



NEWSLETTER

Friday 4th April 2025

Good afternoon everyone, this week I am excited to share the wonderful news that we have been successful in securing a government grant to open a school-based nursery in September 2025. This is an incredible opportunity for our school and will have a positive impact on both our families and the wider local community. The new nursery will provide a safe, nurturing environment for young children to learn and grow, while making it easier for parents to access quality childcare right here at our school. We believe this will help strengthen our community by offering more flexible options for families, supporting early education, and ensuring that all children have the best start in their learning journey. We can't wait to welcome our youngest learners into this new space!

We have had a busy final week of the Spring Term.

YEAR 5

Year 5 have visited Penrice to watch a wonderful production of Rock of Ages by the students. Wow! What a show! The Penrice students performed brilliantly and it was wonderful to see some previous Pondhu Primary students on stage and performing.

DIARY DATES

April

22nd Start of Summer term

May

12th – 15th Y6 SATs week

June

4th-6th Y3/4 camp
10th Class / team photos
11th Sports Day

July

8th-11th Y5/6 London trip



RECEPTION

Reception had a fantastic morning at Bodmin Railway on Tuesday. They learnt all about the steam trains and how they work. They were fascinated by what they could see out of the window on their train ride. We were really lucky to receive a grant from the Cornwall Heritage Trust to fund our transport to the railway.



CHARTWELLS MENU TASTING

On Tuesday, a group of 10 children in Year 3 and Year 4 worked with Chartwells, our catering provider. They had the opportunity to taste some of the new menu ideas and gave very honest feedback! Some dishes were a hit and some were not so popular. The children certainly gave our caterers some ideas to improve the dishes and thoroughly enjoyed their afternoon.

Thank you to Chartwells for giving our children this opportunity and well done to all the children who were open and honest in their feedback!

Outdoor Adventure at Porthpean

Fifteen lucky children from Pondhu had the fantastic opportunity to visit Porthpean Outdoor Activity Centre on Tuesday, thanks to our ongoing partnership with Active Cornwall. The day was packed with exciting and challenging activities designed to build confidence, teamwork, and resilience.

The children took part in axe throwing, archery, and caving—three activities that tested their focus, determination, and willingness to step out of their comfort zones. For many, it was their first time trying these adventurous pursuits, but they approached each challenge with enthusiasm and a positive attitude.

Caving was the clear favourite, with pupils showing real bravery as they navigated the dark, winding tunnels together. The activity encouraged trust, communication, and plenty of laughter as they explored underground as a team. Archery and axe throwing also proved popular, giving the children the chance to develop their aim, concentration, and control in a safe and supportive environment.

Throughout the day, the children supported one another brilliantly, and it was clear how much they were enjoying themselves. Staff at Porthpean commented on their excellent behaviour and enthusiasm, and the group returned to school tired but full of stories and smiles.

We're incredibly proud of how well they represented Pondhu and grateful to Active Cornwall for helping to provide such a memorable experience.



Football Match Report: Pondhu vs Tywardreath

Year 3/4 Match

Pondhu's Year 3/4 team took part in a thrilling and well-contested match against Tywardreath, with both teams playing at a fast pace and showing great skill and determination. The game saw some excellent football from both sides, with strong tackling, clever passing, and some superb goals.

Tywardreath took the lead twice, but on both occasions, Pondhu responded brilliantly, showing real character and team spirit to level the score. With the game finely balanced at 2-2, it was Tywardreath who managed to find a decisive third goal to edge the result 3-2. Despite the narrow defeat, it was a fantastic performance from the whole team and a game to be proud of.

Pondhu Year 3/4 team: Jesse (GK), Allan, Josh, Jack, Conor, Olivia, Jordan, Jensen

Year 5/6 Match

The Year 5/6 match was a tale of two halves. Tywardreath came out extremely strongly and took full control in the first half, scoring eight unanswered goals with some impressive attacking football.

To their credit, the Pondhu team regrouped at half time and came back out with renewed energy and focus. The second half was a much more competitive affair, with Pondhu holding firm defensively and battling hard to earn a 0-0 draw for the half. Their resilience and togetherness were a real credit to their character, and they finished the game with their heads held high.

Pondhu Year 5/6 team: Isaac, Liam, Flint, Austeja, Marley, Tommy, Jayden, Eugene, Jacob

This concludes our league football and netball fixtures for the season. A huge well done to every child who has represented Pondhu – your effort, attitude, and teamwork all year round have been outstanding.

ATTENDANCE

EYFS/KS1 ARIAL



WINNER - MONTESSORI

KS2 ALFIE



WINNER - EINSTEIN

Attendance this week

Montessori (R/Y1) – 98.3

Jemison (Y1/2) – 94.5

Attenborough (Y3) – 95

Franklin (Y4) – 95.7

Einstein (Y5) – 96.1

Gandhi (Y6) – 94.25



Star Learners



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

Reception – Whole class for great enthusiasm for learning during our railway trip.

Year 1 – Jayden for becoming a more independent writer.

Year 2 – Molly for independently writing her name.

Year 3 – Siena for making great improvements in her written work.

Year 4 – Francis for working so hard in lessons and sharing his understanding with the rest of the class.

Year 5 – Jake for working so hard on his end of unit synoptic tasks and sharing his knowledge.

Year 6 – Quinn for showing great engagement and ideas.

CONGRATULATIONS everyone!

BRITISH VALUES CHAMPIONS

Reception – Riley for showing tolerance and adapting well to change.

Year 1 – Ivy for being a kind and respectful friend.

Year 2 – Anabi for being polite and respectful.

Year 3 – Lara for following the rule of law.

Year 4 – Piper for always following the rule of law and being so helpful.

Year 5 – Charlie for being tolerant and respectful of others.

Year 6 – Aimee for showing tolerance and respect.



British
Values
champions

YEAR 6

After Easter, Mr Dingle will be off school on paternity leave for 2 weeks, but Mr Martin will be teaching the class full-time.

Mrs Dixon who has been working at Pondhu for over 5 years is leaving us to start another job. We wish her all the best and would like to thank her for her dedication to our children during her time here. We will miss her.

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

Tuesday 22nd April – Start of Summer Term

Friday 25th April – SCD parent group

Monday 12th May – Y6 SATs week

Friday 20th June and Monday 23rd June are staff training days (no children in school)

The weather forecast looks lovely for the start of the Easter holidays. Have a lovely break and we will see you all back on Tuesday 22nd April.

Mrs Rachel Clift