



Autumn Term Issue 02

17.09.2021

# Newsletter

Aiming for the  
**Stars**

www.gwinear.  
cornwall.sch.uk

Dear parents, carers and children,

Our first full week back is over and we seem to be in good spirits, good health and we have quickly re-found our passion and stamina for extended learning. There is a great deal of excitement around the class topics and I will start by thanking teachers for taking the time during the holidays to theme their classes to support learning and for planning engaging launch activities to get started.

I thought I would focus this newsletter on how you can support the teaching of your child at home. Firstly, remember that all classes post their topic overviews on the website under the classes tab and with the exception of Poldhu, this half term, all classes have set optional homework tasks linked to the topic – also on the website. Remember, also that if you feel you can share some expertise related to any aspect of the topic teachers would love to hear from you and children always love to have a visitor to their class. In addition to the topic work there are tasks linked to our Personal, Social and Moral theme of *Going for Goals* again optional and all children have this week been given access codes for Mathletics so that they can practise key maths skills at home. To access Mathletics children need a device with internet access and if this is not possible please contact the school as we may be able to help as we have a limited number of devices that could be loaned that we used to support home learning during lockdown. Mathletics allows children to practise maths in a fun way with a variety of games but teachers are also able to set specific tasks for individual children or certain groups. Most children are also working towards learning a specific times table; this can be practiced on Mathletics but equally can be practiced in more traditional methods and our maths lead, Mrs Haddy will soon be introducing another exciting way of learning them!

As for English the optional topic and Personal, Social and Moral tasks provide opportunities for children to write at length but you can also learn a story together using the story maps that are posted on the website. Currently, Rinsey, Kynance and Godrevy are all learning a story off by heart so that they can retell it – Poldhu will soon follow suit with the story of the Three Little Pigs. This is part of an approach called talk for writing which has been proven to be highly effective for helping children learn a range of different structures that they can then apply in their own writing and exposure to a range of different story types. Once children have learnt the story (imitation) they then change aspects of the story to make it their own (innovation) before finally, writing a story of their own in the same genre (invention). Some schools use the approach for all the writing blocks but we use it as part of a wider repertoire with every class doing one storytelling unit each half term; for those of you that are interested you can see how we have mapped this out across the whole school under the curriculum tab on the [website](#). You can support by looking at the map (photograph on the website under classes tab) and seeing how much your child can remember – they can teach you the actions to go with it too!

Practising the story map and spending time on Mathletics are also optional although definitely beneficial but we know many of you have busy lives and several children with different demands. The one thing we do ask is that you either read to your child or hear your child read each day. This could be for as little as ten minutes but consistency is key. As for the reason type in the importance of home reading into a search engine and have a look at the research. True some children do get engaged with reading under their own steam and we obviously spend a lot of time developing associated reading skills with daily phonics lessons throughout Key Stage 1, guided reading sessions to develop comprehension skills in every class, a class book to develop a love of reading (see topic overviews), a well-stocked and curated library with a rich range of texts and several intervention programs to try and 'fill gaps'. However, there is no substitute for 1:1 reading with and/or to a child and if we did that on a daily basis it would be all that we did (30 children x 10 minutes = 300 minutes = 6 hours). We have some kind volunteers that come in and help children and are still looking for some more (contact the office if interested). Teachers also give up their breaks to hear others but they cannot get around them all and shouldn't really have to. So, I will finish with a plea – we will do everything we can to give your children the very best experiences and education we can and we will welcome all support that you give at home for optional homework tasks but if you can hear you child read and/or read to them each day and record in the reading record we would be most grateful. We are planning on running some workshops on ways you can develop reading and comprehension skills when hearing your child read during this term and the Open Afternoon on the 17<sup>th</sup> November will have a short presentation devoted to reading but in the meantime the Reading Records themselves give some ideas.

Thank you for the support you can give us and have a great weekend whatever you do – I'm keeping fingers crossed for good weather at the Eden Project tomorrow when we will actually get to see a live band again!

Mr Gardiner

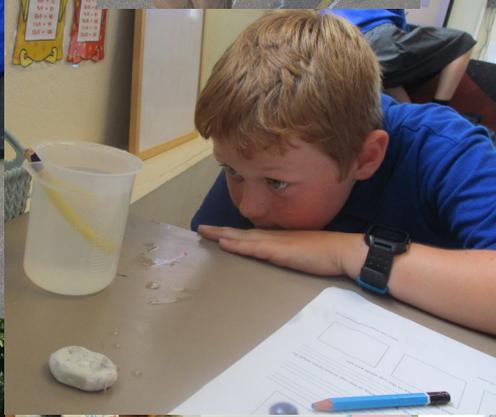
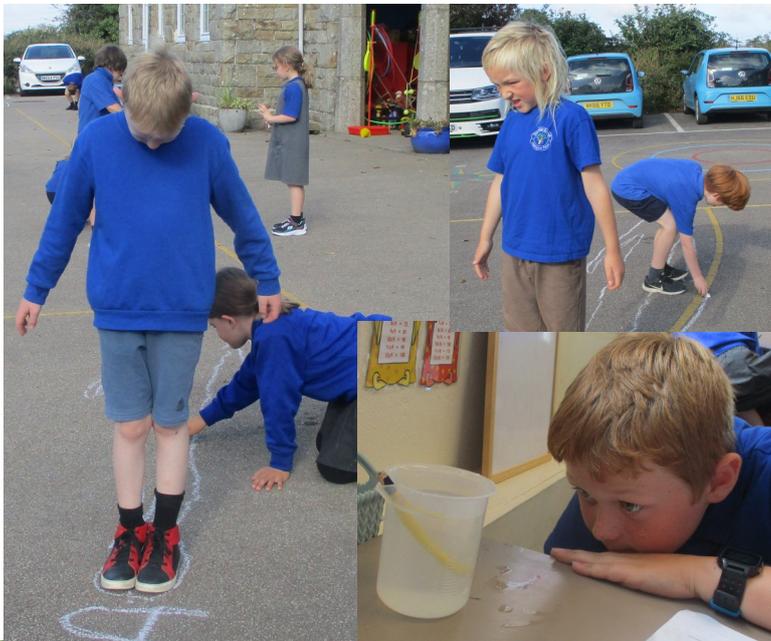
**THIS TERM'S THEME:** *Going for Goals*

**HEADLINES:** *Setting a Realistic Goal*

**WORDS OF WISDOM:** *Have patience with all things but first of all with yourself*

**MUSICIAN OF THE WEEK:** *Paul Simon*

**VIRTUE OF THE WEEK:** *Being able to be patient*





## Diary Dates

### September

**Wed 22—PTFA AGM 2pm**

**Thurs 23—Hayle Opening Evening**

### October

**Mon 4—Tempest photographer in**

**Wed 13—Bikeability starts for  
year 5 (1 of 2)**

### November

**Wed 17—Open Afternoon  
(all classes)**

Whole School Attendance Target

2020-2021: **96%**

This Weeks Whole School Attendance Figure:

**96.36%**

## **INSET DAYS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/2022**

**Monday 6 June 2022**

**Tuesday 7 June 2022**

**Monday 25 July 2022**

**Tuesday 26 July 2022**

*Josh and Jensen will be running in the "Pretty Muddy Run" on Sat Oct 9 at Stithians Lake in aid of Cancer Research. They will be in the playground after school on Thurs Oct 7 to collect sponsorships.*

## **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 not always obvious that nuts form part of the ingredients so please check labels carefully.

Thank you



## STARS OF THE WEEK

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

*Poldhu*

*Sophie for a fantastic attitude to all of your learning*

*Cordelia for amazing artwork*

*Kynance*

*George for fantastic effort in maths*

*Isla for fantastic effort in maths*

*Godrevy*

*Piran for incredible effort in his writing*

*Eilidh for brilliant reading and talking about her book*

*Rinsey*

*Charlotte for excellent perseverance in maths*

*Leah for smashing improvement in maths*

*Virtue Value Awards*

*Molly-Mae, Seren, Rory, Mia*