



West Wivelshire Federation
'I am me, together we are one'

We have pulled together ideas, working with the children, to come up with our motto. This is used by all the children across the federation as we believe it sums up our attitude to school life....every child is an individual and we embrace that. All children together, are gathered under our umbrella of Polruan/Pelynt school and also The West Wivelshire Federation.

What is a learning power? We are focusing all of our pupils on developing their power to learn in any situation, such as their ability to use their power of imagining or planning. These powers (skills) are used throughout their learning journey and are particularly important when they reflect on their learning and improve their work. Please remember to look on the website for more information or in classrooms for posters of our superhero's.

We have taken this further and introduced a weekly session where children look at marking in their books and for them to help each other in making better progress. This is every Friday and they 'buddy' up with another child to look and their successes and what they need to do to improve.

All pupils have been working hard to earn house points for their team. Thank you so much for your suggestions and we are pleased to have the following houses in our school:

Green – Essa
Yellow – Gribben

Red – Lantic
Blue – Pencarrow

We have also gathered your suggestions to devise a new school vision which you will find attached to this newsletter. This informs you of what we are aiming for over the next three years. Of course, times change rapidly, so it is what we are aiming for. Please take a moment to read our vision as you are all part of this.

Our head boys and girls have been very busy; they have been 'Learning Detectives' this half term. This has involved creating a crib sheet of 'what makes fantastic learning'. This week they are going round the school to 'detect' fantastic learning; recording their findings on the ipad and they will then feed this back to staff.

Our new behaviour policy is enabling us to monitor minor incidents and act quickly with individuals before behaviour escalates. We are constantly in touch with families as necessary and aim to keep our positive relationships with you.

We have made some changes to lunchtimes and will continue with our new system. The children eat their packed lunches upstairs and their school dinners downstairs. We reviewed the seating and serving arrangements, staffing, and with help from an insightful parent, have made this change which means that children do not carry their hot lunches upstairs anymore. Please note for all visitors, we now have 'please use the handrail' signs up on the stairwell as a reminder.





Our more able mathematicians in Year 6 took part in a problem solving activity with children from Polruan, Pelynt, Polperro and Duloe. There is due to be another session next half term. We will be running more specific sessions for more able pupils after half term.

We would like to thank Mrs Jessica Lane for the outstanding cover she has provided us with since Miss Goodenough left in October. We have now appointed Mrs Lisa Burns as the job share with Mrs Diane Trout. Please help us to welcome her this week, she is in most days, to get to know the children and our routines.

Our spelling and grammar scheme in Years 5 and 6 is proving to be a great success. The children are making great strides in their understanding of grammar. Based on this, we will be rolling out the programme to years 3 and 4 after half term.

All children are very keen with their Mathletics at the moment. It's great to see the enthusiasm as they walk into school in the morning.

From March onwards, you will notice more clubs being offered to your child. We are using some Sports Premium funding to do this. For some clubs, this means providing staff and for others, providing resources. Last week, two girls asked if they could have resources for dancing at lunchtimes. After praising them for using their initiative and asking, I was keen to follow this up. There will be a CD player available for the children to use after half term.

Please do take a look at our "Wonderwalls" in every classroom. These help to promote deep thinking based on the topic your child is studying. The children share what they already know, any questions that they would like to find the answer to and what/how they have learned during the unit. They reflect on themselves as a learner and how they have made progress.

We are also continuing to focus on Outdoor Learning. Some children have taken part in 'Forest Schools' with Miss Edwards. During the year, all children will have this opportunity. At the moment, we have been selecting small focus groups, enabling us to do our own research on how this is improving progress at our school. We have already noticed that many children are more resilient and are more willing to contribute in class. There have also been some great friendships developed through their collaborative approach to learning 'out and about'. We will be holding an outdoor learning day in the summer term, which you are all invited to. Details to follow soon.

Thank you for your support with attendance. The whole school attendance from the beginning of September 2014 is 95.05%. There has been a noticeable improvement in the school attendance and in general, punctuality is improving.





Staff have been busy working on the new curriculum and the assessment that goes with it. They have also been developing marking and feedback to improve your child's learning.

Hopefully the weather will begin to warm up as we come to the second half of Spring Term. We will continue to encourage the children to keep their coats done up and to wear their scarves, hats and gloves, in the meantime.

Please keep an eye out next half term for our 'Spelling Bee', World Book Day, St. Piran's Day celebrations, Commonwealth Day and our 'Dress as a superhero learning power day'.

Diary dates:

February:

- Thursday 12th – Canute Class Trip to Fowey Library
- Friday 13th – Canute Class travel to Pelynt to join Class 1 for a Victorian Sports Event
- Friday 13th – School finishes for Half Term
- Monday 16th to Friday 20th Incl. – Half Term
- Monday 23rd – School starts for children
- Thursday 26th – Sports Hall Athletics – Fowey River Academy tbc
- Thursday 26th – Inter Area School Games Qualifier at Tregorrick Park, St Austell

March:

- Thursday 5th – St Piran's Day Menu
- Friday 6th – World Book Day celebrations and Landrake Fun Run
- Monday 9th – Commonwealth Day
- Thursday 12th – Tag Rugby – Fowey River Academy tbc
- Friday 13th – Dress as your learning power super hero day
- Week Beginning Monday 16th – Parent Consultations – Details to follow
- Monday 16th – Mothering Service at St Saviours Church at 2pm
- Friday 20th – International Day of Happiness
- Thursday 26th – School Games County Final – Newquay
- Thursday 26th – Spelling Bee Day
- Friday 27th – School finishes for Easter Holidays

April:

- Monday 13th - School starts for the children after Easter Holidays
- Tuesday 21st Church Experience Day
- Thursday 23rd – Tennis – Fowey River Academy tbc
- Friday 24th – Class & Group Photographs





May:

Monday 4th School Closed as it is a Bank Holiday

Monday 11th – 15th SAT's Week

Wednesday 20th – SPORTS DAY

Thursday 21st – Reserve Sports Day

Friday 22nd INSET DAY – School Closed to Children

Monday 25th – Friday 29th Half Term Week

June:

Monday 1st – School starts after half term

Friday 5th – INSET DAY – School Closed to Children

Monday 15th – Friday 19th Phonics Screening Week

Friday 19th – PSA organised Summer Fayre

July:

Wednesday 22nd – last day for children before Summer Holiday's

Thursday 23rd INSET DAY

Just a little note to remind you that some of the pupils from Polruan School are starring in the local pantomime next week - here are the details:

'Snow White and the Seventh Dwarf'- Tues 17- Sat 21st, 7.30, Sat matinee, 2.30

FAMILY TICKET PRICE- 2 ADULTS AND 2 CHILDREN £20.

At Polruan Village Hall

Good Luck everyone !

