

Trust Executive Leader Newsletter November 2020

Dear All

What an incredible period we are living through. I want to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to everyone for their patience, hard work and co-operation and a particular thank you to all the staff who work across the Trust. As you know, the staff are busy planning their lessons, making sure all the Health and Safety measures are in place consistently throughout the day, and providing work to children who are isolating at home. What a fantastic team! And it is even better than that ... below you will see a bumper edition of snapshots of some of the different things going on across the schools in spite of the restrictions: educational enhancements, personal development, citizenship, learning to care for each other, the community and the world around us and much, much more. The children are having a vibrant and fulfilling education. It is so important that we keep the schools open for the sake of the children's education, mental health and well being and for them to have time with their friends. Thank you for trusting us.

OUR SCHOOLS:

Mullion School received a visit from a Health and Safety Executive inspector on 4th November. The inspector went through their Covid Plan, full risk assessment documents, plans for online learning, met with staff, union reps and the Headteacher, walked the school checking all processes and procedures, and observed them in lessons, break time and lesson changeovers. The inspector was very impressed with all aspects and was glowing in his praise. They passed the day with flying colours and he left them no actions at all. We can all take confidence from this for our approach across the Trust and I would like to congratulate and thank all the staff and students for their support and understanding in ensuring Mullion School is a safe place to attend and learn. Alongside all of this and ongoing learning for children, Mullion School has also successfully applied to be a part of the SSAT Leading Edge Partnership. Well done to them on both counts!



Cury C of E School spent a lot of time learning, discussing and producing work about Remembrance Day. The pupils wrote poems, created silhouette art and made their own poppies. They created a "Remembrance Walk" to help them reflect and show their thanks to the people who gave so much for us. The work was also displayed in the windows of the village hall to continue to strengthen links within the community.

Due to Covid restrictions, the annual Remembrance Sunday events in St Keverne were put on hold. They were delighted when Olivia volunteered to place the school's poppy wreath in the Square!



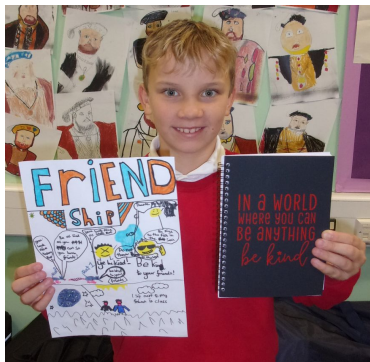


Grade Ruan held an Armistice day ceremony at the War Memorial. There was a one minute silence, a wreath was laid on behalf of the children and staff and they listened to the poem 'On Flanders' Field' read by Hazel and Oliver from Year 5. Despite the sombre nature of the service, it was wonderful for the whole school to come together in their respective bubbles and safely distanced—the first time since early March!

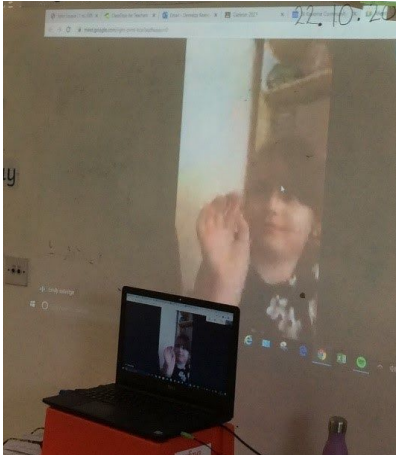


Lexie Searle – Eddy, a pupil at Mullion Primary School, has donated 15 inches of her hair to the Charity 'The Princess Trust' after hearing of children undergoing chemotherapy who had lost their hair and needed real hair to make the best wigs possible. This was all her own idea and shows her truly caring side. Well done, Lexi. We are so proud of you!

For Anti-Bullying Week, the children at Grade Ruan showed their support for this amazing alliance by wearing odd socks! In doing this, they highlighted that we are all unique, we are united against bullying and change starts with us!



It was World Kindness Day on Friday 13th November and, at Parc Eglos School, children in Years 1- 6 entered a competition to design a poster to promote kindness within the school and the community. One lucky person from each year group won a prize. Foundation children also joined in by creating whole class posters to promote kindness to each other. The lucky winners were: Daisy N - Year 1; Sienna - Year 2; Imogen H - Year 3; Winnie N - Year 4; Chloe T - Year 5 and Ryan B - Year 6. Well done, Everyone!



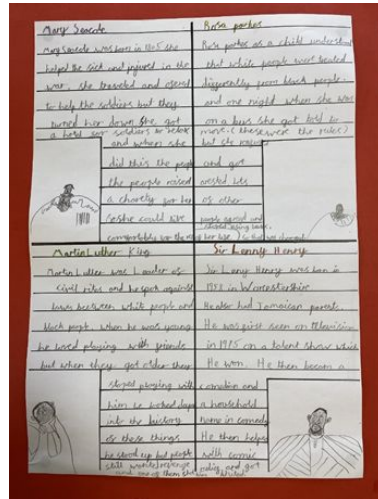
Across the Trust, children and staff are all getting used to using technology to support learning and well being. Carleon Class at St Keverne School were able to say a big hello to one of their classmates, Skye, recently via a Google meet chat. Skye has been recuperating at home after having a cochlear implant operation on both ears. It was so lovely to see her looking so chirpy. The children drew pictures to show her and waved to her. We hope you'll be back soon, Skye.



At Breage, the children have been getting to grips with the seemingly endless opportunities that their new Chromebooks have presented to them. Utilising all that their Google account offers, pupils have shown very swift development of collaborative working skills with the older children using this to develop their Nativity script. Year 5/6 teacher Dave Rayner added, 'The most interesting way I have used them is in collaborative writing, with children sat across the class from them. It was really enjoyable to watch them use the comment function to communicate with each other, removing the need to call across the classroom! It also gave them a chance to work with children who they have not been able to work with for quite some time due to the seating arrangements. This way of working also enabled lots of thoughtful peer feedback within the group. The children are certainly fully engaged with the learning and often want to continue with it during breaktimes!'



Year 2 children at Godolphin School enjoyed a day of art with inspirational artist Emma Griffiths. They began the day hunting for sticks which they used, with ink, to draw outlines of butterflies and flowers. Watercolour paints brought these to life. They created sketch books to practise various techniques. Later in the day the children chose animals and creatures to add to the display using vivid poster paints. Emma was impressed with the children's art skills and their stamina for working. "I liked drawing with the sticks as it was different and I did it really gently." Dakota. The completed artwork was on display in the playground and drew many positive comments, smiles and "Wows" from parents and children alike. "I feel really proud of us as we did a really good job together." Grace.



At Wendron C of E School Grylls class have been learning about Egyptians and have made these beautiful collage collars worn by both men and women. They used paint to create the background colours and then used shiny paper to make them extra special with precious jewels. The children in Trengrouse Class have been learning about significant people during Black History Month. They were fascinated to learn about how each of these people played their parts in black history and their impact on the world. Trevithick Class have been learning about tonal drawing in Art as this amazing picture of Queen Victoria by Jacob clearly demonstrates.



Crowan School have been busy outdoors! The children have been planting new trees all around the school grounds. Each child has had their own tree to plant and will be able to watch it grow over the coming months and years. There are nine species of trees and they have been sourced from The Woodland Trust. We hope that they will provide shelter to a host of different wild creatures for years to come and also provide shade for the children during the hot summer months once they mature. The children in Releath Class had an outdoor education day with Michelle from Arena Sports delivering a special 'Wild Tribe' day. The children made some woodland tic-tac-toe games; built fires to toast marshmallows; and made some wonderful leaf-masks and have made these wonderful hedgehogs too! And Year 6 at Crowan School have completed their cycle training this term with Martin Beck from Bikeability.

Year 1/2 class at Sithney School linked art with healthy living in Science. The focus artist was Keith Haring who was the inspiration for the art in the Change for Life campaign. They experimented with colour mixing and moving figures.



Year 4/5/6 children at Trannack School were inspired by dots and expressed their creativity through dotty art!! Their focus was 'The Dot' by Peter Reynolds, used to ease pupils back into school. The pupils experimented with colour mixing, textures and paint brush techniques through Pointillism across different cultures and ages.



Porthleven pupils have been enjoying their learning in a variety of topics this term. As part of their learning about the 'Great Fire of London', Year 2 children built period houses, which were arranged to resemble 'Pudding Lane'. After setting alight one of the houses, the children witnessed how the fire would have spread. An exciting way to end their topic and share all they had learnt! In Years 3 & 4 children are enjoying their topic on the origin and development of language. They have combined techniques of aboriginal art, with their own symbols for words.

Conflict is the Topic for years 5 and 6, where they will be mainly learning about World War 2 and hoping to answer some of their questions: Why did Britain join the war? What does 'Blitz' mean? Who were the significant people in WW2? How would life be different now had we lost?



At Landewednack, Little Lizards have been learning to brush their teeth properly with the support of Jo Trevelyan from "Brighter Smiles".

As part of their enrichment topic "Understanding the World", Puffins Reception Children have been

learning all about the five day festival of lights "Diwali" and have made their very own lamp which is called "Diya". They learned that the lamp signifies good over evil along with goodness, good luck and power. The children were delighted with their creations.



Children in Choughs Class are learning about the Rain Forest and have drawn some brilliant Rain Forest animals in their art lessons using pastel colours and collage while children in Razorbills have been producing their own Egyptians collages digitally.



At Halwin, Kingfishers Class have been busy replicating the human digestive system. They used a variety of household materials and resources to track our food's progress through the body. Groups worked together to squeeze out every last drop of nutrients from the 'food' and see just what happens at the end of its journey! Owls Class have been busy learning how to look after their teeth properly using disclosing tablets. Robins Class went for a lovely walk, exploring Autumn in our environment. They all had a super time and the children thoroughly enjoyed learning about the world around them.



Manaccan School children have been busy working with CAST. Key Stage 2 children spent a day in the woods and on the beach at Helford making observational drawings of things they found in the woods and produced landscapes at Helford. Key Stage 1 spent an afternoon with an artist from CAST making sculptures from clay. They used natural objects they found in the school garden to decorate them. All the children had a fantastic time learning outside with CAST and produced some excellent works of art over the two days.

Many congratulations to Maia Roberts on being the first recipient of the Freddie Worrall Music Scholarship. The scholarship fund was bequeathed to Helston Community College by the children of Mr Worrall, the first Headteacher of Helston School. Mr Worrall had a passion for musical performance so it is fitting that we can continue to remember him through this scholarship. The scholarship will be awarded annually to a nominated student who has played a full part in musical activities within and beyond the College. We expect the nominated student to demonstrate a commitment to musical performance after they leave the College and they may pursue a higher education course in music at a conservatoire, for example. No one fits these criteria better than Maia, who has charmed us with her performances over the years on her flute, through her singing and by playing saxophone in the Jazz Orchestra. She has also helped support the beginners band which gives opportunities to pupils from local primary schools to perform as part of an orchestra. Well done, Maia.



Cornwall Service Music Trust has been visiting Coverack School since September, teaching the children in Mohegan Class African Drumming as part of 'First Access'. The children have had a brilliant time and have learned about the djembe drum and how to make different sounds on the drum - bass tone, open tone and slap tone. They have learned about how rhythms can be notated in a grid and standard musical notation using (so far) crotchets, quavers and dynamics. The pupils have tried some improvisation and composition and have rehearsed and recorded a piece called 'Jabba, Jabba Djembe'.



And finally, after waiting patiently for just over 4 years to develop their top field, children at Garras School have finally been able to use their new outdoor equipment. This includes a multi-purpose all weather pitch, an 8 station outdoor gym facility and a new extended trim trail - all of which have been surrounded with a bark mulch so children can access it throughout the year. There is also a new Forest School area being developed and the south field has been redeveloped after the instalment of a septic tank.

I hope you all agree that children right across the Trust are having great educational experiences, enriched learning opportunities and lots of fun! Now in the run up to Christmas, the schools are finding ingenious ways to celebrate the season. We will not let Covid beat us!

Thank you once again for your patience, understanding and faith in us. We really appreciate your support.

Take care and stay safe.



Kind regards

Donna

Trust Executive Leader

Self Help Self Responsibility Equity Equality Democracy Solidarity
Social Responsibility Honesty Openness Caring for Others