

St Petroc's Post



Letter from The Headmaster

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am thrilled to share the exciting news that we won the nationwide award for 'Innovation and Excellence in Partnerships' at last night's ISA Awards in Coventry. This award recognises our commitment to building the relationships within our local community, something that we are incredibly proud of and which can only be achieved through the support of you all, for all our community activities and events, which then create amazing learning opportunities for our children.



This includes our beach cleans, Harvest food collections, charity events and carol singing at local residential homes, plus our hosting of sporting events and our relationships with other local schools and local colleges, to name just a few. We are thrilled to have won, but consider this award only an indicator of our ever-increasing commitment to this wonderful town. St Petroc's is an incredibly special place, and it is very gratifying to be nominated for, let alone win, such an award on the national stage and in the presence of some of the biggest and best independent schools in the country.

This week has been dominated (quite rightly) by talk of Remembrance Sunday and the 100 year anniversary of the end of WW1. KS2 are preparing for their performance of Archie Dobson's War and the beautiful display of poppies at the War Memorial in Bude has been a topic of conversation. Our very own display of clay-moulded poppies, orchestrated and constructed by Mrs Chespy (and family), is on show in our Entrance Hall. Please pop in to have a look. Topped by our School Roll of Honour, it is a wonderful tribute to Old Petrocians lost in conflict and to the School's military history. As part of this week's discussions, we were incredibly grateful to be joined by Alf Tye on Thursday morning. Alf was evacuated twice during WW2 and he came to speak to the children in KS2 about his experiences of war-time Britain. The children were enthralled by him and asked many questions about life as an evacuee.

It's been a rather wet and windy week, but I've been thrilled to see our pupils across the School getting their waterproofs and wellies on and heading out for fresh air, regardless of the inclement weather! Our Early Years pupils are still making the most of their outdoor spaces and watching the trees shed their leaves. The older pupils braved the elements for some Rugby-Golf on Monday and our U11 teams set off to Kingsley on Thursday afternoon for a mixed Hockey fixture. What a hardy bunch we are! Keep warm and dry this weekend, it's set to be a wet one!

Ben Hilton
Fast Yn Mesk Tonnow

Diary Dates

**Wednesday 14th
November**
ISA Regional
Swimming

**Friday 16th
November**
2pm KS2 Performance of
'Archie Dobson's War'

Children in Need

**Thursday 22nd
November**
KS1 Trip to Rosemoor

**Friday 30th
November**
November Moment

**Saturday 1st
December**
12-3pm Friends of
St Petroc's Christmas
Bazaar at An Mor

**Thursday 13th
December**
Carol Service at Bude
Methodist Church



Little Turtles

A Grand Old Time

This week the Little Turtles have been exploring all things red!

We have been super creative and made some gorgeous poppies, which we have proudly displayed on the windows so that everyone can see them.

We talked about brave soldiers to our two year olds and we all marched to 'The Grand Old Duke of York', which was great fun!



Sea Lions



High-flying imaginations

The Sea Lions have had another fun filled week. We've made lots of poppies for Remembrance Sunday, which are on display in our foyer. We have spoken a little about why we have made them and who they are for.

We've also been using our imagination and creating with boxes and tubes, sticking them together with very strong sticky tape!

The Sea Lions have enjoyed exploring the garden in this rainy weather, wearing our lovely new colourful puddle suits, which keep us nice and dry, and lovely and warm.

From our junk modelling we created our airport role play area, where the Sea Lions have enjoyed packing their little suitcase and heading off for exciting adventures near and far.





Dolphins

Little Helpers

The Dolphins children have been busy learning numerals and playing many number games. They have also had a lot of fun baking and following instructions.

We spoke about Remembrance Sunday and the reason we wear poppies. In their news books, they created a field of poppies and some of the Dolphins worked on a class project creating giant poppy display.

The discussion then culminated in the children recalling how they help their families.

Brax: "I help tidy my toys".

Archie: "I tidy my bedroom all by myself".

Oliver: "When the Sainsbury's man comes to my house, I help Mummy put things away".



The Friends of St Petroc's



100 Club

October Winners

These are the latest lucky winners of the Friends of St Petroc's 100 Club:

1st Kitty

2nd Toby

3rd Mrs Heywood

Remembrance



Our Entrance Hall Tribute





Reception

Mixing it up

In Reception this week we have been celebrating Bonfire Night. We started the week looking at 3D shapes and identifying them, then the children built 3D models of fireworks and rockets using 3D blocks, junk modelling and sparkly paper.

We then looked at colour mixing and made a collective hand-printed bonfire, exploring what happens when you mix two colours together. We ended the week with our trip to Rosemoor, where the children were able to use different materials to explore their senses.

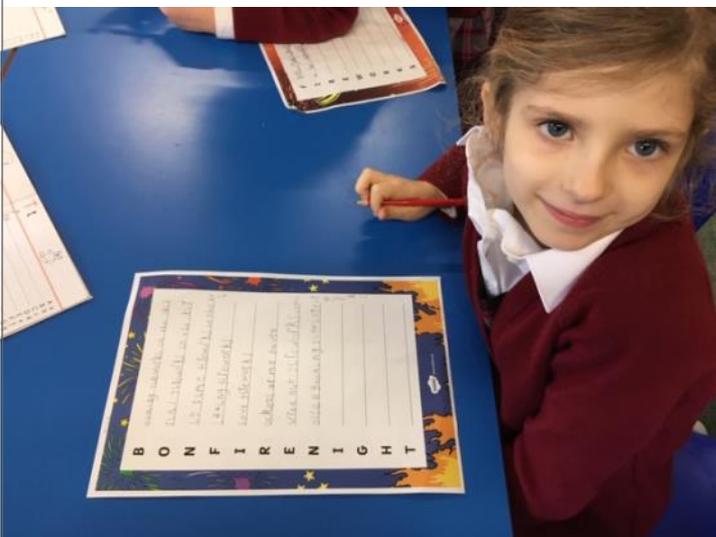


Year 1

Poetry in motion

Year 1 have been extremely busy doing phonics assessments this week but they have also managed to try their hand at acrostic poetry. The children have all written their own fireworks poem and thought of some great words to describe the sounds.

There was also great excitement in the class this week, as the castle role play area finally opened.





Years 2 & 3

Natural habitats

Years 2 and 3 have started a number of new topics in their subjects for this half term. One of the most interesting so far is our exploration of habitats and food chains.

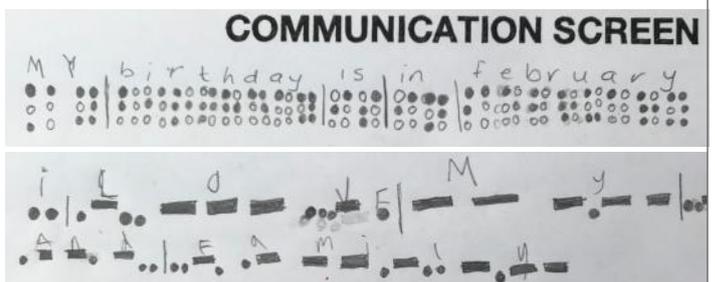
Starting with beach habitats and then moving onto microhabitats, they have been out and about to find the habitats in our local environments and discover what plants and animals live there. They have then been discussing why they choose this place as their home and thinking about how to protect them.



Year 4

Compassion and communication

In PSHE, Year 4 have been learning about different ways of communication, starting with Braille and Morse code. The children tried to read the Braille letters of the alphabet, without peeping and cheating! They then wrote secret messages in both Braille and Morse and swapped them with their partners to try and decode. They were amazing and worked most of them out correctly. The children showed huge empathy to being blind after this activity and spoke with great compassion about how difficult it must be to lose your sight.





Year 5

Feel the force

Our topic on forces has taken us outside this week to conduct an investigation on cogs, gears and the amount of distance and effort that result from changing them. In pairs, our young scientists measured the distance they travelled after pedalling five whole revolutions and then repeated this for every gear on their bike. The results clearly showed that a smaller cog on the back was harder to pedal but it took you much further! The measuring and conversions between metres and centimetres also helped reinforce their recent work in our Maths lessons. Well done Year 5!



The pupils also had a great surprise this week when Alf (Miss Tye's dad) came to visit, to talk to the class about his experience of being evacuated to Lancashire during World War 2.

We learned some incredible things and Alf had some very interesting stories to tell. We found out that he learnt to join his letters in his new school and that they only had three sweets and a small sandwich for the long journey to his new home.

Besides his fascinating stories, he also showed us his old pair of shoes that he had for the whole year and a half that he was away. He said he enjoyed sliding around on the rails the most!

The visit was truly inspirational and Year 5 were refreshed with new ideas for the stories which they're currently writing. As a thank you treat to Alf, Charlotte read out the first chapter of her story and Alf really enjoyed it!

A huge thanks goes to Alf for his time and to Miss Tye for helping to organise the visit.





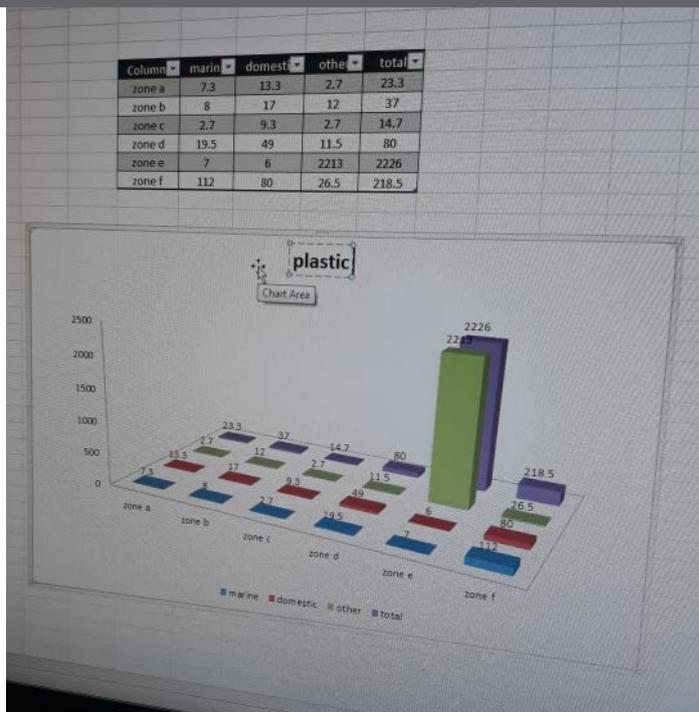
Years 6 & 7

Excelling in Science

This week in Science the Year 6 and 7 pupils have been inputting the data from their beach survey onto Excel.

They were taught how to use the 'sum up' function and how to format their results as a table. The tables were then transformed into an array of charts that made their findings visual. This was particularly tricky as we found that we had an anomaly that skewed the rest of the data.

They are now in the process of explaining their findings and have already started to plan how we can take out a fairer survey next time. However, there was one strong correlation found: the greatest total amount of litter identified was around the upper foreshore, where the shingle high tide mark was. We're intrigued to find out whether this was a result of the sea conditions that week or if it is a regular occurrence.



Years 6 and 7 have had a very busy week, as they also completed their half term assessments in Maths and English.

The pupils completed two Maths papers, which have shown a very positive start to the year and also demonstrate a sound grasp of new content such as algebra (and everyone's favourite mnemonic: BODMAS!).

English assessments based on fiction and poetry writing skills are ongoing, but the pupils' work has been marked against Year 6 criteria and their written work is showing great promise. Their figurative language is certainly coming along in leaps and bounds.

The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the light relief afforded by their Robotics lesson, which encouraged the two teams to program a running robot to race across the hall!

They had to use both motors individually and use a pause block and loop. There was a very competitive atmosphere and plenty of secrecy as the two teams attempted to keep the code under lock and key!

Have a look at our Instagram feed for the race results!
@stpetrocscschool



PE

A fine balance

Lucky Reception and KS1 have been the first children to use our new gym mats. All 12 mats Velcro together and transform the hall into a safe a purposeful area for Physical Education.

We have moved on from fundamental skills to gymnastics this half term. We're now focusing on body control with balances, jumps and movements and will soon be linking these all together to make a sequence.



Parent Phonics Workshop

Taking the mystery out of phonemes

On Thursday, we welcomed KS1 and Reception parents into School for a morning of Phonics fun and games. The aim was to answer any questions or queries about Phonics and to demonstrate how best to support your child's learning outside of School.

As a means of teaching reading and writing, that we as parents never experienced, it can be daunting to be faced with complex Phonics vocabulary and terms but I think it's fair to say that we are all feeling a little more informed about split-diagraphs and phonemes now!

Thank you to the KS1 teachers for organising such a wonderful morning and for ensuring that as parents and teachers we are all singing from the same hymn sheet!