

SPOTLIGHT



Issue 10
Autumn Term 2011

Parents' Information Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer

As you will be aware from the news, many public sector trade unions are planning or considering strike action on 30 November. At this point not all of the unions have declared the outcome of their ballots. Therefore at this stage I cannot be clear as to how many staff at Poltair will take industrial action. In June, you will recall that we were able to stay open for some year groups; however, it is likely that on this occasion more staff will be called out on strike.

I fully appreciate that any resulting closure or partial closure will cause difficulties for many of you and I regret having to inform you of the likelihood of disruption. I would like to assure you that any decision to close the school, partially or otherwise will not be taken lightly and in making a final decision I need to balance the duty to provide a normal service with the responsibility to ensure that the safety of pupils is no way compromised.

By Wednesday 23 November I should have a clearer idea of how many staff intend to strike. We will then look at the likely impact of this and let you know which classes and pupils will be affected. Precise details will be placed on the school website and will be posted to you; a text alert will be sent too. Whilst less than ideal I hope that one week's notice will allow parents and carers sufficient notice to make alternative child-care arrangements.

Stephen Tong

**Stephen Tong
Headteacher**

POLTAIR CENTENARY - Calling all brass players!



If you came to our school Carol Service last year you will have heard the school brass group in action. We are a combination of staff and pupils and are lucky enough to also have outside help for our concerts. If you are a brass musician and play either just at home or are already in a band, please contact Mrs Hancock in the library. We practise once a week and will be playing in the Carol Service as well as hoping to do some fund-raising. If you are interested but do not have an instrument, there will be the possibility of borrowing a cornet from the school.

Thank you.

Mrs Hancock, Librarian

DATES FOR DIARY

Tuesday 22 November

Year 9 Parents Evening 3.15 – 6.30 pm in the Main Hall

Thursday 1 December

Family Fun Quiz Night (Contact Mrs Eastwood to book your team a space before Monday 28 November) see poster

TEN TORS - **IMPORTANT DATES**

Sunday 20 November Ten Tors Training W2

Sunday 27 November Ten Tors Training W3

Monday 5 December Ten Tors Selection Training (for new recruits)

I am sure there are more young people out there that are not aware that they can access Ten Tors!

Ten Tors sessions in T1 16.00-17.00 every Friday. Any Y9, 10 & 11 pupils wishing to take part in the Ten Tors Challenge 2012 need to attend meetings as soon as possible!

Miss Blackburn (35 & 45 Ten Tors Team Manager)



**FORTHCOMING
HOUSE TEAM EVENT**

**SANTA FUN RUN
TREGREHAN'S CHARITY EVENT
IN AID OF CORNWALL HOSPICE CARE**

Tregrehan pupils were given full details and a letter for parents in assembly on Thursday. This letter can also be downloaded from our website, follow the link
<http://www.poltairschool.co.uk/Communication/Letters.html>

TEWINGTON

Georgina Bazin
7LW

Following the 5 Ps, quietly getting on with her peers and always smiling

Amber & Brooke
Whetter 11GHP

For bringing back a new trophy for the newly formed equestrian team. (First prize in the open class)

TREVERBYN

Jodie Shopland
7GH

For making great progress, having a large number of Vivos and for being so positive. She also has no behaviour points, excellent punctuality and 100% attendance.

Matt Collings
11JHK

For being positive, hard-working, focussed and conscientious. He also has 100% attendance and excellent punctuality.

TRENANCE

Jordan Hammond
7KO

For being continually positive.

Joseph Bishop
11GO

For being very helpful during tutor time.

Charlotte Neville
11GO

For bringing back a new trophy for the newly formed equestrian team. (First prize in the open class)

TREGREHAN

Keira Briden
7SHP

For producing an excellent piece of Art homework.

Katie Round
10SG

For always meeting the 5 Ps and doing exceptionally well in English.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE COMMERCE DEPARTMENT

Commerce Faculty Thinks Olympic

The Commerce Faculty will help to contribute to the excitement and atmosphere of the London Olympic Games by giving some of its learning activities an Olympic theme in the summer term.



Pupils in Year 7 will be working on a project called 'Junior Apprentice'. Pupils will be expected to provide a sales pitch for goods or services linked to the London Olympic Games. Pupils will need to produce a promotional medium, provide costings and business documentation.

Pupils in Year 8 will be working on a project called 'We are the Best'. Pupils will be expected to produce a promotional medium to attract a wide range of visitors to London for the Olympic Games.

Pupils in Years 9, 10 and 11 will be looking at researching, designing and producing a wide range of website graphics with a strong Olympic theme. Pupils will be expected to produce a menu bar, 3 website navigation buttons and an animated banner. These will be presented on a webpage to promote the London Olympic Games.

Olympic Torch Route will start in Land's End

The route of the Olympic Torch will start from Land's End on Saturday 19 May and will travel to Plymouth through the following locations:

*Land's End *Sennen *Newlyn *Penzance
*Marazion *Rosudgeon *Ashton *Breage *Helston
*Falmouth *Truro *Newquay *St Stephen *St Austell
*Stenalees *Bugle *Lanivet *Bodmin *Liskeard
*Saltash

Further details about the route can be found using the following link:

<http://www.london2012.com/olympic-torch-relay-map>

Did you know?

- It will cost £137,000 to host the Olympic torch in Cornwall.
- It is estimated that the Olympic torch will generate £7 Million to the Cornish economy.
- Every member of the UK should be within 10 miles of the Olympic torch route.

Top Ten Jane Nicholas



- 1) What exactly do you do at Poltair?**
I am a teacher of ICT.
- 2) What is your favourite meal?**
Mexican fajitas
- 3) If you didn't work in a school what would you be?** An Event Organiser or Wedding Planner.
- 4) Who is your hero?**
I think Bruce Forsyth is amazing for his contribution to show business and one-liners. Also Karren Brady is a true inspiration in the world of business.
- 5) Who is your favourite singer/band?**
I like everything from the Beach Boys to Rhianna.
- 6) What is your favourite book?**
'The House on the Strand' by Daphne Du Maurier.
- 7) Name one thing that perhaps people don't know about you?** I have been selected as a volunteer in the medical team for the Olympic Games in London 2012.
- 8) What do you enjoy most about Poltair?**
Working in a department where the content is always changing and with Mr Jones of course.
- 9) What do you treasure most?**
A pair of earrings my husband bought for me on our wedding day.
- 10) What one thing would you change in the world today?**
I would try to instil in everyone a sense of pride in themselves and a culture of 'believe and achieve'.

Extra Teacher Support for OCR Nationals in ICT and Business

Teacher support sessions after school to help Y9, Y10 and Y11 pupils with completing or improving coursework for the OCR National courses.

To be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays 3.15pm - 4.30pm.



EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURES

With winter fast approaching we would like to remind parents of the procedures the school has in place with the County Council if the school needs to be closed due to adverse weather conditions or an emergency.

If the School is closed PRIOR to the start of the school day.

A decision will be made by the Head Teacher in conjunction with the Council and the Bus Companies as early as possible.

This decision will be given to the Council who will notify Radio Cornwall & Pirate FM who will broadcast the fact that the school is closed on a regular basis during their breakfast shows.

The closure details will also be put on the County Council website and the School Website.

If the schools remains closed for a subsequent day (or days) the procedure outlined above will be repeated.

If the School is to be closed DURING the school day.

A decision will be made by the Head Teacher in conjunction with the Council and the Bus Companies as early as possible.

Pupils will meet with their tutors and be asked to contact parents by mobile phone (or school landline) to gain permission to leave the school early. Once **the tutor has confirmed that permission has been granted** the pupils will be dismissed from school to travel home by bus, on foot or be collected by parents. IF PERMISSION CAN NOT BE CONFIRMED BY A TUTOR THEN THE PUPIL(S) WILL REMAIN AT SCHOOL UNTIL THE PARENT CONTACTS THE SCHOOL TO GRANT PERMISSION FOR THEM TO LEAVE.

School staff will remain on site until ALL pupils have been collected.

For Poltair Students who are on College Courses.

If the College closes before the start of the day the pupils will be notified as above.

If the College closes during the day the students will return to Poltair where practical or will be dismissed from the college after contact has been made with the parents **BY THE COLLEGE STAFF.**