



# SPOTLIGHT



Issue 5  
Summer Term 2011

Parents' Information Newsletter

## Dear Parent/Carer

In the autumn term, an African Choir, called the 'Pearl of Africa Children's Choir' will be touring the UK spending much of their time in Cornwall due to their established links here. The choir has received wide acclaim in the UK and has performed on national television. The choir comes from Uganda and is mostly made up of children aged 11 to 18. They come from one of 7 Ugandan schools who provide both education and accommodation for children in difficult circumstances. The autumn tour aims to raise funds for the schools and orphan houses where they live.

Poltair is delighted to be hosting the choir for a week of their tour between 9th October and 16th October. We are therefore seeking host families willing to look after choir members. We need approximately twelve families able to look after 2 choir members each. Both choir members will be of the same gender and so will be able to stay in the same bedroom. Each day they will meet up at Poltair and so can come to school with your own children. Hosts are asked to collect their guests from school after their daily concerts, usually between 9.00 and 10.00 pm.

As the charity requires all hosts to be CRB checked (which is paid for by the Charity) we will need to identify host families within the next month. If you are able to support the school and the charity with this wonderful musical and cultural opportunity then please contact Helen Holmes, Director of Curriculum for more information.

*Stephen Tong*

**Stephen Tong**  
Headteacher

*Georgie Clark*

YEAR 7  
**STUDENT OF THE WEEK**



For 'All-round' effort.

*Kieran Hughes*

YEAR 9 (CF)  
**STUDENT OF THE WEEK**



For being an awesome role model, having excellent attendance and no behaviour points.

## 'PHRASE OF THE WEEK'

Chosen by Mrs Hendy  
Student Services  
As part of our focus on Literacy in  
the MFL Department



**un imperméable**

## Dates for diary

Monday 13th June	Disney Trip Parents' Meeting in the Main Hall 6.00 – 8.00 pm
Monday 27th June	Sports Day (reserve day Thursday 30th June)
Monday 4th July to Friday 8th July	Work Experience Week & Activities Week

## Aim Higher Programme

A number of Year 9 pupils were selected to go to Marjon University in Plymouth on Thursday 26th May for the Aim High programme. This is a government funded initiative to raise student aspirations towards university education. The pupils were involved in group activities regarding sports and were all polite, engaged and a credit to the school.



Poltair pupils participating in group activities at Marjons.



## Creative Partnership Project

25 Year 9 pupils took part in two very successful workshops in February and June 2010. Of the original 25 pupils 22 went on to opt for Art at GCSE and have now taken part in a further session to show them possible career pathways in Art & Design. All the pupils really enjoyed it and were very complimentary of the University students work that they were shown by degree students from University College Falmouth.

Two exhibitions will be shown in June and July at the University. Firstly we will also be taking pupils to view the degree exhibitions. Secondly an exhibition of art work by Cornish schools will be taking place from Wednesday 30th June. Poltair School will be represented by art work developed from some of our Year 9 and GCSE Art students.

## Poltair staff raising funds for charity

On Sunday 22nd May, Maths teacher Vince Clooney ran the Edinburgh Marathon, to raise money for the Elisabeth Svendsen Trust, a charity which helps disabled children to develop physically and mentally by teaching them to ride donkeys at six donkey sanctuaries around the country. He completed the course in just under 4 hours and 10 minutes on a very windy day.

If you would like to sponsor him he can accept donations in person or, if you have internet access, you can donate through his JustGiving page ([justgiving.co.uk/vince-clooney](http://justgiving.co.uk/vince-clooney)).

On Sunday 29th May, Head of Art Maxine Whitbread-Abrutat completed the 14-mile Fal River Walk. Raising money for a variety of local charities.

Finally, also on 29th May, Jenny Chapman, who is a trainee teacher currently working in the English Faculty at Poltair, ran the Plymouth Half Marathon, in just over 2 hours, raising money for the environmental charity Greenpeace.



## TOP TEN



*Mrs Golding*

**1) What exactly do you do at Poltair?** I am the Head of RE and I teach RE and Citizenship, as well as being a Year 10 tutor.

**2) What is your favourite meal?** Very difficult to say as I enjoy all types of food, but my favourite would certainly be fish of some kind, perhaps lobster.

**3) If you were not a teacher what would you be?** I would like to run a small delicatessen full of interesting food, both local and foreign, especially if I could travel abroad to find exciting new things to sell.

**4) Who is your hero?** There are too many to name but it would be anyone who stands up for what they believe, including famous figures like Martin Luther King and Aung San Suu Kyi but also the many ordinary people who oppose injustice in small but powerful ways.

**5) Who is your favourite singer/band?** I have a wide taste in music which ranges from the Tamla Motown I danced to as a teenager to current bands recommended by my daughter but find myself coming back again and again to good old rockers like Rod Stewart, Bruce Springsteen and Van Morrison.

**6) What is your favourite book?** Either "Anna Karenina" by Leo Tolstoy or Salman Rushdie's "Midnight's Children".

**7) Name one thing that perhaps people don't know about you?** My family are all Irish and I was born and brought up in Belfast.

**8) What do you enjoy most about Poltair?** Probably being a tutor and watching children grow and mature into Year 11 students ready to go out and take on the world.

**9) What do you treasure most?** Without question, my family and friends.

**10) What one thing would you change in the world today?** I would remove injustice of any kind (see my answer to Question 4).

# SPOTLIGHT ON THE HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT

## Prize Quiz Disasters of the last hundred years

It's that time of year again and our quiz is back by popular request. History and Geography teachers this term have joined forces to produce a new and exciting module of work for Year 8 based on disasters of the last one hundred years. After much debate and discussion the staff have devised a short list of eight disasters which they will introduce to Year 8 classes. Pupils must then decide which event they think is the most disastrous and present their case to the rest of the year group.

Try our little quiz based on some of the disasters studied this year and last

1. Where was the *SS Titanic* built?
2. In which region of Spain is Guernica situated?
3. What was the name of the plane that dropped the Atomic bomb on Hiroshima?
4. Which country suffered most casualties after the Boxing Day tsunami?
5. Which was the largest concentration and extermination camp built by the Nazis?
6. Other than the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center, which other strategic building was targeted during the 9/11 attacks by terrorists?
7. What is the NYSE?
8. Which country has Omar al-Bashir as its President?
9. What disaster took place at the Lakehurst Naval Air Station in 1937?
10. Who was the Managing Director of the White Star line?
11. True or False. The raid on Guernica was led by the Red Baron.
12. True or False. Anne Frank's father, Otto, fought for the Germans in the First World War.
13. Who piloted the B-29 Superfortress bomber that dropped "Little Boy"?
14. In recent times how many earthquakes have been bigger than the Boxing Day tsunami?
15. Who was captured at Tikrit in December 2003?
16. Who is the only person to be convicted for taking part in the September 11, 2001 attack?
17. What is the name of the Arab militia who are accused of trying to drive out black Africans from Darfur?
18. What name was given to the Atomic Bomb that was dropped on Hiroshima?
19. Where is the Pacific Tsunami Warning System based?
20. How many people were actually in "Titanic's" Lifeboat No 1, which had a capacity of forty?

Please e-mail answers to [tlake@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:tlake@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk)

Those submitting all correct answers by 30th June will be entered into a prize draw.

### ***Join in the Debate***

*Which was the greatest disaster of the last hundred years?*

Year 8 pupils are investigating "Disasters" this term and will eventually present what they consider to be the greatest disaster of the last 100 years, what do you think was the greatest?

Why not log into the school website and cast your vote?