



# SPOTLIGHT



Issue 4 Spring Term 2013

Parents' Information Newsletter

## ***POLTAIR'S FIRST SCHOOL GAMES MEDAL OF 2013***

On Friday 25 January Poltair entered the School Games Rowing Championships. It is the first competition of 2013 and the team returned with a bronze medal thanks to the superb effort from Lewis Clapham. All of the pupils gave 100% effort and were a great credit to the school. Following on from this event Samantha-Louise Newton-Sheppard, Tori Marks, Wiktoria Gawlowska and Lewis Clapham will be entering the regional final in Plymouth on 4 March.



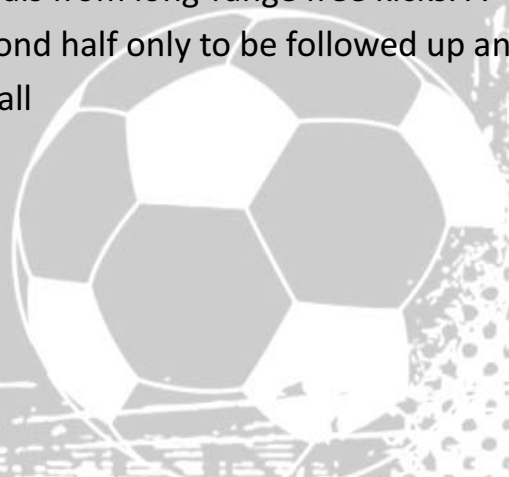
## ***'THE GREAT CUP RUN COMES TO AN END'***

Last Tuesday 29 January the Year 11 boys' football team lost 4 – 3 to Bude in the East Cornwall final, ending the longest run in the competition for over a decade. In earlier rounds the boys had beaten several previous winners including The Roseland, Newquay Tretherras and Torpoint.

The game was end to end and action-packed all the way through. Dan Peters, playing in goal, assisted by the wind, scored our opening 2 goals from long-range free kicks. A great shot from Dan Marks was kept out in the second half only to be followed up and placed in the back of the net by Ben Willetts. Overall it has been a great achievement for the boys and the school.

Well done.

Mr Adams (PE)

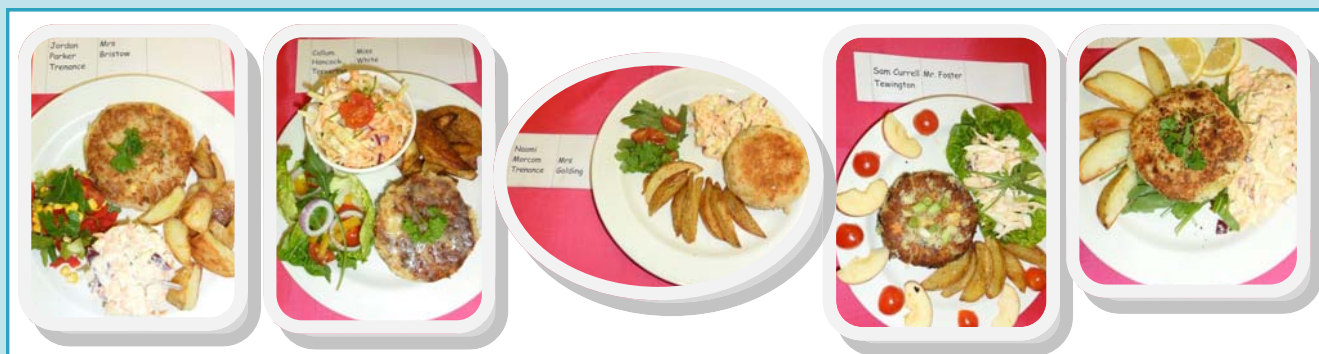


# Masterchef Qualifying Round 1

Years 7 & 8—Thursday 24 January

The first round of the Masterchef competition has taken place. The teams each comprised of one pupil and one member of staff and they were given the brief at the start of the competition to prepare and make a potato cake, a portion of coleslaw and some potato wedges in the one hour available. No one was aware beforehand of what they had to cook.

**Well done to the 5 teams who have qualified for the finals in two weeks time (pictured are their qualifying dishes):** L to R: Mrs Bristow & Jordan Parker (8RMc); Miss White & Callum Hancock (8KL); Mrs Golding & Naomi Morcom (7FG); Mr Foster & Sam Currell (8LW); Miss Hughes & Sadie Crowle (7LS)



The first round for Year 9 and 10 pupils will take place on Thursday 7 February.

The final will be held on Thursday 14 February when the 10 couples from Years 7-10 will all compete to find the overall winning couple. Well done to all the staff and pupils that participated in Masterchef Round 1. Particular thanks go to Mrs Peters, Miss Partis and Mrs Dinsdale who organised the ingredients and provided the venue for the competition and to those staff who gave up their time to prepare such culinary delights.

## Ten Tors Perranporth Sand Dune Training

On Friday 25 January, the 35 mile and 45 mile new recruits took full clothing and equipment out for the first time to train in the sand dunes. As the rain began to fall, the team had a complete scrutineering check (all clothing and equipment checked to be carried in the rucksack) before striding out in the car park to work out everyone's 'pacing'. Pacing is a navigational tool used primarily in fog or darkness where you can count your paces to find out exactly what distance you have covered.

Once on the beach, the wind blew in with the rain and all teams were motivated for the endurance challenge across the sand dunes. It was an incredible challenge where one team overtook the other, then the other team would find a better line through the sand dunes and take the lead once more. Both teams made considerable improvements on their return 'leg' and were able to reward themselves with a 'boil in the bag' meal including a helping of sand in the wind and the rain!

Helen Blackburn (35 & 45 Ten Tors Team Manager)





## UPDATE

Teigan Nicholls has become the first Word Millionaire this school year. She has read 1,163,862 words. Well done Teigan. She will have her name on the wall of fame in the library and join others on the top of the “word thermometer” in the Accelerated Reader room.

The second pupil on the list at the moment has read over 700,000 words so hopefully will soon be joining her.

Mrs Hancock Librarian

**Poltair School warmly invites:**

Year 8 pupils and parents

to a Year 8 Curriculum Evening

on Tuesday 12 February between 6pm-8pm

in the School Main Hall

Presentations at 6pm, 6:30pm and 7pm

*Come and find out about Curriculum Pathways and subject choices for KS4*

*A personalised letter of invitation will be sent to you next week*

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 12 February	<b>Year 8 Curriculum Evening - Main Hall 6—8pm</b> <b>Year 7 Tutors meet with Parents - Library 3.45-6pm</b>
Monday 25 February Tuesday 5 March Wednesday 6 March Monday 11 March	<b>Year 11 Cornwall College interviews</b>
Wednesday 20 March	<b>GCSE Drama Moderation</b>
Thursday 21 March	<b>Year 10 Parents' Evening - Main Hall 3.45-6.15pm</b>
Friday 22 March	<b>Trenance 24 Hour Charity Danceathon</b>
Monday 25 March	<b>GCSE Dance Moderation</b>
Thursday 28 March	<b>Whole School Charity Egg &amp; Spoon Race</b> <b>School finishes at 1pm</b>
Friday 29 March to Sunday 14 April	<b>Easter Holidays</b>

### Pupil Premium

The Government provides funding for any pupil who:

Has claimed Free School Meals (FSM) at any time in the last six years

Is a declared child of a service family

Is looked after by the local authority i.e. a child in care.

By law, we are required to report on the spending of this funding via our school web-site. Please follow this link <http://www.poltairschool.co.uk/Parent/Premium.html> which gives further information about the Pupil Premium and in particular, how we spent the funding last year and how we project it will be spent this year.

**For further updates about our school follow us on twitter @poltairschool**



# Exciting times in English!

## Message from Miss Parker Head of English

### Years 10 and 11 update

Welcome back to the Spring term; we have hit the new term with a 'bang' and the exciting times continue! Many Year 11s have already completed examinations in English language and literature, and pupils in Year 10 and 11 are focusing on completing and perfecting their controlled assessments to ensure they reach their potential.

Please remember that if your son/daughter has a piece of incomplete controlled assessment, it is vital that they come along to Controlled Assessment clinics on Wednesday afternoons after school. The final deadline for all controlled assessments is 15 February. After the half term holiday, as controlled assessments will be complete, the Wednesday sessions will focus on revision.

Should you have any questions about your son/daughter's progress or controlled assessments, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the English team.

Miss R Parker [rparker@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:rparker@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk)

### Message from Mrs Braithwaite and Mrs Hancock Accelerated Reader and Books for Breakfast

Friday 25 January saw the first of many 'Books for Breakfast' meetings; Year 8 pupils, partnered by Year 10 pupils, spend time in the library each week when they can read a book, take a test, and have some free time – and not only this, they get breakfast and hot chocolate too!

Pupils are very excited by this and explained to Miss Parker "it is really relaxing" and "it is the highlight of my week!".



**Year 9 trip news** – we are very excited to be taking a group of talented boys to Plymouth to take part in a workshop with the Propeller Theatre Company, and then to watch a performance of *The Taming of the Shrew*! We look forward to finding out how the boys get on.

### MESSAGE FROM MISS SUSHAMS

**Attention: All Avid Readers in Years 8 and 9.....The Book Club has started!**

The Book Club, which is open to enthusiastic readers in Years 8 and 9, involves pupils choosing a book which they would all like to read independently, in preparation for our monthly Book Club meetings. These will be held in the library, during a Friday lunchtime and pupils will be able to share opinions and interpretations of the novel.

Our first Book Club Meeting will be on Friday 15 February.

Our Chosen Books so far are 'Oranges in No Man's Land' by Elizabeth Laird and 'The Graveyard Book' by Neil Gaiman.

**MESSAGE FROM MRS VENABLES – ENGLISH AND MEDIA**

**POLTAIR'S 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL MOVIE-MAKING COMPETITION**

This year pupils from Poltair School have been competing in making movies. They have been working with Mrs Venables during tutor time to create movies on one of the three themes: Life at Poltair, Our House, or the Poltair 5 Ps.

The teams are working in mixed year groups representing each House.

The plans for the films are as varied as the pupils participating in the project. One team is basing their video on 'Our House' by Madness, and they will be filming various features of their House, Treverbyn. Another group has chosen 'We Are The Champions' by Queen and are focusing on filming ironic and funny moments around the school. Yet another group has chosen to write a parody called 'Poltair State of Mind,' and are filming scenes around the school to highlight how amazing Poltair School is.



The films are to be completed in the week beginning 25 February, and we are very much looking forward to seeing the results. The pupils' creative efforts are going to be judged during the House assemblies, and the winners will be chosen based on several categories, such as Best Comedy, Best Special Effects, Best Soundtrack, etc.

We will be holding our own Poltair Oscars Evening following the competition and we hope to have some local celebrities joining the celebration of the pupils' superb videos. So, watch this space!

Written by: Tammy Dingle and Mrs Venables



**MESSAGE FROM THE ENGLISH TEAM**

**WORLD BOOK DAY**

World Book Day takes place on Thursday 7 February – a day when everyone can celebrate reading and the knowledge, inspiration and enjoyment that we can get from books. The English team are currently planning how we can celebrate this at Poltair School, but do you have any ideas?

Help us to celebrate this event, and see your English teacher with any ideas that you have!

## Opening Doors to a Brighter Future



What to do?

**Careers Event**  
*for 13-17 year olds*  
in the **Gallery**  
at the **Eden Project**

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2013**

**10.00am - 4.00pm**

Do you know what you want to do when you leave education?

Are you:

- Thinking about what career you would like to follow.
- Undecided about what subjects and exams to take.
- Unsure about what vocational opportunities might be open to you.

**Then this event is just for you!**

You will have the chance to:

- Meet representatives from a broad spectrum of vocations, including business employers, professional organisations, government services and colleges of further education.
- Listen to inspirational leaders and learn about work ethics and the benefits of becoming part of a hands-on work team.
- Talk about the wide range of employment opportunities that may be open to you, from apprenticeships to starting your own business.
- Understand how things happen in the real world and learn how to exploit opportunities to gain an advantage.

Click on [www.brighterfuture.me](http://www.brighterfuture.me) for more details.

*No Need To Book – Just Turn Up*



Organised by the Rotary Club Of Lostwithiel

# IT ALL STARTS AT

# YES



**Want to make your mark?**  
If you're soon to be, or currently aged 16-17, and want to do something different this year, NCS is for you.

It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that helps you build your skills for work and life, while you take on new challenges and meet new friends.

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