



Weekly

Newsletter

9th March 2018

Dear Parents,

It has been great to have a 'normal' week in school, after the unexpected snow! I would like to thank everyone who helped our families to get home safely last Wednesday. Although it was a stressful time for many of us, lots of people went above and beyond to ensure everyone made it home. I hope that you all then managed to enjoy the snow on Thursday and Friday.

Ready, Steady, Read

This week we have finalised our order of books. We are hoping that they will arrive in school very soon. Thank you to everyone who raised money through our Sponsored Read.

St. Piran's Day

On Monday we had a fantastic time celebrating the Patron Saint of Cornwall – St. Piran. The children looked great in the Cornish colours of white, black and gold. It was fantastic to see so many children engaged in their learning that day and making the most of the Cornish activities.

Dance and Drama Club Show

On Saturday 24 February, seven of the children who attend our dance and drama club at school took part in a performance of 'The Wizard of Oz' at Helston College. Not only were they all fantastic, I have also received many compliments about how well behaved these children were. Well done and thank you for representing our school so well.

Netball Team

Well done to our super netball team, who competed in a tournament at Helston College last week. The children braved the bitterly cold conditions and worked really well as a team. Thank you very much to Mrs Street and Mrs Carpenter for running our netball club every week and accompanying the children to this event. Thanks also to Mrs Jenkin for helping with transport.

Character Learning

This week our virtue is 'Patience'; the children have been thinking about how useful and important it is to have this skill. We all need to have patience, whether it is with ourselves or when playing/working alongside others.

Health and Wellbeing

Please see the recipe for the delicious soup that was made by Robins Class this week in their 'Sow it, Grow it, Cook it, Eat it' session. This can be found on the Robins Class page on our website.

Have a lovely weekend and enjoy Mother's Day.

Mrs Sarah Richards
Assistant Headteacher

PTO

Karate Readers

Congratulations to Ailla and Lyla who collected their yellow bands this week, to Jonah, Narla and Ewan who collected their blue bands this week and to Bradley, Amelia and Rudy who collected their purple bands this week.

Well done everyone, keep reading!



Fitness Class

The fitness class that currently takes place after school on Monday with Mrs Swann will now be open to all year groups and will be children only. If your child would like to attend, please let us know.



Menu Change

The St Piran's Day menu change has been rescheduled for next Tuesday 13th March. There will be a choice of traditional steak pasty or cheese and onion pasty, followed by ice cream tub for dessert. Jacket potatoes will be available on request.



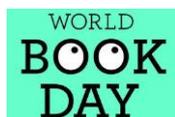
Y6 Transition - Reminder

On Monday 12th March there will be a transition session after school at Helston Community College for Y6 pupils.



World Book Day

Due to last week's snow days, we will now be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 29th March. Children have the option to come to school dressed as a character from their favourite book on that day, if they would like to.



FOH MUFTI Day

On Friday 23rd March the Friends of Halwin are inviting the children to come into school in their own clothes, in exchange for a donation of a bottle or Easter egg for the tombola stall at the upcoming Spring Fayre.



Raffle Prizes

Friends of Halwin are appealing for raffle prizes for this year's Spring Fayre. Any donations of unwanted, unused gifts would be very welcome. Also, if you know of any shops or businesses that would be willing to donate something, please let a member of the FOH Committee know. Thank you for your support.

Lost Keys

We have had some keys handed in that have been found in the school playground. If you think these might belong to you, please pop in to the school office.



CEO Newsletter

Attached to this week's newsletter is also a newsletter from the Trust CEO for February 2018.

Letters Home

Please make sure you have received the following information this week:-

World Book Day Vouchers
– whole school

Touch Rugby Tournament
– chosen participants

FOH Spring Fayre Flyer – whole school

What's On Diary?

Posters for events will be on display in the main reception area.



FOH Spring Fayre

On Saturday 24th March Friends of Halwin will be holding their annual Spring Fayre from 10am-12pm. There will be a variety of stalls, an easter egg hunt and refreshments available. We look forward to seeing you there.



PTO

Great Daffodil Appeal
Thursday 1st March
to Friday 30th March 2018
 Raising awareness events
 across the UK. Visit the
 website for more details.
[http://www.mariecurie.org.u](http://www.mariecurie.org.uk/)
[k/](http://www.mariecurie.org.uk/)



‘Signposting’
 We would like to make it
 clear that all ‘signposted’
 activities are external to the
 school. Parents should
 make their own enquiries
 and satisfy themselves as
 to the suitability of the
 provider before engaging
 their service.



Events Diary

Date	Event
Mon 12 March	Owls Class trip to Newquay Zoo
Mon 12 March	HCC Y6 Transition Project 3.30-4.30pm - Maths
Tues 13 March	Touch Rugby League @ HCC South Site 3.30pm
Tues 13 March	Open the Book Assembly
Thurs 15 March	KS2 Swimming @ HCC
Fri 16 March	Celebration Assembly 2.50pm
Tues 20 March	Open the Book Assembly
Tues 20 March	Touch Rugby League @ HCC South Site
Thurs 22 March	KS2 Swimming @ HCC (Swimming Gala)
Fri 23 March	MUFTI Day in exchange for bottles/Easter eggs for Tombola Stall
Fri 23 March	Celebration Assembly 2.50pm
Sat 24 March	FOH Spring Fayre 10am-12pm
Mon 26 March	HCC Y5 Transition Project 3.30-4.30pm – Learning a foreign language
Tues 27 March	Open the Book Assembly
Tues 27 March	Cross Country League Race 5, 4pm @ HCC Y1-6 (incl. infant fun run)
Thurs 29 March	World Book Day Celebration – dress as your favourite book character
Thurs 29 March	Last day of Spring Term
Mon 16 April	Summer Term begins
Mon 23 July	INSET Day
Tues 24 July	INSET Day

Well, didn't this month take a turn for the unexpected! Snow days are rare – a treat for the children but a challenge for those having to make the decision about whether to close. Critically, the most important factor is that everyone stays safe. I know many staff went the extra mile when the snow arrived, putting the children's needs before their own and making sure everyone got home even if it meant a very slow, long journey getting home themselves. Particular thanks to Parc Eglos staff for ensuring the children on the London visit had a safe, although unexpected, overnight stay in Tiverton before return safely home albeit day late. Thank you to parents for your patience and support and to staff for your care.

Much has been going on across the Trust as always. Crowan School took up an opportunity that was shared at the Heads' meeting last term. 26 Year 5 & 6 pupils took part in the Writers' Block provided by the KEAP facility at Cornwall College, Pool. Their teacher explains: It was been a fantastic experience from start to finish. To begin, the children are invited in to a small room with a desk and asked to hang their coats on pegs labelled with various types of writers. Whilst in the room, the children are offered a torch and they are then invited to pass through the wall (disguised as a bookcase) to explore a plethora of stimuli for writing. In this next room, 'The Imaginarium', the lights are low and there is a huge wardrobe consisting of many small doors. Over the weeks, the children are invited to explore the scenes behind each door by torchlight, using the contents for ideas for setting, character and plot. The children learnt many tools for description, hooking the reader, making their writing more interesting and much more.

After 'The imaginarium' there are further rooms with further wardrobes containing interesting scenes, props and ideas for writing weird and wonderful stories. Finally, after passing through the 'Narnia wardrobe', there is 'The Writing Room' where the children get to sit on cosy rugs and beanbags to create their masterpieces. It is here that the published authors offer their expertise and encouragement whilst helping the students develop their own creations. Each and every child has their own story to tell. 'The Writers' Block' has helped the class to realise their individual stories. They are all delighted with their efforts and are clearly more confident in their own abilities as writers, enjoying writing for pleasure.

One of the parents said: 'It was lovely to see the children enjoying their creative writing in such an interesting setting. It was interesting how they could all look at the same thing but then come up with such different stories.

Hearing them read out what they had written was brilliant. Their writing was amazing, I was so impressed.'

Staff across the Trust are continuing to work together for the benefit of all of our children. By working together, we are becoming more adept at the process of writing successful Education, Health and Care Plans. Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators (SENCOs) from different schools work together to draft the application and to ensure it is as robust as possible. Some heads have attended panel meetings to try to gain a better understanding of the process and have shared their learning with the SENCO team in the Trust. A great example of how expertise in schools has worked together for successful outcomes!

Helston Community College has continued its series of dyslexia awareness workshops. Parents of Year 6 students due to join the College from Trust schools and their parents met with 7 dyslexic students from Helston for an information afternoon. Students helping at the afternoon gave their own insight into dyslexia and how support at College works for them. Parents were able to learn reading and memory aids to help support their young people with homework and revision at home. Students were on hand to demonstrate our intervention programmes such as Lexia and Read Write Inc.

Using the Trust bulletin to advertise the College workshops has also proved successful with a 10 week parenting programme which began earlier this term. The programme supports parents who may be dealing with worrying or difficult times with their child. The programme is run in conjunction with the Early Help Hub. If you would like more details, please contact Caroline Bloor. cbloor@helston.cornwall.sch.uk

It has been a pleasure to visit more schools this term. The learning environments I have seen are supportive and work is purposeful. I have been wowed by the evident progress of some of the youngest children in the Trust and by the enthusiasm of older children sharing their work and explaining their learning journey to visitors. It is so good to see how dedicated our staff are in ensuring excellent learning opportunities for our children. It is also good to see the improvement journey in settings where staff have been supported by other colleagues in the Trust. The difference this has had is tangible. In one school, where a colleague decided to enhance the learning environment, she visited other settings to gather ideas and, with the support of an SLE, the teacher and teaching assistant have transformed the classroom. We have great expertise in our schools and every school has good practice to share that others can learn from. Thank you to everyone for their generosity in sharing in order to ensure that our schools are exceptional.

As I write, March is already upon us. This month the Trust Finance and Resources Committee meet on the 8th and the Full Board on 15th. The agendas and minutes of these meetings are published on the website if you wish to read them. (www.southerlypoint.co)

The other major news is that the work on Helston's new build commenced this week. There is no going back now. The build will be documented online for those who wish to follow the developments. www.helston@cornwall.sch.uk.

Whilst rejoicing in this development, we are mindful of the ongoing situation with Mullion School's roof and hope that this will be finalised shortly. If things go according to plan, the first stage of the work should be completed by the end of Easter but until we have confirmation from County we cannot guarantee this. In the meantime we keep the pressure on the contractors. I hope to provide you with a positive update on this work in my next newsletter.

Whilst many of us have enjoyed the snow despite the disruption, let's hope the warmer days and longer evenings of the Spring will soon be here.

With all best wishes

Donna

