

Friday 9th October 2026

NEWSLETTER



Pondhu
Primary School



Rachel Cliff
Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful week of learning, leadership and civic engagement we have had at Pondhu school! This week, we proudly and officially opened our School Parliament, providing our children with a fantastic opportunity to experience democracy, leadership and public service in action. Our Year 6 children were absolutely fantastic, taking on their roles with maturity, confidence and great seriousness. It was wonderful to see children from across the school come together to witness and be part of such an important and memorable event. A huge thank you to MP Noah Law, Councillor Ethan Stephens and Councillor James Mustoe for joining us and making the occasion so special. Also thank you to Mr Dawes for being our wonderful Black Rod, and to Mrs Dunn (the Queen) for all her hard work in preparing such a fantastic ceremony. It was a truly memorable occasion and a brilliant example of how we can inspire our children to become active and responsible citizens.



We were even lucky enough to receive a letter from the king as he was unable to join us for this wonderful event!



WHEAL MARTYN

On Tuesday, Earhart Class and Owens Class had an amazing day at Wheal Martyn taking part in their fantastic STEM Fair! 🚀🔬

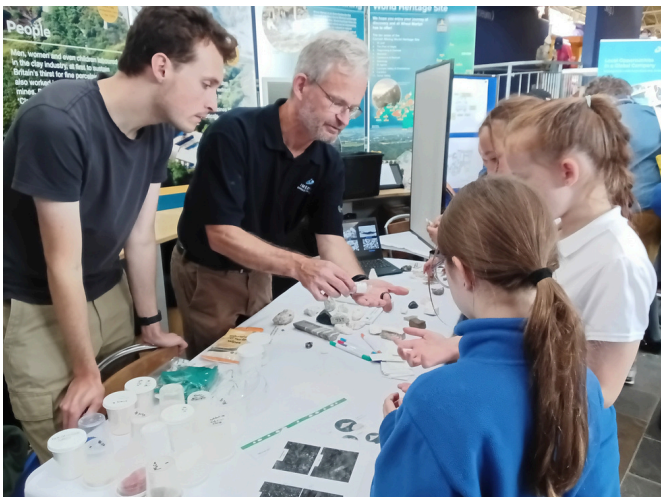
The children enjoyed a brilliant range of hands-on workshops led by geologists, scientists, experts from Imerys and specialists from the Natural History Museum in London. They had the opportunity to discover how science is used to understand our world and shape our future.

From exploring renewable energy 🌱⚡ and investigating different elements, to learning about lithium and even having the opportunity to make lithium, the children were able to get involved, experiment and ask lots of fascinating questions.

They discovered so much about geology, minerals, energy and the science behind the materials we use every day, while also learning about the exciting careers that STEM can offer.

What was particularly wonderful to see was how inspired many of our children were by the experience. Meeting scientists and geologists, hearing about their work and discovering the amazing things they can do opened their eyes to possibilities for their own futures. Who knows, perhaps we had some future scientists, geologists or engineers among us! 🌍🔬👩🔬👨🔬

A huge thank you to Wheal Martyn, Imerys, the Natural History Museum and all of the scientists, geologists and STEM professionals who gave their time to make the day so memorable. It was a fantastic day of curiosity, discovery and inspiration! 💡👏



RECEPTION

On Monday, we had a very special time celebrating Grandparents' Day in Nursery and Reception.

The children welcomed their grandparents and other family members into school and enjoyed showing them around and sharing some of the things they enjoy doing.

The children and grandparents spent time together decorating biscuits and playing. It was a wonderful opportunity for the children to share their school experiences with their families and create some lovely memories together.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the event.



GOODALL CLASS

A huge well done to Goodall Class, who have had a fantastic week of swimming! The children have been in the pool every day, showing incredible enthusiasm, determination and resilience as they have developed their swimming skills and confidence. It has been wonderful to see them supporting and encouraging one another throughout the week. We are incredibly proud of the effort they have put in and the progress they have made!

BASKETBALL Y3/4

On Monday, a team of Year 3-4s took part in an afternoon of basketball at Poltair. They developed their skills in dribbling, passing and shooting and finished the afternoon with a series of games.

STAR LEARNERS

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



POTTER CLASS

DAVID

for working hard in all aspects of his learning and making good choices all week

MRS RUNDLE | R/Y1



KAHLO CLASS

EMY

for working hard on her reading and becoming more fluent

MRS VINE | Y1/Y2



ARMSTRONG CLASS

KINEN

for working so hard to communicate with the grown ups in his classroom. We are so proud of him!

MRS NEWNES | Y3/Y4



GOODALL CLASS

RWBY

for overcoming her nerves and working so hard in swimming

MRS NEWNES | Y3/Y4



EARHART CLASS

ELOISE

for being a great role model to the other members of the class

MRS JOLLIFF | Y4/Y5



OWENS CLASS

CHARLOTTE

for her well thought out contributions both in class and on our school trip to Wheal Martyn

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
PRIMROSE-BLU

for always being polite, sensible
and respectful

MRS RUNDLE | R/Y1



KAHLO CLASS
EVELYN

for always trying to help
her friends

MRS VINE | Y1/Y2



GOODALL CLASS
ABIKE

for being a tolerant and respectful
class member

MRS NEWNES | Y3/Y4



EARHART CLASS
CAMERON

for always being respectful to
other members of the school
community

MRS JOLLIFF | Y4/Y5



OWENS CLASS
KAI

for being consistently respectful
to everyone

MR DAWES / MR MARTIN Y6

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Top Class for Attendance EYFS / KS1
Potter



Top Class for Attendance KS2
Goodall



Most improved Attendance
Potter



TARGET: 96 %

Whole School Attendance Snapshot
94.3%

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 authorised 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: 5.10.2026

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	e l h r j Fred game	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/bYIK6bgF/8NnQBBS3 https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Hct5xAoX/lwM6djR3 https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/HY2QI8yb/30YyrwYb https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/EpSHwnzQ/EjE76FKJ https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/hER509bY/g6Noe2jq https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ZjRCNRq2/cXoR3iYR
Green Group Mrs Chappell/ Mrs Vine	air ir ou word challenge speeding up word reading	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/LPIIpd20/86qyeaJY https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/6zUpAPZ3/tMLOZWUp https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/gIMbX7xP/FbqptwvD https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Cx3PGqrT/F0k66NLI https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/zma6rhms/G5ui02xH
Orange Group Mrs Hackworth	au ure o-e word challenge speeding up word reading	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Hg27rZCZ/jSPnztxz https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/tR4vbY0b/Rr4J6z4X https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/HoOPfXPU/31vLWAb0 https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Qu55D3BW/OeNCTM0H https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/i6AlVujp/qh4LCQGD
Blue Group Mrs Bailey	ir/ur/er ow/ou red words word challenge speeding up word reading	https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/rZldDaSF/7Gqfb2X0 https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/wLjSrld/k70WjWzm https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/0kUBUt2F/Bviq5uZd https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Qu55D3BW/OeNCTM0H https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/b5385n2V/24I349iD

Coming up at Pondhu

[View Full Calendar](#)

Monday 12th October -
Friday 16th October

Parents Evenings



Monday 12th October

Community Champions
meeting



Tuesday 13th October

Football and Netball fixtures vs
Nanpean



Wednesday 14th October

Weight and measurement
programme



Friday 16th October

End of Autumn 1 Term



Monday 2nd November

Return to school for Autumn 2 Term

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

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/>

Are you the parent/carer/grandparent of a child/young person between 0-25 with a disability/additional need? If so, join us for a cuppa and chat with other parent/carers in a similar situation and share your experiences.

Sept 7th, Oct 5th,
Nov 16th, Dec 7th



f2f@outofthewoods-therapy.co.uk

or our Facebook-page
Face2Face Cornwall



Kernow Darts

CORNWALL'S PREMIER DARTS VENUE

YOUTH TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY 2PM

CASH PRIZES
FOR 1ST & 2ND
PLACES

£££
£££
£££



£6 ENTRY

PLAYERS CAN PAY VIA
BANK TRANSFER ONLY



KERNOW DARTS LTD
SORT CODE 04-06-05
A/C NO 29191594
PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR
NAME AS A REFERENCE



NO ALCOHOL

AS PER VENUE RULES



07785 757 076

PRACTICE STARTS 12PM
SIGN IN BY 1PM

COME DOWN, HAVE A THROW AND BE PART OF IT!