place for September 2026

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 you will get your child 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 15 January 2026

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 2026. 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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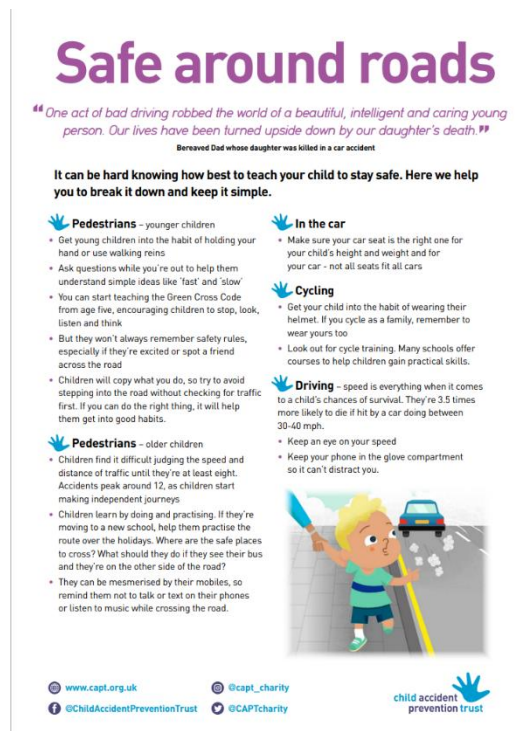
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Road Safety

Whilst the speed limit on Mutton Hill is 20mph, sadly, many vehicles drive in excess of this speed limit posing a serious risk to the safety of our children. Please can we encourage all parents/carers to use the link below and poster to remind your children of road safety. Particularly for younger children, we encourage parents/carers to adopt the safety habit of holding your child/children's hand when walking along the pavement and also entering and exiting the school grounds. Thank you.

Road Safety For Children | Child Accident Prevention Trust



Safe around roads

"One act of bad driving robbed the world of a beautiful, intelligent and caring young person. Our lives have been turned upside down by our daughter's death."
Bereaved Dad whose daughter was killed in a car accident

It can be hard knowing how best to teach your child to stay safe. Here we help you to break it down and keep it simple.

- Pedestrians – younger children**
 - Get young children into the habit of holding your hand or use walking reins
 - Ask questions while you're out to help them understand simple ideas like 'fast' and 'slow'
 - You can start teaching the Green Cross Code from age five, encouraging children to stop, look, listen and think
 - But they won't always remember safety rules, especially if they're excited or spot a friend across the road
 - Children will copy what you do, so try to avoid stepping into the road without checking for traffic first. If you can do the right thing, it will help them get into good habits.
- Pedestrians – older children**
 - Children find it difficult judging the speed and distance of traffic until they're at least eight. Accidents peak around 12, as children start making independent journeys
 - Children learn by doing and practising. If they're moving to a new school, help them practise the route over the holidays. Where are the safe places to cross? What should they do if they see their bus and they're on the other side of the road?
 - They can be mesmerised by their mobiles, so remind them not to talk or text on their phones or listen to music while crossing the road.
- In the car**
 - Make sure your car seat is the right one for your child's height and weight and for your car – not all seats fit all cars
- Cycling**
 - Get your child into the habit of wearing their helmet. If you cycle as a family, remember to wear yours too
 - Look out for cycle training. Many schools offer courses to help children gain practical skills.
- Driving** – speed is everything when it comes to a child's chances of survival. They're 3.5 times more likely to die if hit by a car doing between 30-40 mph.
 - Keep an eye on your speed
 - Keep your phone in the glove compartment so it can't distract you.

www.capt.org.uk @capt_charity @CAPTcharity
[@ChildAccidentPreventionTrust](#) child accident prevention trust

Attendance		
Our school target for attendance is 97%		
1 st Place	Year 3	99.2 %
2 nd Place	Year R	97.2 %
3 rd Place	Year 4	97.1 %

Shine Celebrations

Please see below our Shining Stars for this week.

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Connor Downs Academy Shining Stars Friday 19th September 2025

We are delighted to be able to invite the parents/carers of the winners below to join us at our first Shine assembly of the autumn term, on **Friday 26th September 2025** 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 – Willow

For always showing brilliant behaviour for learning and a positive attitude towards school. Well done, Willow!

Year 1 – Henry

For coming back to school with a super attitude for learning and being a lovely, kind member of the class. Well done, Henry!

Year 2 – Jago

Jago has been working so hard. His efforts in maths and English have been outstanding and his drive and determination is heart-warming. Well done, Jago!

Year 3 – Sienna S (Year 3)

For being a great role model and showing perseverance when practising her handwriting of a tricky joined letter 'f'. Well done, Sienna!

Year 4 – Dylan S (Year 4)

For showing excellent behaviour for learning. Dylan always listens well, applies his learning and has an excellent, pro-active attitude to everything he does. Well done, Dylan!

Year 5 – Elsie-May

For her ability to shine in every lesson. Elsie-May has made a really positive start to Year 5. Well done, Elsie-May!

Year 6 – Linkcon

For his perseverance and excellent progress in the first year 6 swimming session. Well done, Linkcon!

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Writer – George (Year 1)

For his super effort to sound out and write words accurately in phonics. George always gives 100%. Well done, George!

EYFS/KS1 Reader – Kiera (Year R)

For joining in with phonics sessions and making great progress with recognising sounds. Well done, Kiera!

KS2 Reader – Tommy (Year 5)

For super reading and quizzing every day. Tommy has now moved up a reading level already this term. Well done, Tommy!

Mathematician – Dylan M (Year 4)

For fully and concisely sharing his mathematical thinking. Dylan is keen to share his knowledge with others. Well done, Dylan!

Numbots/Rock Star – Maisie (Year 3)

For earning 2,768 coins on her TT Rockstars Garage homework. Well done, Maisie!

Performer – Emily (Year 2)

For her amazing work in science this week. Emily was able to dig deeper' in her learning about the different shape changes of materials and present her information to the rest of the class with confidence and clarity. Well done, Emily!

Character – Emilie-Rose (Year 6)

For her kindness and support with the younger children during their journey to and from school each day in the taxi. Well done, Emilie-Rose!

Kind Regards,



Mrs Eddy
Head of School