



Autumn Term Issue 2

20.09.2023

# Newsletter

Dear parents carers and, children,

Full steam ahead now and all classes are delving deeper into topics with subjects linked together and writing given purpose and meaning. In Kynance the topic of 'Enchanted Lands' has produced Wanted! posters for Goldilocks, various profiles of the many different versions of the big bad wolf (or not so bad depending on the version you are reading) and they have now begun to learn The Great Fairytale Disaster by Dave Conway using the storytelling approach. In Godrevy they have also used the storytelling approach to learn the story Bella's Chocolate Surprise by Bella Balistica and have now begun to innovate on the tale with their own ideas. Mrs McLennon has chosen to hang fire on topic related writing as she first wanted to get to know her new charges in more detail. As a result, they are all writing her a letter to introduce themselves and describe their interests whilst practising embedding clauses. Meanwhile in Poldhu Class Mrs Barber and the team use a different approach to encourage writing called 'drawing club'. Children are creating their own characters based on the Colour Monster by Anna Llenas and then strive to write code to make it do something; we have found it incredibly successful for getting some of the more reluctant writers to put pencil to paper.

Not all subjects are linked into a topic as the links can become tenuous and distract from the learning. Maths is generally taught discreetly although we have one session a week called 'Discovery Maths' which is often linked to a meaningful context and involves an investigative approach. At the moment most classes have been focused on place value which underpins the number system. In Kynance models and images are used to develop a deep understanding of tens and ones making up two-digit numbers whilst at the other end of the school Rinsey are toying with millions and decimal places as well as playing around with different number scales and realizing why we should be thankful to the French – Napoleon Bonaparte was instrumental in developing the metric system in Europe. This week we will be handing out 17 Mathletics certificates in assembly (secured by scoring over 100 points over the course of the week). All children have passwords and QR codes allowing access Mathletics at home and whilst optional as homework. I cannot stress enough how much difference it can make to your child's understanding and progress in the subject. Every child that regularly participates is doing well and once they get used to the programme they enjoy the interactive nature of it and the virtual incentives that are linked to it. Using it children are able to buy things for their avatar as well as play maths based games and the difficulty level will automatically adjust to their ability level – if not just speak to the class teacher as they can override settings. I know it is more 'screen time' which is not something I would generally endorse but I believe it is one of the more worthwhile uses of tablets, etc. Children also have access to Times Tables Rock Stars which is also of benefit particularly in Years 3 and 4 where we aspire to help all children know their times table up to 12 x 12 as they necessary knowledge for about half of the upper KS2 maths curriculum.

As you all know we like to bring topics alive and provide meaningful experiences by using trips and visits to enrich them – a strength of the school that OFSTED recognised. Today Godrevy Class are heading to the Eden project to learn more about the Cacao tree, whose beans produce the well-loved foodstuff that their topic is based on, and various other tropical flora. Next week Rinsey are heading to Newlyn to look at how the development of machines have supported the way in which fish are processed which will inform recount and explanation writing. Kynance have already based some of their learning at Godrevy and will soon be heading to Pendennis Castle to see how a real castle differs from those in their fairy tales. Poldhu are always outside in their own learning area but are quickly developing the behaviours for learning that will enable Mrs Barber and the team to take them on their first trip to the woods or the beach. If you are planning on heading to the beach or any other outdoor location this weekend be prepared as it looks like the equinox might be heralded with some flashes and crashes from above with possible thunderstorms forecast. I am sure Mrs Eustice will have cancelled any excursion from the safety of her house and if you are doing the same it may be a good time to check out what Mathletics has to offer or have a go at one of the homework tasks set for your class. Have fun whatever you do.

Mr Gardiner

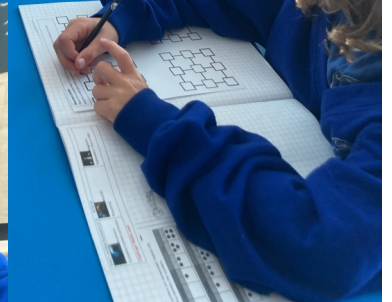
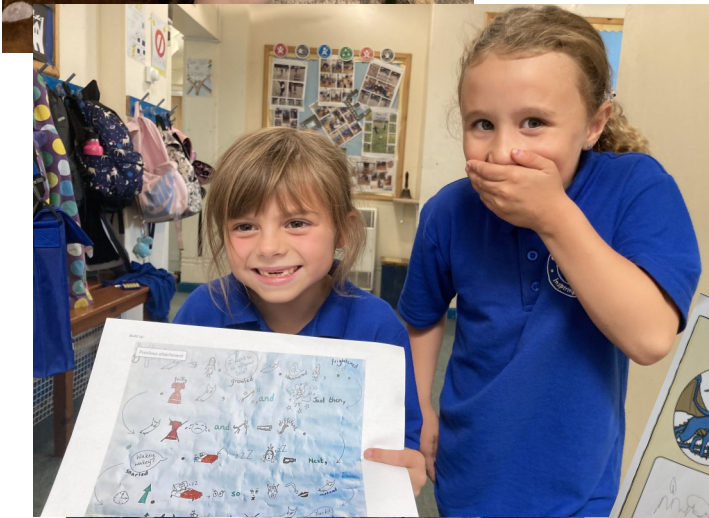
**THIS TERM'S THEME:** *Going for Goals*

**HEADLINES:** *Planning to reach a goal*

**WORDS OF WISDOM:** *To achieve your own success is to be willing to help somebody get it first*

**VIRTUE OF THE WEEK:** *Being able to work with others*

**MUSICIAN OF THE WEEK:** *Wham! (Mabel)*



# Diary Dates

## September

*Mon 23—Rinsey to Newlyn harbour*

*Tue 24—Photos for individuals and family groups*

*Wed 25—No mixed club*

## October

*Tue 1—Kynance to Pendennis*

*Mon 7—Hearing Tests Year 1*

*Tue 8—Cross Country Running*

*Thu 10—Rinsey to Helston Railway*

*Wed 23—Whole school flu vaccinations*

*Wed 23—Kynance to Minack Theatre*

*Mon 28—Half Term*

## November

*Mon 4—Return to school*

*Wed 13—Open Afternoon*

*Wed 20—Open Afternoon for intake September 2025*

## December

*Wed 11—Christmas Performance*

*Thu 12—Christmas Performance*

*Fri 20—Last day of Autumn Term*

## January

*Mon 6—Start of Spring Term*

Whole School Attendance Target

2023-2024: **96%**

This Weeks Whole School Attendance Figure:

**94%**

INSET DAYS FOR THE  
ACADEMIC YEAR 2024/2025

**2 June 2025**

**21 July 2025**

**22 July 2025**

**23 July 2025**

## NUT-FREE SCHOOL

Please be aware that due to several children and a member of staff having severe allergies to nuts the school has a policy whereby no products (**including Nutella**) containing nuts should be brought into school including in personal lunch boxes. With some products, i.e. chocolate bars, it is not always obvious that nuts form part of the ingredients so please check labels carefully. Thank you.



## **STARS OF THIS WEEK**

*Congratulations to the following children for their wonderful learning. Thank you.*

**Poldhu**

***Jacob for amazing number facts!***

***Finn for being a kind and caring member of the class!***

**Kynance**

***Niamh for being fantastic role model!***

***Corey for excellent effort in writing his "WANTED!" poster***

**Godrevy**

***Rowan for always putting in massive effort in maths***

***Molly-Mae for fantastic story writing***

**Rinsey**

***Callum for helping host assembly and being a great public speaker***

***Heidi for a fantastic poster on whether an activity is a friend or foe***

**Virtue**

***Raegan, Mia, Holly, Georgie***

***Mathletics—Congratulations!***

***Holly, Felix, Edvard, Harvey, Ethan, Isla B, William, Finely, Theo,***

***Lola-Pearl, Sidney, Ophelia, Kacey, Freddie W,***

***Arthur, Cohen and Sophia K***