



Connor Downs Academy

13th September 2019

Virtue of the week—Determination



HEAD OF SCHOOL UPDATE

I would like to extend a warm welcome back to school after the summer holiday to all our former pupils and a special welcome to our new pupils joining us this year. A very warm welcome also goes to our new reception children who joined us this week. The children were very excited to spend time in their classroom and to meet their new friends and grown up helpers.

Thank you for your support in arranging uniform, this is greatly appreciated. All the children looked very smart for the start of school. Please can we remind parents to ensure all uniform, PE kit, coats, bags, drinks bottles and lunchboxes are labelled, using a permanent marker, with their child's name.

Our newsletter is our main form of communication with parents. It will always be available on our school website and the front notice board. We also email a large number of parents each week and are happy to add your name to this list if you wish. We will also produce the large detailed newsletter which will be sent home to parents at the end of each term. We have a Facebook page which is regularly updated with information and events. We also use a text messaging service to send important information to parents.

Please could I remind you of our attendance policy. If your child/children are absent from school please call in to give a reason for their absence / illness and leave a message on our answerphone service 01736 753135. Please ensure that you have left this message by 9.00am at the latest. For safeguarding reasons, if we do not receive a message from you, we will contact you for clarification. Thank you for your support in this.

If you have any questions, queries or concerns please do not hesitate to enquire with us in school. We are always happy to meet with parents/carers as part of our "working in partnership" dialogue.

We would like to remind parents/ carers that Tempest photographers will be in school on Monday 23rd September. If your child has siblings who **do not** attend Connor Downs Academy and you would like them to have a photograph taken with their siblings ,please bring them to the school office from 8.35am to sign in. All children in school will have their individual photograph taken as well as one with their sibling if they attend Connor Downs throughout the morning.



Parents/carers of children in Year 1 to Year 6 are warmly invited to join us for our Meet the Teacher sessions on Tuesday 24th September. There will be two sessions; the first starting at 3.30pm and the second starting at 4pm, this will allow parents with more than one child to attend an additional session. Sessions will take place in the child's classroom. Please arrive via the school office to sign in.

Mrs Eddy

Academy News

A MESSAGE FROM MRS COSTELLO

Dear Parents and carers,

I am writing to let you know that, from January 2020, I will be starting a new full-time post working for Ofsted as Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI) Education in the southwest. Therefore, in preparation for this change, Ms Lyn McNamara will be replacing me as Connor Down's strategic partner within Aspire from this term. Ms McNamara has been a loyal friend to our school for many years and knows both the staff and our unique ethos well. She is also an experienced strategic partner for many other Aspire schools. This will not impact on the school leadership structure. Mrs Eddy, will continue to lead the school every day as Head of School and we will ensure a smooth transition of roles this term.

I would like to thank you, as parents, for your commitment and ongoing support for the staff and school. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time working at Connor Downs. I reflect on the 7 and a half years with great happiness. I have been blessed to work with amazing governors, staff, children, parents and the local community. I am confident that Connor Downs will continue to thrive under Mrs Eddy's strong leadership. Finally, and this will not come as a surprise to the very many of you who know me well, whilst I undertake my new inspectorate role for Ofsted, I will be remaining on the Connor Downs animal care holiday and weekend

rota.

Best wishes,
Mrs Costello



HOMEWORK GRIDS

Do you want to support your child's learning by working with them to complete fun topic-based activities at home?



We hope you will enjoy discussing the new **homework grid** sent home today. **These grids are full fun ideas for children and their parents or other family members to try at home.**

The activities are entirely optional although we hope lots of children and families will take part!

On the grids one or two boxes will have the title: **WILD CARD FREE CHOICE!** We hope this will encourage children to think up their own ideas.

Children can choose how many activities they try – they can try one or many. For children who like to respond to a challenge, they can work towards achieving a bronze, silver or gold award.

Each time your child completes an activity at home they can bring it in to show their teacher. If they wish they can have the opportunity to share their task with others in their class.



Items will be displayed so the children's achievements can also be shared with and celebrated by others at school and with Parents and Carers.

The closing date for all completed activities to be brought in is **Monday 2nd December 2019.**



We warmly invite **Parents and Carers** to join us in celebrating the fantastic tasks children and their families have enjoyed creating on **Thursday 5th December 2019 from 3.15 – 4.30pm.**

We hope parents, family members and children enjoy completing the tasks!

ASDA 'Chosen by you, Given by us' Voting Scheme

A reminder that Connor Downs Academy has been nominated to appear in ASDA's above scheme until the beginning of October. If you shop at ASDA Hayle, please ask at the checkouts for the green tokens and put in the Connor Downs collection bin in the front foyer. We are up against two other local causes and the winner will receive £500, the runners up, £200 each. Please ask your friends and family to support us to give us the best possible chance. Good Luck!

Diary Dates

Monday 16th September to Monday 14th October—Swimming —**Year 6**

Tuesday 17th September —Bikeability—**Year 5/6 Group 1**— session 1

Wednesday 18th September—Bikeability—**Year 5/6 Group 1**— session 2

Thursday 19th September—Bikeability—**Year 5/6 Group 1**— session 3

Monday 23rd September—After School Clubs begin

Monday 23rd—Tempest Individual;/Family Photographs

Tuesday 24th—Meet the Teacher sessions—**Years 1—6**—3.30pm or 4.00pm

Tuesday 24th September —Bikeability—**Year 5/6 Group 2**— session 1

Wednesday 25th September—Bikeability—**Year 5/6 Group 2**— session 2

Thursday 26th September—Bikeability—**Year 5/6 Group 2**— session 3

Monday 7th October—Thursday 10th October—Scholastic Book Fair—3.30pm

Tuesday 8th October—English morning for parents—**Years 1—6**—9.15am—10.30am and **Year R** 9.15am—
9.45am

Tuesday 15th October—Music Performance 1—1.30pm start

Tuesday 15th October—Music Performance 2—6.00pm start

Wednesday 16th October—Music Performance 3—6.00pm start

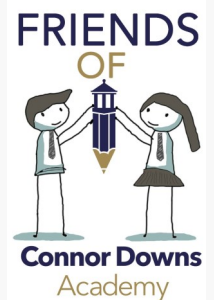


Friends of Connor Downs Academy

The Friends are always looking for additional help in any way, so if you feel that you can spare just an hour or so every so often, please leave your name with Mrs Gallagher in the school office who will pass your details on to the Friends. Any support, no matter how small, makes a massive difference to all our children.

Also please remember the Friends have set up an account with Easyfundraising. Please log on to the link below and take a look.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>



Friends Diary Dates

Thursday 19th September—AGM—3.30pm all welcome

Friday 27th September—Welcome Cream Tea (Raffle in aid of Macmillan held at the same event) —
3.30pm further details have been sent home in book bags today

Tuesday 1st October—Bags2School Collection. As soon as we receive them we will be sending home the Bags2School bags, however, if you are having a clear out, please bag up those unwanted clothes, shoes etc in any bag and drop into the school office.

Thursday 21st November—Disco's—Yr R, 1 and 2 : 5.00pm—6.00pm and
Year 3, 4, 5 and 6: 6.15pm—7.15pm

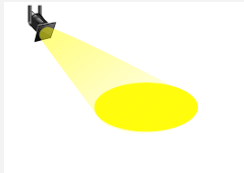
Friday 13th December—Christmas Fayre—3.30pm

ATTENDANCE

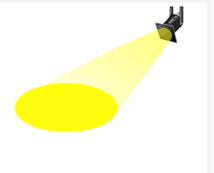
Our school target for attendance is 96%.

1st Place	Year 6	100.0 %
2nd Place	Year 4	98.6 %
3rd Place	Year R	98.5 %

SHINE AWARDS



Our next Shine Assembly is on **Friday 20th September 2019**, at 2.40pm.
Parents of the children below are warmly invited to attend.



Please come along to main reception no earlier than 2.35pm. A special well done to:

Reception	Isaac	For really impressing Mr Masters and Mrs Malyan with his fantastic attitude and behaviour for learning during his first week and Connor Downs Academy. Isaac is a joy to have in
Year 1	Harry	For amazing maths work, sorting objects into groups by colour.
Year 2	Charley	For your hard work across all areas and the care and attention to detail you show in written activities.
Year 3	Ben	For super use of vocabulary in both Science and English, explaining to the class how to care for pet dogs.
Year 4	Joel	For consistently high standards of attitude, behaviour and work throughout the week. Joel asks good questions and always tries his best.
Year 5	Alan	For writing a story with a clear beginning, middle and end during big write.
Year 6	Wesley	For an outstanding start to Year 6. Wesley has demonstrated excellent behaviour for learning in all areas.
Writer of the week	Lois Year R	For the wonderful confidence and enthusiasm she has shown towards both writing and phonics since joining Class R this week.
YR & KS1 Reader of the week	Cayden Year 1	For amazing reading of his home book and reading 2 pages to Miss Abel independently.
KS2 Reader of the week	Kayson Year 5	For regularly quizzing on his reading books and being enthusiastic about the books he has read.
Mathematician of the week	Seth Year 3	For a brilliant start to work on place value, partitioning 3 digit numbers.
Performer of the week	Molly Year 4	For outstanding interceptions during benchball and showing enthusiasm when learning to dribble in basketball.
Citizen of the week	Daniel Year 6	For being helpful and supportive towards our younger children during lunchtimes.