

Trust Executive Leader Newsletter October 2019

At the current time, our schools are busy reviewing their curriculum, not only what happens in class but also beyond it. Part of this, is considering what opportunities should be in place for all children to experience before they leave school. One way of getting involved in the discussion is coming to the school forums. We want to hear from everyone - children, parents, staff and the wider community. If you aren't sure when your school is having their forum meeting, please ask at your school.



St Keverne have begun this work by linking into the National Trust's initiative '50 things to do before you're 11 ¾'. Year 5 and 6 began this by attending the South West Outdoor Festival, set up by the National Trust. They all had a fantastic day with many activities packed in: archery, spear throwing, making bird feeders and cooking over a campfire. The children learnt about beekeeping and were able to touch lots of different bones and animal skins. It was a brilliant day full of learning and fun. They will continue to pick things from the list of 50 on Friday afternoons. Making and flying their own kites was the first activity they chose.

During the October half-term, Helston students had the opportunity to visit Iceland - what a wonderful opportunity for them. The Geography & Geology Department took 28 students from Years 11, 12 and 13 on an amazing five day trip to Iceland. They embraced the long, activity filled days and extreme temperatures with cheer. Some of the highlights included visiting the Hellisheidi Geothermal Power plant located on the side of a volcano, boat trip around an iceberg lagoon, completing a glacier walk, walking through tectonic plate boundaries, visiting one of Iceland's most spectacular lava tunnels and they were fortunate to have two clear nights where they could witness the wonder of the northern lights. It was truly a once in a lifetime experience for many.



The Helston students exemplified the College values throughout the trip. The care they showed for one another and across year groups, their interaction with the public, the respect for another culture, and their interest in all aspects of Iceland made us very proud of them. Our Icelandic guide has led many school groups but he made a point of telling the staff and the students that the Helston College group had been the most interested, polite, and respectful he had seen in a very long time and he was very proud to be leading them around his country.

As you know, part of our wider curriculum is sport and each year we are pleased to see increasing numbers of children getting involved in a range of sporting activities across the Trust. Congratulations to Parc Eglos

Stripes who have made it to the ESFA County football finals, which will be held next month. They were unbeaten in their group of five and didn't concede a goal, scoring 8 over four games. Whilst they lost their semi-final to St Meriadoc 2-0, they won the third place play-off and gained the prize of a place in the finals. We wish them the best of luck in the final!

Mullion School has been invited to be a Lead School for Wellbeing. The aim is to encourage other schools to appreciate the role that PE, sport and physical activity can play in promoting good mental health and emotional wellbeing. The Lead School advocates the message and establishes links with schools in order to

support them to run their own projects in both the primary and secondary sectors. Through attendance at Lead Schools Network Conference and regular email updates, the Lead School will keep informed with the local and national picture of wellbeing in PE, sport and physical activity. This is a great opportunity for Mullion and for the Trust.



Another aspect of our work with the children is to encourage them to be active citizens. Manaccan school have been supporting the Cornwall Air Ambulance Appeal. Johnny Cowling and Holly Day of Pirate FM, who are campaigning in support of the Heli Appeal, came to Manaccan School to collect £41.56 raised by the children. This will go towards the cost of a new state-of-the-art helicopter so more lives can be saved across Cornwall. Let's hope Manaccan School gets pulled out of the hat so their name can be printed on the helicopter.

Another aspect of being an active citizen is caring for our environment and this work continues across the Trust. Helston and Mullion took part in a School Climate Conference hosted by Exeter University which provided opportunity for hearing what other schools are doing to champion Climate Change Action and to debate the best ways forward, linking to Cornwall Council Climate Change Action Plan.

Crowan School took up the challenge of gaining Eco schools status and achieved it within 2 weeks! Radio Cornwall recently interviewed them about their work and gaining the award. The children were really articulate and described how they had set up their Eco Council, written an action plan and undertaken an array of activities: recycling crisp packets; collecting litter on the way to school; planting vegetables; 'Trash Mobs' and developing the sensory garden. They are aiming to gain Plastic free status, Silver Eco Award and headed for the Green Flag over the next two years. Well done to them and to Gary Nachalos (Teaching Assistant) for taking a lead on this work.



Our schools are looking to recruit new governors. If you know of someone who would like to support the schools in this role, please do let us know at the Trust Office by emailing kteague@southerlypoint.co.

Kind regards
Donna

Social Responsibility Honesty Openness Caring for Others