



# NEWSLETTER

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,

It has been another wonderfully busy and exciting week here at school, with something for everyone to enjoy. Our pupils have shown fantastic enthusiasm and teamwork in a series of football tournaments and cross-country competitions, representing the school with pride. We were also delighted to welcome the Cornwall Caretakers, who shared valuable insights and experiences with the children. The launch of Beat the Street has brought a real buzz to our community, encouraging everyone to get active and involved, while our Year 3 pupils had a memorable and hands-on learning experience during their visit to Tregullas Farm. It's been a week full of energy, learning and achievement!

## **MRS GORVETT**

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Mrs Gorvett as she prepares to retire from her role as our Parent Support Advisor next Thursday. Over the years, she has been a constant source of care, guidance and reassurance for so many of our children and families at Pondhu. Her kindness, patience and unwavering support have made a lasting difference, and she has played an important part in helping our school community feel safe, supported and understood.

Mrs Gorvett will be greatly missed by staff, parents and pupils alike, and we wish her all the very best for a happy and well-deserved retirement!



This newsletter will be the last newsletter for this term as I will be in Bath with Years 5 and 6 next Wednesday and Thursday.

**REMINDER** — The last day of this term is on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April when we finish at normal time.

We return to school on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April for the Summer Term.

# CROSS-COUNTRY COMPETITION

On Monday, our cross-country team took part in the final race of the series at Poltair. Every runner ran well, showing real determination throughout their races. Well done to Rhiann, Davik, Archie, Olivia, Josh, Jensen, Jordan, Jack, Claire, Savannah, Frankie and Jayden for the effort shown, and an extra well done to Bella who won the Year 4 Girl's race.

The next race is the Mid-Cornwall finals at Par track next Monday. Well done to all of the runners who qualified for this next stage (Daivik, Rhiann, Bella, Olivia, Josh, Ruby, Penny, Savannah, Jayden and Claire) - we look forward to hearing how you get on next week!



# SCHOOL FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

This week, Pondhu School proudly hosted its very first Football Week. Across all classes, each year group was divided into coloured teams, competing against one another for the title of the Pondhu Football Cup.

Throughout the week, there was some fantastic football on display, with plenty of penalties, free kicks, and hat-tricks adding to the excitement. From KS1 to KS2, every pupil demonstrated great enthusiasm, teamwork, and skill, showing real promise and even hinting at the football stars of the future.

A huge well done to every pupil who took part—you did Pondhu proud and represented the spirit of football brilliantly.

# BEAT THE STREET

Play the game 25 Mar - 6 May 2026



What is Beat the Street?

Beat the Street is a free, fun initiative that will see St Austell transformed into a giant game!

See how far you can walk, cycle, run, scoot and wheel in just 6 weeks.

There are great challenges to enjoy and prizes up for grabs.

The game will start on Wednesday 25th March 2026 and end on Wednesday 6th May 2026.

Please register at [St Austell | Beat the Street](#)

It's so much fun!



# COMIC RELIEF

A huge thankyou to everyone who contributed towards our fundraising for Comic Relief last week. We raised £59.35.



# RNLI

Last week Key Stage 2 took part in a RNLI water safety assembly. The children enjoyed learning about the different risks, the way lifeguards look after the beaches, and the things we can do to stay safe when visiting the beach. One highlight was the re-enactment of a beach rescue, where Daivik swam out to rescue Elizabeth who was trapped in a rip current, before Josh came along on a jet ski to complete the rescue!



# NURSERY SEPTEMBER 2026

If you have a child who is looking to start at our Pondhu Nursery in September 2026, please contact the school office to book their place.



**SECURE YOUR CHILD'S NURSERY  
PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2026**



**PONDHU PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**ENQUIRIES: 01726 74550**

# CORNWALL CARETAKERS

On Tuesday, Year 4 had a visit from Ed Rowe (Kernow King) to learn about Cornish History. They had a wonderful time learning about the Cornish language, the history of Roche Rock, facts about mining clay and tin, facts about Cornish rivers and much more. They were fascinated to learn that Pondhu is a Cornish word, meaning 'Black Bridge'. After the workshop, Year 4 played a fun board game called 'Kernow Race to Roche Rock'. The afternoon finished with all of Key Stage 2 watching a hilarious performance by the Cornish Caretakers based on the treasures of Cornwall.

The children and staff said:

"The show was hilarious, I loved it, thank you!" Seth, Year 4.

"It was very funny." Mia, Year 6.

"I liked the fact that the teachers went up." Isla Year 5.

"It was embarrassing going up on stage, but the children loved it!"

Mrs Chappell, Year 4



## **Star Learners**



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

Reception – Daisy-May for being consistently sensible and hard-working

Year 1 – Lily for always thinking of great ideas for her writing

Year 2 – An for becoming a very confident and fluent reader

Year 3 – Max for always being the best learner that he can be ..... always striving!

Year 4 – Skye for working hard in writing lessons and giving great ideas in discussions

Year 5 – Jordan for showing a real desire to produce the best quality work in every subject

Year 6 – Harvey for a great attitude to learning – working hard and sharing his knowledge

**Well done everyone!**

# ATTENDANCE

EYFS/KS1 ARIAL



WINNER - Jemison

KS2 ALFIE



WINNER - Attenborough

**Attendance this week**

Montessori (R/Y1) – 92.4%

Jemison (Y1/2) – 94.5%

Attenborough (Y3) – 100%

Franklin (Y4) – 97.5%

Shackleton (Y5) – 95.4%

QEII (Y6) – 92.7%

Whole School – 95.7%



## BRITISH VALUES CHAMPIONS

Reception / Year 1 – Oscar for showing increasing independence

Year 1 / 2 – Frankie for making sensible choices and encouraging others to do the same

Year 3 – Matilda for always following our Golden Rules

Year 4 – Albie for being a respectful, independent learner in writing lessons

Year 5 – Amber for following all of our Golden Rules and being a good friend to others

Year 6 – Kyla for being a great playground leader and helping her friends



## Well done to our British values champions!

## PARENT SUPPORT ADVISOR

After Easter, Miss Theobald will be joining the Pondhu team as our new Parent Support Advisor. Next Monday she will spend the day with Mrs Gorvett and begin to get to know the children, staff and parents. Please give her a warm welcome when you see her on the gate.

## **SPRING 2 TRIPS**

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March Year 4 trip to Penlee House

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April Year 5 and 6 trip to Bath and the Roman baths

## **SUMMER 1 TRIPS**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May – Year 5 Tamar Bridge Learning Centre / Box museum Plymouth

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Reception / Year 1 / Year 2 – Screech Owl Sanctuary

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 National Marine Aquarium Plymouth

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Year 3 and Year 4 St.Michael's Mount

## **CORNWALL AIRPORT NEWQUAY**

The [TECgirls](#) Reach for the Sky Festival is returning to Cornwall Airport Newquay on 20 & 21 June 2026.✈

Set at the home of [Spaceport Cornwall](#), this unique event brings together aviation, aerospace and engineering in one inspiring space.

Back for another year (and now across two days!), the festival is all about encouraging the next generation to explore careers in these industries.

Expect a full day of hands-on activities, interactive stands, workshops and the chance to get up close to real aircraft on the runway. You'll also be able to meet the people behind the scenes, including engineers, pilots and apprentices, and discover what a career in the industry could look like.

With free entry for under 18s, it's a great opportunity to experience something different and see where a future in aviation or space could take you.

Book your place now: <https://ow.ly/z8nE50YxwGj>

### **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.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Year 1 / Year 2 Cross Country

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March – Year 4 trip to Penlee House

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April - Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April Year 5 / 6 trip to Bath

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Rachel Clift



**Where we laugh, learn and grow**