



NEWSLETTER

Friday 12th December 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

What a wonderful penultimate week of the term it has been at Pondhu as we have dived into the festive season! On Wednesday, we gathered together for a delicious Christmas dinner. Yesterday the whole school was filled with excitement and community spirit during Santas on the Run, filling the playground with red hats, Christmas jumpers, big smiles, and plenty of Christmas spirit. Today we have rounded off the week beautifully with the KS2 Carol Concert, where our talented children sang their hearts out and filled the church with festive joy. What a magical way to celebrate the season together!

DIARY DATES

December

Monday 15th R/Y1

Christmas café

Tuesday 16th Y1/2

Christmas café

Tuesday 16th KS2

cinema trip

Wednesday 17th

Nursery Christmas
café



Star Learners



The children have been amazing this week and they have been chosen for a variety of reasons.

Reception – JJ for working hard and trying his best in RWI and Winning with Number
Year 1 – Emy for working more independently and trying her best in all areas of her learning

Year 2 – Frankie for amazing confidence and a 'can do' attitude with her reading.

Year 3 – Lowenna for showing an increased confidence in all aspects of school

Year 4 – Seth for being an enthusiastic learner and singing beautifully in our performance

Year 5 – Conor for all of his hard work and determination resulting in very impressive assessments in both English and Maths.

Year 6 – Bailey for amazing reading to the whole class and increased confidence in answering questions

YEAR 3 TRIP TO CORNWALL MUSEUM

Last week, our Year 3 pupils enjoyed an exciting and educational trip to the museum, where they stepped back in time to discover the wonders of Ancient Egypt and Ancient Greece.

During the Ancient Egypt workshop, the children explored real artefacts and learned about the importance of the River Nile. One of the highlights was examining a replica sarcophagus and learning how mummies were made—there were plenty of fascinated faces (and a few giggles!) as the children learned about the mummification process. In the Ancient Greece gallery, the children were able to compare life in Athens and Sparta, study beautifully decorated pottery, and learn about famous Greek myths and gods. They even had the opportunity to create their own clay tiles using typical designs and popular Greek patterns.

The trip was a fantastic opportunity for the students to deepen their understanding of our history topics in a hands-on and memorable way. The museum staff commented on how engaged and enthusiastic the children were—something we were very proud to hear!

A big thank you to all the helpers who joined us on the day and for Truro Cornwall Museum for accommodating our children so well. We're looking forward to seeing the children use their new knowledge in our upcoming history lessons!



SANTAS ON THE RUN

On Thursday afternoon children across the school took part in Santas on the Run, raising money for Children's Hospice South West.

A huge thankyou to Mrs Dunn for organising the event!

What a great afternoon, the children ran their socks off, helped along by Elf On The Shelf, a huuuuuge snowman and plenty of 'snow'. It truly was a wonderful sight to see all the children running around the school, having fun and laughing all the way around.



Please may we have all sponsorship money in by Monday so that it can be sent to the Hospice. Thank you

PONDHU CHRISTMAS DINNER

On Wednesday, we enjoyed one of the best traditions in the Pondhu calendar – our annual Christmas dinner! The children were treated to an amazing roast turkey dinner with all the trimmings, followed by a choice of the Pondhu-famous decorated Christmas biscuits or a delicious slice of chocolate yule log.

The hall was full of festive cheer, with Christmas music playing throughout – and even a bit of dancing from some very excited children (and staff!). It was a truly joyful afternoon and a wonderful way to celebrate together as a school community.

A huge thank you to our amazing kitchen team – Mrs Uren, Mr Roper and Mrs Edwards – for preparing such a fantastic meal. And an extra special thank you to Mrs Uren and Mr Roper for the hours they spent decorating all those wonderful biscuits.



Caterlink have held a Christmas colouring competition.

CHRISTMAS COLOURING COMPETITION

Caterlink have held a Christmas colouring competition. The winners were Célaeb in Reception and Isabelle in Year 5. Congratulations to you both!



CELT TIMES TABLES COMPETITION

Last week we took part in a CELT TTRS competition against the 10 other schools. Pondhu came 2nd in the trust. Year 6 came 2nd as a class and Lola Robinson came 3rd as an individual.

Congratulations to everyone who took part!



ATTENDANCE

EYFS/KS1 ARIAL



WINNER - Jemison

KS2 ALFIE



WINNER - Shackleton

Attendance this week

Montessori (R/Y1) – 88.6%

Jemison (Y1/2) – 95.3%

Attenborough (Y3) – 96%

Franklin (Y4) – 95%

Shackleton (Y5) – 97.6%

QEII (Y6) – 93%

Whole School – 94.1%

BRITISH VALUES CHAMPIONS

Reception / Year 1 – the whole class for their tolerance and respect for others during the Santa run

Year 1 / 2 – Christina for always showing tolerance of others

Year 3 – Jackson for always showing individual liberty and making everyone smile

Year 4 – Oliver for being respectful to other class members

Year 5 – Kai for his consistently positive and friendly attitude to all

Year 6 – Tommy for respect in being an amazing walking partner with the Year 3s.



Well done to our British values champions!

CHRISTMAS DATES

Monday 15th December – Reception / Year 1 Christmas Café @ 2.15

Tuesday 16th December – KS2 Cinema trip

Tuesday 16th December – Year 1 / 2 Christmas café @ 2.15

Wednesday 17th December – Nursery Christmas café @ 8.45am



Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are able to wear their Christmas jumpers on their Christmas café day.

Read Write Inc Virtual Classroom

Please find this week's Virtual Classroom video links in the document attached to this newsletter. These links enable children in Reception to Year 3 to practise their reading skills with you at home. They directly link to the skills they have been learning during their daily Read Write Inc sessions. You should be able to just click on the hyperlinks within the document and be taken straight to a video clip. Please set aside 10 minutes to watch films with your child each week, find a quiet space for your child to watch the film on a laptop, phone or tablet and praise your child as they join in with the lesson. Please see the diary dates for the upcoming parent information sessions where you can find out more information about Read Write Inc.

CLUBS NEXT WEEK

There are no after school clubs next week so please remember to collect your child at normal school finishing time. Breakfast and Wrap Around clubs will be on as normal.

SPRING 1 Trips



Tuesday 6th January – Year 3 and 4 trip to Plymouth Aquarium and Theatre Royal for Dick Whittington Pantomime

Thursday 5th February Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 trip to Newquay Zoo

Friday 13th February Year 5 and 6 trip to Paignton Zoo

Have a lovely festive weekend everyone.

Mrs Rachel Clift



Where we laugh, learn and grow