

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2025

Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you and your families are well. We have had a 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 friends and look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025**.



### Year 3 – Geography

Year 3 have been learning about continents and countries this term.

It has been great to see the children working together to use an atlas to locate places such as Europe, South America and Brazil.



### Wear it Pink Day 2025!

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October is Wear it Pink Day! As there is an INSET Day tomorrow, staff have chosen today to mark this very important day. Run by the UK's largest breast cancer charity, Breast Cancer Now, Wear it Pink Day raises money to support breast cancer research. All staff today came to school wearing pink to show support and admiration for our amazing Miss Pedlar who is currently battling secondary breast cancer. Miss Pedlar, you are an inspiration to us all!

[Wear it Pink 2025](#)



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

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Registered in England & Wales - Company No. 07387540

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

## Scholastic Book Fair – Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November to Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025

We are delighted to announce that we will be holding a Scholastic Book Fair in school every day, after school from **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November until Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025**. Please do come along and have a look at the fantastic offers available. All the children will be given the opportunity with their classes, to look around the book fair during the day. **Please note, all payments will be online via a QR code.** More details will follow after half term.



### Children in Need

Friday, the 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025, is Children in Need Day. We are inviting children to come to school on this day wearing something yellow/Pudsey items for a donation of their choice which should be paid using the link below. Please note we are unable to accept cash donations. Thank you for your support.

[BBC Children In Need Donations](#)



### Aspens – New School Meals Menu

The new menu that will come into effect from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November has been emailed to all parents/carers along with this newsletter.

The menu will be set up on ParentPay during the half term break and parents/carers will be able to book via ParentPay before the start of the next half term. Thank you.

### Special Menu – 5<sup>th</sup> November 2025

To mark Bonfire Night, Aspens are offering a special 'Sparkle Spectacular' Menu on 5<sup>th</sup> November, as detailed on the poster. The Pasta and Jacket Potato options will also be available, as usual.



### Bikeability – Final Session Reminder

A reminder to those Year 5 and Year 6 children that their final, rearranged Bikeability session will take place on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> November, weather permitting. Please ensure your bike is in school on Thursday morning. Thank you!



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## Clocks Go Back – Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2025

**Reminder that the clocks go back an hour this weekend and summertime will end, meaning the evenings will get darker.**



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.rospa.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 Wednesday, the Tempest Photographers came into school to take the children's individual and family photographs. We would like to thank all our parent/carers 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.



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## Parent/Carer Consultations



We would like to extend a huge thank you to all those parents/carers who attended this week's parent/carers consultations. We were delighted with the number of families who turned out to see their children's work and have the chance to catch up with the class teachers to discuss how their child/ren have settled into their new year groups and the progress they are making.

## Starting Secondary School – September 2026 – **FINAL REMINDER - Application Deadline 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025**



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](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions)  
Telephone: 0300 1234 101



scan me

[www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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.

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## Starting School – September 2026 – Application Deadline – 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026

 **CORNWALL COUNCIL**  
*one and all - one together*

 **Together for Families**

**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](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions)  
Telephone: 0300 1234 101



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



The deadline for applications is 15 January 2026

### 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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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.

Photo © Adobe Stock j0866988 00/25

## Pre-Loved Uniform

We believe that school uniform ensures all children are treated equally. Uniform still plays a vital role in promoting the ethos of a school, setting an appropriate tone for education and providing a sense of belonging and common identity regardless of background.

With this in mind, we run a pre-loved uniform shop through the Friends of Connor Downs Academy. The Friends will run pop up sales at various times throughout the year, but you can also contact them via their Facebook Page at any other time or you can come into the school office or email [hello@connordowns.org.uk](mailto:hello@connordowns.org.uk) with your requirements.

Thank you.



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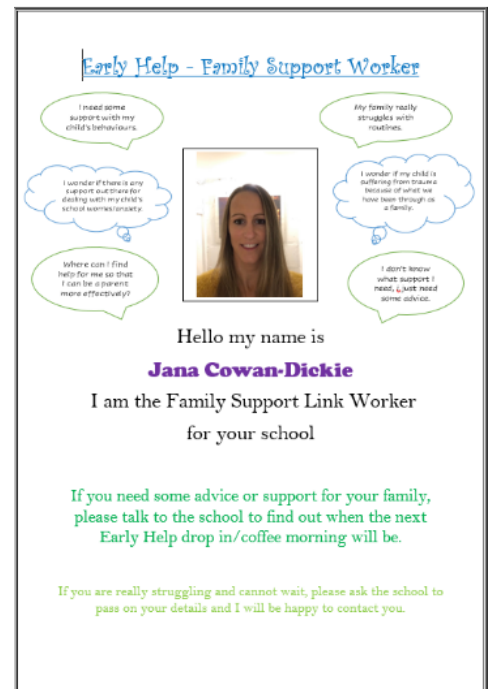
## Family Link Worker Clinic

Our Family link worker from Cornwall Council, Jana Cowan-Dickie, will be available to meet with parents/carers in school on the following two dates:

- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November from 2pm
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November from 9am

If you would like to book a 20-minute meeting with Jana, please email [hello@connordowns.org.uk](mailto:hello@connordowns.org.uk) to make an appointment.

Jana's contact details can be found on the leaflet shown here for those parents/carers who would like to speak to Jana, but who are not able to make an appointment on either of the dates above.



## Attendance

| <u>Attendance</u>                       |        |         |
|-----------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Our school target for attendance is 97% |        |         |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Place                   | Year R | 100.0 % |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place                   | Year 4 | 99.0 %  |

## Shine Celebrations

Please see below our Shining Stars for this week.

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## Connor Downs Academy Shining Stars Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2025

*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 7<sup>th</sup> November 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 – Eddie**

For growing in confidence this half term, showing what a wonderful class member he is. Eddie throws himself into both his learning and play and it has been really wonderful to watch over the last few weeks. Well done, Eddie!

### **Year 1 – Remi**

For showing great behaviour for learning across all subjects. Remi always tries her best with every task. Well done, Remi!

### **Year 2 – Freya**

For her outstanding effort and a positive attitude towards all areas of her learning this term. Freya's curiosity, perseverance, and cheerful spirit have made her a valued member of the Year 2 class. Well done, Freya!

### **Year 3 – Eden**

For being a great role model, always working hard and completing her work in all areas of the curriculum. Well done, Eden!

### **Year 4 – Levi**

For settling into Year 4 so well and having such a great 'can do' attitude. Well done, Levi!

### **Year 5 – Elsie B**

For her effort and determination to improve with every piece of work, and the pride she shows in each of her books. Well done, Elsie!

### **Year 6 – Lois**

For having such a positive attitude towards her homework. Lois always gives 100% to every task. Well done, Lois!

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## **Writer – Kamile (Year R)**

For showing outstanding progress in phonics, a great attitude to learning on the carpet and perseverance when writing the graphemes independently. Well done, Kamille!

## **EYFS/KS1 Reader – Ben (Year 2)**

For his outstanding achievement in reading. Ben has shown exceptional fluency, comprehension, and enthusiasm for books throughout the term. Ben's love for reading is truly inspiring. Well done, Ben!

## **KS2 Reader – Peyton (Year 6)**

For continuing to develop his reading skills to enable him to answer an increasing number of questions during reading comprehensions. Well done, Peyton!

## **Mathematician – Cecily (Year 4)**

For her continuing progress in all aspects of maths this half term. Well done, Cecilly!

## **Numbots/Rock Star – Zoey (Year 3)**

For earning a fantastic 2,024 coins and 506 correct answers this week. Well done, Zoey!

## **Performer – Markas (Year 1)**

For showing great effort during PE. Markas demonstrated the jumping position beautifully to the rest of the class. Well done, Markas!

## **Character – Barney (Year 5)**

For his excellent manners and resilience. Barney is a model pupil who is an amazing role model to his peers in the classroom and on the sports field. Well done, Barney!

Kind Regards,



Mrs Eddy  
Head of School