

CEO Newsletter July 2019

As we come to the end of another academic year, we would like to thank everyone for the incredible commitment and hard work. A huge amount has been achieved once again: children have had a plethora of additional activities; staff have had opportunities to access training and share good practice; School Improvement Partner visits have praised the provision in our schools; the estate's buildings have been improved; joint procurement of services and goods have resulted in significant cost savings to the schools making the budget stretch further - all this alongside a whole heap of other things behind the scenes that Enable Excellence Together.

We are absolutely delighted to announce that Wayne Randle, Head of Mullion School, has successfully qualified as a Local Leader of Education [LLE]. This specialism recognises and give responsibility to Leaders to support others in their area. We are fortunate that in the Trust we have a number of Subject Leaders of Education, two Local Leaders of Education and a National Leader of Education.

Post 16 at Helston held their Year 13 Presentation Evening on Thursday 27th June. It was attended by a full house of parents, family members and staff. The citations for the individual awards painted a full picture of the extent of our students' achievements, and the staff present felt very proud of them all. This year group have an amazing array of talents, and the evening illustrated countless examples from sporting and musical successes to those excelling in their chosen fields with offers from the top Russell Group universities; four have offers from Oxford or Cambridge, another for Medicine and two from Loughborough to study sport.



Lt Cmd Mike Morgan attended to award the RNAS Culdrose Engineering Award. He was so impressed by the talents on display that he was keen to emphasise the possibilities of a career in the Royal Navy to our departing students! He said the students were the personification of both the College's motto of 'Aspiration, Ambition and Achievement' and the Co-operative Values. It was a fantastic evening and very moving to say goodbye to a wonderful group of students, from Helston and Mullion who have really blossomed and grown in the Trust's own Post 16 provision.

On Monday 8th July, all the Year 10 students from Mullion School visited Post 16 at Helston. As part of their careers education, they spent a day in the life of a Post 16 student. Students experienced 5 lessons and could choose from the large range of courses on offer, including A levels, BTECs, Tech levels and Diplomas. They participated in sessions such as Chemistry, Physics, Maths, Health and Social Care, Construction, Art, Sport, Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology, Music Technology, Geography, Geology and many, many more. In Biology students investigated animal behaviour with a simple maze, in Engineering they investigated aerodynamics and rocketry, and in Medical Science, they looked at ways of measuring aspects of the body, including lung capacity. At lunchtime, the students could take part in challenges representing the tutor group challenges in Post 16, either launching water balloons, using a three-man catapult, taking part in the gladiator battle or a mixed five a side football match against the current Year 12 students. Both the Post 16 ambassadors, the students and the staff from Mullion School were amazed by the new school build and commented on how informative and positive the day was. The staff from Helston said how polite and engaged the students were and that it was a pleasure to meet and teach them.





Alumni and members of the community came to bid a fond farewell to Helston Upper School. Following hand over of the new build in August, the old site is due to be demolished. It was an evening to catch up with old friends and take a trip down memory lane and purchase



some items of memorabilia, the proceeds of which will go some way to help purchase furniture for the new build. Ex-students and staff came from far and near to say goodbye. There is evidently a lot of love for Helston out there. (And no-one believes people when they say 'school days are the best days of your life'!)

On that note, the College is looking for a small team of people who enjoy gardening and would like to help them gather and replant the various special shrubs and trees bought to commemorate pupils and staff of the school to create a new memorial garden. If you would like to be involved, please do make contact via the College reception or enquiries@helston.cornwall.sch.uk.



Sithney School has been busy developing their Outdoor Learning Zone. So far they have a wonderful new learning cabin which will be a shared learning space for both pre-school and the rest of the school when taking part in the new outdoor learning programme. Over 80 trees supplied by the Woodland Trust have now been planted in the field by the children. The school has been awarded £9,200 following a successful bid for lottery funding to develop a trim trail and activities zones in the playground. Well done to them for their commitment to Sports and active lifestyles.

We also want to wish Sithney and Garras schools year 6 pupils a great time as they take part in an Open Water Swimming session to include water safety and survival techniques at HRCST Trevassack Lake on 18th July.



This year Trannack won the HRCST inter schools regatta. Over 100 children from 10 different schools took part. Just for a change conditions were perfect (not challenging!) and all six Trannack sailors took part. Alex P, Samuel, Chloe, George W, Holly S, Ethan were the team. Before the regatta, they had to work as a team to create a sea shanty and brush up on their sailing theory and knots. They did this under their own steam, working hard in lunch breaks at school. At the regatta they took part in five challenges: kayaking, sailing, rigging, a sailing knowledge quiz, and sea shanty singing, earning points in each challenge. They worked really well as a team, and used each of their strengths to do their very best in each challenge.

At the recent HCC Summer Concert, children from the primary schools within the Trust who play an instrument were given the exciting opportunity to join the Beginner Band and play two songs alongside the secondary school children. They all showed great determination in learning their new songs and tremendous courage to stand on stage and play in the concert in front of a big audience. They had to overcome their nerves but all enjoyed playing Pirates of the Caribbean and Tequila. Being part of such an exciting event has really inspired the young musicians, a huge positive to come from being part of the Multi-Academy Trust. Piran (Godolphin) said "It was a great experience to be part of and has really made me want to carry on with my music. It helped me see what I could do one day if I carry on."

Over the coming holidays there will be some extensive work going on across the Trust's estate: Trannack are having a new build; boilers are being replaced at a couple of sites; toilets being refurbished; sewers being replaced; guttering and roofing being renewed - much of it not very visible but really important to keep the schools operating smoothly. We want to say a huge thank you to the whole estates team in advance of a very busy time for them.

Finally, we want to say thank you and congratulations to all of our wonderful pupils for their fundraising efforts for



the Trust's 2019 Charity: School in a Bag. Over the academic year, the Trust-wide student council - SKIP - have done an incredible job raising more than £3000 for the Somerset-based charity School in a Bag, who distribute rucksacks filled with stationery and eating utensils to disadvantaged children around the world. Excitingly, the children got to pack the 180 school bags before they will be sent to the children who will be receiving them. They were all very enthusiastic about this! Thank you to the council representatives for all their hard work in organising the fundraising in their schools and also to everyone in the Trust community for their support with this. Your work clearly demonstrates our Co-operative values so well done to you all. We look forward to seeing pictures of our school bags being distributed later in the summer!

Have a very restful and enjoyable summer holiday.



Kind regards

Donna

Self Help Self Responsibility Equity Equality Democracy Solidarity

Social Responsibility Honesty Openness Caring for Others