



# NEWSLETTER

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,

As we come to the end of Summer 1, I would like to thank all of our pupils, families and staff for another busy and successful half term. The children have worked incredibly hard and should be very proud of all they have achieved both in and out of the classroom. From exciting trips and sporting events, Key Stage 2 SATs tests and wonderful learning opportunities across the curriculum, it has been a pleasure to see so much enthusiasm, hard work and perseverance throughout the school. We hope everyone enjoys a restful half-term break and we look forward to welcoming the children back for the final part of the school year.

## Screech Owl Sanctuary & Animal Park

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 had an amazing day at the Screech Owl Sanctuary & Animal Park last week. They learned so much about owls and a range of other animals, even getting up close and personal with many of them! The children listened so well during the flying display that two separate members of the public commented on how well-behaved the children were. The children showed care while meeting the animals and they asked great questions about what the animals eat and where they sleep. The children said their favourite bit was feeding the meerkats. What a brilliant interactive day out, full of great learning!





## YEAR 5 STEM WORKSHOP

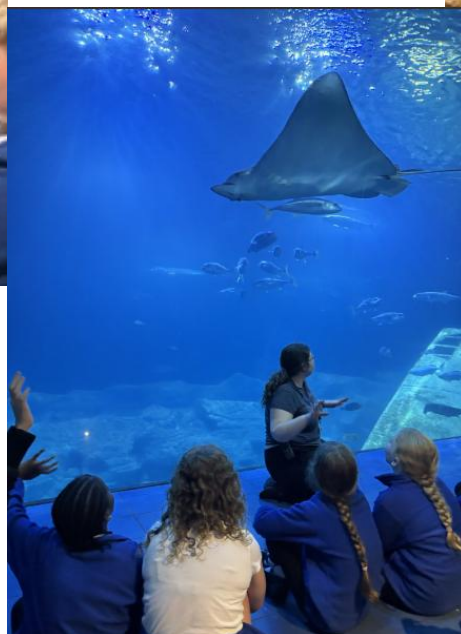
Year 5 are now at the end of our 6-week DT project with Celtic Sea Power. We have previously planned, designed and built prototypes of platforms for offshore wind turbines, and this week have tested and evaluated the platforms. We were really impressed with how creative and different the designs were, and how well the children understood the need to balance buoyancy, stability and the ability to support weight- in order to have a successful design. One design even managed to support 785 grams of weights, while remaining buoyant and level! Well done Year 5 for a very successful project - we definitely have a room full of potential engineers and designers!





## YEAR 6 NATIONAL MARINE AQUARIUM TRIP

On Wednesday, Year 6 visited the National Marine Aquarium in Plymouth. The children enjoyed a fantastic time. They experienced the Abyss through VR headsets, which was really immersive although they were really sad about Mr Squid being eaten! We dissected William the sperm whale and had to separate the food from the plastic that it had eaten - it was very slimy and squishy and very smelly! Friday the turtle was 40 years old and can live up to 70 years - we loved seeing him swimming around. The stingray was always smiling as it swam past and waved. We learnt that starfish lick the floor wherever they go. There was always a tiny fish following the shark waiting to eat the poo. We saw the sandtiger sharks that can grow up to the size of a human adult. We saw Nemo and his whole family. The unicorn fish was very cute. We all had a great time.



# CAREERS DAY – Monday 15th June

We are excited to be holding a Careers Day on Monday 15th June and are looking for parents, carers and members of our community to come into school and talk to the children about their jobs and career journeys.

We would love to hear from people working in all kinds of professions and trades. Volunteers do not need to stay all day — even an hour would make a huge difference. Visitors will be asked to talk about what they do, the qualifications or training they needed, and what they enjoy about their work.

We would also like the children to come to school dressed as what they would like to be when they grow up! Whether that's a doctor, chef, firefighter, teacher, engineer, accountant, artist or anything else, we can't wait to see their ambitions and creativity on display.

If you would be interested in speaking at our Careers Day, please contact the school office.



## **Star Learners**



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

Reception – Abel for being fully engaged in all learning activities this week, showing interest and curiosity

Year 1 – Rosie-Ann for showing enthusiasm and enjoyment in all areas of her learning

Year 2 – Jayden for always being keen to answer questions and giving thoughtful answers

Year 3 – Penny for having such a positive and successful week

Year 4 – Leah for working hard in all lessons and always being ready to offer thoughtful answers and opinions

Year 5 – Sophia - for a real increase in her confidence in Maths and for amazing effort and hard work in her story writing

Year 6 – Eloise for her interest and enthusiasm at the aquarium and always showing a positive attitude

**Well done everyone!**

# 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.



The poster features a blue background with a white logo of a stylized bird or fish in a circle at the top right. Below the logo, the text 'Pondhu Nursery Open Day' is written in white. On the left, there is a large photo of children in colorful clothing playing in a sandpit. Below this are three smaller photos showing children engaged in various activities: one sitting at a table with toys, one standing in a play area, and one sitting at a table with a blue tablecloth. At the bottom, there is a dark blue box with white text: 'Contact us: 01726 74550'. To the right of this box, the date and time 'Thursday 18th June 1.30pm' are displayed in white. Further right, the text 'Spaces for 2 and 3 year olds available!' is written in white.

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!

## ATTENDANCE

EYFS/KS1 ARIAL



WINNER - Montessori

KS2 ALFIE



WINNER - Shackleton

**Attendance this week**

Montessori (R/Y1) – 93%

Jemison (Y1/2) – 92.4%

Attenborough (Y3) – 93.3%

Franklin (Y4) – 88.6%

Shackleton (Y5) – 93.8%

QEII (Y6) – 92.1%

Whole School – 91.3% ↓

## **BRITISH VALUES CHAMPIONS**

Reception / Year 1 – Mufaro for showing respect by doing good listening during carpet time

Year 1 / 2 – Grace for always offering help to others and being so kind

Year 3 – Chiedozie for being kind and respectful to his friends especially during maths

Year 4 – Eloise for being a respectful and tolerant member of our class

Year 5 – Izzy for being a respectful and helpful member of our class and for representing our school so well on our recent trip to the fire station.

Year 6 – Matthew for being so kind and considerate to others



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

## **SUMMER 2 TRIPS**

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June Year 4 Dartmoor Zoo

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June Year 5 and 6 Minack theatre

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Heligan

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July Year 3 Eden Project

## **SPORTS DAYS**

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

These will be held on the following afternoons:

Nursery, Reception and Key Stage 1 – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup>

June at 2pm

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



Parents to arrive for a 2pm start. It will finish at 3.15pm

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> June – Back to school

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June – Year 5/6 Rounders @ Poltair

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Sports afternoon @ 2pm

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June – Year 4 trip to Dartmoor Zoo

Have a lovely half-term break.

Mrs Rachel Clift



**Where we laugh, learn and grow**