

Friday 18th July 2025

Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you and your families are safe and well. We have come to the end of an incredibly busy, exciting and successful summer term. On behalf of myself and the staff of Connor Downs Academy, we would like to say a huge thank you to our parent/carer community for all their continued support and understanding.



We wish you all a very happy summer holiday and look forward to seeing the children in Years 1 – 6 back on **Monday 8th September 2025**. Year R will join us for **mornings only on Monday 8th September and Tuesday 9th September**, and then **full time from Wednesday 10th September 2025**.

At the end of each term, we produce a termly newsletter encompassing all the exciting and engaging work that has taken place in classes during this term. Each class has produced their own 'newsletter' which can be accessed using the following link. Please do take the time to have a look at all the amazing work happening across the academy:

[Connor Downs Academy - Termly newsletter Summer 2025](#)



Year 6 Leavers

Myself and the rest of the Connor Downs Academy Staff would like to wish all of our Year 6 children, who are leaving us today, the very best for their next steps. We are immensely proud of every one of you and we hope that you will look back at your time at Connor Downs with fondness. We have enjoyed seeing you grow, hearing your laughter and watching you develop into super individuals who are ready for their next challenge.

As you look forward with excitement to starting your new schools in September, we wish you every success and happiness. Thank you to the Year 6 parents and carers for supporting your children during their primary school years.



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Connor Downs Academy, Mutton Hill, Hayle, Cornwall TR27 5DH

A Company Limited by Guarantee. An Exempt Charity

Registered in England & Wales - Company No. 07387540

Registered Office: Aspire Academy Trust, Unit 20, St Austell Business Park, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 4FD

Message from Miss Norton

'It has been an honour and a privilege to teach the children in Year 6 at Connor Downs Academy. Children enter primary school as little acorns - full of potential and possibility. By the time they pass through the gates one last time, they have developed and matured into caring, thoughtful and motivated individuals who are ready to take on any challenge that comes their way. It takes a whole community to bring up a child; we are immensely proud of the role our school plays in supporting children and their families to be happy, healthy and to lead fulfilling lives.

The children in Year 6 attended their Prom last night at St Ives Harbour Hotel, where they shared a lovely meal followed by a disco. Today, their final day, they have celebrated with their Leaver's Service at Phillack Church and an Assembly where awards were presented. Parents and carers of the Year 6 children joined the rest of the school in the celebrations and every Year 6 child chose a book to treasure and was awarded a certificate of their achievements.

In what has been a very emotional last few weeks and months, Year 6 have stuck together and showed that with friends around you, you can achieve anything.

We wish every member of Year 6 and their families, all the very best for the future. You always have been and always will be, one of the Connor Downs Family'.

Miss Norton

Staffing Update

Following last week's interviews, we are delighted to announce that we have successfully appointed two new TAs who will start with us in September.

To support in Year 1 will be Mrs Anderson Smith. Mrs Anderson Smith is a highly experienced TA who began her career here at Connor Downs 8 years ago. After a year, she moved to St Uny C of E Academy in Carbis Bay, where she has been an integral member of their staff.

To support in Year 3, we have appointed Mrs Holmes. Mrs Holmes will be a familiar face to our current Year 2 cohort as she has been working with them since the beginning of May in a supply capacity. Mrs Holmes is also a highly experienced TA with many years' experience.

I am sure you will join me and the staff in welcoming both Mrs Anderson Smith and Mrs Holmes to our Connor Downs Academy family.

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Aspens School Meals – from September

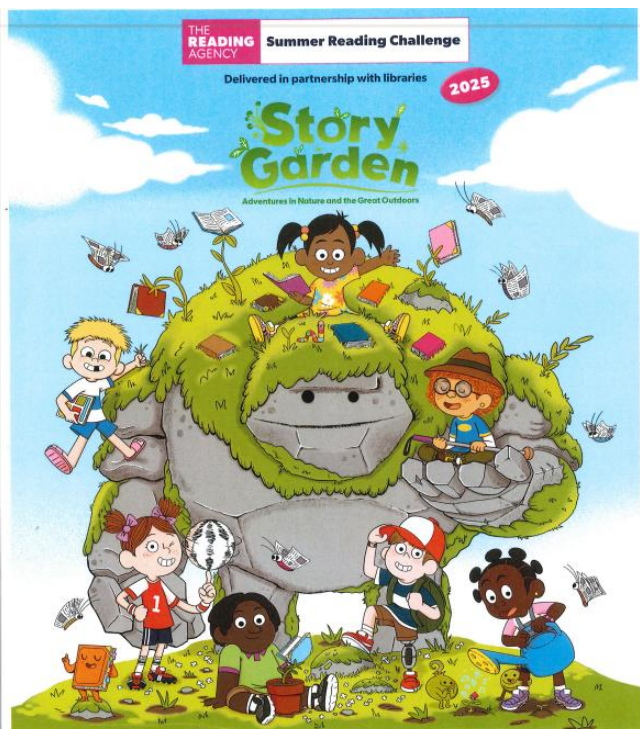
Aspens



The current menu which has been in place this term will continue until October half term. This will be available to book from the beginning of September. As has been the case this year, school packed lunches will only be provided for school trips for those children entitled to Free School Meals (FSM).

Please note, the cost of meals will increase to **£2.85** per day. Also, we are strongly encouraging all parents/carers to book their child/children's meals weekly in advance. If a child needs to book a meal in class in the morning the only option available will be Hot Tomato Pasta. Thank you for your support.

Cornwall Libraries - Summer Reading Challenge



Organised by charity The Reading Agency (www.readingagency.org.uk) and the UK public library network since 1999, the **Summer Reading Challenge** is the UK's biggest annual reading promotion for children aged 4 to 11. The Summer Reading Challenge combines **FREE** access to books with fun, creative activities during the summer holidays.

Throughout the Challenge, library staff and volunteers support the children, helping them to discover new authors and illustrators and to explore a wide range of different types of books and ways of reading.

This year the challenge is open from **Saturday 5th July**.

summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

Starts Saturday 5th July-Mid September.

Face painter: 10am at Hayle library Saturday 12th July.



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Connor Downs Academy Uniform Reminder for September

- Navy jumper with school logo
- White shirt (white polo shirts for reception class children only)
- Navy and gold stripe tie (long or elasticated) (not required for YR children)
- Dark grey skirt or dark grey trousers for girls (No pinafore dresses)
- Navy and white gingham dresses and navy cardigans (Summer term/early autumn term)
- Dark grey trousers or dark grey shorts for boys
- Grey tights or white socks for girls
- Grey long or short socks for boys
- **Black school shoes (No trainers or boots)**
- White PE t-shirt with embroidered logo
- Navy shorts
- Trainers (plimsoles for Key Stage 1 children only if preferred)
- Navy book bags with embroidered logo



General appearance

Hair styles

If your child has hair longer than shoulder length it must be tied back for school. Children must not have artificially coloured hair or extreme hair styles such as patterns shaved into hair. No coloured or oversized hair bows or ribbons. Navy ribbons or scrunchies or small bows are allowed.

Make up

The wearing of make-up, including nail varnish, by children is not permitted.

Jewellery

Children may wear small, plain, stud earrings, and a watch. Children remain responsible for these items and the school will not be held liable for any loss.



Royal Cornwall Hospitals Charity – Non School Uniform Day – Friday 26th September 2025

September is Children's cancer awareness month.

Connor Downs Academy has registered to help raise funds to support in the RCHC to raise awareness of childhood cancers and raise funds for Cornwall's Children's Cancer Unit.

On Friday 26th September, we will be inviting all children to come to school in their own clothes for a donation of their choice.

Please use the link below to the Charity's Just Giving Page and make your donation.

Please note, we cannot accept cash as this is not a fundraising event for School, Thank you!

[Just Giving Non School Uniform Day for Children's Cancer Unit Fund](#)

Attendance

In accordance with the attendance guidelines that came into effect from 19th August 2024, it is an offence under the Education Act 1996, for a child to be absent from school for anything other than 'exceptional circumstances'. A reminder that unauthorised absences of 5 days or more are subject to a Penalty Notice. Penalty Notices are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £80 if paid within 21 days or £160 if paid after this but within 28 days.

Please note, from September 2025, lateness will also be tracked rigorously and can be subject to a penalty notice as well.

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Friends of Connor Downs Academy – Fundraising Events – September/October

In an effort to raise funds for resources for the children, the Friends have arranged the following events:

Bag 2 School Collection

The collection will take place on **Tuesday 23rd September 2025**. If you or any of your families/friends are having a clear out over the summer holidays and you have any of the acceptable items as per the poster alongside, please bag them up and bring them into school no earlier than the morning of Tuesday 23rd September by 9am. Thank you.

Camel Trail Staff Sponsored Walk/Run/Ride

On **Saturday, 11th October**, members of staff will be attempting to either walk, run or cycle the full length of the Camel trail (36 miles). In September sponsorship forms will be available for those taking part, and we will be looking for children/families and local business to sponsor the event to raise much needed funds to enrich every child's journey during their time here at Connor Downs Academy. Thank you!

Summer 2026

In the summer term 2026, we are hoping to arrange a Colour Run for the children. Please look out for more information on this next year!

Kind Regards,



Mrs Eddy
Head of School



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Term Dates - 2025/2026 Academic Year

Autumn Term

Wednesday 3rd September 2025 to Friday 19th December 2025

Wednesday 3rd September - **Inset Day** - (School closed to pupils)
Thursday 4th September - **Inset Day** - (School closed to pupils)
Friday 5th September - **Inset Day** - (School closed to pupils)
Monday 8th September – **Years 1 – 6 first day of autumn term**
Thursday 23rd October – **Last day of first half of autumn term – 3:15pm Finish**
Friday 24th October - **Inset Day** - (School closed to pupils)
Half Term – Monday 27th October 2025 to Friday 31st October 2025
Monday 3rd November – **First day of second half of the autumn term**
Thursday 18th December - **Last day of autumn term – 2pm Finish**
Friday 19th December - **Inset Day** - (School closed to pupils)

Christmas Holidays – Monday 22nd December 2025 – Friday 2nd January 2026

Spring Term

Monday 5th January 2026 – Thursday 2nd April 2026

Monday 5th January – **First day of spring term**
Friday 13th February - **Last day of first half of spring term – 3:15pm Finish**
Half Term – Monday 16th February 2026 to Friday 20th February 2026
Monday 23rd February – **First day of second half of spring term**
Thursday 2nd April – **Last day of spring term – 2pm Finish**

Easter Holidays – Friday 3rd April 2026 to Friday 17th April 2026

Summer Term

Monday 20th April 2026 to Thursday 23rd July 2026

Monday 20th April - **First day of summer term**
Monday 4th May - Bank Holiday (School Closed)
Friday 22nd May - **Last day of first half of spring term – 3:15pm Finish**
Half Term – Monday 25th May 2026 to Friday 29th May 2026
Monday 1st June – **First day of second half of summer term**
Thursday 23rd July – **Last day of summer term – 2pm Finish**

Summer Holidays – Friday 24th July 2026 – Wednesday 2nd September 2026

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