



Friday 27th 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, including two class visits and a cross-country event!



Year 4 – Carn Euny



On Monday 23rd March, Year 4 travelled to Carn Euny - an ancient iron age village, near Penzance. The children explored the old ruins of the roundhouses and ventured into the underground beehive room and tunnel called a fogou. The trip was an opportunity to back up their learning on settlements and to create maps of the site.

They then walked towards the surrounding moorland to locate the ancient water source and find areas that provided the iron age inhabitants with building materials. After lunch, they took a lovely walk in the afternoon sunshine, returning to the minibus park.



Many thanks to Mr Gallagher, Mrs Rees and Mr Crease for their assistance.



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Year 2 – Lands End Airport



On Wednesday this week, our Year 2 class had an exciting school trip to Land's End Airport.

They were all full of smiles as they climbed into the minibuses and set off on their adventure. The journey didn't take long, and soon they could see the runway and lots of small planes!

On arrival, the friendly airport staff greeted them and showed them around. First, they went into the check in lounge, where people wait before getting on their flights. They looked at the big screens that tell passengers where to go and when their planes are ready.



Next, they got to walk outside (very carefully!) to see the planes up close. They were much smaller than the ones you see flying high in the sky, and some had shiny propellers at the front. The children even watched one plane take off - its wheels touched the runway gently and flew into the air beautifully, and everyone cheered!

After that, they visited the Air Traffic Control centre. They learnt that this is where the air traffic controllers talk to pilots and help keep everyone safe. The children all practised saying, "Pilot ready for take-off!"

Then they went to the fire station at the airport. The airport firefighters showed them their huge fire truck. It had giant wheels, special hoses, and bright lights. Some of the class even got to sit inside, everyone said it felt like being in a real rescue vehicle!

Before they left, they ate their packed lunches while watching more planes take off and land. It was very windy, but it made the experience even more special. The children were too busy spotting birds, planes, and even the Isles of Scilly planes.



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They finished their trip feeling happy and full of new facts about airports and flying. It was a wonderful day, and the children all behaved brilliantly.



A huge thank you to Mrs Eddy and Mr Gallagher for driving the minibuses, and to Mrs Richards and Mrs Hollis for all their help on their school trip.



A final thank you goes to the amazing personnel at Land's End Airport for making the visit so enjoyable for every child and adult!

Cross Country



On Thursday, pupils from Years 4, 5 and 6 took part in the Aspire Academy Trust Cross Country event held at the Royal Cornwall Showground, Wadebridge.

Year 4 had to complete 2 laps, equating to just over a mile. Cecily and Emily showed great resilience to complete the course. Harrison and Spencer, for the Year 4 boys gave it their all to round off a great event for Year 4.



Year 5 boys and girls also had to complete 2 laps. Mackenzie and Elsie D ran together and finished their laps with their heads held high. Tommy, Barney and Jack all took part for the boys, with Tommy stepping in at the last moment to complete the team.

Jack came in an incredible 2nd place; Barney came 4th and Tommy 16th! A superb effort from them all!



Bella, Noelle, Carter, Daniel and Isaac all represented Year 6. They all showed great resilience and determination to complete the course.

We are so proud of every pupil who took part and represented Connor Downs Academy with such pride.



Thank you to all the parents/carers who made the journey to Wadebridge to support the children.

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Owl Pellets

We would like to say a huge thank you to Cecily's mum from Year 4 for kindly collecting the owl pellets that had been generously donated by Screech Owl Sanctuary and Scarlett's mum from Year R for also bringing in some owl pellets from her work at Paradise Park in Hayle. The children in Year 5 are looking forward to their lesson with Miss Pedley as part of their science topic.

Year 3 and 4 – Outdoor Learning

During their outdoor learning sessions, Year 3 and Year 4 have been learning about growing their own food.

They have discussed gardening, and why it matters. Looked at the stages of germination and applied this knowledge when sowing lettuce. They have also learnt about using gardening tools safely and discussed why safe tool handling is essential.

The children learnt the stages of sowing lettuce seeds, including, loosening the top layer of the soil, creating shallow rows using a trowel, sprinkling the seeds evenly with space to grow and lightly covering with soil and gently water. Finally, they discussed what seeds need to germinate, moisture, warmth and oxygen.



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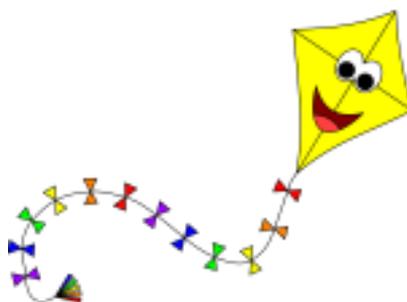
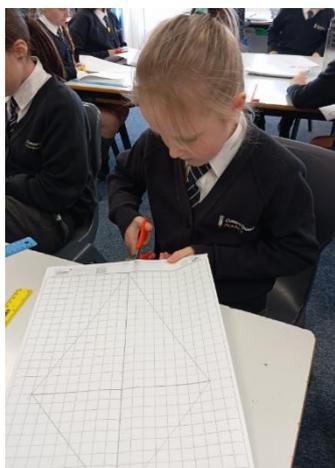
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Year 5 – Kites

During their DT lessons this week, Year 5 have designed and created their own kites and then they tested them out on the school field to see how well they flew!



After School Clubs

Please note, after-school clubs for this term have now finished.

The summer term after-school clubs offer will be shared with parents/carers next week, to start after Easter in the week beginning Monday 27th April 2026.

Thank you!

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Menu Changes – Next Week

Next week there will be a number of changes to the menu to clear down freezers prior to the Easter holidays.

On **Monday, 30th March**, the options will be **Meat/Veggie hotdogs**.

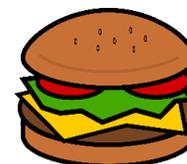


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On **Tuesday, 31st March** the options will be **Steak/Cheese pasties**.



On **Thursday, 2nd April**, will be **Meat/Veggie Burgers**.



The usual Jacket Potato and Pasta options will also be available.

Food Cupboard Donation Request – Final Week



Reminder, 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. Thank you to those have already donated!

A box is available just inside the front door to the school reception where you can place your donations. We will be accepting donations until the end of day on Wednesday 1st April.

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

The Friends of Connor Downs Academy Easter activities/fundraising events – next week - Reminders

M & M Theatrical Productions

On **Tuesday, 31st March**, M & M Theatrical Productions are coming into school with their fantastic production of Treasure Island. Live Theatre trips to the Hall for Cornwall are impractical, due to costs and logistics, but M&M coming into school, make it accessible to every child. Their performances are always fun and exciting, as well as educational and are suitable for all age groups from Year R to Year 6. Although The Friends have agreed a reduced rate with M&M and are subsidising the ticket costs for every child, there will be a charge of **£3 per child** to take part in this wonderful experience.



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A payment item has been setup on **ParentPay** for each child. All payments **must** be received by **30th March 2026**. Thank you.



Easter Egg Hunt

On **Wednesday, 1st April**, the Friends of Connor Downs will be holding an Easter Egg hunt around the school grounds. Pupils will be taken out a class at a time to take part and on completion, each pupil will win a small Easter Egg for finding the hidden eggs.

Easter Raffle

We are holding a raffle which will be drawn on the last day of term, **Thursday, 2nd April**. Tickets will be **£1 each** and will only be **available on the day** from classes. The star prize is this wonderful Easter basket full of lots of lovely goodies!

To add to the raffle, we are politely asking parents/carers to donate Easter Eggs which should be handed in to Mrs Gallagher in the school office.



Donations can be accepted from now until the morning of **Thursday, 2nd April**. Thank you.

Name The Bunny



The Friends also have 'Name the Bunny'. For **£1 a go**, you can put your name against one of the bunny names on the board next to the bunny. The winner will be chosen by Mrs Eddy on the final day of term, **Thursday, 2nd April**.

The bunny 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 board under the names you choose! Names can be chosen up to lunchtime on **Thursday, 2nd April**, or before if all names have been chosen! Thank you.

Thank you to all parents/carers who have already donated Easter Eggs for the raffle, had a go a 'Name The Bunny' and paid for their child to watch Treasure Island. Please can we encourage all parents to contribute towards these incredible events?

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Diary Dates – Spring Term 2026

Monday 30th March – Swimming – Year 3 – Week 3
Tuesday 31st March – M&M Theatrical Productions – Treasure Island
Tuesday 31st March - Maths Booster Session – Year 6 only – 3:15pm – 4:30pm
Wednesday 1st April – Easter Egg Hunt
Thursday 2nd April – Easter Raffle and Name the Bunny Draws
Thursday 2nd April – Last day of Term - **Finish at 2:00pm**

Easter Holidays

Friday 3rd April 2026 – Friday 17th April 2026

Diary Dates – Summer Term 2026

Monday 20th April – First day of summer term
Tuesday 21st April - Maths Booster Session – Year 6 only – 3:15pm – 4:30pm
Monday 27th April – Swimming – Year 2 – Week 1
Monday 4th May – **BANK HOLIDAY – School Closed**
Tuesday 5th May – FINAL Maths Booster Session – Year 6 only – 3:15pm – 4:30pm
Monday 11th May – Thursday 14th May – Year 6 SATs
Monday 11th May – Swimming – Year 2 – Week 2
Monday 18th May – Tempest Class Photos – more information to follow
Monday 18th May – Swimming – Year 2 – Week 3
Tuesday 19th May – Year 3 – Tate Gallery visit – details TBC
Wednesday 20th May – Year 1 – Pendennis Castle visit – details TBC
Thursday 21st May – FOCDA Disco's – more information to follow
Thursday 21st May – Friday 22nd May – Year 4 Camp Kernow Residential
Friday 22nd May – Last Day of first half of summer term – **Finish at 3:15pm**

Half Term

Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May

Monday 1st June – First day of second half of summer term
Monday 1st June – Sports Day Practice
Tuesday 2nd June – Year 6 – St Michael's Mount visit – details TBC
Wednesday 3rd June – Year 3 – Gym session – details TBC

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Friday 5th June – Year 5 – Geevor Tin Mine visit – details TBC
Monday 8th – Friday 12th June – Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Week
Monday 8th June – Swimming – Year 1 – Week 1
Wednesday 10th June – Aspire Games – Year 5
Thursday 11th June – Sports Day Practice
Monday 15th June – Swimming – Year 1 – Week 2
Monday 15th June – Year 3 camping on school field
Tuesday 16th June – Year 6 camping on school field
Wednesday 17th June – Year 5 camping on school field
Wednesday 17th June – Year 3 – Gym session – details TBC
Thursday 18th June – Year 4 camping on school field
Thursday 18th June – Year 6 – Surf Day
Monday 22nd June – Swimming – Year 1 – Week 3
Wednesday 24th June – Year 3 – Gym session – details TBC
Thursday 25th June – Year 5 – Surf Day
Monday 29th June – Swimming – Year R – Week 1
Wednesday 1st July – Year 3 – Gym session – details TBC
Thursday 2nd July – Sports Day Afternoon – more details to follow
Friday 3rd July – FOCDA Summer Fayre – more details to follow
Monday 6th July – Swimming – Year R – Week 2
Wednesday 8th – Friday 10th July – Year 6 Barton Hall Residential
Monday 13th July – Swimming – Year R – Week 3
Wednesday 15th July – Year 3 Gym session – details TBC
Wednesday 22nd July – Year 3 Gym session – details TBC
Wednesday 22nd July – Year 6 Leavers Prom – more details to follow
Thursday 23rd July – Year 6 – Leavers Church Service and Leavers Assembly – more details to follow
Thursday 23rd July – Last day of Term - **Finish at 2:00pm**

Summer Holidays

Friday 24th July 2026 to Wednesday 2nd September 2026

Thursday 3rd September – **INSET DAY** – School closed to pupils
Friday 4th September – **INSET DAY** – School closed to pupils
Monday 7th September – 1st day of Autumn term – Years 1 – 6 only

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Attendance

Attendance		
Our school target for attendance is 97%		
1 st Place	Year R	100.0 %
2 nd Place	Year 3	99.2 %
3 rd Place	Year 5	98.9 %

Kind Regards,

Mrs Eddy
Head of School

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2026 Summer Cricket – All Stars and Dynamos

Registrations are now open for All Stars and Dynamos Cricket across Cornwall. There are over 40 club centres across the county giving every child the opportunity to get active, learn new skills and make new friends, in a safe, fun environment this summer.

- **All Stars Cricket (Ages 5-8):** Perfect for beginners, focusing on big hits and fun.
- **Dynamos Cricket (Ages 8-11):** Developing skills through countdown cricket matches.

Link: Find a Local Cornwall Club & Register Here - <https://shorturl.at/1nhDc>

Making Cricket Accessible: The Support Fund

Cornwall Cricket believe finances should never be a barrier to sport. They are proud to continue their Support Fund, offering fully subsidised (free) places for families in need.

These funded places are limited and allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Please use the link below to apply for support.

Link: Apply for the National Programmes Support Fund Here –

<https://cornwallcricket.co.uk/boys-girls/ecb-national-programmes-all-stars/cornwall-cricket-support-fund-national-programmes.html>



**Cornwall
Cricket**



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Connor Downs
Academy

Connor Downs Academy

Head of School: Mrs J Eddy

MBFDC FOOTBALL CAMPS

EASTER HOLS

All children welcome from any school or club, come & have some fun at Easter!

4 DAYS - THURS & FRIDAYS
9TH, 10TH, 16TH, 17TH APRIL

- ✓ UEFA/FA Qualified Staff & DBS Checked
- ✓ Skills & ball techniques
- ✓ Fun activities, matches & tournaments
- ✓ Penalty shootouts, prizes & more!

SOCCER PROS:	PLAYERS NEED:
10am-3pm	Packed lunch & drinks
School Year(s) 2-8 U7s-U13s	Wet weather clothing & spares!
1 day £18, 2 days £33, 3 days £45	Football boots & shin pads
4 days £55 - Super Saver Deals!	Indoor footwear (in case of poor weather!)

MOUNTS BAY ACADEMY 3G PITCH
Boscathnoe Lane, Heamoor, Penzance, Cornwall, TR18 3JT

Online Registration Link
www.mbfdc.co.uk

Please visit the MBFDC website for further info & to register online!

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