



Friday 12th June 2026

Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you and your families are safe and well.

Year 5 – Geevor visit

Last Friday, Year 5 visited Geevor Mine to enhance their classroom learning about tin mining in Cornwall.

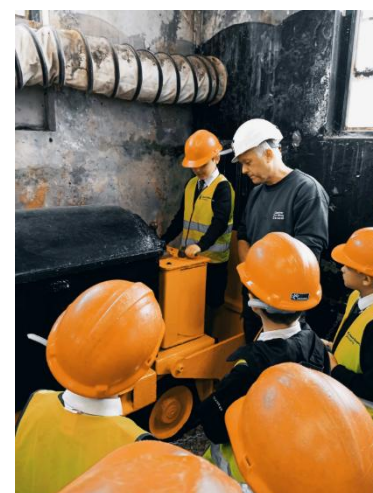
The children were divided into two groups and to explore the exciting site. Both groups visited a cinema room to learn about the history of Geevor and the challenging job of being a miner. They also saw the sheave wheels of Geevor and went in the “dry”.

On the tour, the children tried drilling granite using a hand tool, crushing rock like a bal maiden and carrying the hand cart.

The children were able to look at the lifts the miners travelled in to get to the mine and then the children entered the mine which was dark and long. For safety down in the mine, everyone had to wear hard hats because of the risk of hitting their heads in the very low tunnels.

At the end of the visit, the children enjoyed sieving crystals. The Geevor Tin Mine staff put the crystals in the sand, and the children used the sieves to get the crystals out. All the crystals they found were put in a bag to keep'.

At the end of the tour, the children enjoyed singing Cornish songs accompanied by Clint and Mark, our trusty tin mine guides!



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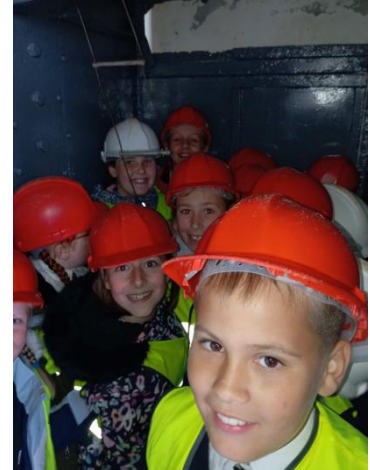
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We would like to thank all the parents/carers who supported on the visit and the team from Geevor Mine for the opportunity to enhance the children's learning outside of the classroom.



Year 2 – Pizza Making

On Friday, Year 2 learned how to make pizzas, and it was lots of fun! First, they rolled the dough into a circle and spread tomato sauce on top, then they added toppings like cheese and vegetables. They talked about healthy eating and how vegetables help us grow strong and keep our bodies healthy, while cheese helps our teeth and bones. The children also learned that pizza comes from Italy, especially a place called Naples, but people all around the world eat pizza in different ways, like adding seafood in Japan or pineapple in Hawaii. When the pizzas were ready, they used their fractions skills to cut them into equal pieces, such as halves ($\frac{1}{2}$) and quarters ($\frac{1}{4}$), so they could share fairly. It was a fun

way to learn about cooking, healthy food, maths, and the world! Thank you to Zara from Aspens for making this activity possible.

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Aspire Games

On Wednesday this week, the Year 5 children attended the Aspire Games held at Carn Brea Leisure Centre. The event was attended by all the Aspire Schools in the West of the County with all the children being split up into countries. Each group represented a different country, and every child was given a coloured t-shirt to identify the country they were representing. The events

they competed in were; speed bounce, long jump, vortex, 75m sprint and 400m run. The children all showed great effort and determination in all the events and had such a fun time taking part in the games and chatting and making new friends. Each of the children in the winning team received a medal and every child was able to keep their t-shirts as a memento of a really fantastic day!

Well done to all the children who took part in the Aspire Games. We are proud of every one of you for stepping outside of your comfort zones to try new events and meet new people. Well done Year 5!



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The ESCA Under 11 Hardball Cricket Tournament

Following on from last year's success, Connor Downs Academy will once again be representing Cornwall in the regional finals being held at King's College, Taunton, Somerset, next Monday, 15th June.

I am sure you will join with myself and all the staff and children at Connor Downs Academy in wishing them Good Luck! We are so proud of you all!



We would like to say a huge thankyou to all the parents/carers/grandparents who are making the journey to support the team in Taunton on Monday.



Congratulations!

As many of you will be aware, both Cornwall Men's and Ladies Rugby teams played in their respective County Finals at Twickenham last Saturday, with both coming away victorious!



We are delighted to celebrate one of our wonderful parents who was part of the historic win for the Cornwall ladies' team, Zeta Penrose! Not only did Zeta play on the hallowed turf at Twickenham, but her son was asked to be a ball boy for both matches, which was a dream come true!



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KS2 Camping on School Field and Afterschool Club Cancellations

Reminder - during the week beginning Monday 15th June, each of our KS2 classes will be camping on the school field. As most teaching staff are involved in these activities, we will have to cancel all school led afterschool clubs that week. **The only clubs that will run will be Sports4Tots on the Friday.**

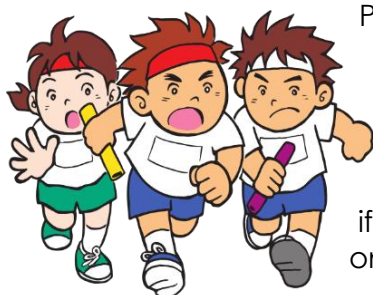


Camping Timetable

Year 3	Monday 15 th June
Year 6	Tuesday 16 th June
Year 5	Wednesday 17 th June
Year 4	Thursday 18 th June

Sports Day – Thursday 2nd July 2025

On Sports Day we are delighted to be able to invite parents/carers to join us in cheering on all the children as they take part in a variety of events.



Parents/carers should **arrive between 1:00pm and 1:15pm** and access the site **via the green gate at the top of the field**. The gate will **close at 1:15pm** to ensure we can bring the children out safely onto the field for a **prompt 1:30pm start**.

A limited number of chairs will be available for parents/carers, but if you would like to bring your own blanket/rug, please place these on the ground in front of the chairs.

Refreshments will be available to buy from the 'Friends of Connor Downs Academy'.

Please can we ask all children to have their PE kits in school every day in case of Sports Day practices, thank you.

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Summer Fayre

This year The Friends of Connor Downs Academy will be holding their Summer Fayre on **Friday, 3rd July 2026 from 3:30pm**. Further details to follow.

As part of the Fayre, we will be holding a raffle. With this in mind, 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!



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.

Diary Dates – Summer Term 2026

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
Thursday 18th June – Year 4 camping on school field
Thursday 18th June – Year 6 – Surf Day
Monday 22nd June – Swimming – Year 1 – Week 3

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Wednesday 24th June – Year 3 – Gym session
 Thursday 25th June – Year 5 – Surf Day
 Monday 29th June – Swimming – Year R – Week 1
 Wednesday 1st July – Year 3 – Gym session
 Thursday 2nd July – Careers Morning
 Thursday 2nd July – Sports Day Afternoon
 Friday 3rd July – FOCCA 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
 Wednesday 22nd July – Year 3 Gym session
 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

Diary Dates – Autumn Term 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

Attendance

Attendance		
Our school target for attendance is 97%		
Joint 1 st Place	Year 3	100.0 %
Joint 1 st Place	Year 5	100.0 %
2 nd Place	Year R	99.1 %
3 rd Place	Year 1	98.2 %

Shine Celebrations

Please see below our Shining Stars for this week.

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Connor Downs Academy Shining Stars Friday 12th June 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 summer term, on **Friday 19th June** 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 – Jack

For representing Connor Downs so well on their trip to Hayle Plants. Jack asked excellent questions of the staff, displayed super manners and was an all-round great role model. Well done, Jack!

Year 1 – Year 1 Cohort

For such a fantastic effort with their Phonics Screening Check. Everyone showed amazing determination and perseverance. We are all very proud of you! Well done Year 1!

Year 2 – Ben

For being such a shining example of a Year 2 pupil. Ben is positive in all aspects of his learning and fantastic at articulating how he feels, which helps others understand and learn alongside him. Ben has made Miss Medcalf such a proud teacher. Well done, Ben!

Year 3 – Freddie Ox.

For showing courage when visiting the Tate Gallery by stepping into the rainbow sculpture. Well done, Freddie!

Year 4 – Penelope

For always trying her best with every task and having the determination to not give up, even when challenged. Well done, Penelope!

Year 5 – James

For his super effort and determination at the Aspire Games. Well done, James!

Year 6 – Isaac P

For settling into a new school and class so confidently. Well done, Isaac!

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Writer – William (Year 3)

For his great vocabulary choices when retelling a chapter of The Iron Man. Well done, William!

EYFS/KS1 Reader – Eddie (Year R)

For regularly reading at home and making great progress in his blending of digraphs in words. Well done, Eddie!

KS2 Reader – Stella (Year 5)

For her amazing insight into complex texts. Well done, Stella!

Mathematician – Zennor (Year 1)

For working so hard on the class position and direction topic, demonstrating a really good understanding. Well done, Zennor!

Numbots/Rock Star – Frankie (Year 2)

Frankie has been working brilliantly on NumBots, showing great confidence with his number skills. Frankie's quick thinking and determination are really helping to improve his fluency. Keep up the good work! Well done, Frankie!

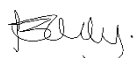
Performer – Harry (Year 4)

For reading aloud our 'Comic Books' reading comprehensions and independently scanning the text to find each answer. Harry read beautifully and showed a clear understanding of the text. Well done, Harry!

Character – Layton (Year 6)

For being very proactive when helping to put the tents up for next week's camping. Well done, Layton!

Kind Regards,



Mrs Eddy
Head of School