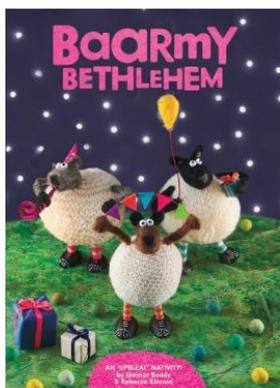




Friday 5th December 2025

Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you and your families are well. We have had another very busy time in school this week with two performances of our EYFS/KS1 Nativity – Baarmy Bethlehem!



EYFS/KS 1 Nativity – Baarmy Bethlehem!

We would like to thank all the parents/carers, Grandparents, Friends and other family members who came to support our EYFS and KS1 children this week in performing their Nativity, Baarmy Bethlehem! We would especially like to thank all the children for showing such amazing courage to perform in front of a large audience. We would also like to thank everyone who contributed to our donations box. A total of **£65** was raised which will support the children with additional resources.



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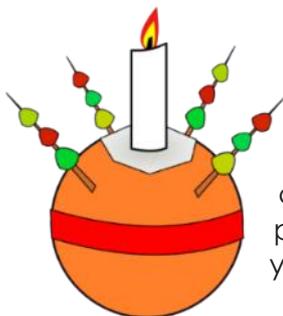
Christmas Post Box

A reminder that the Christmas post box is in the main corridor in the KS2 building. This is available until the end of term for the children to post their Christmas cards to their friends. **Last Day for posting will be Wednesday 17th December.**

Please can we ask that parents/carers ensure that both the **recipient's name and their year group** is marked clearly on the envelope to aid our Year 6 prefects when sorting into year groups for delivery. Thank you.



EYFS /KS1 Christingle



The children from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be taking part in their Christingle, being held at Phillack Church. This will take place **next Monday, 8th December** starting at 5:00pm. Please can we ask that children and parents/carers **arrive no later than 4:45pm**. All children to please wear full school uniform and to have long hair tied back, thank you.

KS2 Christmas Carol Concert

Children from KS2 will be taking part in their carol concert **next Tuesday, 9th December**. We are offering two performances, one starting at **2:00pm** at school. A single ticket has been sent home with each KS2 child **today, Friday, 5th December**. **No additional tickets will be available**. The second will take place at Phillack Church on the same day, at **5:00pm**. Please can we ask that children and parents/carers **arrive no later than 4:45pm**. All children to please wear full school uniform, thank you. The service at Phillack Church is a wonderful event that makes very special memories for all the children and their parents/carers/grandparents.



Silent Night, Holy Night

There will be a retiring collection at both Church events with all proceeds going to the Church. Please do donate as generously as you can, Thank you!

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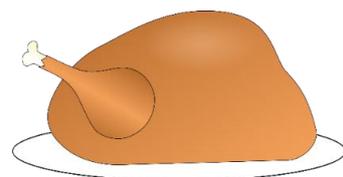
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Christmas Dinner

A reminder that Christmas dinner is being served on Wednesday 17th December. **Today** is the final day to make bookings for Christmas Dinner. Any bookings made after 8am on Monday morning will be deleted and you will be notified that your child will require a packed lunch on Christmas Dinner day. Children will be able to replace **only** their school jumper on this day with a Christmas Jumper if they wish to. This is **not** a non-school uniform day. Thank you for your support.



End of Term

A reminder that the final day of term is **Thursday 18th December** – this is a **non-school uniform day**.

Classes will hold their Christmas parties in the morning and children are invited to wear their own party clothes/Christmas jumpers.



Please note as previously advertised, we will be **finishing** school at the **earlier time of 2:00pm** on the last day.



Friends of Connor Downs Academy - Upcoming Fundraising Events

Name The Elf! – Final Week!

In conjunction with our Christmas Fayre taking place from 3:15pm on Friday, 12th December, the Friends of Connor Downs Academy have an Elf to name!

For **£1 a go**, you can put your name against one of the Elf names on the board next to the elf. The winner will be chosen at the Fayre on Friday the 12th and they will be able to take the Elf home with them!

The Elf is on display in the front office, with a board full of names to choose from, so do come along and have a go, or two! Please pay Mrs Gallagher in cash, at reception for the number of goes you would like and then write your name on the board under the names you choose!
Good luck to everyone – you could be the lucky of winner of the Elf!



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Christmas Fayre

FRIENDS OF CONNOR DOWNS ACADEMY CHRISTMAS FAYRE

FRIDAY 12TH DECEMBER 2025

3:15PM – 4:45PM

**PLEASE COME ALONG AND JOIN IN THE
FESTIVE FUN!**

- ❖ **CLASS CHRISTMAS STALLS**
- ❖ **VARIETY OF CHRISTMAS GAMES**
- ❖ **SANTA'S GROTTO TO INCLUDE A GIFT
FROM SANTA (£4.00 per child)**
- ❖ **CHRISTMAS RAFFLE (TO BE DRAWN AT
4:30PM AT THE FAYRE)**
- ❖ **CHILDREN'S BOOK SALE**
- ❖ **HOMEMADE CAKE SALE**
- ❖ **HOT FOOD**
- ❖ **NAME THE ELF (WINNER TO BE
ANNOUNCED AT 4:30PM AT THE
FAYRE)**



Card Payments

**PLEASE NOTE, WE CAN TAKE CARD PAYMENTS AT THE FAYRE. YOU WILL BE GIVEN
TOKENS TO SPEND AT THE VARIOUS STALLS TO THE MONETRAY VALUE OF YOUR CARD
PAYMENT. THANK YOU!**

A member of the Friends committee will be available in the main school hall to take your card payments and issue you with tokens. This facility will be situated next to the Raffle and Name the Elf! Tokens are valued at 50p each and every stall will take these tokens.

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Requests for donations for the Christmas Fayre

We are looking for any donations to help with this year's Christmas Fayre.

❖ **Cake Sale:** Are you a home baker who would be willing to provide us with some homemade cakes/buns/traybakes/cookies to sell at the Fayre? To be allergy aware, **an ingredients sheet must be completed** to go alongside your baking. Please note, **NO NUTS**.

❖ **General Tombola:** Any items suitable for a general tombola.

❖ **Chocolate Tombola:** Anything suitable for a chocolate tombola, including chocolate suitable for Dairy Free/Gluten Free/Vegan/Vegetarian.

❖ **Raffle Prizes:** We are politely requesting that if you or anyone you know owns a local business and would be willing to donate a raffle prize, please email hello@connordowns.org.uk or pass donations to Mrs. Gallagher in the school office.

All donations, no matter how small, will be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Please can any donations be brought to the school office and given to Mrs Gallagher, anytime between now and the morning of the Christmas Fayre.

For any cake donations, please can these be brought to the school office and given to Mrs Gallagher on the morning of the Christmas Fayre **ONLY**.

Thank you in advance to our parent/carer community for all their generosity and support.

After School Clubs

Reminder that afterschool clubs have now ended for the autumn term. Details of the spring afterschool clubs will be shared at the beginning of next term, thank you.

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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.



ELDA IS COMING TO CONNOR DOWNS!



EMMA LOUISE DANCE ACADEMY IS AT CONNOR DOWNS. JOIN US AFTER SCHOOL FOR A FUN FILLED DANCE CLASSES!

DANCE CLASS FOR ALL AGES!



TUESDAYS 3.15-4.15PM, JUST £5.00 A SESSION RUNNING THROUGH TERM TIMES. PROFESSIONAL DANCE TRAINING! PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL.

PLEASE CONTACT 07902196544 OR THE SCHOOL OFFICE TO RECEIVE A SIGN UP INFO! LIMITED SPACES!



ELDA – After School Club – Tuesday from 3:15pm – 4:15pm

ELDA afterschool dance club has been running on a Tuesday at Connor Downs since the summer term, continuing into this academic year, numbers have dropped.

To ensure that this club is still viable to run in the Spring term, please do sign up with ELDA.

Attendance

<u>Attendance</u>		
Our school target for attendance is 97%		
1 st Place	Year 4	97.0 %

Shine Celebrations

Please see below our Shining Stars for this week.

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Connor Downs Academy Shining Stars Friday 5th December 2025

We are delighted to be able to invite the parents/carers of the winners below to join us at our final Shine assembly of the autumn term, on **Thursday 11th December 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 – Kamile

For the positive attitude to learning she has developed. Kamille is working so hard every day and making good progress. Well done, Kamille!

Year 1 – Imogen

For showing excellent behaviour for learning every day and being such a pleasure to teach. Well done, Imogen!

Year 2 – Frankie

For being such a kind, enthusiastic pupil and trying so hard in all areas of the curriculum. Frankie impressed everyone with his confidence during the school nativity - what a skill to embrace! Well done, Frankie!

Year 3 – William

For his super effort in all aspects of the curriculum. William is a great role model showing kindness and offering to help everyone in class. Well done, William!

Year 4 – Bruce

For his excellent attitude to learning. Bruce is always ready, always listening and determined to complete tasks to the best of his ability. Well done, Bruce!

Year 5 – Elsie R

For her effort and determination to succeed in all subjects. Well done, Elsie!

Year 6 – Charlie

For his report about an outlaw in English and working hard on his spelling. Well done, Charlie!

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Writer – Thomas (Year 1)

For working hard in phonics. Thomas' efforts are really showing in his writing. Well done, Thomas!

EYFS/KS1 Reader – Conor (Year 2)

For his sustained effort and growing confidence in reading this term across a range of texts. Your perseverance and continued improvement in reading has supported your literacy skills. Well done!

KS2 Reader – Kingsley (Year 4)

For scoring so highly on his end of term reading assessment. Kingsley is making fantastic progress! Well done, Kingsley!

Mathematician – Theo (Year 6)

For his speedy and accurate maths this week calculating with fractions. Excellent skills! Well done, Theo!

Numbots/Rock Star – Noah B (Year 3)

For his super effort to improve his speed of answering questions. As a result, Noah has completed his heat map. Well done, Noah!

Performer – Colby (Year 5)

For his amazing swimming and plunging into the depths of the pool independently. Well done, Colby!

Character – Willow (Year R)

For always pushing herself with her learning. Willow shows great resilience and determination and is never afraid to take risks. She is a fantastic role model to her peers! Well done, Willow!

Kind Regards,

Mrs Eddy
Head of School



ONLINE SAFETY NEWS

Autumn Term 2025

Our commitment

Aspire Academy Trust recognises that online safety is a far-reaching and complex topic that continues to generate significant media attention and public concern.

This regular newsletter will keep Aspire school communities up-to-date, and act as a signpost to further support. At a time when technology is increasingly noted for its downside, as well as the positive, we hope to provide reliable, helpful information.



The Aspire ONLINE SAFETY web page is regularly updated with guidance and helpful parent/carer resources.

Follow the **RULE** framework for the easiest and most effective ways to keep children safe when using online devices at home.

! The next quick online safety webinar for Aspire parents & carers is at 7pm on 10th December 2025. Tap or scan the QR code above for details/booking.

Important updates

New guidance from OFCOM ◀

July saw the beginning of OFCOM's first statutory guidance for tech companies operating in the UK, enforcing legislation brought in with the Online Safety Act. We would like to remind all families that social media platforms have 13+ usage agreements:

WhatsApp, Snapchat, Facebook, TikTok and others should not be

accessed by primary age children.



Artificial Intelligence concerns ◀

With AI-enabled systems so easy to access, and the increasing rise of AI chatbots, warnings have been issued around children using these alone, without sufficient checks in place. AI misinformation is another huge concern. Please stay aware and cautious around your child's online access.

Delaying smartphone access ◀

With secondary schools across Cornwall tightening up policies on smartphone use, many families are looking for alternatives as their children grow older. 'Basic phones' can be a practical choice, with long-lasting batteries and little potential for online safety worries.

www.aspireacademytrust.org/online-safety

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IS MY CHILD TOO ILL FOR SCHOOL?

yes

until...



CHICKENPOX	At least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over.
DIARRHOEA AND VOMITING	48 hours after their last episode.
HIGH TEMPERATURE	If your child has a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes away.
IMPETIGO	Their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics.
MEASLES	4 days after the rash first appeared.
MUMPS	5 days after their swelling started.
SCABIES	They've had their first treatment.
SCARLET FEVER	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics.
WHOOPING COUGH	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics.



NO



CONJUNCTIVITIS	You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have conjunctivitis. Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.
COUGHS & COLDS	It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold.
HAND, FOOT & MOUTH	If they seem well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.
HEAD LICE	There's no need to keep your child off school. You can treat head lice and nits without seeing your GP.
THREADWORMS	Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend treatment.
SORE THROAT TONSILLITIS	You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.
SLAPPED CHEEK	You don't need to keep your child off school if they have slapped cheek syndrome because, once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious.

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Do I need to keep my child off school?



Chicken Pox Until all spots have crusted over	Conjunctivitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Diarrhoea & Vomiting 48 hours from last episode	Glandular Fever No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Hand, foot & mouth No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Impetigo Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
Measles or German Measles 4 days from onset of rash	Mumps 5 days from onset of swelling	Scabies Until after first treatment	Scarlet Fever 24 hours after commencing antibiotics	Slapped Cheek No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Whooping Cough 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
Flu Until recovered	Head Lice No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Threadworms No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Tonsillitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed		

Diary Dates – Autumn Term 2025

Monday 8th December – EYFS/KS1 Christingle – 5pm start – **arrival from 4:30pm**

Tuesday 9th December – KS2 Carol Concert – 2 performances – 2pm start at school and 5pm start at Phillack Church – **arrival from 1:30pm at school and 4:30pm at the Church**

Friday 12th December – FOCD Christmas Fayre – 3:15pm start – **see main newsletter for more details**

Wednesday 17th December – Christmas Dinner Day – book in the normal way via ParentPay – **all bookings must be made by Friday 5th December.**

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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