



# NEWSLETTER

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,

Our Year 6 children have been working incredibly hard in preparation for their KS2 SATs tests next week, showing determination, resilience and a positive attitude throughout. They have approached their revision with maturity and enthusiasm, supporting one another and taking pride in all they have achieved this year. We are extremely proud of the effort every child has put into their learning and the progress they have made. As they head into SATs week, we know they are well prepared and ready to do their very best. We wish all of our Year 6 pupils the very best of luck and encourage them to feel confident and proud of themselves.

## KS2 Year 6 SATs Dates - May 2026

Date	Test
Monday 11th May 2026	Grammar & Punctuation test - 45 minutes Spelling Test - 20 minutes
Tuesday 12th May 2026	English Reading Test - 60 minutes
Wednesday 13th May 2026	Mathematics Arithmetics (Paper 1) - 30 minutes Mathematics Reasoning (Paper 2) - 40 minutes
Thursday 14th May 2026	Mathematics Reasoning (Paper 3) - 40 minutes

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If your child is ill on one of the dates of the tests, please contact the school office as soon as possible on the morning of the test.

## YEAR 5 TRIP

Year 5 Shackleton had a fantastic trip to the Tamar Bridge, where they learned all about the history and engineering of both the Tamar Bridge and the famous Royal Albert Bridge. The children discovered how the two bridges were built at different times and why they are both so important for connecting Cornwall and Devon.

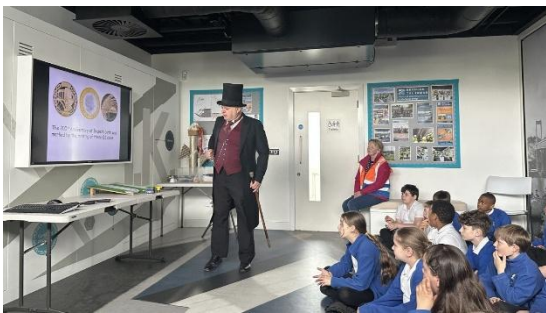
One of the highlights of the visit was learning about the brilliant engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel, who designed the Royal Albert Bridge. The class enjoyed hearing about his achievements and the challenges he faced while building such an impressive structure.

The children were especially excited to walk on the Tamar Bridge and see the incredible views across the River Tamar. They showed great listening skills throughout the day and impressed the staff with their thoughtful answers during retrieval activities about everything they had learned.

Year 5 Shackleton were also praised for their excellent manners and politeness. They represented the school brilliantly and should be very proud of themselves for such a successful and enjoyable trip.

The class also enjoyed an exciting visit to The Box in Plymouth. The children were amazed to see a huge woolly mammoth, fascinating fossils, colourful beetles and butterflies, and a fantastic variety of animal skeletons.

The visit helped bring their learning to life and the class showed excellent curiosity by asking thoughtful questions throughout the day. Staff were also very impressed with Year 5's behaviour, listening skills and wonderful manners during the trip.



# BEAT THE STREET FINAL RESULTS



St Austell

## Congratulations!

### Schools - Total Points

- 1st - Sandy Hill Academy
- 2nd - Pondhu Primary School
- 3rd - Bishop Bronescombe CofE School

### Schools - Average Points

- 1st - Sandy Hill Academy
- 2nd - Pondhu Primary School
- 3rd - Carclaze Community Primary School

### Community & Workplace Teams - Total Points

- 1st - Charlestown Primary School
- 2nd - Runners in St Austell
- 3rd - Gunners kids

### Community & Workplace Teams - Average Points

- 1st - Gunners kids
- 2nd - Runners in St Austell
- 3rd - Home-Start Kernow St Austell

### Small Teams - Total Points

- 1st - Access Training

### Charity

- Gover Valley Food Bank



Well done to everyone who took part. What a fantastic achievement for Pondhu to come in 2<sup>nd</sup> place!

## NURSERY SEPTEMBER 2026

Do you have a 2 or 3 year old? 🧸

Join us for our Nursery Open Day! 📅

Come and explore our warm, welcoming environment where little learners grow, play, and thrive. Meet our friendly team, discover our engaging activities, and see how we support every child's early development. Please share this event with anyone you know who may be interested. We look forward to welcoming new and existing families to Pondhu.



Pondhu  
Nursery  
Open Day



Meet our Early Years team and have a tour of our brand new indoor and outdoor spaces.

Thursday 18th June  
1.30pm

Contact us:  
01726 74550

Spaces for  
2 and 3 year olds  
available!



# Star Learners



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

Reception – Mufaro for working really hard in both RWI and Winning With Number this week

Year 1 – Emy for always listening well and working really hard

Year 2 – Elsie for producing some wonderful writing and showing much improved letter formation

Year 3 – Matilda for always trying really hard with her learning

Year 4 – Oscar for working so hard on writing up his explanation text in his best handwriting

Year 5 – Francis for his hard work and the pride he takes in the results of his efforts

Year 6 – The whole class for their determination and perseverance this week with preparing for their SATs next week

**Well done everyone!**

## **ATTENDANCE**

EYFS/KS1 ARIAL



WINNER - Jemison

KS2 ALFIE



WINNER - Shackleton

**Attendance this week**

Montessori (R/Y1) – 88.4%

Jemison (Y1/2) – 92.2%

Attenborough (Y3) – 89.9%

Franklin (Y4) – 92.9%

Shackleton (Y5) – 97.1%

QEII (Y6) – 95.8%

Whole School – 92%



## **BRITISH VALUES CHAMPIONS**

Reception / Year 1 – Arlen for being kind and thoughtful to others

Year 1 / 2 – Preslie for being a fantastic role model and following our Golden Rules

Year 3 – Luna for always following our Golden Rules

Year 4 – Arlo for being tolerant of his peers

Year 5 – Penny for the engagement she showed on our trip to the Tamar bridge and Box museum

Year 6 – Jake for being a truly kind and supportive friend even helping others with their homework



**Well done to our British values champions!**

## **SUMMER 1 TRIPS**

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

## **SPORTS DAYS**

This year we are going to hold a sports day for Reception and Key Stage 1 and a separate sports day for Key Stage 2.

These will be held on the following afternoons:

Reception and Key Stage 2 – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June

Key Stage 2 – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June



## 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 11<sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May KS2 SATs week

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May – Y5 STEM workshop

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

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 STEM workshop

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 Rounders at Penrice

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Rachel Clift



**Where we laugh, learn and grow**