



Friday 6th October 2023

Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you and your families are safe and well. We have had another full and exciting time in school this week.



Year 5 – Dunes Visit

On a beautifully dry, sunny and breezy Tuesday afternoon, our year 5 outdoor learning group had an afternoon of exploration and discovery at Gwithian Towans, getting close to nature. They ventured to a high point and used a compass and a map to get a sense of direction, binoculars to observe their surroundings and weather instruments to record the wind speed and temperature. They hiked onwards into a sand dune 'blow out' to learn about the formation of sand dunes while creating their own dune system. They continued on their journey

observing rabbit warrens, badger setts and learning more about the creatures that live here. The children had silent time while relaxing in the marram grass, listening for Sky Larks and other birds. Finally, they used lenses and magnifiers to observe nature.



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Maths Morning

Also on Tuesday, we were delighted to be able to welcome parents/carers and grandparents to join our classes for some fun maths sessions.



Year 3 had a great time with many parents/carers getting involved with their children. First, the children marked their Spiral Maths and then practised times tables with the counting stick. To finish the session, the year 3 children were able to demonstrate how they work on place value in White Rose Maths.

We would like to extend our thanks to all the parents/carers and grandparents who were able to join us. The feedback we received from this session was overwhelmingly positive. We will be holding English and Science sessions in the Spring and Summer terms so please look out for the details nearer the time.



THANK
YOU

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

Autumn Term Monitoring Day

On Thursday, we hosted our Autumn term monitoring visit, where we welcomed our academy's Strategic Partner, an Aspire Academy Trust Director and our Hub Councillors. We were delighted to have the opportunity to showcase the fantastic learning taking place in all of our classes. Our visitors were highly impressed and the children were noted for their behaviour and attitude to learning and we are so proud of each and every one of them.

Parent/Carer Consultations

A reminder that Parent/Carer Consultations are being held next **Tuesday 10th October** and **Wednesday 11th October**. Bookings via the Arbor App are still open until 7:00 pm on Sunday if you have not yet booked an appointment with your child/ren's teacher/s. If you are encountering any difficulties, please email hello@connordowns.org.uk and we can arrange a time for you. Thank you.

Tempest Photos

Tempest will be coming into school on Monday, 16th October to take individual and sibling photos. If you would like a sibling photo with siblings not attending Connor Downs Academy, **please arrive at the school office at 8:20am** to sign in. The photographer will be ready to take photos from 08:30am. You will be given a number and photos will be taken first to enable parents/carers to get younger/older siblings to nursery/school. Children with siblings within Connor Downs Academy will have their photos taken during the morning. Please can we ask that all children come to school on Monday looking extra smart in their full school uniforms and black school shoes. Thank you.



Bags2School



www.bags2school.com

In an effort to raise funds, the Friends of Connor Downs Academy have arranged another Bags2School collection for **Wednesday 18th October**.

Please encourage all your family and friends to sort through their unwanted clothing, bedding and towels. The more we collect the more funds can be raised. All funds go towards additional resources and opportunities for all children. Thank you, as always, for your support.

PLEASE BRING BAGS INTO SCHOOL ON THE MORNING OF COLLECTION AND LEAVE IN THE PLAYGROUND WITH MEMBERS OF THE FRIENDS. THANK YOU!

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Diary Dates – 1st Half of Autumn Term 2023

Monday 9th October – Year 6 Swimming – Week 4

Tuesday 10th October – Parents Evening (1)

Wednesday 11th October – Parents Evening (2)

Thursday 12th October – Re-scheduled Friends of Connor Downs Academy AGM – 3:30pm – All welcome – Please sign in at the school office

Monday 16th October – Tempest Photographs – Individual and Family

Monday 16th October – Year 6 Swimming – Week 5

Wednesday 18th October – BAGS2SCHOOL Collection

Friday 20th October – Last Day of first half of Autumn Term – Finish at 3:15pm

Important Parking Information – Connor Hill – NEXT WEEK



As many of you have seen, Wales&West Utilities have been working around Carwin Rise and the bottom of Connor Hill. They are in the process of upgrading the gas pipes in the area. A representative has called into school today to advise that this work will be moving up through the entire village with rolling traffic lights as they complete each section.

Important note – **From 9th October**, there will be **no parking availability on Connor Hill** while these works take place. Wherever possible, during this period of works, please can we ask parents/carers to park sensibly and courteously further up in the village in areas not affected by the works and walk to school. Thank you for your support and understanding.



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Athletics Competition – By Mabel

On Saturday 30th September, Mabel and Seth from Year 5 went on a trip to Cornwall Athletics Club to take part in a competition.

First, Seth took part in the 600m run where he finished in 6th place. Then both Mabel and Seth moved to the long jump, with Seth and the other boys jumping from one end and Mabel and all the girls from the other. Mabel achieved 2.72m with her longest jump and Seth's was 2.92m.

Mabel's next event was the 75m, where she finished in 4th place. In Seth's 75m race, he finished in 6th place. To end the day, Mabel competed in the 150m, where she won a silver medal.

We are very proud of both Mabel and Seth's achievements and thank Mabel for sharing her report of the event. Well done!

Attendance

Attendance		
Our school target for attendance is 97%		
1 st Place	Year 4	98.4 %
2 nd Place	Year 6	97.6 %
3 rd Place	Year 5	97.3 %

Shine Celebrations

Please see below our Shining Stars for this week.

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Connor Downs Academy Shining Stars Friday 6th October 2023

We are delighted to be able to invite the parents/carers of the winners below to join us at our first Shine assembly of the autumn term, on **Friday 13th October 2023** 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 – Phoenix

For trying incredibly hard when writing his name and sounds in Phonics. Well done, Phoenix!

Year 1 – William

For the settling into Year 1 so well and getting used to new routines. William is also showing great progress with his phonics and handwriting. Well done, William!

Year 2 – Daisy

For excellent historical questioning on our school trip to Lanhydrock House. Well done, Daisy!

Year 3 – Elsie D

For consistently showing 100% effort in her English and Maths work. Elsie is a great role model to the rest of the class. Well done, Elsie!

Year 4 – Noelle

For listening to feedback about her handwriting and working so hard to improve it. Well done, Noelle!

Year 5 – Eden-Lily

For her excellent attitude to all her schoolwork and her behaviour. Well done, Eden-Lily!

Year 6 – Reuben

For such polite behaviour in the dinner hall. Reuben is always willing to help others. Well done, Reuben!

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Writer – Seth (Year 5)

For weaving action and dialogue into his version of 'Wing it'. Well done, Seth!

EYFS/KS1 Reader – Eden (Year 1)

For her brilliant reading in phonics and to our special visitor. Eden used her phonics skills and read with confidence. Well done, Eden!

KS2 Reader – Hugo (Year 6)

For his brilliant answers in his practice reading paper. Well done, Hugo!

Mathematician – Harriet (Year 3)

For super work with place value and reasoning challenges. Well done, Harriet!

Rock Star – Oriana (Year 6)

For obtaining the most correct answers over the last two weeks. Well done, Oriana!

Performer – Florence (Year R)

For always being a kind and caring friend to all in reception class. Well done, Florence!

Moki Fitness Tracker – Elsie B (Year 3)

For recording the greatest number of steps in a week using the Moki Fitness Trackers. Elsie's total was an amazing 33,492 steps. Well done, Elsie!

Character – Emilie-Rose (Year 4)

For showing great bravery when she had identified something she would like to improve about herself and asking for help. Well done, Emillie-Rose!

Kind Regards,

Mrs Eddy
Head of School

Transfer to Secondary School – Deadline to apply – 31st October 2023



Transfer to secondary school
September 2024

Applying for a place in year seven at a secondary school



The deadline for applications is 31 October 2023

Information and guidance
Website and application form: www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions
Email: schooladmissions@cornwall.gov.uk
Post: School Admissions Team, County Hall, Truro, TR1 3AY
Telephone: 0300 1234 101

www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions

Applying for a secondary school place for September 2024

Special Educational Needs

If an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan has been issued for your child you do not need to complete an application form. Please contact the Statutory SEN Service for more information: Tel: 01872 324242 Email: statutorysen@cornwall.gov.uk

1 Decide on your preferred schools

You are strongly advised to name **three** preferences on the application form. Naming a second or third preference does not give you any less chance of getting a place at your preferred school. When making your decision you should...

...think about how your child will get to school. Go to www.cornwall.gov.uk/schooltransport for more information on whether your child would be entitled to home to school travel assistance.

...look at the admission arrangements on our website that will be used to allocate places for each school.

...consider naming your nearest or designated school as one of your preferences. You can find your nearest or designated school on our website.

...look at the detailed admissions information on our website, also available on request.

2 Submit your application by 31 October 2023

Apply online at www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions

3 Wait to find out which school you have been allocated

If you applied on time you will be notified of your allocation on **National Offer Day: 1 March 2024. Apply on time!** Late applications will only be dealt with after National Offer Day and there may not be any places left at your preferred schools.

Starting School – September 2024 – Deadline to apply – 15th January 2024



Starting school
September 2024

Applying for a place in a reception class for children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020



The deadline for applications is 15 January 2024

Attending a nursery or pre-school
You will need to apply even if your child attends a school's nursery or pre-school class. Please note that if a school is oversubscribed the fact that a child attends a school's nursery or pre-school, or a local nursery or pre-school, does not automatically guarantee a place at that school. The school's oversubscription criteria will be used to allocate places. Visit our website or contact us for more information.

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...think about how you will get your child to school. Go to www.cornwall.gov.uk/schooltransport for more information on whether your child would be entitled to home to school travel assistance.

...look at the admission arrangements on our website that will be used to allocate places for each school.

...consider naming your nearest or designated school as one of your preferences. You can find your nearest or designated school on our website.

...look at the detailed admissions information on our website, also available on request.

2 Submit your application by 15 January 2024

Apply online at www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions

3 Wait to find out which school you have been allocated

If you applied on time you will be notified of your allocation on **National Offer Day: 16 April 2024. Apply on time!** Late applications will only be dealt with after National Offer Day and there may not be any places left at your preferred schools.

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