

Friday 2nd October 2026

NEWSLETTER



Pondhu
Primaru School



Rachel Cliff
Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful week of learning, enrichment and exciting experiences we have had at school! Our children have embraced every opportunity to learn, grow and shine, both in and beyond the classroom. From representing our school in netball and football matches, to enjoying a fantastic author visit from Julie Sykes, and developing important road safety skills through Bikeability for our Year 4 and Year 6 children, it has been a week full of memorable experiences. We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm, confidence and determination our children have shown throughout the week!

On Monday, we also celebrated Harvest Festival with Andy from the St.Austell Foodbank. As a school we donated a whopping 64.3 kg of food which is amazing. A huge thankyou to all of our families who have given so generously!



SPORTS REPORT

Our Year 3-4 and Year 5-6 football teams and our netball team played their first matches of the season this week against Gorran School - proudly wearing the brand new Pondhu kit!

The Year 3-4 footballers grew in confidence as the game went on, and battled hard right to the final whistle. A strong Gorran team won 5-0, but the team should be proud of their efforts and hard work.

Our Year 5-6 football team played really well from start to finish, and when the quick passing football clicked, they looked like a very strong team. Pondhu won the game 5-1, and every player should be proud of their contribution to the result.

Our netball team won 16-0, with the whole group working well as a team - well done to all of the players involved for such a strong start to the season!



SPORTS REPORT

Last week, our Year 5 and 6 basketball team performed really well at Poltair - playing with pace and developing their skills as the afternoon progressed. Well done to all involved!

Mr Martin



AUTHOR VISIT

Year 2 and year 3 enjoyed a fantastic visit from children's author Julie Sykes on Wednesday morning. Julie talked to the children about her new book 'Luna Grace - Monster Mix Up' and how she was inspired to write the series based on all of the things she loves most in the world. The children had a sneak preview of the story, cheered on two of the teachers in an apple bobbing contest and had the opportunity to ask some really insightful questions about Julie's life as a author. There were lots of top tips shared on how they can become future authors too!



STAR LEARNERS

Join us in celebrating children who have shone in their learning, effort and attitude this week



POTTER CLASS

AURORA

for working hard and trying her best in everything that she does

MRS RUNDLE | R/Y1



KAHLO CLASS

ZENAYA

for trying incredibly hard with all of her learning and showing improved confidence

MRS VINE | Y1/Y2



ARMSTRONG CLASS

ARLEN

for joining in all class activities and trying hard with his learning

MRS NEWNES | Y3/Y4



GOODALL CLASS

BROGAN

for working hard on his handwriting

MRS NEWNES | Y3/Y4



EARHART CLASS

LUNA

for having great answers in opening worlds using the vocabulary in full sentences

MRS JOLLIFF | Y4/Y5



OWENS CLASS

VALENCIA

for contributing and sharing her understanding so well in class

MR DAWES / MR MARTIN Y6

BRITISH VALUES CHAMPIONS

Join us in celebrating children who have demonstrated the British values of Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance



POTTER CLASS
FREYA D

for consistently following the Golden Rules and being a great role model to others

MRS RUNDLE | R/Y1



KAHLO CLASS
LILY

for always making great choices and being a helpful member of the class

MRS VINE | Y1/Y2



GOODALL CLASS
ELSIE

for following the rules and showing respect

MRS NEWNES | Y3/Y4



EARHART CLASS
MACI-JANE

for helping others and being positive

MRS JOLLIFF | Y4/Y5



OWENS CLASS
JORDAN

for being a good friend to others and for helping other children to learn

MR DAWES / MR MARTIN Y6

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Top Class for Attendance EYFS / KS1
Kahlo



Top Class for Attendance KS2
Goodall



Most improved Attendance
Owens



TARGET: 96 %

Whole School Attendance Snapshot
94.8%

Leave during term time

We understand that there are occasions when families need to request exceptional leave for their child during term time.

In such cases, it is essential to submit an absence form well in advance. These are available at the school office and on our website.

We will only authorise these requests in exceptional circumstances, and we will review each application on a case-by-case basis.

Please be aware that taking unauthorised leave may mean you become liable for a fine. To help you plan ahead, term dates are available on the school website.



Virtual Classroom

Links for home practice WB: 28.9.2026

Please use the videos below to practise the sounds your children have been learning this week with them at home. Your child will know which group they are in based on the colour books they are reading, and which adult leads the group. This will indicate which films they should be watching. If you have any questions about Virtual Classroom, please ask Mrs Vine.

Colour Group RWI Teacher	Sounds or skills	Links
Reception Mrs Rundle	c k u b f Fred game	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/tsGTRIOB/2FB3vuYJ https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/FpT0ch9k/zD3X3UDx https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/gKjrwAcy/whpdigJF https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/7OQUVfZY/GyXPqyiR https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/LHeK1Xaf/r9W58sMt https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/EDGGxCAq/vA5bg8eg
Green Group Mrs Chappell/ Mrs Vine	oo (zoo) ar or speeding up word reading	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/wkqHyftK/IM9Jrzx6 https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/X1avlOh9/ecEF63zZ https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/u34uLnZ1/cOYtvW03 https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/KYnNc55C/cjnvDEcI
Orange Group Mrs Hackworth	oa ew ire word challenge speeding up word reading	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/oN7h3V0X/gyAcDADE https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NroX4HzI/pVRsVvmc https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/6DpLgGyE/EH6A2Unk https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/POeqYtsg/srXFPWER https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/P47ccENX/mwHEB91d
Blue Group Mrs Bailey	or/aw air/are red words word challenge speeding up word reading	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/qQBvu0bJ/laerkadC https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/M6CkHagt/JETdsiCS https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/dZ7DcD86/HielMmWK https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/tGbFvUdP/izH38jEG https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/IQygLujL/IPrfnxgR

Coming up at Pondhu



[View Full Calendar](#)



Monday 5th October

Pondhu Opening of Parliament



Monday 5th October -
Friday 9th October

Y3/4 Swimming



Tuesday 6th October

Y3/4 Basketball @ Poltair



Tuesday 6th October

Individual photographs



Tuesday 6th October

Owens class and Earhart class trip to
Wheal Martyn STEM Fayre

TERM DATES 2026-2027

Autumn Term 2026

Saturday 17th October 2026 - Sunday 1st November 2026: Half-Term

Saturday 19th December 2026 - Sunday 3rd January 2027: Christmas Holidays

Spring Term 2027

Monday 4th January 2027 - Term Begins

Saturday 13th February 2027 - Sunday 21st February 2027: Half-term

Friday 26th March 2027 (Bank Holiday) - Sunday 11th April 2027: Easter Holidays

Summer Term 2027

Monday 12th April 2027: Term Begins

Monday 3rd May 2027: Bank Holiday

Saturday 29th May 2027 - Sunday 6th June 2027: Half-term

Friday 23rd July 2027: Final Day of Term

Parents evenings

During the week of 12th October, teachers will be holding parents evenings. Please make an appointment with your child's class teacher to discuss how well they are settling into their new class.

Funded by



Department
for Education



October Half Term 2026



Bookings are now live for our October Half Term Time2Move Holiday Programme!

We are delighted to announce that, for the first time we are able to offer activities during October Half Term!

We are excited to be working with a number of fantastic activity providers to run a small pilot programme of half term activities, made possible thanks to funding from the **Crisis Resilience Fund** provided by **Cornwall Council**.

To explore the full programme and book your place, simply visit our website using the link below.

**Time2Move October Half Term Holiday
Programme**

<https://www.activecornwall.org/t2mholidayprogramme/>