

Friday 13th March 2026

Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you and your families are safe and well. We have had another incredibly busy and exciting week at school.

Lego League – Accurate Archaeologists



On Wednesday this week, our Lego League team, Accurate Archaeologists, attended the First Lego League competition held at RNAS Culdrose, Helston. Thank you to Bella for the report below!

On arrival, the team set up their pit and went to the welcome meeting. They introduced all the schools who were represented and read out their team names, some were so cool! There was, Byte-Sized Builders, Kernow Coders and The Scorpions! After the meeting, the teams had to do their innovation project, which was amazing. They then had some free time to visit the stands, with a favourite being Tec Girls!



In the first robot game, we scored some points. Mrs Crease, Tegen, Bella-Grace and Noelle spent time at the game table practising, while the rest of us, supported by Mr Mattu, had fun playing on some of the stands. We were excited to see that one of the stands had biscuits, tea, hot chocolate, coffee and squash. We had lots of biscuits!!

The final two games were out best by far. After the competitions we had more free time. Some of us had a go at VR, and others spoke to some of the Navy personnel supporting the event. Bella V, Tegen, Ella and Noelle, were interviewed by a photographer and when she left, we all started dancing!



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Even though we didn't win any trophies, we were all given a medal for taking part and we had a wonderful day.

A big thank you to Mrs Crease for coaching us and to Mr Mattu for coming along to support us.



The biggest thank you goes to our sponsors, Green Fern and Two Ways Holiday Cottage, without whom we could not have taken part.

Year 5/6 Swim Gala



Also on Wednesday, 16 children from Years 5 and 6 competed in a Swimming Gala at Penzance Leisure Centre. The children took part in individual races and a relay race at the end. They showed great determination and supported one another throughout the competition.

A special mention to Barney for winning first place and Isaac and Jack for coming third in their individual races.



Well done to all the swimmers who took part and a special thank you to Mrs Marrion, Mrs Richardson and Mrs Richards for supporting the event.



Lifeguards



RNLI

On Thursday this week, we welcomed Tom and Catherine from the RNLI to deliver a Water Smart Session. The



interactive session helped to familiarise pupils with key safety messages in preparation for the summer.



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Cultivating Futures



This week we were delighted to welcome some of our parent/carer community into school to offer their help with tidying and sorting the outdoor area Cultivating Futures, at Connor Downs Academy.

Due to the exceptionally wet winter, the raised flower and vegetable beds, polytunnel and outdoor garden space was looking rather sad, however, thanks to our helpers, has now been transformed!



We would like to thank everyone who turned out to help, bringing with them, tools, knowledge, grit and determination to support Miss Pedley and some of the Year 6 children.



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Year 5 – Discovering Tortoises – Conservation, Discovery and Debate

This week, as part of their outdoor learning, were learning to understand the significance of species discovery and the importance of conservation research. They were challenged to discuss and debate ethical decisions linked to wildlife protection and survival.

To bring their learning to life, the children had the opportunity to meet and gently touch a real-life tortoise. They observed it's shell, movements and behaviour up close, sharing impressions and questions.

We would like to thank Mrs Hackett for bringing in Shelley for Year 5 to meet.



Year 1 – Outdoor Learning

Year 1 have been taking a sensory walk around the school, where they used their sense of sight, hearing, smell, taste and touch to create a list for a future writing challenge! Well done Year 1!

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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 date:

- Tuesday 24th March from 9am

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

For those parents/carers who would like to speak to Jana, but are not able to make an appointment on Tuesday 24th March, please email hello@connordowns.org.uk giving your permission for school to share your contact details with Jana, so she can make contact with you and arrange a mutually convenient time.

Early Help - Family Support Worker

I need some support with my child's behaviours.

My family really struggles with routines.

I wonder if there is any support out there for dealing with my child's school of worries/ anxiety.

I wonder if my child is suffering from trauma because of what we have been through as a family.

Where can I find help for me so that I can be a parent more effectively?

I don't know what support I need, I just need some advice.



Hello my name is
Jana Cowan-Dickie
I am the Family Support Link Worker
for your school

If you need some advice or support for your family, please talk to the school to find out when the next Early Help drop in/ coffee morning will be.

If you are really struggling and cannot wait, please ask the school to pass on your details and I will be happy to contact you.

Parking Reminder



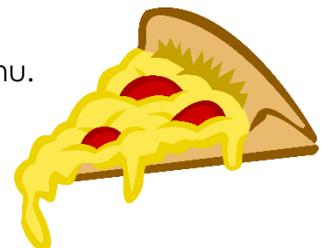
We have been contacted this week on at least three occasions, by residents concerned about the lack of respect and courtesy being shown by our parent/carer community.

Please can we kindly request that parent/carers, park considerately when dropping off/collecting from school. Please do not block residents' driveways or the entrance on both Mutton Hill and Connor Hill to the lane opposite the school.

Thank you for your support and understanding with this.

Menu Change – Monday 16th March

Next Monday, 16th March, there will be a change to the advertised menu. Instead of the Vegetable Lasagne, the kitchen will be offering Cheese and Tomato Pizza, as well as the usual Jacket Potato and Hot Tomato Pasta options. Thank you.



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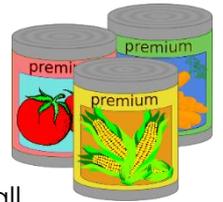
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Food Cupboard Donation Request

We are politely requesting parents/carers to send in both tins and packets of food (no fresh food please) with their child/children that we can then donate to the Connor Downs Food Cupboard in preparation for the Easter holidays. Any donations will be greatly appreciated.



We will be accepting donations between now and 1st April. Please bring all donations to the school office.

Thank you in advance for your continued support to our Academy and our local community.

Diary Dates - Spring Term 2026

Monday 16th March – FOCDA meeting – from 3:30pm – all welcome

Tuesday 17th March - Maths Booster Session – Year 6 only – 3:15pm – 4:30pm

Tuesday 24th March - Maths Booster Session – Year 6 only – 3:15pm – 4:30pm

Monday 30th March – Swimming – Year 3 – Week 3

Tuesday 31st March - Maths Booster Session – Year 6 only – 3:15pm – 4:30pm

Thursday 2nd April – Last day of Term - **Finish at 2:00pm**

Friday 3rd April – Friday 17th April 2026

Monday 20th April – First day of summer term

Attendance

<u>Attendance</u>		
Our school target for attendance is 97%		
1 st Place	Year 3	99.2 %
2 nd Place	Year 2	98.4 %
3 rd Place	Year 6	97.7 %

Shine Celebrations

Please see below our Shining Stars for this week.



Connor Downs Academy Shining Stars Friday 13th March 2026

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 spring term, on **Friday 20th March 2026** 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 – Millie

For her hard work in phonics with Miss Abel, and her recognition of her target sounds. Well done, Millie!

Year 1 – Zenor

For his excellent phonics work and for showing perseverance in lessons. Well done, Zenor, keep it up!

Year 2 – Delilah

For her determination, courage and resilience in all areas of the curriculum. Delilah has made super progress with her learning. Keep up the great work Delilah!

Year 3 – Dylan

For his great attitude to learning and sharing his knowledge and vocabulary when explaining to the class about his evaporation experiment. Well done, Dylan!

Year 4 – Oliver S

For consistently working hard during lesson time and being a great class friend, including others with his games during playtimes. Well done, Oliver!

Year 5 – Amelia

For her excellent attitude and behaviour for learning. Amelia is a great role model to all her peers. Well done, Amelia!

Year 6 – Carter

For his positive attitude towards his reading and for writing accurate answers in his book. Well done, Carter!

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Writer – Levi (Year 4)

For his determination to make sure his handwriting is consistently neat and always trying his best. Well done, Levi!

EYFS/KS1 Reader – Lilly-Rose (Year 2)

For the enthusiasm and effort she puts into her reading and the improvements in her phonics. Lilly-Rose always gives 100% and her dedication is showing in her progress. Well done, Lilly-Rose!

KS2 Reader – Alvah (Year 3)

For his super effort and determination to read challenging words in our reading comprehension about Romans and also a reading test. Wow! Well done, Alvah!

Mathematician – Willow (Year R)

For her excellent work in maths this week. Willow has made super progress learning her number bonds to 10. Well done, Willow!

Numbots/Rock Star – Reuben (Year 2)

For his outstanding effort and dedication to his times tables. Reuben has grown in confidence, specifically when using the four operations in his reasoning and problem questions. Well done, Reuben!

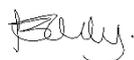
Performer – Elsie R (Year 5)

For stepping up to the challenge of the school swimming gala and representing Connor Downs Academy. Well done, Elsie!

Character – Henry (Year 1)

For being such a considerate and helpful member of the class. Henry is always offering to support his friends and is a joy to have in the class. Well done, Henry!

Kind Regards,



Mrs Eddy
Head of School