



HEAD OF SCHOOL UPDATE

Mrs Palmer, our Special Educational Needs Coordinator, has been a valued member of staff at Connor Downs Academy for over ten years. Mrs Palmer has provided excellent support to the children, families and staff of the Connor Downs community. Mrs Palmer has made the decision to retire at the end of the summer term. I am sure that you join with me in wishing Mrs Palmer all the best for a very happy retirement. If you would like to leave a message, gift or donation for Mrs Palmer, please see Mrs Gallagher in the school office.

This week year 5 enjoyed a visit to the Nexus campus as part of their



science topic "No Way Back". The children had the opportunity to observe reversible and irreversible changes from cooking an egg to lighting bubbles of methane gas. After learning about how to stay safe in the lab, the children had the chance to use Bunsen burners to set a wooden splint alight and record their observations. Finally, the children worked in small groups with a



variety of substances to classify whether a reversible or irreversible change had taken place by observing heat, light, smells, colour change or bubbles. Upon their return to school, the children recorded their learning and revised the key vocabulary for the topic.

Please follow us on Twitter [@ConnorD_Academy](https://twitter.com/ConnorD_Academy) to see pictures of our fantastic educational visit.



Thank you to the parents/carers who attended the year 6 SATs meeting on Thursday. We appreciate your support in preparation for SATs week, week commencing Monday 13th May.



The Dyspraxia Foundation Devon and Cornwall Group would like to invite parents/carers and staff to a talk on **'Understanding and Managing Dyspraxia'**. **Dr Emma Tremaine, The Dyspraxic Doctor** will be the host of the event and it promises to be a fantastic and informative evening. For all professionals wishing to attend, Certificates of Attendance will be available on request.

You can click on the following link, which will take you straight to the Dyspraxia Foundation's payment page: <https://dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk/dyspraxia-foundation-devon-cornwall-event/>

A reminder that on Tuesday 7th May, Tempest photographers will be in school to take the class photographs.

We hope that you enjoy the long bank holiday weekend and look forward to seeing you back in school on Tuesday 7th May.

Mrs Eddy

ATTENDANCE

Our school target for attendance is 96%.

1st Place	Year 6	98.8 %
2nd Place	Year 2	98.3 %
3rd Place	Year 3	98.0 %

SHINE AWARDS

Our next Shine Assembly is on **Friday 10th May**, 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	Seth	For his consistent enthusiasm and dedication towards his learning. Seth gives 100% effort in all areas of the EYFS curriculum.
Year 1	Ella	For always producing work of a very high standard. Ella is becoming more confident and positive in all areas.
Year 2	Riley	For writing about real events clearly and using suffixes in your writing.
Year 3	Phoebe	For super work on comprehension and independent editing of her spellings
Year 4	Leo VP	Fantastic work in English, playing the role of Juliane Koepcke, answering questions I the hot seat.
Year 5	Hayden	For being so sensible when using chemicals and Bunsen burners on our Nexus visit.
Year 6	Mia	For exceptional effort in all areas of her learning. Mia skilfully used some fantastic persuasive techniques when writing a letter this week.
Writer of the week	Amber Year 5	For her ability to weave ideas and words into well organised texts across a range of genres.
YR & KS1 Reader of the week	Harriet Year 2	For making links between the books you are reading and other books you have read.
KS2 Reader of the week	Ollie Year 4	Brilliant participation in class discussion of comprehension text and excellent, detailed answers in his work.
Mathematician of the week	Reuban Year 1	For showing good understanding of time and using key vocabulary.
Performer of the week	Ashton D Year 6	For excellent bowling, communication and teamwork during our PE lesson this week.
Citizen of the week	Sam Year R	For always trying his best to be a kind, caring and responsible member of Class R. It is such a pleasure having Sam in class.