

SPOTLIGHT



Parents' Information Newsletter

Issue 2
Spring Term 2012

NEWS FLASH

Tregrehan House Santa Fun Run



The grand total of **£2,193.58** was raised for Cornwall Hospice Care. Well done to everyone who took part.

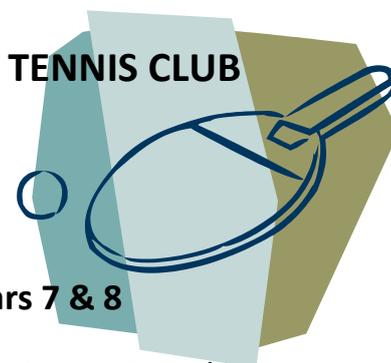
JANUARY 2012 EXAMS

(All students taking exams will have received a detailed timetable – a copy has also been posted home)

PLEASE NOTE - At Poltair, students remain in the exam room until the end of the exam, they will not be allowed to leave if they finish early. For afternoon exams longer than 1hr 30 min, students who go home by bus will need to make other arrangements.

TUES	24TH JAN (AM)	BIOLOGY UNIT 2	8.45AM
TUES	24TH JAN (PM)	GEOGRAPHY UNIT 2	1.30PM
WED	25TH JAN (AM)	ENGLISH READING L1 F/SKILLS	8.45AM
WED	25TH JAN (AM)	ICT L1 F/SKILLS (2 SESSIONS DUE TO NUMBERS)	9.00AM & 11.30AM
WED	25TH JAN (PM)	ENGLISH WRITING L1 F/SKILLS	1.30PM
THUR	26TH JAN (AM)	CHEMISTRY UNIT 2	8.45AM
WED	25TH JAN (AM)	ICT + ENGLISH L1 F/SKILLS	8.45AM
FRI	27TH JAN (AM)	MATHS L1 F/SKILLS	8.45AM
MON	30TH JAN (PM)	PHYSICS UNIT 2	1.30PM

TABLE TENNIS CLUB



For Years 7 & 8

3.15 – 4.15 pm Tuesdays

(Week A) and

3.15 – 4.15 pm Wednesdays

(Week B)

Meet by the PE Office

Speak to Mr Adams for further details.

Look out in next week's edition for information from Mr Tong and Mr Richardson about our revision and rewards packages for pupils.

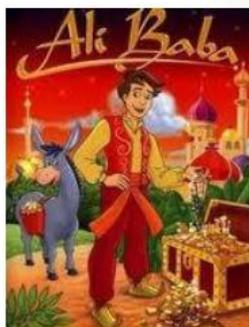
School Website

Please note that the weekly Spotlight and any archived Spotlights, together with news items, are available to view or download from the school website. www.poltairschool.co.uk

Bugle Pantomime Proudly
Present their 37th production of Ali Baba

Performances dates and times:

Saturday 28th January 2.15pm
 Tuesday 31st January 7.15pm
 Wednesday 1st February 7.15pm
 Thursday 2nd February 7.15pm
 Friday 3rd February 7.15pm
 Saturday 4th February 2.15pm and 7.15pm



Tickets starting at just £2.50 are on sale from Bugle Spar Shop.
 Telephone number: 01726 850512



**'Shrek the Musical' London
 Wed 18 to Thurs 19 July 2012**

Cost £110

(£30 deposit due now)

There are 4 places still available
 (open to all pupils)

Any interested pupils please see
 Mrs Bond in the first instance.



RESTORMEL

DANCE

FESTIVAL

2012



The Restormel Dance Festival is fast approaching again! It is our fourth year of hosting this fantastic event at The Key Theatre, Cornwall College St Austell. Approximately 700 pupils from local secondary and primary schools will dance alongside Poltair, show-casing a variety of Street, Contemporary, Hip Hop, Ballet and Break-dancing. We have had to extend to 3 evenings this year due to popularity and consistent sell-out performances.

The Festival is on:-

Tuesday 31 January 7.30-9.30pm

Wednesday 1 February 7.30-9.30pm

Thursday 2 February 4.30-5.30pm (Primary schools matinee)

and 7.30-9.30pm.

Tuesday 31 January is Poltair's Year 8 Parents' Evening and therefore **no Year 8s** will perform at The Restormel Dance Festival on that evening to avoid any clash of commitments.

Tickets are on sale now from Mrs Russell, first-break only, in the school office:-
£5.50 : Adults £4.50 : Concessions

Poltair's Dance Department has a sponsored rehearsal day organised by Treverbyn House pupils, for The Restormel Dance Festival. This is during school hours on Friday 27 January. Pupils will get sponsored to practise their dances ALL Day in preparation for the festival and raise money for the CLIC Sargent charity to help children and their families who are dealing with cancer. Please support this by encouraging friends and families to sponsor the pupils involved.

Good luck to all our performers!
 Mrs Hulbert



DIARY DATES

Tuesday 31 January

Year 8 Parents' Evening (3.30 to 6.30 pm) appointment sheets have been given to pupils

Tuesday 31 January, Wednesday 1 Feb & Thursday 2 Feb

Restormel Dance Festival (see above)

Saturday 4 February to Saturday 11 February

Ski Trip

SPOTLIGHT ON HUMANITIES

TALK FACTORY PROJECT

The Humanities Faculty is very excited to have been selected to work alongside the renowned Dr Cindy Kerawalla of the Open University to assist in the development of her pioneering Talk Factory project.

In the classroom, pupils are often asked to work in groups and to discuss their work; however, they can find this challenging as they do not always have the necessary skills. Dr Kerawalla has devised software, Talk Factory, aimed at supporting such classroom discussion.

As Mr Lake explains “At the beginning of the lesson the pupils draw up their own rules for a good discussion e.g. listening, making points clearly and summarising. The teacher watches for these features during the discussion and logs them into the computer. The score is displayed on the whiteboard and it is hoped that classes will moderate their discussion to score highly, thus achieving better discussion skills.”

Based on her work to date Dr Kerawalla says “Analysis of video footage of lessons suggests that the Talk Factory was effective in supporting the teachers’ awareness and facilitation of exploratory talk, as well as the students’ engagement in rich discussions.”

As the work progresses throughout the year we will keep you informed.



www.eatcookread.com

FAIR TRADE FORTNIGHT

27th February to 11th March

The Year 7s are currently exploring the world of chocolate in their Geography lessons and how it can encourage sustainable development. This ties in well with international ‘Fair Trade Fortnight,’ in which people are encouraged to buy ethical products such as tea, coffee, chocolate, bananas and even clothes to help improve living conditions in developing countries.

This link will tell you more about how to get involved in Fair Trade –

<http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/>



WAR HORSE

Steven Spielberg’s adaptation of Michael Morpurgo’s children’s book, War Horse, has attracted phenomenal interest. Although a work of fiction, behind the Hollywood hype lie aspects of the realities of the First World War.

The epic tells how a farm horse, Joey, and his owner, Albert, are caught up in the war. In reality, millions of horses were used during the Great War. They transported men and equipment, pulled vehicles and guns, and went into battle.

The casualty rates were very high – around a million British horses went to war between 1914 and 1918 and just 65,000 came back. The animals died from exhaustion, disease, shelling, bullets and poison gas attacks.

The film is presently showing at The White River Cinema St Austell and The Plaza Truro.

With the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations and the centenary of the sinking of the Titanic, 2012 is certainly going to be a year of anniversaries and we have persuaded Mr Lake to come up with one of his ever-popular quizzes.

For each month he poses a question:

January (17th): whose party in 1912 reached the South Pole only to find that a Norwegian party led by Roald Amundsen, had beaten them there?

February (7th): which writer famous for David Copperfield and Great Expectations was born in 1812?

March (6th): which British ferry capsized off Zeebrugge, Belgium after leaving its bow doors open in 1987?

April (15th): in 1912 the British liner 'RMS Titanic' sank in the Atlantic after hitting an iceberg on her maiden voyage. Where was she going?

May (2nd): during the Falklands War in 1982 HMS Conqueror sank which Argentine cruiser?

June (3rd): who in 1937 did Prince Edward, Duke of Windsor, formerly King Edward VIII of the United Kingdom, marry?

July (9th): fifty years ago, in a seminal moment for pop art, what did Andy Warhol exhibit at the Ferus Gallery in Los Angeles?

August (30th): in 1992 which German driver won his first Formula One race at the Belgian Grand Prix?

September (5th): name the militant group who took hostage eleven Israeli athletes and coaches at the Olympic Games in Munich in 1972?

October (19th): whose starving army was forced to begin a hasty retreat out of Russia in 1812?

November (25th): name the play that opened at the Ambassadors Theatre in 1952?

December (18th): in 1912 Archaeologist Charles Dawson announced which great hoax?

As usual the first all-correct set of answers received will win a prize. Please email to tlake@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk

TOP TEN



Deneka Truscott

- 1. What exactly do you do at Poltair?**
I teach RE and Citizenship.
- 2. What is your favourite meal?**
Anything Italian – pizza, pasta etc.
- 3. If you didn't work in a school what would you be?**
Definitely working with people, maybe a nurse. Or working with animals.
- 4. Who are your heroes?**
Ghandi.
- 5. Who is your favourite singer/ band?**
I've got lots but Mumford and Sons at the moment!
- 6. What is your favourite book?**
A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini.
- 7. Name one thing that perhaps people don't know about you?**
I enjoy watching rugby and am looking forward to the Six Nations starting next month!
- 8. What do you enjoy most about Poltair?**
The sense of community.
- 9. What do you treasure most?**
My friends and family.
- 10. What one thing would you change in the world today?**
To put an end to child poverty.