

Friday 10th July 2026

Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you and your families are safe and well. What a beautiful week of weather we have had! Please can we remind all parents/carers that all children should come to school with suncream already applied and additional in their bag for reapplying during the day if needed. Also, a sun hat and refillable water bottle. Thank you.



Careers Day



For Careers Day, Years R and 1 joined together to welcome visitors from Paradise Park, an eye nurse who talked about the importance of keeping our eyes safe and the National Animal Welfare Trust, who spoke about the work they do with supporting people to look after their animals, including rehoming and boarding. They were also very lucky to be able to have a look around the police cars and Scania Lorry Cab. Thank you to all the parents/carers and friends who generously gave up their time to come and inspire our children.



T: 01736 753135

E: hello@connordowns.org.uk

W: www.connordowns.org.uk

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For the Year 2 Careers Day this year, they were extremely lucky to welcome several parents from their class who generously gave up their time to deliver some fantastic sessions about their careers. The children enjoyed a wide variety of experiences, starting with Pro Talent, who highlighted the importance of choosing a career that makes you happy and that you enjoy. They also took part in a wonderful and engaging Spanish lesson, learned about the importance of bones and caring for our bodies from a nurse at St Michael's Hospital, and welcomed our local police officers, who allowed the children to explore their police cars and try on different uniforms.



Last but certainly not least, Scania kindly gave the children the opportunity to look inside one of their vehicles, which was a memorable experience for everyone. We would like to say a huge thank you to all our kind parents and visitors for providing the children with such amazing opportunities and insights into the world of work. We were incredibly grateful for your support and generosity.

Farm and Country Day



We recently welcomed back Sharon, the Education officer from the British Agricultural Association, to work with our KS2 classes. Sharon previously visited our EYFS/KS1 classes back in April with the Farm and Country Roadshow.

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Sharon explained how the farmers of Cornwall are involved in food production to provide us with our morning cereal and milk, bread, meat and vegetables for our lunches and dinners at home, not forgetting delicious Cornish pasties. The children were also interested to learn that sheep and cow hides were used to make leather shoes, furry suede boots and wool jumpers.

The children explored a range of activities such as handling a cow and sheep's hides, dressing up in animal costumes and even a tractor drivers' overalls. They experienced games and puzzles that illustrated the different cuts of meat that animals and poultry give us. When handling, wheat, oats and barley, the children were surprised to hear that a combine harvester cost 1 million pounds.

We were delighted with the comments we received from Sharon, once again:

'Just another Thank You for organising the school for our Farm and Country visit. You had a lot to do that day; I am grateful for the time you gave me.'



I do hope your visiting Heads enjoyed their time with you - the school and staff looked amazing; the children were good as gold. I went to the Open Farm Sunday at Cornhill Farm just a few days after, it was great to see so many familiar faces all keen to say hello and share what they learnt. It was very special.



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Summer Fayre



We would like to say a huge thank you to all the families and friends and the local community who attended our Summer Fayre last Friday. We were delighted to see such a fabulous turnout in the sunshine. We are pleased to share that the Friends of Connor Downs Academy raised an incredible amount of £1,200 which will be used in the new academic year to support all classes with resources and opportunities. We would like to say a massive thank you to all the families and local businesses that supported our raffle with prizes.



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World Cup PE Special – Year 2 Football Tournament

As part of our PE World Cup Special, the Year 2 children took part in an exciting football tournament. The pupils were divided into teams representing different countries and demonstrated fantastic teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the event. There were some brilliant goals, excellent defending and lots of enthusiastic cheering from teammates. Most importantly, the children showed respect for one another and embraced the values of fair play. It was wonderful to see everyone getting involved, developing their football skills and having so much fun. Well done to all our Year 2 players for making the tournament such a success!



After School Clubs

A reminder that all school led after school clubs have now finished for this academic year. **Sports4Tots** will continue next week, with the **last session** taking place on **Friday 17th July**.

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School Staffing Update for Parents and Carers

We are delighted to share our staffing structure for the 2026-2027 academic year with you.

This overview shows who is working with each class and when they are in school, helping you know who supports your child throughout the week.

Year group	Class teacher	Teaching Assistant
EYFS	Miss Marshall - (Monday – Friday) Mrs Crease (Thursday morning)	Miss Abel (Monday – Thursday) Miss Pedley – (Friday)
1 and 2	Miss Johnson – (Monday – Wednesday) Miss Pedlar (EYFS and KS1 Lead) – (Thursday and Friday) Mrs Crease – (Thursday afternoon)- supporting intervention groups	Mrs Anderson Smith – (Monday – Friday) Mrs Talbott – (Monday – Friday) Miss Pedley – (Monday – Thursday)
3	Miss Medcalf – (Monday – Friday)	Mrs Hackett – (Monday – Friday)
4	Miss Torrie – (Monday – Friday) Ms Speight – (Wednesday mornings)	Mrs Ridge – (Monday – Friday) Mrs Smith – (Monday to Friday)
5	Mr Pascoe – (Monday – Friday) Mrs Crease – (Friday mornings)	Mrs Scaife – Every morning (Monday – Friday) Afternoons (Tuesday and Thursday) Pastoral Support Advisor Role – Wednesday and Friday afternoons
6	Miss Norton – (Monday – Friday) Ms Speight – Wednesday afternoons – supporting intervention groups)	Mrs Smitheram – (Monday – Friday)

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Outdoor learning lead	Trauma Informed Practitioner and Pastoral Support Advisor
Miss Pedley , afternoons only.	Mrs Scaife

Additional Information

- Teaching assistants support a range of learning activities, including small group work and targeted interventions.
- Some staff members work across more than one class to provide specialist support.
- Intervention sessions are designed to help children, build confidence and make strong progress in key areas of learning.

Mr Foulds will be moving on from Connor Downs Academy in September 2026. We thank him for his service to the academy and extend our best wishes for the future.

Joining us in September in Year 4, is Miss Torrie. Miss Torrie will be available for the planned moving up morning on Monday 20th July where the current Year 3 cohort will be able to meet her and parents/carers will be able to meet her on the gate in the morning and the afternoon. We are thrilled to welcome Miss Torrie to the Connor Downs family.

We're Here to Help

If you have any questions about staffing or your child's support in school, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school office either by speaking to Mrs Gallagher or emailing hello@connordowns.org.uk

Sports Day – Rescheduled to Thursday 16th July 2026

Reminder: Our rearranged Sports Day is scheduled to take place on **Thursday 16th July**, and we are keeping our fingers crossed that the weather will be kind. 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**.



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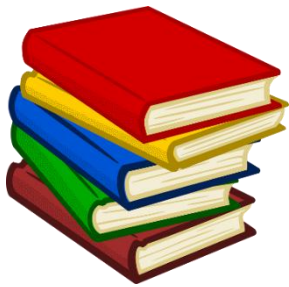
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A limited number of chairs will be available for parents/carers, but if you would like to bring your own blanket/rug, please place these on the ground in front of the chairs.

We are excited to share that we will have an ice cream van on site selling ice creams, cans and water. Please note, no ice creams can be given to the children taking part in sports afternoon. The ice cream van will remain on site after the end of school to enable parents/carers to purchase for their children. Thank you.

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



School Books - Reminder

On **Wednesday 22nd July**, we will be sending your child's/children's exercise books and work folders home with them for you to keep. Please can we ask that each child brings in **2 strong shopping bags** for this purpose. Thank you!

Reports

End of year reports will be sent home **next Friday, 17th July**, with every child. We hope you enjoy reading the report and we strongly encourage parents/carers to use the comments page for feedback. Please pass the comments page back to your child's class teacher. Thank you for your continued support.



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.

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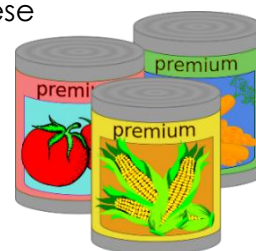
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Donations for Connor Downs Food Cupboard - Reminder

HELP

To help support our local community, we are politely asking for families from the Connor Downs Academy community to donate tinned goods for the food cupboard in the village. These donations will help many families during not only the school holidays, but every day.

Please can we ask for any donations to be brought to Mrs Gallagher in the school office by Wednesday 22nd July. A box will be available in the school main entrance from Monday next week.



Diary Dates – Summer Term 2026

Monday 13th July – Swimming – Year R – Week 3
 Wednesday 15th July – Year 3 Gym session
 Thursday 16th July – Rearranged Sports Day
 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
 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%		
1 st Place	Year 1	99.1 %
2 nd Place	Year 2	98.8 %
3 rd Place	Year 3	97.6 %

Shine Celebrations

Please see below our Shining Stars for this week.

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Connor Downs Academy Shining Stars Friday 10th July 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 2025/2026 academic year, on **Friday 17th July** 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 – Willow

For her progress in our class swimming lessons. Willow has had a positive attitude and done her best every single week. Well done, Willow!

Year 1 – Greyson

For his enthusiasm in every lesson and the fun facts he shares with the class. Greyson really shows his love of learning! Well done, Greyson!

Year 2 – Jacob B

For his truly kind, caring nature. Jacob cares for everyone and everything and we are so lucky to have him in the Year 2 class. Miss Medcalf and Mrs Hackett notice all the wonderful things he does. Well done, Jacob!

Year 3 – Alvah

For his increased confidence and independence. Alvah is a great role model always ready to learn and help his friends with their work. Well done, Alvah!

Year 4 – Levi

For always trying his best with his work and finding ways to improve it himself. Levi always gives everything 100% and presents his work beautifully. Well done, Levi!

Year 5 – Elsie-May

For making amazing progress in Year 5 in English and Maths. Well done, Elsie-May!

Writer – Zoey (Year 3)

For her outstanding writing this half term. Zoey's passion for reading has enabled her to write using a rich and varied vocabulary in a narrative of The Magic Brush and a biography about Taylor Swift. Well done, Zoey!

EYFS/KS1 Reader – Kamile (Year R)

For participating in whole class phonics and beginning to recognise phase 3 digraphs. What an achievement. Well done, Kamile!

KS2 Reader – Emilia (Year 4)

Emilia has been reading lots of fictional books over the last week and has gone further in her work by even drawing the characters she has been reading about. Emilia has shown a great understanding of each story and answered each comprehension question with a clear knowledge. Well done, Emilia!

Mathematician – Nathan (Year 3)

For his hard work on Spiral Maths, TT Rock Stars and White Rose Maths over the year. Nathan's increased knowledge, confidence and independence is great to see. Well done, Nathan!

Numbots/Rock Star – Amelia (Year 5)

For a fantastic 171,546 career correct answers. Well done, Amelia!

Performer – Markas (Year 1)

For his efforts in starting to blend CVC words. Markas is so proud of his phonics and loves to include his friends in his learning. Well done, Markas!

Character – Reuben B (Year 2)

For settling so beautifully into the Year 2 class. Reuben has showed a great thirst for learning and has demonstrated kindness to all. Welcome to our Connor Downs family Reuben! Well done!

Menu Change – Thursday 16th July - Reminder

Please see poster for menu changes for **next Thursday, 16th July**. Jacket Potato and Pasta will also be available on this day. Thank you.

Kind Regards,



Mrs Eddy
Head of School



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Connor Downs
Academy

Connor Downs Academy

Head of School: Mrs J Eddy

Summer Holiday Clubs

Looking for activities during the summer holidays? Miss Medcalf will be running the following clubs during the summer holidays, held both here at Connor Downs Academy and at Mount Hawke Academy. Please see poster below for full details and how to book. LBSD clubs are always very popular and get booked up very quickly, so we are incredibly lucky to be able to host this holiday club at Connor Downs Academy.



WE'RE BACK!!!

WEEK 1: Connor Downs Academy - Monday 27th - 31st July 2026

WEEK 2: Mount Hawke Academy - Monday 3rd - Wed 5th August 2026

week 3: Mount Hawke Academy - 10th-12th August 2026

TIME:
08:45AM-15:00PM

Run by Qualified Teachers.

Paediatric First Aiders.

DBS checked.

LBSD MULTI-SKILLS SUMMER SCHOOL

PRICES
£20 PER DAY BOOK NOW!

Ages 5-14 years

WHAT TO BRING:
Packed lunch
Plenty of fluids
Spare Clothes
Suncream and sun hat.

REGISTER NOW: bubbly-lb@hotmail.com
[Facebook/The Laura-BethSchoolOfDance.](https://www.facebook.com/TheLauraBethSchoolOfDance)

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