St Petroc's Post



Letter from The Headmaster

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have really enjoyed the week we have shared. The children are back in the swing of things and, although some are tired, stamina is quickly returning to our unique version of 'normal'; squeezing as much as possible into the St Petroc's week. It's great to look back at the week's experiences - from visiting cultural educator Daya Stafford delivering an immersive Islam workshop, to watching the Dolphins children enjoying their Gymnastics programme - and that was just the highlights from Monday. It was a really good insight for touring parents to also witness that side of our independent school approach to teaching and learning.

I am a firm believer in offering as much as is physically possible here and I do believe we do that, and for all ages. From our Little Turtles all the way up to our 11 year olds, we seize opportunities and promote practical, hands-on learning wherever possible. That can only happen with an energetic and enthusiastic team, so I would like to thank each of our Early Years and School staff for giving the extra 10 percent that makes life here so fulfilling and exciting. So much so that we had already seen clifftop Cross Country, mixed Football, Islamic Art, Swimming, Cookery, Tennis and Woodland Walks offered to pupils of varying ages - all by Wednesday. I, personally, even had a hand in averting a disaster by solving a space rocket nose cone construction issue! All of this is in addition to the pupils' comprehensive academic lessons that follow the National Curriculum, and I haven't even mentioned debates, Robotics, Yoga, Music, Spanish or the superb presentation given by Year 2 and 3 in their assembly this morning. For children of that age to appear so comfortable on stage astounds me every time. Well done indeed to them and to Mrs Biddlecombe for helping them prepare so well.

Works around the school are also continuing, with the Outdoor Learning Zone gathering momentum. I would expect to see the first groups starting to use this teaching space next week, including the fire pit and Outside Classroom. Please do book an appointment to look around, should anyone want to see what we do and what the future plans for the School are. It is a very exciting time for all of us and I can assure you that there is plenty more to come.

This week ends with a strange bout of silence... In support of local causes, we are proud to support the Bude Refill Community Shop by holding our very own Silent Disco. What an excellent idea and well done to all involved. The children are having a wonderful time! Thank you for allowing us to be part of your projects.

Have an excellent and restful weekend everyone.

Ben Hilton

Fast Yn Mesk Tonnow

Diary Dates

Wednesday 23rd January
• ISA KS2 Cross Country

Thursday 24th January

KS1 Multi-skills Festival

Friday 25th January
• 8:45am Class Assembly:
Year 4

Friday 1st February

- St Petroc's Annual Cross Country
- 7:30pm Friends of St Petroc's Wine and Wisdom

Friday 8th February

 8:45am Class Assembly: Year 1

Tuesday 12th February

 'Fly To The Line' Regional Finals

Friday 15th February

- 8:45am Class Assembly: Reception
 - Break for Half Term

Wednesday 13th March

• 7pm Songfest Launceston Town Hall



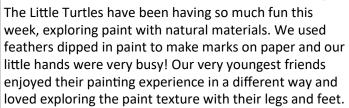


December winners These are the latest lucky winners of the Friends of St Petroc's 100 Club: 1st Rosie-May: £61.00 2nd Rosie: £37.00 3rd The Shaw Family: £24.00



Little Turtles

Artistic explorers







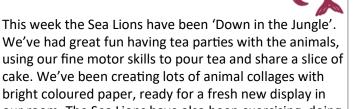


Sea Lions





Exciting exercise



our room. The Sea Lions have also been exercising, doing 'Wild Workouts' with Andy from CBeebies. We have learnt to move our bodies like monkeys and fancy birds, stretching up high and crawling along the floor while

walking though the rainforest.





Dolphins

Model students



There are lots of budding architects currently in Dolphins and, over the last two weeks, the children have been engaged in construction work, having fun creating lots of different models in the 'building site' role play area.

The Dolphins have explored a variety of building resources and have built a wide range of models using Mega Blocks, Lego, Duplo, wooden blocks and junk modelling. The children have spoken at length about their creations and also adapted their models.





The Dolphins have also been learning about road safety and have been discussing how to stay safe when crossing roads, demonstrating lots of good listening skills. Take a look at our display in the porch area!

The Dolphins have also had another great week in their activity sessions. Please speak to a member of staff if you would like your child to take part in any of these activities or swimming lessons.











Reception

Out of this world

We have been continuing our work on space this week and have been looking at the planets in our solar system. The children have made papier-mâché planets, which was a very messy job, but we now have a wonderful display showing all the planets.

In Literacy, we have been changing the story of 'Whatever Next' into our own new stories. The children have drawn story maps to help them to remember the story and we have had some interesting new characters added. Miss Calienda is sure they will be keen to share their stories with you.

We have also discovered a new interest when using the computer - the children are keen to type words they know using the keyboard.

"It has been a fantastic week and I can't wait to keep learning with you next week!" Miss Calienda



Year 1



In amongst all of this the children have also written some lovely rhyming poems describing their favourite type of weather. It's been another busy, bustling week!

Airborne Art

Year 1 have embraced outdoor learning this week! From Maths mini games outside on the painted playground, practising shape properties and number systems, to a windy afternoon testing the kites they designed and made in Art.





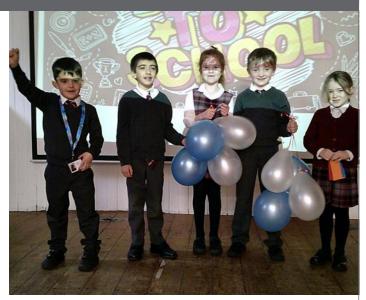
Years 2 & 3

Cloud-based learning

The children from Years 2 and 3 performed their own take on New Year resolutions in assembly on Friday. They told the story of a class who had all fallen out over silly things before realising, with the help of their teacher Lucas - and a few balloons - that they had to let go of cross and angry feelings, and be kind and helpful to each other.

They were all amazing, delivering their learnt lines with confidence and enjoyment, to the delight of the parents, staff and friends. Mrs Biddlecombe was extremely proud of them all for putting the message across in a fun and entertaining way.





Practicing for their assembly hasn't been the only activity the children have enjoyed this week. Great fun was had making individual clouds using shaving foam and food colouring, which surprisingly worked really well, as they continue their weather topic.

They have learnt about the different cloud formations and how the water cycle works. They were even able to measure a little rainfall this week.

Year 4



Artistic analysis

New term, new topics! Year 4 have started a colourful new project about a group of artists called the 'Scottish Colourists'. The main inspiration for their work is an artist called Samuel Peploe.

The children have looked at a number of examples of his work and explored how the direction of the light shining on the objects in his paintings affects the shades of colour that he's used.

After successfully recreating parts of his paintings, Year 4 have begun their own still life paintings, using torchlight to effectively create different shades of colour.

Ms Croxall is already astounded by their creations so far and we are anxious to see the finished pieces!



Year 5

Comforting calculations

In Maths, Year 5 have delved straight into a week of Place Value, looking at decimal places and what happens when you multiply and divide these by 10, 100 and 1000. They have also used their prior knowledge of mentally adding and subtracting whole numbers to find ways of doing so with numbers that are not whole. The pupils found the similarities comforting!

Alongside our decimal work, we also took a look at converting decimals into fractions, and fractions into percentages, again finding comforting similarities in the answers. A challenging week of Maths so well done!



Sections	Decimals Diagram			
10	0.1	Diagram	Out of 100	Percentages
3	-		10 out of 100	10%
70	0.2		20 mt 03 100	
30	0.3		30 out 08100	20.00
40	0.4		40 out of 10	0608
30	0.5	福門	50 out of	
60	0.6		60 out = \$ 10	060%
70	0, 7		70 out 081	1
80	0.8		80 st of	100 80 %
30	0.9		90 out of	1090019
10/1	0.11.9/		100 out 08	100000
7	1	1 1 1 1 1	1111	-1-1-1

Continuing our poetry topic in English, the class read 'Top Board' by Michael Rosen - an author quite liked by the class! The pupils' first impression of the poem was that it didn't sound like a poem as there are no rhyming words!

They soon learnt that poems don't all stick to the same format, opening up lots of creative doors for them to think about.

A funny but eventful poem, the children all thought of experiences that were similar to that of Michael Rosen, being forced to dive off the high board in swimming. Mr Fox talked about his own unnerving experience of mountain biking down the Ranger's Path on Mount Snowdon.

The pupils all had similar memories of being forced to take the plunge on a death defying slide here or there. The class organised their memories and wrote up their experiences as a narrative prose. Next week, they get to turn their work into a poem!

Songfest 2019 - Key Stage 2

Don't miss out! Book your tickets soon

This year's Songfest takes place at Launceston Town Hall on Wednesday 13th March 2019 at 7pm. Tickets are available from the Hall for Cornwall website: www.hallforcornwall.co.uk

Enter Songest in the 'search events' box and make sure you select the Launceston venue!





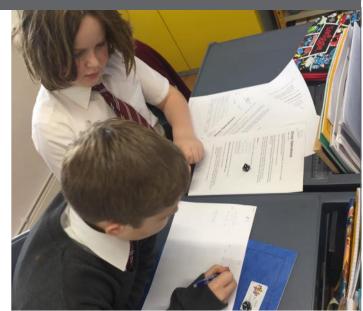
Years 6 & 7

Nrich-ing Maths

In a varied week, we have been looking at Nrich problem solving games and in this edition, the aim of the game was to use different sided dice to drop number column. The pupils had to use tactics to place the numbers in the product to create a total nearest to a target number.

The operations involved started with addition and subtraction but quickly moved onto multiplication and division of one number, before progressing onto the multiplication and division of two numbers.

The children really enjoyed the game but Ayden and Orlando had multiple draws so we had to introduce some tie breaking rounds! Two very able strategists!







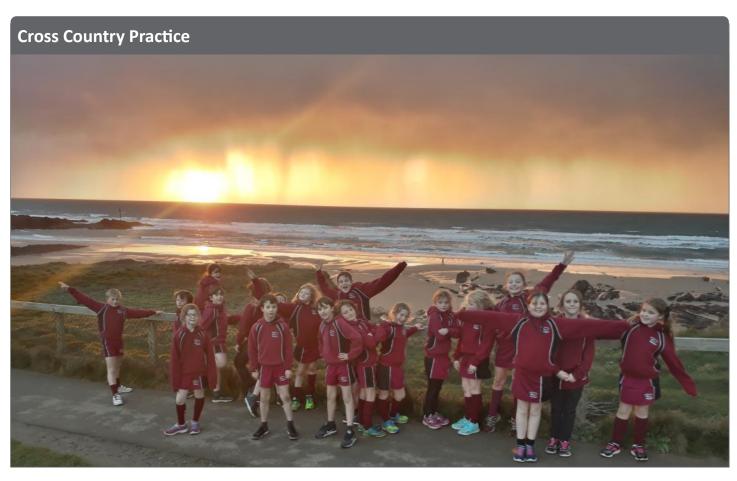
Are you the next Lego Master?

Open to parents and kids teams!











KS2 Workshop on Islam and Indian Culture

A most enriching Monday

It was wonderful to welcome Daya back to School for a workshop. She is a very popular visitor to the school and brings a cultural richness to us all. This year, her focus was on Islam, to support the work we have been doing in Humanities.

The religion was founded in Saudi Arabia and Muslims believe that Muhammad was the final prophet in a long line of prophets, the first of whom was Adam and whose number included Abraham, Moses and Jesus.





From a historical point of view, the children learned about the partition of India in 1947 and the movement of Muslims to Pakistan.

Daya explained the wearing of headgear and the Muslim traditions of prayer and worship in a Mosque. It was also interesting to discover that the Qur'an is read 'backwards', as is the Arabic way.

The children were very excited to once again dress up in traditional styles and to join in the dancing. The morning ended with a cooking session where the children really enjoyed making chapattis and eating them with Daya's gorgeous potato curry.

A most enriching way to spend a Monday morning!







Silent Disco

