



Porthleven School & Pre-School



Friday 3rd May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very busy start to the term with parent meetings, year 3 and 4 residential trips, bank holiday and Flora Day next week and end of Key Stage 2 tests the week after! With everything going on it is easy to overlook some of the other school related issues, such as the possible change in school uniform. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to provide you with an update and seek your views before any changes are made.

I wish to present you with a couple of options which I would like you to consider and complete a form to express your choice.

Option 1 - We keep the existing colour of the school uniform (royal blue), and in time the new logo will be added to jumpers, fleeces and cardigans through the school supplier when the current stock runs out. The school will also purchase a hoody for every child in the school with the new school logo, which is to be worn on PE days along with a house-coloured PE shirt. With this option there is no cut off date when everyone is expected to change to the new logo - it will happen in time as clothes wear through.

Option 2 - We change the school colour to navy blue. The reason being that we felt it would look smarter and was less likely to show up stains, such as board markers and food. In the first instance every child would be bought a navy hoody at the end of the summer term with the new school logo that they can wear on other days as well as their PE day. Navy blue jumpers bought through the school supplier, will become available as the older, royal blue stock is used up. It is important to us that the change is gradual to ensure that jumpers in royal blue can still be handed down and bought from charity shops. A gradual change is also better for the environment and we want to prolong the use of the royal blue clothing. The school would also run a recycling scheme for old worn-out uniforms. We envisage that it would take 2 years for the change. We would request that by the start of the academic year in September 2026, only navy uniform to be worn.

With each option there is no expectation that pupils wear logo branded uniform except for hoodies, which the school will purchase. Parents of children who are in receipt of free school meals will still receive 25% off vouchers that can be used with the school supplier. If you have not taken the school up on this offer in the past, please contact Mrs Blight in the school office.

Please click on the link below or scan the QR code to express your preferred option. All responses are anonymous. The closing date for the form will be Wednesday 15th May and I will let you know the results of the consultation in the school newsletter on the 17th May. Please if you have any questions concerning school uniform, please contact the school to arrange a meeting or speak with me on the gate.



<https://forms.office.com/e/W801ZxaW4G>

Kind regards

Dan Clayden

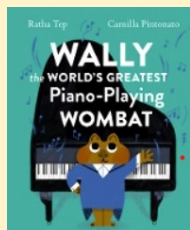
Acting Head of School

Accelerated Reader Champions!



Jellyfish	Narwhals	Swordfish	Manta Rays	Dolphins
Class Weekly Word Count				
79,148	529,234	356,588	223,813	573,626
Highest Pupil Weekly Word Count				
Noah	Lowen	Bertie	Sophia	Annabelle
100% achievers - Who has achieved their target?				
	Gracie, Lowen, Lottie, Rupert, Lily, Gracie	Lowenna, Merryn, Sophia, Bertie	Sophia	Annabelle, Erin, Bree-Anna

Recommended Reads - Music Focus



KS1 Book of the Week

Wally the World's Greatest Piano Playing Wombat

Author—Ratha Tep

Wally was the world's greatest piano-playing wombat-until he realised there was an even more talented piano-playing wombat in town! This funny picture book's bright colours and imaginative musical scenes teach children to have self-confidence when faced with competition.



KS2 Book of the Week

The Piano at the Station

Author—Helen Rutter

Lacey's smart tongue and quick temper are constantly getting her confined to isolation at school. But there's a lot more to her than most people never see, and when Lacey gets sent to lunch-time music lessons to keep her out of trouble, she discovers a love and talent for the piano that opens up a whole new world for her. Just as she's really beginning to make progress, her music teacher has to leave, which throws Lacey back into turmoil.

Will she go back to her self-destructive ways or will music offer her a way to save her from herself?

Maths Whizz Winners

Below is our weekly progression for each class!

Jellyfish: 4.1

Narwhals: 3.4

Swordfish: 3.1

Manta Rays: 2.4

Dolphins: 3.5

Well done to Jellyfish for winning the Maths Whizz trophy this week!



Maths-Whizz
by whizz EDUCATION

EYFS & KS1 TEAM

This week we hear from Year 2!

In Art this term, we are learning how to create with clay. Last week, we tried lots of different mark making techniques in clay to see what effects we could make. This week we made our own pinch pots and then used the 'score and slip' technique to attach shapes to them securely and smoothed them to make sure they could stay on.



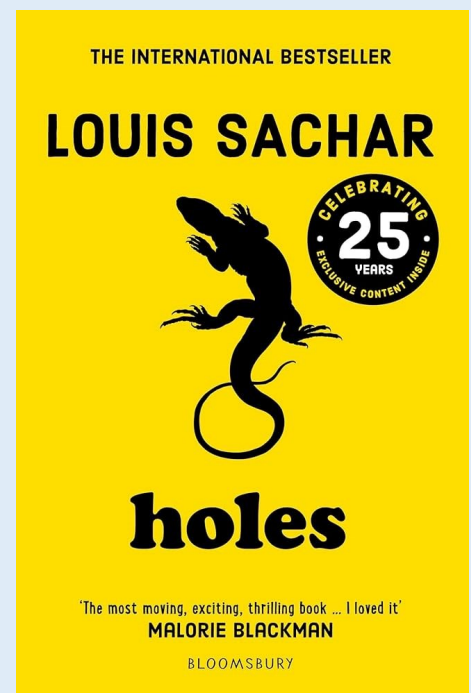
Here are some of the fantastic pots they created using the pinch pot technique and adding shapes to decorate them. We will eventually design and create our own tiles based on houses before half term.

This week we hear from Year 5!

Manta Rays class have been thoroughly enjoying their new class text, *Holes* by Louis Sachar. It is a story based around a boy called Stanley Yelnats and a family curse from his "no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather"!

They have also started learning about stop motion animation in Computing, starting with what animation originally looked like. They made their own flip books and zoetropes and next will be learning how to use technology to create their own stop motion animation.

KS2 TEAM



EYFS & KS1 TEAM

This week we hear from Nursery!

What a busy and fun few weeks we have had in Nursery!

Our young scientists have been busy exploring water with many hands-on activities, fuelling their imaginations and curiosity. We have looked at rivers and canals, how we use water to look after ourselves and the weather. The children have designed and built boats. They have experimented with different materials such as egg boxes and paper plates to see which floats best. We have looked at the difference between canals and rivers and river habitats. The children showed a particular interest in how canal boats travel up and down hills across the land using lock gates. The children have absolutely loved exploring our underwater themed role play, sparking great discussions about sea creatures, boats, and pirates. We were also lucky enough to have a visit from the RNLI, talking to the children about beach safety ahead of summer.

In maths we have been comparing amounts, focusing on more than and fewer. The children have got stuck in with building houses for the three little pigs, looking at which house has more or less bricks. They have made lunches for the three little pigs and compared the amounts of food in their lunchboxes. During 'Tizzy Time' the children have been building short narratives, using puzzles pieces and pictures of Tizzy.

We are really proud of the children and the progress they have made this half-term.

If anybody is interested in finding out more about the Nursery please just ask, we'd be happy to help.

This week we hear from Year 3!

As you will have seen from the pictures the children had a fantastic time at camp. The weather was kind, and the children completed some amazing tasks. Did you know your children can; climb a rock face, canoe around a quarry, build and fire a 6ft catapult and work as a team to problem solve. We even managed a slip and slide (and it wasn't that warm!) For many it was the first time being away from home and I couldn't be prouder of their achievements. Well done Narwhals.

Back at school, the children have continued to enjoy our topic on volcanoes. The children who didn't go to camp made some fantastic ones in the class and even managed to make one of them explode!

We are learning about light in science and this week have measured the amount of light reflected from materials using a 'lux meter'.

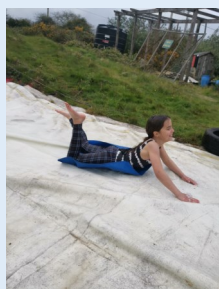
In DT they have designed their castles and will make them in the coming weeks. We are still looking for paper towel tubes if you have any.

I've also noticed a remarkable improvement in the children's confidence in the swimming pool this term compared to Year 2. Many have already shown improvements in their swimming skills.

KS2 TEAM



Year 3 Camp Photos



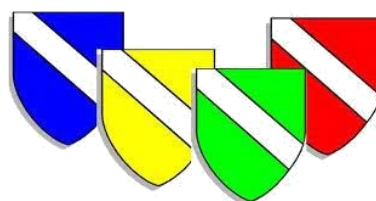
Attendance

Class	Attendance This week
Rainbowfish—YR	94.03
Seahorses—Y1	96.15
Jellyfish—Y2	97.41
Narwhals—Y3	98.41
Swordfish—Y4	100
Manta Rays—Y5	95.83
Dolphins—Y6	96.30
WHOLE SCHOOL	97.11

Well done to Swordfish class for the best attendance this week!

House Points

Running Totals This Term:



Cookworthy: 2

Penrose: 4

Gibson: 1

Methleigh: 3

Our winners this terms are the

Penrose Team

Well done!



On Friday 19th April the school's Lego Team travelled to Harrogate to compete in the First Lego League Nationals!

It was a long journey by coach but this gave the team some time to run through their scripts. Saturday morning the team arrived at the Lego League Nationals bright and early ready to register for the competition.

The day started with the team setting up their table with displays and props about them before heading to the main stage to open the event.

Every team had a timetable, this gave them a place and time to be throughout the day. They didn't get much time to look around but any opportunity they had they went off to do some of the missions given to them to complete.

The venue was spread over several rooms and was live streamed on the day. If you would like to have a look back at what they got up to the link to the Tube video is below.

The whole experience was amazing!

The team did such an amazing job to get to nationals and this experience has now given them more ideas to take forward. The team has spaces available to join them next year, look out in September for more info on how to apply to join.



We would like to say a big thank you to every one that helped us along the way by sponsoring the team, buying raffle tickets or eating cake!



SPORTS DAYS



2024



EYFS/KS1

Monday 10th June 10-12pm

(reserve date: 15th July)

KS2

Tuesday 11th June 10am-3pm

(reserve date: 16th July)

More details to follow soon!

Diary Dates

Date	Event
Monday 6th May	Band Holiday Monday
Wednesday 8th May	INSET Day
Friday 10th May	Class school photos
Week Beginning 13th May	Year 6 SATS week
Tuesday 14th May	Cross Country Race 5 - Reception/KS1 & KS2 Mullion 4pm
Tuesday 21st May	Cross Country Race 6 - KS2 Porthleven School
Monday 27th—31st May	Half Term
Monday 10th June	EYFS and KS1 Sports day 10-12pm
Tuesday 11th June	Fun Run Mullion 4pm
Tuesday 11th June	KS2 Sports day 10-3pm
Monday 17th June	9.00am to 3.00pm – Invite only for selected Year 6 to HCC
Monday 17th June	Year 3 Beach day
Tuesday 18th June	9.00am to 3.00pm – All Year 6 students to HCC
Tuesday 18th June	New parents' information evening at HCC
Wednesday 19th June	9.00am to 3.00pm – All Year 6 students to HCC
Wednesday 19th June	New parents' information evening at HCC
Monday 24th June	Year 5 Beach day
Tuesday 25th June	Year 6 Beach day
Monday 1st July	Year 2 Beach day
Monday 8th July	Year 4 Beach day

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING OPEN CONVERSATIONS AT HOME

With tricky topics and occasional clashes of opinion, it can be challenging to maintain an environment where children feel able to talk candidly and honestly. However, encouraging such conversations helps to develop trust – making it easier to unpack even sensitive subjects as children get older. Here are our top tips for promoting open conversations at home.

1 CREATE A SAFE SPACE

Criticism, blaming or shaming can all prevent children from feeling emotionally safe – while showing affection, positive attention and an interest in what a child has to say builds their sense of security. These formative years are when children's opinions and values begin to take shape, so it's important to provide a non-judgmental environment in which to discuss them – especially if their opinions differ from your own.

2 CONSIDER OTHER OUTLETS

Some children may find it easier to talk while they're participating in another activity such as drawing, writing, walking or sport. If it's possible, taking part in these activities together presents you with an opportunity to communicate while doing something side by side. A child may feel less pressure that way and can be more inclined to open up of their own accord.

3 NORMALISE CHATS ABOUT FEELINGS

Incorporate mental health and emotional wellbeing into everyday conversations, using age-appropriate language and examples to help children understand their emotions. Ask questions like "How are you feeling today?", "What was the best and worst part of your day?", "If you could start today again, what would you do differently?" and "Is there anything you want to talk about?"

4 LISTEN ACTIVELY

When children express themselves, make it obvious that you're listening closely and giving them your full attention. Maintain eye contact and validate their feelings without immediately trying to solve the problem. It's not helpful to dismiss their issues as childish or 'teenage angst' – or to assume that they'll simply 'get over' whatever they're feeling. Children don't have your life experience: their resilience is still developing as they learn to push through difficulties and handle problems.

5 ASK OPEN QUESTIONS

Encourage children to share their thoughts by asking open questions about their feelings and experiences. Closed questions (such as "Did you enjoy school today?") are more likely to elicit a simple "yes" or "no" response. Instead, you could ask things like "Who did you spend time with at break?" or "Who did you sit with at lunchtime?"

6 RESPECT THEIR BOUNDARIES

If a child isn't ready to talk to about something yet, respect their boundaries: this reinforces that their feelings are important and worthy of consideration. Ideally, you're aiming to let them know you care without smothering them, so just make it clear that you're there for them whenever they're ready to chat. Gentle, regular check-ins can sometimes be the best form of progress.

7 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Model open, honest and healthy communication in front of children and young people. Try to demonstrate kindness when talking about others and yourself, because if children hear adults being overly harsh, critical or judgmental, or see them having unrealistic expectations of themselves, it makes them more likely to adopt and repeat this behaviour themselves as they grow.

8 HAVE REGULAR CHECK-INS

Check in with children periodically to discuss how they're feeling and what's going on in their lives. This could be a weekly or monthly conversation, where the child has an opportunity to share whatever's on their mind. For parents and carers, getting away from the house and other distractions might be productive here: you could consider regular trips to a coffee shop or a cafe, or just a weekly walk.

9 PROVIDE RESOURCES

It's often beneficial to let children know about other support that's available to them if they're struggling to talk to you specifically. Encourage them to talk to school counsellors, trusted adults or even a therapist, if necessary – while normalising this route and dispelling the harmful stigma around asking for help. Older children could engage with resources such as Kooth or YoungMinds.

10 CELEBRATE EMOTIONAL EXPRESSION

It's beneficial to praise children for expressing their feelings honestly – emphasising how important it is to talk about their emotions and how proud you are of them for doing so. This can be especially pivotal for boys, who often experience more of a stigma around talking frankly about their feelings and their mental health – a barrier that can be overcome, with enough love and support.

Meet Our Expert

With 30 years' experience as a teacher, trainer, consultant and interim executive board member, Anna Bateman has a superb understanding of what works in pedagogy, school improvement and leadership. She has also advised the Department for Education on their mental health green paper.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College

WEEK 3

W/C: 29/04, 20/05, 10/06, 01/07, 22/07, 02/09, 23/09, 14/10

SPRING/SUMMER 2024

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT SPECIALS	Cheese and Tomato Pizza 🍕 Served with Potato Wedges	Pork Sausages Served with Mashed Potato and Gravy	Roast Chicken 🍗 Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken and Broccoli Pasta Bake 🍝 🍷	Fish Fingers Served with Chips
JACKET POTATO	Tomato and Herb Lentil Pasta 🍝 🍷 🌱	Vegetarian Sausage 🍗 Served with Mashed Potato and Gravy	Cheese and Onion Slice	Meatless Balls in Tomato Sauce 🍝 Served with Rainbow Rice	Quorn Dippers 🍷 Served with Chips
	Jacket Potatoes 🍷 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍷 with a choice of hot and cold fillings, including Salmon Mayonnaise 🐟	Jacket Potatoes 🍷 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍷 with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes 🍷 with a choice of hot and cold fillings
Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta 🍷 🍷					
All main meals are served with two vegetables					
DESSERT	Chocolate Brownie 🍫 🍷	Strawberry Jelly	Banana Cake 🍌	Lemon Sicilian Cookie	Chocolate Ice Cream

PACKED LUNCH AVAILABLE
Ham and Cheese sandwich available daily with veg sticks and fresh fruit or dessert of the day

AVAILABLE EVERY DAY
Water, salad, freshly baked bread, yoghurt & fresh fruit

🌱 **Fruity!** 🍷 **Nutritionist's Choice**
 🍷 **Vegetarian** 🐟 **Oily Fish** 🍷 **Wholegrain**

Action For Children - Kernow Connect

Cornwall Young Farmers - Activity Days

Come and join us on a FREE fun day of activities. Water and land based adventures including, axe throwing, kayaking and zip wire! Lunch included. scan the QR code or click the link for your area to book on.

East Cornwall – Adrenalin Quarry, Liskeard

Date: Tuesday 28th May , 10am - 4pm

Book now: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/1ROWYS/>



Mid Cornwall – Porthpean Activity Centre, St

Austell

Date: Tuesday 28th May , 9:30am - 2:30pm

Book now:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/HBQZWX/>



West Cornwall – Vertical Blue Adventure,

Porthleven

Date: Thursday 30th May , 9:30am - 4:30pm

Book now: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/5GWXLI/>



**CORNWALL
YFC**



*Action for
Children*