

CEO Newsletter December 2017

It seems amazing that we are already into December but work continues apace across the Trust with an array of opportunities for our children and staff.

Year 11 students from Mullion and Helston had the opportunity to get involved with the first event of the 'Inspire English' programme that is running throughout the year, offering students opportunities to engage with different aspects of English to support their understanding and enjoyment of the subject. The day was spent at Falmouth Art Gallery (who made us extremely welcome!) exploring a range of texts all discussing the question 'What's the truth in fiction?' Students took over the gallery and used mime to explore dramatic techniques, and used practical criticism to explore a poem and prose extract. The gallery staff led three different creative workshops where students had the opportunity to engage with the artwork to create their own (in many cases) stunning creative writing.



In October, just over 50 Year 11 students from Mullion and Penryn spent the day at Helston Post 16 College sampling a range of courses in a variety of taster lessons. These sessions were organised to help Year 11 students decide what courses they would like to study next year. Students could choose to sample any of the 35 Post 16 courses on offer and had the opportunity for a College tour, guided by Post 16 Ambassadors, as well as an advice and guidance session from the University of Exeter. All the students were a real credit to their own schools, with many Helston staff commenting on the excellent behaviour, respect and enthusiasm the students had for the different lessons they tried out. The Helston Post 16 team would like to thank the ambassadors for their help on the day along with the staff from Mullion who helped to organise the programme and transport arrangements.

Halwin School recently had a fantastic Aspirations Week. They had visits from a Graffiti Artist, a Photographer, the Seal Sanctuary, a Vet and Veterinary nurse, Acorn Sports, a Natural Therapist, an Ecologist, Cats Protection, a Nurse, a Gymnastics Coach, a Stained Glass artist, a Clinical Psychologist, the Fisherman's Mission and also found time to visit RNAS Culdrose! What a fabulous week! The school wishes to thank all of these people who gave up their time to talk to our children about their skills and talents. It has really inspired our children, both in their personal aspirations and in their reasons for learning.

Landewednack welcomed another visit from the Y12 construction students at Helston to build more vegetable beds. They were a little smaller this year, designed for the seagull reception class to use. Year 12 students from Helston Community College dismantled the old beds and put the new ones together using recycled timber as part of their sustainability unit. The class teacher from Landewednack, Helen Beirne, made the students a carrot cake using the carrots grown from seeds they planted last year. It went down a treat! There are plans for the future, as the construction students will be going on to build an indoor planter and Mr Philpott will be working with the Nursery children to show them building techniques. If you have a small project you'd like some student help with or if you would like to bring a class across to visit the Construction team for a lesson in building, please contact Nigel Philpott at Helston.



Evidence of Christmas is all around us now. Christmas displays, such as the one below from Wendron, alongside Christmas trees, are making an appearance in school halls and reception areas, and pupils are busy practising nativity plays and musical items for Christmas concerts and Senior Citizens Tea parties. It is a very special time of year, not to mention a busy one too!



Landewednack held their annual Christmas Carolaire at the Lizard Lifeboat Station on 1st December. They attend this event every year and the children thoroughly enjoy it. The choir join members of The Lizard Lifeboat crew and shore crew on the lifeboat to sing a selection of carols to a large audience in the boathouse, alongside Helston Town Band. This event heralds the start of the Christmas festivities at Landewednack School. I wish you every success for your Christmas events.



In closing, I would like to wish Lisa Newberry (Cury) all the very best for her headship secondment to Illogan School and congratulate Louise Jones (Landewednack) who will become Executive Head for the two terms of the secondment.

Have a joy-filled, wonderful Christmas and a well-deserved rest. Thank you all for everything you do for the children and families who live and learn in our community.

Donna