

Friday 19th June 2026

Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you and your families are safe and well. We have had another incredibly full and exciting week in school this week, with each of our KS2 classes camping on the school field, our Cricket team taking part in the regional finals of the U11 hardball cricket competition and also a softball cricket competition.



The ESCA Regional Under 11 Hardball Cricket Tournament

On Monday, our incredible cricket team attended the Regional Under11 Hardball Finals at King's College, Taunton. Representing Cornwall, they faced the winners from Devon, Dorset and Somerset, all of which were Prep' schools. Thank you to the team for the following report:



'On Monday, 15th June, Year 5 and 6 cricket players went to King's College, Taunton, in the regional finals. We played against 3 teams from Devon, Dorset and Somerset. The first match, against Devon, got down to the last over. They needed 6 runs to win, which sadly they got to take a very narrow win. Secondly, we played Taunton Prep' School, who have very good players who train all day with cricket. This was a very tough match, but we didn't give up, finally losing by a respectable 60 runs. The final match of the day was the closest. We played Castle Court, from Dorset. We elected to bat first and put 54 runs on the board. In the second innings, it got down to the last ball and they were on 53 runs. Daniel bowled the last ball but they were only able to take 1 run, meaning the match was tied. We would like to thank all the parents who took their children to play and the umpires'.

We would like to say a huge congratulations to the whole team; Daniel, Tommy, Perran, Carter, Jacob, Charlie, Isaac H, Barney and Dylan. We are so proud of you all for representing Connor Downs Academy in such a prestigious event and holding your head up high. Well done Team!

From Connor Downs Academy, we would like to say a big thank you to all the parents and carers, who took the time to transport and support the team to the event.

A special thank you must go Mark Smitheram for coaching the team, and to Greg Mungles for taking on the role of scorer. We are very grateful for all your help!

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Year 5/6 Softball Cricket Finals

On Tuesday, our cricket team followed their amazing day on Monday in the U11 hardball finals, by attending a softball tournament at Mounts Bay Academy. Thank you once again to the team for their report:



'On Tuesday, 16th June, we went to MBA to play an indoor softball cricket tournament, playing against 3 teams. Firstly, we played Ludgvan, winning by 50 runs. In the second match, we had our hardest game against St Hilary. We batted first only scoring 35. In the second innings, St Hilary ended up needing 15 runs from 15 balls. Perran took a screamer of a catch, one handed from Jacob M's bowling and the ball after that, Tommy took a great catch, leaving St Hilary needing 25 off 13. This then increased to 30 off 11 balls, after a great catch from Daniel, from Carter's bowling. In the last over, with Daniel bowling and Perran as wicket keeper, the first ball was missed by the batsman and Perran got a stumping, leading to St Hilary needing 33 off 5 balls. On the second to last ball, they hit it straight back to Perran which he caught, and Connor Downs won by 40 runs. In the last game, we played Bodriggy B and won by 77 runs. The combined wins means that Connor Downs won first place and are County Champions!'

Congratulations to Daniel, Tommy, Jacob M, Perran, Carter, Ruan, Isaac H and Charlie – what an incredible 2 days of cricket you have had! We are so proud of all your fantastic efforts, both individually and collectively. What an amazing Team!

EYFS/KS1 Fun Night and KS2 Camping

Thank you to all the parents/carers and staff who gave up their time to give all our children an amazing experience over the last week. Well done to our children for their resilience, enthusiasm and fun during camp! Please look out for pictures on next week's newsletter of the EYFS/KS1 Fun Night and Year 2 sleepover and the KS2 Camping.



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Year 6 - Geography



A big thank you to Mr Maros for coming to talk to Year 6 about North America last week. The children were enthralled to learn about American and Canadian sports, animals and food! Mr Maros kindly answered the children's questions about the difference in going to school and other aspects of life including cars!

Thank you Mr Maros for bringing the children's learning to life. The children ended the morning with a tasty pancake covered in maple syrup! Yum!



Year R - Books

EYFS would like to thank the Twinkl Community Collection for the competition money, which we have used to buy a selection of books which match our topics and will enhance our reading provision. We are very excited to get reading!



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Year R – Hayle Plants

During the Year R visit to Hayle Plants, the children explored a wide variety of plants, noticing the different smells, colours and textures. They used their senses to describe what made each plant unique, comparing smooth and rough leaves, bright petals and strong-smelling herbs.

They also learned how seedlings are grown and potted. The children watched the staff at work and saw the large hopper machine filling pots with compost. They talked about how seedlings need soil, water and warmth to grow and why they must be handled gently.

Each child then potted two seedlings of their own. After this, they explored a selection of herbs and chose one herb from a variety to take home, which they were very excited about. They discussed how they would care for their plants and what they might notice as they grow.



We would like to say a huge thank you to Hayle Plants for their generosity and their inspiring work with the children.



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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.



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!



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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.



Diary Dates – Summer Term 2026

Monday 22nd June – Swimming – Year 1 – Week 3
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 – 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
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

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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 2	99.1%
3 rd Place	Year 1	97.2%

Shine Celebrations

Please see below our Shining Stars for this week.

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Connor Downs Academy Shining Stars Friday 19th 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 26th 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 – Louie

For working hard in all his learning. Louie has impressed Miss Marshall so much this week with his effort and dedication. Well done, Louie!

Year 1 – Henry

For being an excellent role model, explaining the school rules to his peers. Henry is always listening and keen to learn. Well done, Henry!

Year 2 – Jobie

For consistently following our school values and rules. Jobie is an absolute delight to teach, and he spreads joy everywhere he goes! Well done, Jobie!

Year 3 – Sienna H

For her amazing efforts at camp and every day in the class. Sienna always thinks ahead and steps in to support everyone in the class. Thank you! Well done, Sienna!

Year 4 – Kingsley

For always having a positive attitude to his learning and looking for challenges in everything he does. Well done, Kingsley!

Year 5 – Elowen

For her amazing sewing and design skills during DT, making items to sell at the Summer Fayre. Well done, Elowen!

Year 6 – Sydney

For being such a kind and caring friend during the Year 6 Surf Day. Sydney volunteered to support his friend with carrying his surfboard back up the hill from the beach. Well done, Sydney!

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Writer – Jago (Year R)

For choosing to write independently in playful learning time. Jago has been applying his phonics and challenging himself every day. Well done, Jago!

EYFS/KS1 Reader – Olivia (Year 1)

For her excellent effort to follow the text and reading aloud with our reading comprehension. Well done, Olivia!

KS2 Reader – Jacob H (Year 6)

For his superb effort and consistent reading in school throughout Year 6. Well done, Jacob!

Mathematician – Arthur (Year 4)

For consistently working hard by listening and applying new learnt skills to his work. Well done, Arthur!

Numbots/Rock Star – Rilie (Year 3)

For her super effort to improve her scores on TT Rock stars heat map. Well done, Rilie!

Performer – Florence M (Year 2)

For her enthusiasm, drive and participation during the Year 2 role play activity. Florence's recall of Goldilocks and the Three Bears was secure and mesmerising! Well done, Florence!

Character – Daniel (Year 5)

For having an amazing camp and being so helpful when tidying up. Daniel was a great role model to his peers. Well done, Daniel!

Kind Regards,

Mrs Eddy
Head of School