

Friday 18th September 2026

NEWSLETTER



Pondhu
Primary School



Rachel Cliff
Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic week it has been at school! We have been so impressed by the hard work, enthusiasm and positive attitude shown by our children. From settling into new routines and getting to know their teachers to tackling new learning and challenging themselves, the children have shown a real commitment to doing their very best. It has been wonderful to see their confidence growing and to hear the excitement they have for their learning.



Science Year 4 /5

Our Year 4 and Year 5 children have been enjoying their science learning this week as they explored the properties of different hard and soft materials. They investigated a range of materials, thinking about their properties, and considered why particular materials are chosen for specific uses. The children were curious and engaged throughout their investigations, developing their scientific vocabulary and reasoning skills as they explained how a material's properties make it suitable for different purposes. It has been fantastic to see them asking thoughtful questions, making predictions and using their observations to deepen their scientific understanding.



STAR LEARNERS

Join us in celebrating children who have shone in their learning, effort and attitude this week



POTTER CLASS

JASMINE

for engaging in all activities and always trying her best.

MRS RUNDLE | R/Y1



KAHLO CLASS

LUCAS

for working really hard in maths and having a go independently.

MRS VINE | Y1/Y2



GOODALL CLASS

MATILDA

for always working hard and contributing in every lesson.

MRS NEWNES | Y3/Y4



EARHART CLASS

SIENNA

for a positive attitude towards her learning and sharing her ideas.

MRS JOLLIFF | Y4/Y5



OWENS CLASS

EVIE

for a fantastic attitude shown in all assessments this week.

MR DAWES / MR MARTIN Y6

BRITISH VALUES CHAMPIONS

Join us in celebrating children who have demonstrated the British values of Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance



POTTER CLASS

RJ

for being consistently kind,
helpful and considerate of others

MRS RUNDLE | R/Y1



KAHLO CLASS

EDDIE

for following our Golden Rules
and helping others to do the
same

MRS VINE | Y1/Y2



GOODALL CLASS

PRESLIE

for always following our Golden
Rules and being such a lovely
class member

MRS NEWNES | Y3/Y4



EARHART CLASS

CAMERON

for always following the Pondhu
way

MRS JOLLIFF | Y4/Y5



OWENS CLASS

SOPHIA

for showing real kindness and
consideration this week

MR DAWES / MR MARTIN Y6



Virtual Classroom **Links for home practice**

WB: 14.9.2026

Please use the videos below to practise the sounds your children have been learning this week with them at home. Your child will know which group they are in based on the colour books they are reading, and which adult leads the group. This will indicate which films they should be watching. If you have any questions about Virtual Classroom, please ask Mrs Vine.

Colour Group RWI Teacher	Sounds or skills	Links
Reception Mrs Rundle	m a s d t pure sounds	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/PUkRCPTn/vG73UaXs https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/5Ns4DTVv/VQc4KKAy https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/kHiPxuzg/4vLhjPT7 https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/WdxcwDbq/yeL7SxMp https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/gPap0tdX/e6nX2mjH Read Write Inc Phonics: How to say the Set 1, Set 2 and Set 3 sounds - YouTube
Green Group Mrs Chappell/ Mrs Vine	ay ee igh speeding up word reading	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/9ieUIYEK/DgHeTiHz https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/8iwwKK9D/sgO7SWZO https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/dz3HrO0h/hzBxRAWx https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/YaTZ1KNO/Fz7Epx8g
Pink/Orange Group Mrs Hackworth	er aw ur word challenge speeding up word reading	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/VQALuD3P/CAAD2ATE https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/qAtZafY9/1LjGr7Mj https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/r9fGOjJt/je64ildP https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Gxloild1/EKhOTk74 https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/5cpkJZDu/60gXt3Dg
Yellow/ Blue Group Mrs Morley	ay/ai/a-e igh/i-e red words word challenge speeding up word reading	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/jIU8Subl/O2dA4QJK https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/UWC90fRV/vQ3dKOMj https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/6BnlwZ3F/JyUWNhlW https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Gxloild1/EKhOTk74 https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/PDKbd19r/IOYvVfbX
Grey Group Mrs Bailey	ay/ai/a-e igh/i-e red words word challenge speeding up word reading	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/jIU8Subl/O2dA4QJK https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/UWC90fRV/vQ3dKOMj https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/KKDW8DIb/tlylhvft https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Gxloild1/EKhOTk74

		https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/653PqyVR/eKnXJfd4
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ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Top Class for Attendance EYFS / KS1
Kahlo



Top Class for Attendance KS2
Goodall



Most improved Attendance
Goodall



TARGET: 96 %

Whole School Attendance Snapshot
95.%

Leave during term time

We understand that there are occasions when families need to request exceptional leave for their child during term time.

In such cases, it is essential to submit an absence form well in advance. These are available at the school office and on our website.

We will only authorised these requests in exceptional circumstances, and we will review each application on a case-by-case basis.

Please be aware that taking unauthorised leave may mean you become liable for a fine. To help you plan ahead, term dates are available on the school website.



[View Full Calendar](#)

Coming up at Pondhu



Monday 28th September

Pondhu Harvest Festival



Monday 21st September

Y5/6 Basketball at Poltair



Monday 28th September -
Friday 2nd October

Bikeability Y6 / Y4

TERM DATES 2026-2027

Autumn Term 2026

Saturday 17th October 2026 - Sunday 1st November 2026: Half-Term

Saturday 19th December 2026 - Sunday 3rd January 2027: Christmas Holidays

Spring Term 2027

Monday 4th January 2027 - Term Begins

Saturday 13th February 2027 - Sunday 21st February 2027: Half-term

Friday 26th March 2027 (Bank Holiday) - Sunday 11th April 2027: Easter Holidays

Summer Term 2027

Monday 12th April 2027: Term Begins

Monday 3rd May 2027: Bank Holiday

Saturday 29th May 2027 - Sunday 6th June 2027: Half-term

Friday 23rd July 2027: Final Day of Term

Monday 28th September will be our school Harvest Festival. We are collecting food for the St.Austell Foodbank from Monday 21st September.

HARVEST FESTIVAL



Help support your food bank this Harvest

In the three weeks leading up to Harvest, the food bank will provide over 110 food parcels for local individuals and families facing hardship.

Harvest appeal

Donate food



Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your community.

Shopping list

Tinned meat

Tinned fruit

Pasta sauces

Small instant coffee

Milk (Long Life)

Biscuits

Fruit juice (long-life)

Tinned rice-pudding

Tinned soup

Jam

St Austell Foodbank

staustell.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Limited Company in England & Wales 1128866



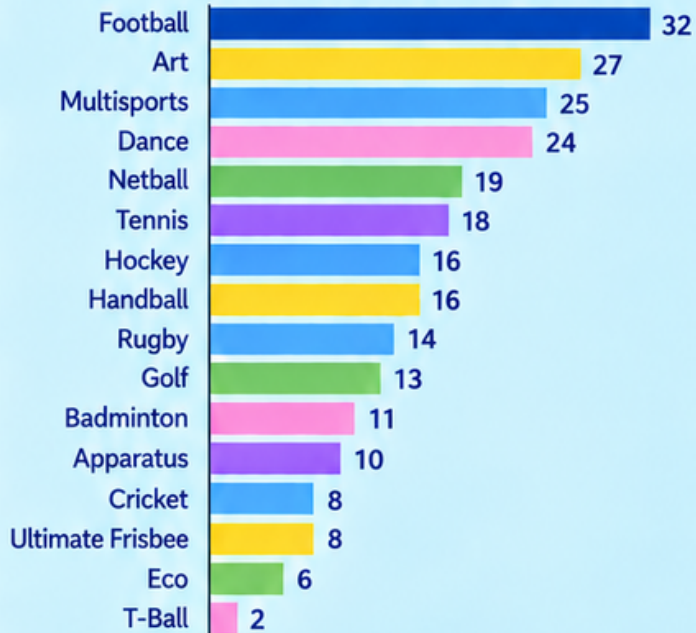


Pondhu School You Said, We Did!

Thank you to everyone who completed our after-school club survey.
Your feedback helps us to shape an exciting and varied club offer for all our children.

Which clubs would you like to see at Pondhu?

45 responses (you could tick as many clubs as you liked)



Top three clubs

32 responses

- 1 Football
- 2 Art
- 3 Multisports



You asked
for these
the most!

You also suggested...

22 responses

- Lego Chess Cross Country Field Gun
Martial Arts / Boxing Singing / Choir
Story Writing / Drawing Coding / Computer Skills Debate
Gardening Woodwork Forest School / Using the Nature Garden
Repairing Items / Mending Basketball Volleyball Awards Club
Languages (including Spanish) Table Tennis / Ping Pong
Baking / Cookery Life Skills / Money Management TV / Film Club
Music / Band Dodgeball Crochet Sand and Water Garden
A SEN club



What we will do



Keep and grow our most popular clubs

- Continue to offer popular sports clubs such as football, netball and hockey.
- Look for opportunities to increase places where there is high demand.
- Continue to review our offer based on your feedback.



Add new clubs where possible

- We have added in new clubs based on your feedback. These include Lego, chess, food technology and art.
- We will also look into offering other clubs, such as eco, computing and choir, subject to funding and staffing.



Be inclusive and for everyone

- We will explore and implement ways to support all children to access clubs alongside their peers.
- We will strive to offer a mix of sports, creative, cultural, nature-based and life skills clubs.
- We will continue to seek or develop specialist coaches and community partners to support our growing offer.



Keep listening

- We will review our club offer regularly.
- We'll continue to ask for your views so we can keep improving.
- If there is a club you are passionate about, let us know — we can explore how to make it happen.



★ Inspiring every child
★ to believe, achieve and thrive.



Believe



Achieve



Thrive



Pondhu School Clubs



Year Group	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Year 1/2 	Multisports Mr Keast Food Technology Mrs Green	Multisports Mr Keast Food Technology Mrs Green	Golf Mr Keast Dance Miss Terry Lego Mrs Vine	Tag Rugby Mr Keast Dance Miss Terry Lego Mrs Vine	Cricket Mr Keast Art Miss Millington/ Mrs Theobald	T-Ball Mr Keast Art Miss Millington/ Mrs Theobald Sand and Water Mrs Rundle
Year 3/4 	Football Mr Keast Hockey Mr Keast Dance Miss Terry	Football Mr Keast Rugby Mr Keast Dance Miss Terry	Football Mr Keast Apparatus Mr Keast Art Miss Millington/ Mrs Theobald	Football Mr Keast Badminton Mr Keast Art Miss Millington/ Mrs Theobald	Cricket Mr Keast Table Tennis Mr Keast Food Technology Mrs Green	Handball Mr Keast Basketball Mr Keast Food Technology Mrs Green
Year 5/6 	Netball Mr Keast Football Mr Martin Art Miss Millington/ Mrs Theobald	Netball Mr Keast Football Mr Martin Art Miss Millington/ Mrs Theobald	Netball Mr Keast Football Mr Martin Food Technology Mrs Green	Netball Mr Keast Football Mr Martin Food Technology Mrs Green	Cricket Mr Keast Tennis Mr Keast Dance Miss Terry	Hockey Mr Keast Rugby Mr Keast Dance Miss Terry
KS2 	Girls Football Mr Keast Chess Mr Dawes	Cross Country Mr Keast Chess Mr Dawes	Cross Country Mr Keast Board Games Mrs Scotland	Cross Country Mr Keast Board Games Mrs Scotland	Languages Mrs Howsley	Ultimate Frisbee Mr Keast
Years 1-5 	Rainbows and Brownies Mrs Newnes and Mrs Morley	Rainbows and Brownies Mrs Newnes and Mrs Morley	Rainbows and Brownies Mrs Newnes and Mrs Morley	Rainbows and Brownies Mrs Newnes and Mrs Morley	Rainbows and Brownies Mrs Newnes and Mrs Morley	Rainbows and Brownies Mrs Newnes and Mrs Morley
Whole School 		Singing Lunchtime Club Mrs Jolliff	Singing Lunchtime Club Mrs Jolliff	Singing Lunchtime Club Mrs Jolliff		



 Inspiring every child
to believe, achieve and thrive.



Believe



Achieve



Thrive

Family Worker Drop In

For families of Pondhu Primary School. Penwinnick Road,
St Austell, Cornwall, PL25 5DS

These sessions will be run by the Restormel Early Help Team

Do you need some support and advice to understand your child's needs and behavior?

Advice on positive parenting and how to keep your child safe?

Support with budgeting and debt advice?

To understand the importance of routines for your family?

We are running regular drop-in sessions with no appointment necessary. The next session is on **Wednesday 30th**

September between 9:00am and 10:00am.

Please chat with Miss Theobald (Parent Support Advisor) for more information.

Please sign in at the school Reception and you will be shown through to the meeting room.

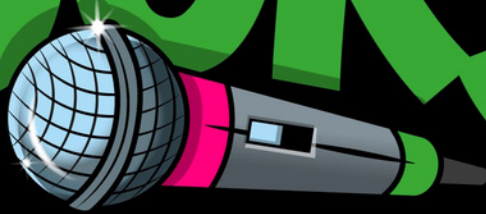
For more information please contact:

Email: Restormel.Familyhubs@cornwall.gov.uk

Call: 01872 324929

TIMES TABLES
ROCK STARS

TOP OF THE ROCKS



CELT ROCKS

DATE:

21.09.2026 - 02.10.2026

TIME:

07:00 - 19:00

*** ANSWER AS MANY QUESTIONS AS POSSIBLE ***
PLAY IN ANY GAME TYPE * THE WINNING CLASS
WILL HAVE THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CORRECT
ANSWERS PER PUPIL * ASK YOUR TEACHER FOR
FULL DETAILS AND RULES *

BRANNEL SCHOOL

ASPIRATION | RESPECT | RESILIENCE

BASKETBALL CLUB

YEAR 5 & 6

FREE!

**TUESDAYS
4:00 - 5:00PM
BRANNEL SCHOOL**

JOIN BRANNEL BASKETBALL CLUB, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CORNWALL COUGARS AND SARACENS BASKETBALL, TO DEVELOP YOUR SKILLS, BUILD CONFIDENCE, HAVE FUN AND ENJOY PLAYING BASKETBALL!

[BOOK HERE](#)