Connor Downs Academy

Head of School: Mrs J Eddy

Friday 13th November 2026



Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you and your families are well. We have had another busy week in school, with practise for the upcoming Christmas Nativity and the KS2 Carol Concert in full swing!

Service of Remembrance



Last Sunday, representatives from our School Council attended the annual Service of Remembrance at Hayle War Memorial, where they laid a wreath on behalf of the Connor Downs Academy community.



The service was attended by Mrs Eddy, Mr Pascoe, and Mr and Mrs Gallagher, alongside families and children from across the school.

We are incredibly proud of the respect and maturity shown by all of our children, especially those who had the honour of laying the wreath. Their conduct reflected the values of our school and demonstrated genuine respect for those who have served and sacrificed.

A heartfelt thank you to all the parents and carers who gave up their time to attend with their children.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to Mark and his team at The Big Pink Tree for once again providing us with a beautiful wreath.



Remembrance Assembly

On Wednesday, to mark Armistice Day, all children came together for a special Remembrance Assembly. During the assembly, we reflected on the sacrifices made by servicemen, servicewomen and animals who have lost their lives, or continue to serve, during times of conflict. The children showed great respect as they observed a two-minute silence in memory of those who have given so much for others.



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Cross Country



Also, on Wednesday this week, our cross-country team attended Hayle Academy to take part in the next round of events.

We are so proud of all the children who took part, demonstrating grit and determination and representing our Academy so well.



Congratulations in particular to Jack, Barney and Spencer who all came home with medals!

Thank you to all the parents/carers who came along to give so much support to all the children.

Scholastic Book Fair

This week in school, we have been hosting our annual Scholastic Book Fair. Once again, Scholastic has supplied us with an incredible selection of books for our children to purchase.

We would like to thank all our parents/carers who have come along and bought books for their children/grandchildren, which in turn raises funds for school to enhance our library with free books.

We are still waiting for the final payments to come in but we will share this with you next week along with the books that we have been able to obtain through the Scholastic Scheme.

As part of the Book Fair, we ran a competition, open to all classes, to design a book cover. Ms Speight, our Art and Design Lead, was blown away by the standard of the entries, but congratulations go to the winners:

Mia, Reuben, Scarlett-Rose, Cecily, Isaac, Sienna and Reuben.



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Reminders



With the colder weather setting in, these reminders help ensure children are comfortable, safe and able to make the most of their learning both indoors and outdoors.

Jumpers and Warm Waterproof Coats

Please ensure your child comes to school each day with their school jumper and a warm, waterproof coat.

We encourage children to enjoy fresh air during breaktimes and lunchtimes, as well as making full use of our fantastic outdoor learning environments throughout the school day. It is therefore important that every child has suitable outdoor clothing to help keep them warm and dry in all weather conditions.

Illness

As the colder months approach, we naturally see an increase in illnesses such as coughs, colds and sickness bugs.

If your child experiences sickness or diarrhoea, our school policy requires them to remain at home for **48 hours** after their last episode of illness before returning to school.

To help reduce the spread of infection, all classes have been supplied with additional tissues and children have been reminded of the "Catch it, Bin it, Kill it" message. We are also encouraging frequent handwashing, and our cleaning team are carrying out enhanced cleaning of high-touch surfaces throughout the school.

We would also like to remind parents and carers that if their child is absent due to illness, they must contact the school each morning that their child is absent. Please leave a message on the absence line, providing the full reason for the absence.

Thank you for your support.

Medication

Medicines should only be administered in school where it would be detrimental to a child's health or school attendance if they were not given.

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Prescription medicines can only be administered if they have been prescribed by a doctor or dentist. The medicine must:

- Be in date
- Be clearly labelled with the child's name
- Be provided in the original container as dispensed by the pharmacist
- Include clear instructions for administration, dosage and storage

All medication must be accompanied by a completed Parental Agreement for Setting to Administer Medicine Form, which is available from the school office.

All medicines must be handed to and collected from an adult at the school office. Medicines must never be sent to school in a child's bag.



Friends of Connor Downs Academy Autumn Disco

The Friends of Connor Downs Academy are delighted to confirm that the Autumn Term Disco will take place on **Thursday 26th November 2026**.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2: 3:30pm to 4:30pm
Years 3, 4, 5 and 6: 4:45pm to 5:45pm

The entrance fee is **£2.00 per child**, payable on the door. Sweets, crisps and other refreshments will be available to purchase from the canteen.

Please note that **drinks will not be available to purchase**, so children should bring a **named water bottle** with them. Please do not send fizzy drinks.

To help keep money safe and organised, we kindly ask that children bring a **named wallet or purse** containing their entrance fee and any additional spending money.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

Children should bring their disco clothes to school on the morning of the disco in a **named bag** and hand them to their class teacher. At the end of the school day, children will change into their disco clothes and will be encouraged to place their school uniform back into the same bag. These bags will be returned to parents and carers when children are collected after the disco.

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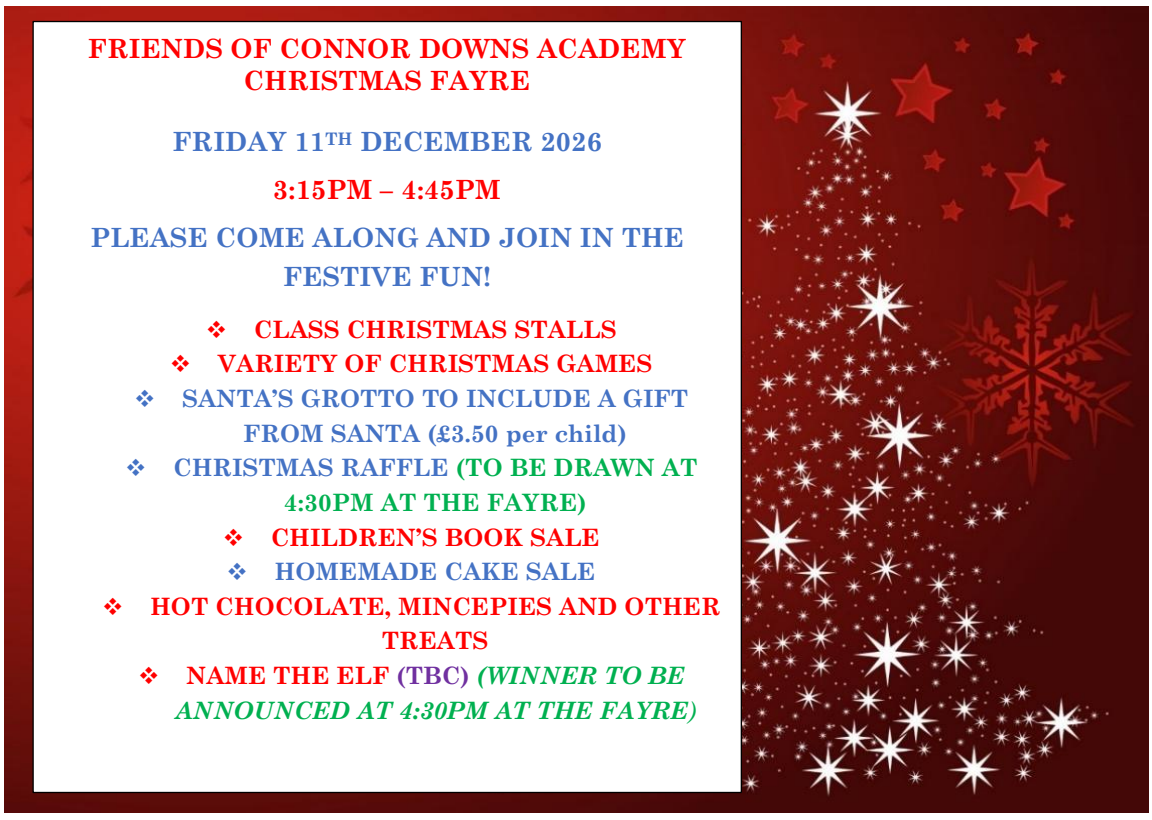
Years 3 to 6

KS2 children should be dropped off at the **back door of the school** and signed in by a member of staff or the Friends committee.

Please note that, regardless of existing walk-home permissions, **all children must be collected by an adult at the end of the disco** and will not be permitted to leave the school site unaccompanied.

Thank you for your support. We look forward to a fantastic evening of music, dancing and fun! 🎵✨

Christmas Fayre



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Card Payments

PLEASE NOTE, WE CAN TAKE CARD PAYMENTS AT THE FAYRE. YOU WILL BE GIVEN TOKENS TO SPEND AT THE VARIOUS STALLS TO THE MONETRAY VALUE OF YOUR CARD PAYMENT. THANK YOU!

A member of the Friends committee will be available in the Year 5 classroom to take your card payments and issue you with tokens. This facility will be situated next to the Raffle and Name the Elf! Tokens are valued at 50p each and every stall will take these tokens.

Requests for donations for the Christmas Fayre

We are looking for any donations to help with this year's Christmas Fayre.



- **Cake Sale**: Are you a home baker who would be willing to provide us with some homemade cakes/buns/traybakes/cookies to sell at the Fayre? To be allergy aware, **an ingredients sheet must be completed** to go alongside your baking. Please note, **NO NUTS**.



- **Teddy Tombola**: Do you have any good quality teddies that your children no longer want and are happy to donate?

- **General Tombola**: Any items suitable for a general tombola.



- **Chocolate Tombola:** Anything suitable for a chocolate tombola, including chocolate suitable for Dairy Free/Gluten Free/Vegan/Vegetarian.



- **Raffle Prizes**: 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!

Please can any donations be brought to the school office and given to Mrs Gallagher, anytime between now and the morning of the Christmas Fayre.

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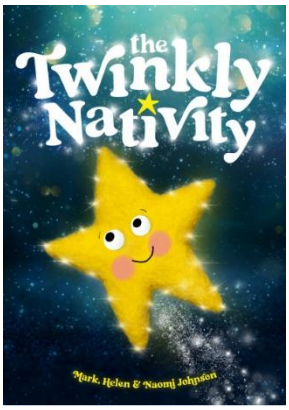
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For any cake donations, please can these be brought to the school office and given to Mrs Gallagher on the morning of the Christmas Fayre **ONLY**.

Thank you in advance to our parent/carer community for all their generosity and support.

Christmas Events



EYFS/KS1 Natvity – The Twinkly Nativity!

The children in EYFS and Years 1 and 2 will give two performances of their Nativity, 'The Twinkly Nativity!' The performances will take place at 2pm on Tuesday 1st December and 5pm on Thursday 3rd December. **Letters with details of how to book tickets will be sent home with children next week.**

EYFS /KS1 Christingle



The children from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be taking part in their Christingle, being held at Phillack Church. This will take place on **Monday, 7th December** starting at 5:00pm. Please can we ask that children and parents/carers **arrive no later than 4:45pm**. All children to please wear full school uniform and to have long hair tied back, thank you. **Letters will be sent home to parents/carers next week with full details.**

KS2 Christmas Carol Concert



Children from KS2 will be taking part in their carol concert on **Tuesday, 8th December.** We are offering two performances, one starting at **2:00pm** at school. A single ticket, costing £1 will available per child. **No additional tickets will be available**. **Letters will be sent home to parents/carers next week with full details.**

The second will take place at Phillack Church on the same day, at **5:00pm**. Please can we ask that children and parents/carers **arrive no later than 4:45pm**. All children to please wear full school uniform, thank you. The service at Phillack Church is a wonderful event that makes very special memories for all the children and their parents/carers/grandparents.

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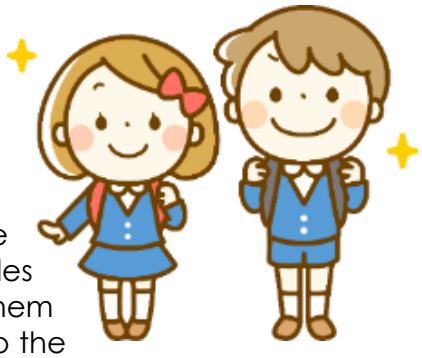
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There will be a retiring collection at both Church events with all proceeds going to the Church. Please do donate as generously as you can, Thank you!

All in school performance tickets will be charged at £1 per ticket. All proceeds go to additional resources for the children in school. Thank you for your 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.

Year 5 – Request for Cardboard

Year 5 have a DT project that they are starting next week and they require cardboard, tubes and boxes. If anyone has any that they can donate to school, please bring them to the school office on Monday or Tuesday next week – all donations will be greatly received!

Thank you!



Christmas Card Competition Winner!

Congratulations to Willow in Year 1, for winning the Christmas Card Competition organised by Perran Moon, MP for Camborne, Redruth and Hayle. We are very proud of your Christmas Tree pasty design!

Shine Celebrations

Please see below our Shining Stars for this week.

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Connor Downs Academy Shining Stars
Friday 13th November 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 autumn term, on ***Friday 20th November 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 – Orry
For constantly demonstrating good manners, kindness and empathy in and out of the classroom. Orry is a super role model for his peers and a true delight to teach. Well done, Orry!

Year 1– Jago
For confidently trying new things in Year 1 provision to support his learning. Well done, Jago!

Year 2 – Leo
For working really hard to engage positively with his new learning in every lesson. Well done, Leo!

Year 3 – Leyla
Leyla has settled in well and has made a wonderful start to her learning journey. Leyla shows a great understanding of our CDA expectations! Well done, Leyla!

Year 4 – William
For consistently showing great enthusiasm in his learning. William engages well in every lesson, contributes thoughtful ideas and articulates them clearly and confidently. Well done, William!

Year 5 – Junior
For the extra effort and enthusiasm for his learning, especially about the Titanic. Well done, Junior!

Year 6 – James
For always handing in neat, accurate homework with capital letters and full stops. Well done, James!

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Writer – Scarlett-Rose (Year 1)
For the amazing progress in her handwriting. Scarlett-Rose always presents her work so neatly. Well done, Scarlett-Rose!

EYFS/KS1 Reader – Poppy (Year R)
For working so hard in phonics lessons and using those skills in her play. Poppy is noticing sounds in words and showing a real desire to read. Reading is everything, so keep it up, Poppy! Well done!

KS2 Reader – Noah B (Year 4)
For having a real love and passion for reading. This is positively impacting Noah's reading comprehension and writing in class. Well done, Noah!

Mathematician – Greyson (Year 2)
For his excellent maths skills when exchanging in subtraction calculations. Well done, Greyson!

Numbots/Rock Star – Lola (Year 6)
For 86% accuracy in your latest gig. Well done, Lola!

Performer – Robyn (Year 3)
For learning and rehearsing all of her Christmas play lyrics and lines in just one week! Robyn showed incredible determination and went above and beyond expectations, delivering her lines with confidence and expression. Well done, Robyn!

Character – Evelyn (Year 5)
For the respect, care and detail of her Remembrance drawing based on the Christmas Truce. Well done, Evelyn!

Kind Regards,

Mrs Eddy
Head of School

Dates for Diary – Autumn 2

Monday 16th November – Swimming – Year 5 – Week 3

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Monday 23rd November – Year 5 – Nexus Workshop – morning only
Monday 23rd November – Swimming – Year 5 – Week 4
Thursday 26th November – FOCDA – Autumn Term Discos
Friday 27th November – Year 5 – Minack Theatre Visit
Monday 30th November – Swimming – Year 5 – Week 5
Monday 30th November – Friday 4th November – last week of afterschool clubs
Tuesday 1st December – EYFS/KS1 Nativity (Performance 1) 2pm start
Thursday 3rd December - EYFS/KS1 Nativity (Performance 2) 5pm start
Monday 7th December – Swimming – Year 5 – Week 6
Monday 7th December – EYFS/KS1 Christingle – Phillack Church – 5pm Start
Tuesday 8th December – KS2 Carol Concert (Performance 1) – 2pm in school
Tuesday 8th December - KS2 Carol Concert (Performance 2) – Phillack Church – 5pm
Friday 11th December – FOCDA Christmas Fayre – More details to follow
Wednesday 16th December – Christmas Dinner – More details to follow
Thursday 17th December – Last Day of autumn term – **2pm FINISH**
Friday 18th December – INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS – MONDAY 21ST DECEMBER 2026 – FRIDAY 1ST JANUARY 2027

Monday 4th January 2027 – First day of spring term

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