

Summer Term Issue 04

14.05.2021

Newsletter

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Last week I spoke of some exciting possibilities on the horizon and this week I am pleased to say that one looks like becoming a reality. Cue drum roll: We look like being the first school in the country to be powered by vegetable oil! As you know we have always been environmentally focused; our development of outdoor learning is partly to help children develop a responsibility to the natural world, education about climate change is threaded through our science and geography curriculum, we have an active climate change group that participates in Penwith meetings and rallies, we generate a large proportion of our electricity with photovoltaic cells and this term's PSHE/SMSC unit, Footprints, is devoted to environmental awareness. We therefore jumped at the chance to be a pilot for running a heating system on HVO which has a 90% saving on net greenhouse emissions as it is made from certified waste fats and oils. At the moment the oil is mainly used for transport but the company Mitchell and Webber want to run a feasibility study on using it to heat buildings; they already have a house in Redruth running on it and soon we will join them. Currently there is a big push for electric source heat pumps which do not require fuel and can be highly effective in modern well insulated houses. Indeed, this is how we hope to heat the new building (discussions are ongoing) that will replace the Class 1 Elliot Hut. However, for old buildings like ours they may not be the best solution and one also has to consider how the electricity that powers them is produced; 47% of the UK's production is currently from renewables which is a big improvement on before but a long way short of carbon neutral. So, Tuesday sees the Kerosene replaced with HVO and we will then have a year trial to see whether it can become a permanent change for us and maybe many other schools could end up doing the same.

Throughout, our footprints topic we have been finding a balance of recognizing the dangers of human development; climate change, plastic pollution, deforestation and species extinction but also recognizing that there is a lot that we can do and a lot that is being done to move to a greener future – it is important that our children recognise our power to change what lies ahead. Godrevy, had a brilliant first-hand example of this explained to them on Wednesday when they were visited by a real life miner Steve Tarrant on Wednesday. Steve is the line manager at South Crofty where they are looking into the possibility of reopening the mine but to avoid the environmental damage that the industry has historically created they are planning to back fill where they have mined so that the waste rock is not left on the surface with the various toxins it contains. The children were intrigued by Steve's stories of life underground and he helped them identify large parts of their rock collection. Earlier in the week, the class were practicing their plant identification skills at Gwithian Green nature reserve to help inform their writing about what can live in the advent of mining and I know Miss Mogridge is already in consultation with King Edward mine representatives to plan an exciting end outcome for their topic.

Yesterday, Poldhu Class also went to the nature reserve and they did not need identification guides as they had their very own specialist in the form of the warden, Martin, who looks after the reserve. He showed them around the various different habitats that exist there and introduced them to some of the animals that live in them. After benefitting from his expertise, they helped him and a band of volunteers by moving stone to build an accessibility path so that more people can get to enjoy the site.



Rinsey class will benefit from some expertise that has been much more locally sourced this afternoon as parents Pippa and Jack have agreed to come in and work outside with members of the class to ensure that they don't sustain any injuries using the new tennon saws we have for woodworking. This morning they are welcoming another visitor, Alan Shepherd who is a local poet from St Ives who has written poems about the landscape of Cornwall and some of the associated mythology including the Green Man that inspired the class clay work last week. Mrs Haddy hopes that by working with Alan the class will be able to write their own Green Man poems that can be put around the sculpture when it is put into place.

As for Kynance Class, this week there have been no visits or visitors but they are all excited for their visit to Pendennis Castle on Tuesday and someone else is very excited because governor and class volunteer extraordinaire, Pete Barr returns to the fold to help the trip along with another governor Mrs Tovey.

This week the class have been doing some more work about castles in preparation for the trip and learning about one of the most infamous Tudors in the form of Henry VIII. Next week also sees a slight extension of club provision and this week's combining of class bubbles to form Key Stage bubbles has been a great success; please be aware however, that we are still avoiding crossing over Key Stage bubbles and this needs to be the case at the end of the day, particularly on the climbing area where there is shared surface contact. Little by little though we are becoming a community school again and moving to a brighter and 'greener' future in many ways so we are feeling very positive. I hope positivity fuels your weekends whatever you do and hopefully their will be many a bright spell between the clouds – enjoy.

Mr Gardiner

THIS TERM'S THEME: Footprints HEADLINES: Where my food comes from WORDS OF WISDOM: The food we choose makes a difference MUSICIAN OF THE WEEK: Johnny Flynn VIRTUE OF THE WEEK: Thinking critically



After School Clubs from Monday 17 May 2021 MONDAY	
KS1 Class 1 & 2	Football
KS2 Class 3 & 4	Running
TUESDAY	
KS2 Class 3 & 4	Cricket
WEDNESDAY	
KS2 Class 3 & 4	Football
THURSDAY	
Class 1	Craft
Class 2	Eco/Garden
Class 3	Forest Skills
Class 4	Art

or School Clubs from Monday 17 May 2021



## **Diary Dates**



<u>March</u>

May Wed 19—Kynance visit Pendennis Castle Thur 20— Special Menu (see below) Mon 24 —Godrevy visit Geevor Mine Fri 28—INSET day (School Closed) May half term Mon 31 May 2021 to Fri 4 Jun 2021 June Mon 7—INSET day (School Closed) Tue 8—INSET day (School Closed) July Mon 19—No Clubs this week

Thur 22—INSET day Fri 23—INSET day Mon 26 July 2021—Summer Holidays start

#### 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 containing nuts should be brought into school including in personal lunch boxes. With some products it is no always obvious that nuts form part of the ingredients so please check labels carefully. Thank you Whole School Attendance Target 2020-2021: 96%

This Weeks Whole School Attendance Figure:

**95.80%** 

INSET DAYS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2020/2021 Friday 28 May 2021 Monday 7 June 2021 Tuesday 8 June 2021 Thursday 22 July 2021



Chinese Chicken Noodles Mexican Vegetable Burrito Fresh Seasonal Vegetables Belgium Waffles

> Flag of China 4th Largest Country in the world Red symbolizes happiness in China Tea was discovered In China

**Flag of Mexico** Mexico City is sinking Mexico City is the oldest city in North America Home of the Worlds smallest volcano

> Flag of Belgium One of the smallest European countries Belgium produces more than 220,000 tonnes of chocolate a year Robert Cailliau, co-inventor of the World Wide Web, is a Belgian

# **STARS OF THE WEEK**

SHARING & SHININ

Congratulations to the following children for their fantastic learning. Thank you.

Poldhu

Jago for super effort ordering the Gruffalo story

Lacie for amazing science prediction

### <u>Kynance</u>

Elizabeth for trying hard in all areas of learning

Blossom for wonderful ideas in writing

<u>Godrevy</u>

Evie for brilliant enthusiasm in science

Willow for settling into class so well

### **Rinsey**

Isabelle for excellent reading of 'The Nowhere Emporium'

Harriet for an excellent attitude to all our school community

Virtue Value Awards

Brendan, Arthur, Jago, Benjamin