



Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026

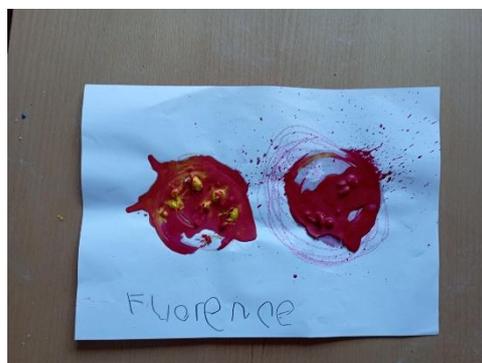
Dear parents/carers,

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

## Science Week- Reception Class



Reception class have loved learning more about their space topic through their Science Week experiments. They have planted seeds in the garden and in the fridge – to simulate conditions on the moon, so that they can learn if plants can grow in space. They have also made a paper mache model of the solar system, so they can see how the planets orbit the sun. For their third and final experiment, they melted some crayons to make the bubbly surface of planets, learning about states of matter and how solids melt into liquids.



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E: [hello@connordowns.org.uk](mailto:hello@connordowns.org.uk)

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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

## Year R and Year 6 – Chicks

This week, one of our Year 6 pupils brought in 7 of his 6-day old bantam chicks.

He explained what types they were and described how to look after them.

Thank you to Joseph and his family for providing this valuable experience to the children, to help them to appreciate the natural world.

Year R also loved spending the morning with the chicks. The children enjoyed watching them eat their breakfast and snuggle under the heat lamp. They also had the chance to learn some more about them, asking questions such as "why do they have wings if they can't fly?" They also learned that the chicks grow very quickly and will soon be fully grown.



## Year 5/6 – Cornish Pirates Rugby

Over the second half of the spring term, Neil from the Cornish Pirates, has been coming into school to work with Years 5 and 6. The pupils are learning why it is important to work as a team when tagging and why it is important to reduce the space and apply pressure to the

attackers to prevent scoring opportunities. Thank you to Neil and the Cornish Pirates for this amazing opportunity which the children have fully embraced.



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## Year 1 – Outdoor Learning

This week it was Year 1's turn to meet a Tortoise. The children had the opportunity to touch and feel the tortoise. They explored the texture of the shell, noticing that it felt hard, bumpy and rough on top and smooth and flatter underneath.

They then compared this to the chicks they had observed earlier in the day. They talked about what they saw, including colours, shapes and movements and described what they thought the chicks felt like. They were able to gently touch the chicks, which they said felt, soft, and fluffy to touch.

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## Family Link Worker Clinic - Reminder

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 24<sup>th</sup> March 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.

For those parents/carers who would like to speak to Jana, but are not able to make an appointment on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March, please email [hello@connordowns.org.uk](mailto: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 behaviour.

My family really struggles with routines.

I wonder if there is any support available for dealing with my child's school worries/absence?

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.

## After School Clubs

Please note, next week is the last week of after-school clubs for this term.

The summer term after-school clubs offer will be shared with parents/carers as soon as they have been finalised and agreed.

Thank you!

## Can you Help?

Screech Owl Sanctuary near St Columb Major, have kindly offered to donate some Owl pellets for Miss Pedley to use with the Year 5 class looking at dissection. We are looking for any families over the next couple of weeks who might be heading in this direction that could possibly collect the pellets for us. If you are able to help, please email [hello@connordowns.org.uk](mailto:hello@connordowns.org.uk) or speak to Miss Pedley directly. Thank you in advance for your continued help and support.



SCREECH  
**OWL SANCTUARY  
& ANIMAL PARK**

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## Menu Changes – Final Week of Term

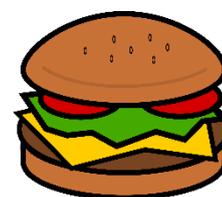


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The children will be able to choose from pasties, burgers, hotdogs on each day.

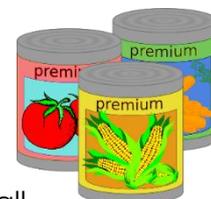
On **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March and Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**, there will be a change to the previously advertised menu. This is to clear down freezers prior to the Easter holidays. On both days, the kitchen will be offering '**Freezer Surprise**'.



The menu on ParentPay has been updated to show these changes so please book either the meat option freezer surprise, - the vegetarian freezer surprise as well as the usual Jacket Potato and Pasta options.

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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

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

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Swimming – Year 3 – Week 3

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March – M&M Theatrical Productions – Treasure Island

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

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Easter Egg Hunt

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – Easter Raffle and Name the Bunny Draws

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

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April – First day of summer term

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# Connor Downs Academy

Head of School: Mrs J Eddy

## Attendance

<b>Attendance</b>		
Our school target for attendance is 97%		
1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Year 6	97.9 %
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Year 5	97.7 %
3 <sup>rd</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026

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 spring term, on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> 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 – Kamile**

For using her voice to greet friends in class and familiar adults around the school. Well done, Kamile!

### **Year 1 – Thomas**

For always bringing such positive energy to our classroom and being a wonderful role model. Well done, Thomas!

### **Year 2 – Zachary**

For showing such amazing resilience and consistently trying his best in all aspects of school life! Well done, Zachary!

### **Year 3 – Robyn**

For her super positive attitude to learning in all areas of the curriculum. Robyn shows kindness and positivity when working with all her peers in class. Well done, Robyn!

### **Year 4 – Spencer**

For always striving to be the best he can be, by setting a shining example to his peers, with his fantastic behaviour for learning. Well done, Spencer!

### **Year 5 – Stella**

For her amazing performance in her maths assessments, showing great attainment. Well done, Stella!

### **Year 6 – Ella**

For her calm determination to do well in all lessons, especially English. Brilliant! Well done, Ella!

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## **Writer – Olivia (Year 1)**

For her excellent ideas during English and her enthusiasm for writing. Well done, Olivia!

## **EYFS/KS1 Reader – Scarlett (Year R)**

For the massive progress she has made in phonics over the last few weeks. Scarlett's confidence has grown so much, and it is so lovely to see her love of reading. Well done, Scarlett!

## **KS2 Reader – Lois (Year 6)**

For her careful answers in the Year 6 reading test and for her superb, much deserved score. Well Done, Lois!

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

For her excellent mathematical thinking when working with fractions. Well done, Penelope!

## **Numbots/Rock Star – Sienna S (Year 3)**

For her effort and increasing confidence answering TT Rock Stars questions to improve her heat map. Well done, Sienna!

## **Performer – Year 2 Cohort!**

For showing exceptional commitment throughout their Safari dance unit in P.E. The whole class demonstrated excellent co-operation, rhythm and expressive movement, bringing the actions of animals to life. Well done Year 2, You truly shine!

## **Character – Elsie-May (Year 5)**

For her continued energy and enthusiasm and playing a full role in school life. Well done, Elsie-May!

Kind Regards,

Mrs Eddy  
Head of School