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ST PETROC'S POST

Issue 151
15th June 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a beautifully sunny run of weather we are experiencing. It provides plenty of opportunities for teachers and students to take their learning beyond the four walls of the classroom and it's been a delight to see Geography lessons on cloud formation, novel studies in the shade of a tree and our Early Years pupils all making the most of our beautiful grounds. It was also wonderful to see the music sessions begin as our latest activity starts for our pre-schoolers in Dolphins! Thank you for supporting us.

This has been another busy and fulfilling week of school as we draw ever close to the end of the year. Pupils across the school were very active on Tuesday as we presented our school Swimming Gala. The culmination of almost 10 months of swimming lessons was presented to parents, grandparents, friends and teachers who came to watch the pupils swim at Splash on Tuesday morning. Unfortunately, I was representing the school at a presentation in London to MIST, but I've been stopped by a number of parents, telling me how impressed they were by the high standard of swimming witnessed. The staff at Splash also sang the praises of our commitment to teaching of the swimming program, rating us, without comparison as the best swimming school that they see.

We hosted two mixed rounders matches against our friends from Polwhele House School in Truro on Tuesday afternoon; this was a wonderful opportunity for boys and girls in Years 3 and 4 to compete together and we won both matches. The fielding, I am told, was superb; a far cry from the start of the term!

Pupils have been working tirelessly engineering and designing their gliders in the Fly to the Line National competition. We hope to have a visit from the ambassadors very soon. The children have learnt a lot through this hands-on STEM project. We have had word that the portfolios submitted may have gained them a place at the Nationals, however, we will have to see how that fits with a very busy end of term schedule! Luckily for our young engineers there's another competition in sight; our pupils were ever so excited to get the Goblin 'kit' Go-Karts out on the field this week to get some driving practice in and to understand how to fix and maintain them, start them safely and set them up! There's a great video of racing on the field on our school Instagram page @stpetrocsschool.

Today has of course also been Sports Day thankfully, the 'weather gods' were kind to us. The pupils were impeccably behaved and committed, as usual, and demonstrated themselves to be able sportsmen and women across a range of disciplines. We have seen a number of school records broken, which only confirms that the standards are getting higher and higher! I was also very happy to see such incredible support amongst the pupils; cheering on, cheering up and celebrating with each other throughout the course of the day. Seeing friendships and support networks that span several year groups makes me very proud; these pupils are confident, talented and kind. There's no better combination of traits in my opinion.

I wish you all a restful weekend ahead,

Ben Hilton

Fast Yn Mesk Tonnow



FORWARD DATES

Tuesday 19th June
1:15 pm
U9s Cricket &
Rounders
v Truro Prep

Tuesday 19th June
4:00 pm
Key Stage 1
Multiskills Festival
Budehaven

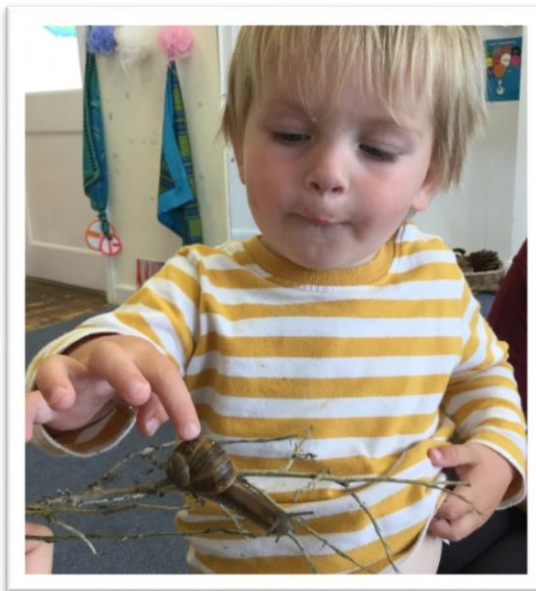
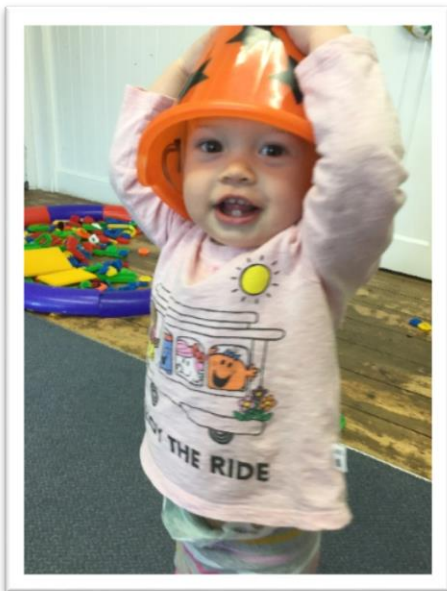
Wednesday 20th June
Formula Goblins
Newquay

Thursday 21st June
Year 4 visit to
Rosemoor

Early Years

The Little Turtles have been super busy this week, we have been loving the sunshine! We found a snail in our garden and bought him inside so we could have a good look at him. Some of the older children were so brave and touched his shell, we watched him move along his twig.

We have been builders and creators too, using stickle bricks to make simple structures, buckets for filling and emptying and most brilliantly as a very lovely hat.



This week the Sea Lions have been exploring the different textures and types of gloop, some made the traditional way using cornflower and water, others made by using washing up liquid and adding a little salt or lots of sugar. The children described the textures as smooth, rough and sticky.



We have continued to enjoy the garden spending lots of our day outside. The children chose to have afternoon snack outside on most days as they didn't want to miss out on playing alongside each other chasing up and down the path on scooters, bikes and push along cars. They're also enjoying tending to our small garden where we hope to produce runner beans and sweetcorn.



This week the children in Dolphins made suggestions about what they wanted their role play area to be. Taylor said "fish", Ajay said "octopus" so the decision was made to turn the area into an aquarium. Dolphins had fun decorating pictures of fish using different textures and lots of glue.

Special cards have been made using paint and glue for Sunday, Father's Day, and children have spoken about what they like to do with their families. During circle time discussions have taken place about road safety and how to behave when out and about in the local environment.



Prep School News

An exciting week in the Reception Class as we watched our four butterflies emerge from their chrysalides. We gave them time to pump up their wings, feed on sugar solution and suck on juicy oranges before releasing them in the garden. The butterflies were reluctant to fly off at first and flitted from hand to hand, giving the children opportunities to gently hold them. Magic moments!



The Reception Class has had a bumper crop of potatoes! After waiting more than eight weeks for them to grow and regularly watering them in the dry months of May and June, the children were rewarded by a delicious afternoon treat of boiled potatoes with melted butter. Jessica thought they were super, super, super yummy!



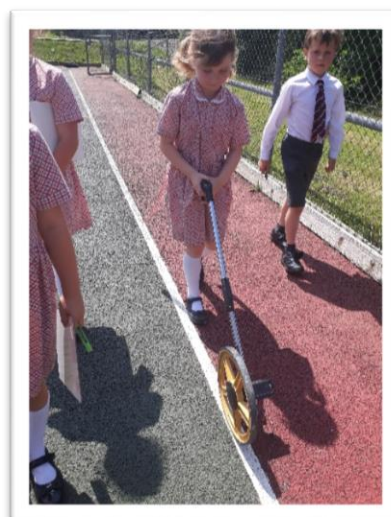
Years 1 and 2 have been busy planting their seeds. The children have looked at sorting objects into plants and not plants. They planted sunflowers, peppers and broad beans, looking at what they need to grow.

In Art the children have made their own treasure map with a route to follow to find their treasure. Maths assessments have taken place too which the children have coped with admirably.

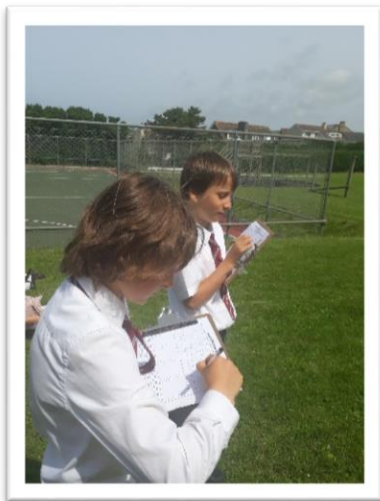


After a morning of finding perimeters of rectangles in the classroom, the Year 3 class took their skills and applied them on a 'mega' mission to the school playing field. They worked in teams to calculate the perimeter of the netball court and the cricket green. They used a trundle wheel and a tape measure to compare accuracy.

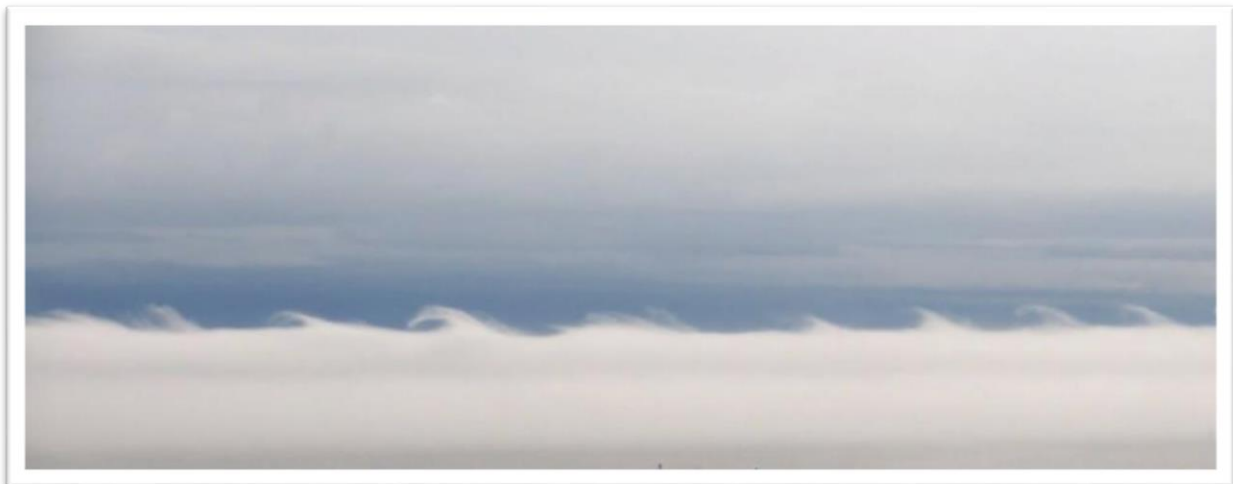
This was an excellent activity which allowed the children to collaboratively apply their understanding of measuring in standardised units, doubling, addition and working out the difference between two lengths.



Year 4 have been out observing clouds this week. They have been identifying cumulus and cirrus clouds alongside some pretty heavy sea mist in the distance.



We were super lucky to see the rare phenomenon when the sea mist actually looks like crashing waves!



The rolling, wave-like cloud formations are called Kelvin-Helmoltz clouds. Sometimes, they are also called billows. These breaking atmospheric waves occur in an environment with a large amount of vertical wind shear and stable air. Wind shear is the change in wind speed and direction as you go higher in the atmosphere. In this case, winds at the top of the cloud layer are moving faster than at the base of that same layer. That causes the top to crash downward in a curling manner after it hits the stable layer above. The rolling motion created by this type of wind shear also causes turbulence for aircraft.

Luckily we weren't able to see and stratus clouds as these tend to give us the grey, drizzly blanket. All the cirrus cloud does act as warning for bad weather, though - hopefully not!

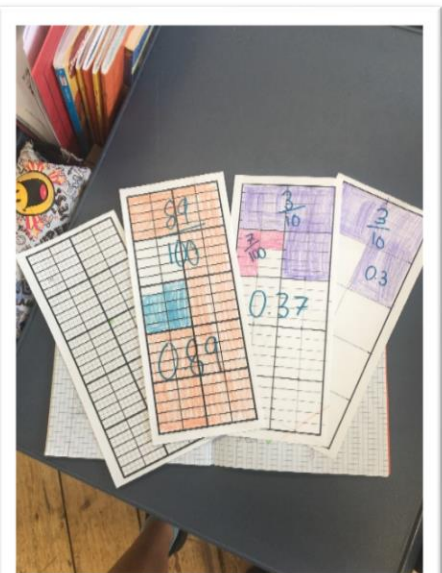
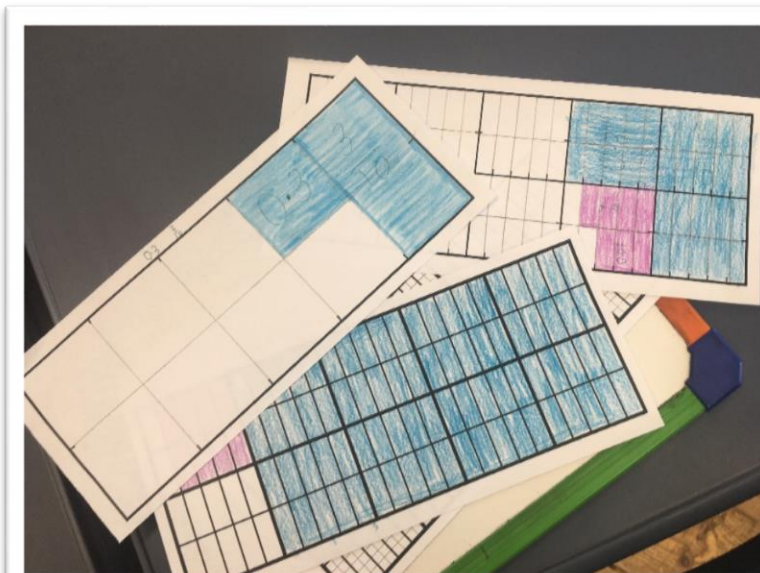
Next week, we hope to make our own clouds in an exciting experiment.

Years 5 & 6 have had a very STEM based week with their work towards preparing, fine tuning and driving their Go-karts ready for the big race next Wednesday. This week they've learnt about powering the karts, how to drive them safely and how the circuitry works.



After completing our topic of long multiplication the pupils in Year 5&6 were excited to undertake some mathematical investigation into the size of decimals. They've compared $\frac{1}{10}$ ths $\frac{1}{100}$ ths and $\frac{1}{1000}$ s and used visual cues to see the relation between the decimals, compounding an understanding of what it really means to be 10 times smaller! They were really excited to try to draw a $\frac{1}{10\,000}$ th and grasped the connection between fractions and decimals very well.

The class learnt a new maths game of decimal hangman bingo and have worked brilliantly in their first lessons on our new Maths topic.



Children were concerned for an injured seagull who appeared outside the dining room on Monday. It had a broken wing and didn't look very happy. Mrs Cuff called the Penbode Vets and two veterinary assistants came and rescued the seagull.



Sports Reports

The end of year Swimming Gala was held this week and it celebrated the incredible progress that our pupils have made since the autumn. Our younger swimmers performed widths of the pool and demonstrated an abundance of confidence in the water. They showed their parents the different games, drills and exercises they perform in lessons and took part in some fun races.

Pupils in KS2 approached the gala slightly differently; this was their time to compete and perform! A mixture of all strokes swum over 25 and 50m races impressed parents and teachers alike.

Results to follow!



Mixed Rounders – St Petroc's v Polwhele – Tuesday 12th June. Report by Lilly.

Yesterday the boys decided to play a proper game instead of cricket. We had our first match against Polwhele. We batted first and did quite well and scored 8 rounders. It was Polwhele's turn to bat and they got 6 rounders although they had great boy hitters. Second half was a bit closer. Both teams fielded very well. Final score 15 to us and 12 to them. Man of the match was Ben.

Thank you Mrs Chesy for umpiring.

Sports Day

