

**Trust Executive Leader Newsletter January 2020**

**As 2020 begins to unfold, we wanted to share with you the great things that were happening at the close of the old year as well as events underway this month ...**

Throughout last year, our schools gave generously to many causes with pupils, staff and parents giving their time, energy and money showing their care for others.



Two people went even further and gave their hair! Miss Kelly from St Keverne School and Esme Harman, a pupil from Mullion Comprehensive School, took part in a fundraising haircut for The Little Princess Trust.



Since it was founded in 2006, the Little Princess Trust has provided over 8,000 free real hair wigs to children and young people who have lost their hair through cancer treatment or other conditions and has given grants of over £5 million pounds to childhood cancer research.



Mrs Cleminson, a member of staff from St Keverne School, carried out the hair cut. As well as donating their hair, they raised £245 through donations for this very worthy charity.



The community were supporting our schools too. The choir from Godolphin Primary School entertained shoppers at Tesco in Helston, who had very kindly invited them to sing around the Christmas tree. The children sang with much enthusiasm and enjoyment, and hopefully the shoppers enjoyed their singing too. Apparently they could be heard all around the store! A superb £107.43 was raised for school funds – thank you to everyone who gave so generously.

All of our schools took part in a wide array of nativity plays, Christmas concerts, shows and services. It was a real privilege to attend many of these, even following a torch lit path down to one service in Wendron Church. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make these events such a success.

Providing a breadth of experiences is really important for our children's education and schools are keen to provide opportunities to learn beyond the classroom.



Pupils from Cury School visited Kresen Kernow in Redruth as part of their topic about Cornwall. They spent the morning exploring Kresen Kernow ['Cornwall Centre'] which is home to the world's largest collection of documents, books, maps and photographs related to Cornwall's history. The children's visit started with a talk and slideshow about what the archive centre is and then they heard all about mining in Cornwall. They were even able to dress up like miners in by-gone times! Following on from the talk, they were given a tour of the centre and were allowed "back stage" into the strong rooms. The children were fascinated and the highlight was looking at old maps of Cury. Cury school had an interesting and enjoyable time at Kresen Kernow and would recommend it to other schools.

Thirty Y11 students from Helston Community College recently took part in the Humanities faculty annual New Year visit to Krakow and Berlin. The trip provided invaluable context, and time for reflection, for both GCSE History and RE students' work on the Holocaust. Students visited the old Jewish Quarter in Krakow and the WW2 ghetto, Oscar Schindler's enamel factory, plus an extended tour of Auschwitz Birkenau where the custodians are currently preparing for the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the camp in January 1945. Berlin highlights included a visit to the German Bundestag building, the 1936 Olympic Stadium, Checkpoint Charlie, parts of the old Berlin Wall, Jewish Museum, plus the 368-metre high East German TV Tower giving panoramic views of this, once divided, famous European capital city.

Our efforts to address Environmental Issues continue across the Trust. Crowan Primary School, having achieved its bronze eco award during the first part of the Autumn Term, has continued to press-ahead with the development of its eco-friendly ambitions ever since. The good news is that it has now been awarded the silver eco-schools award and is moving towards becoming a plastic-free school, having now fulfilled four of the five stated objectives necessary to secure this ambition.

During the Autumn Term, Mr. Nancholas, a Teaching Assistant at the school, organised a beach-clean at Porthtowan Beach. With the help of one of the parents, the school has now obtained a grant from the Sea Changers to purchase roughly £940 worth of equipment to help with further locally-organised beach cleaning activities - so be prepared for more clean-up activity soon!

Mr. Nancholas also attended the 'Climate Action for Schools' network meeting arranged by Cornwall Council on 15<sup>th</sup> January, which was organised as an opportunity for school Eco-leaders to share ideas and best practice with other Cornish schools on the same journey to becoming more sustainable and environmentally friendly.

Mr. Nancholas and Mrs. Atkins (Healthy Schools Co-ordinator) will be sharing ideas for further steps towards address climate change with the children from across all of the Trust schools at their School Kids in Partnership (SKiP) meeting in early February.



Post 16 @Helston was delighted to find out this month that all of the students who had interviews at Oxford or Cambridge before Christmas have received offers to study their next year. Thomas Fogg (Physics), Finlay Ford (Engineering) and Oli Wedlake (Engineering) received offers from Oxford and Lucy Treloar secured an offer to study Veterinary Science at Cambridge. We were also delighted to hear that Jacob Tiddy has secured an offer for Medicine at Plymouth.

