

SPOTLIGHT



Issue 4 Summer Term
Week ending 10 May 2013

Parents' Information Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer

Do we have your email address?

We appreciate how busy parents/carers can be and we know that at times there is a need for a more convenient way for you to receive information about your child or about school activities and news. So when a telephone call is not required we would like to be able to contact you by email. If you have not already provided us with your email address, please can you do so now? (This information will be held securely on our school data system). You can do this by emailing our Community Secretary: leastwood@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely

Assistant Head Stakeholders and Partnership



Poltair

Ten Tors 2013

start together hike together finish together

Ten Tors Challenge 2013

Following seven months of tough training on and off Dartmoor, it is now time for the Ten Tors Challenge 2013. The Poltair 35 and 45 mile team know that preparation is crucial, and know that Dartmoor holds all the answers; on top of the physical effort of carrying all their equipment to camp and sustaining themselves for two days, there is the need to stay alert, be aware of the demands around them and the drain on their reserves. In the end it is about knowing yourself and your team mates, finding the edge of the possible and going beyond... to be on the start line, as the teams will know is a position to proud of.

35 mile team: Rhys Dedman-Harris (Leader), Tom Edwards, Will Ferris, Chloe Jarvis, Joey McDonald and Brandon Pomeroy.

45 mile team: Dan Rowe (Leader), Jack Barnell, Georgina Hide, Will Ratcliffe, Tom Tyrrell, and David Winter (Reserve Ruby Waterfield).

Good luck to the teams of 2013!

H Blackburn (Team Manager)

Hay fever season - advice for sufferers in exam season

We know that an increasing number of young people between the ages of 16 and 24 are becoming hay fever sufferers. This can affect their ability to concentrate well in exams and to do their very best. Here are some tips from Doctor Wellgood an online magazine for young people and students:-

- Pollen is incredibly light and during the day quickly rises up into warm air, then falls back to earth in the evening. Avoiding being outside at those times of day is a great start – although not very practical if you have an early morning exam. Keep the bedroom windows/doors shut if possible.
- The other thing is that nature designed pollen to stick to absolutely anything. In particular it will stick to hair, which tends to be really close to your face and nose. Wearing a hat (and your hair up if long) at high pollen times is a real help. Wrap-around sunglasses are good.
- Showering every night also helps as you wash off the pollen you have accumulated during the day and get a better night's sleep. Don't forget that pollen loves pets – a harmless hug with the family pooch can turn into a sneezing nightmare.
- Pollen also sticks to clothes. While it sounds ridiculous, getting the vacuum cleaner out and running it over your school jumper or top you tend to wear every day will seriously cut down the personal pollen count. Changing pillowcases and bedding regularly really helps and also wearing fresh clothes on the morning of any exams.
- Your runny nose means you will dehydrate much more quickly and dehydration of only two per cent leads to a 30 per cent reduction in performance. You will also be taking anti-histamines and that can also dehydrate you. You are encouraged to bring a bottle of water to sip during exams.



PE House competition

House Champions	
1 st	Tewington
2 nd	Treverbyn
3 rd	Trenance
4 th	Tregrehan

DATES FOR DIARY	Thursday 16 May	Poltair's Got Talent—final
	Saturday 11 May & Sunday 12 May	Ten Tors Challenge 2013
	Thursday 23 May	Fine Dining Event
	Friday 24 May	Whole School Balloon Race
	Monday 27 to Friday 31 May	Half Term holiday

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



HOUSE STARS



TEWINGTON

Ben Bassett

8LW

For excellence in everything he does and for his massive contribution to the school community.

Jack Vincent

9CH

For having a good sense of humour.

TREVERBYN

Brooke Holmes

7AR

For organising the Year 7 girls' football team and taking on the role of Captain.
For also having a good report and receiving a good number of Vivos.

Charlotte Disberry

11JB

For having a very positive attitude to learning.

TRENANCE

Shannon Priestley 7GO

For excelling at Taekwondo outside of school.

Azaria Hicks 7GO

For making really positive progress on her report.

Tom Diplock

11DBR

For being a great role model and for always trying to follow the 5 P's.

TREGREHAN

James McDermott

7DT

For following the 5 P's.

Tony Milford

11KR

For a positive approach to his studies.



Poltair's Got Talent

Final Thursday 16 May

Here is the list of the star acts who are through to the final :-

Curtis Coello

Jordan Coon

Sheree Dagley

Gaby Grant

Ethan Green

Chloe Jarvis

Casey Mounce

Adam Northcott

Paige O'Brien

Courtney Jade Rowden

Crystal Unitt

Beth Walker

(Well done to them all)

Please see Mrs Russell in the admin office during first break to purchase your tickets.

Adult £3 Child £2.50 Family £10



Poltair's Balloon Race



To be released on the last day of this half term
Friday 24 May

Last year was a wonderful spectacle
SO COME AND BUY A BALLOON

- For sale in the cyber café/dining hall—at lunchtimes.
- Only £1
- You could win £100 Amazon voucher if your balloon is returned from the furthest point away.
- We just need your name, contact number and £1
- You can enter as many times as you like - the more balloons you buy, the more chances you have of winning prizes.

WINNING BALLOONS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON THE LAST DAY OF THE SUMMER TERM.

(Please note balloons and all attachments are biodegradable)

Fine Dining Extravaganza for Years 10 & 11

Thursday 23 May 2013
in the Main Hall

Have you ever wanted to dine like a celebrity, hang out in the coolest restaurants, eat the finest foods and be served by the highest quality waiters? Well... all this is about to become a reality!

- You will be served a 3 course meal and an endless supply of drinks all evening by teachers.
- Live music will follow the meal.
- The dress code is formal with males required to wear shirt and tie or a suit and females should wear formal evening wear. The Theme of the evening will be **House Colours**.
- Arrival from 5.30pm. The evening will finish around 10pm. Amazing prizes on offer.
- If you wish to attend please collect a consent form from your tutors, get it signed from parents/carers and hand the deposit and consent form to Mrs Chard in the admin office during first break.



Exciting times in English!

Message from Miss Parker Head of English

Welcome to the summer term! This term, as always, promises to be extremely busy, and very important to our students in Years 10 and 11 as they apply the finishing touches to their learning journey at Poltair School.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of our students on their successes so far and to encourage them to finish the year confidently and focused. To help students prepare, they should be signing up to and attending revision sessions after school on Wednesday, and should look out for the additional booster revision sessions coming up just before the examinations in June!

In Key Stage 3 and 4, students have enjoyed excellent learning experiences with a focus on Shakespeare following teachers being trained by actors from the Royal Shakespeare Company. It has been wonderful to see so many students enjoying Shakespeare and taking an active role in the exploration of his pieces. Students have also enjoyed book clubs, a trip to the theatre, and of course world book day which was excellent! This spotlight will showcase just a few of the excellent things happening and let you know what else you can expect!

Miss R Parker rparker@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk

Message from Mrs Braithwaite and Mrs Hancock

'Accelerated Reader' and 'Books for Breakfast'

'Books for Breakfast' is in full swing! Well done to everyone for their regular attendance; it is fantastic to see so many students enjoying reading, sharing their books, and passing their quizzes!

In fact, the programme has been so successful we are starting it for girls very soon!



Congratulations to Maria Ball

(8KL) for her excellent bookmark design! Well done Maria – your design will be created digitally and we will use it as a gift for all Year 7s next year!

Book Club with Miss Sushams

Once a month, a group of students get together for a book club. This book club isn't an ordinary book club: we choose books to read and order what we want to read, not just what the teacher suggests! We are extremely lucky to be assisted by Miss Sushams as she has helped us to find all sorts of excellent books that we wouldn't normally read!

So far we've read: *The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman, *Oranges in No Man's Land* by Elizabeth Laird, *Pig Heart Boy* by Malorie Blackman and *Northern Lights* by Philip Pullman! We've all had mixed reactions to the books and it's been great to chat about what we liked and find out what other people think!

I absolutely love book club because I get to read books that I wouldn't normally have thought about reading before because we all get to be part of the choosing of the books!

So if you have any recommendations or want to come along and read some awesome books (and get a biscuit or two!) come along to our next meeting on Friday 17th May or see Miss Sushams in S9! I hope to see you there!

Ben Bassett Year 8



Year 9 Trip to Plymouth to watch The Taming of the Shrew

by the Propeller Theatre Company!

On Friday 15th February, a group of Year 9 boys went to Plymouth to take part in a Shakespeare workshop and watch an all-male performance of the Taming of the Shrew by the Propeller Theatre Company.



Firstly, upon arrival we headed to the TR2 studio for a workshop. We took part in a range of warm-ups including a fantastic game called Ninja in which you had one movement to try and take out your rival. Then we split into groups to act out a scene of the play with characters ranging from a spaniel to a butler!

Next on the agenda was a free hour to wander around Drake's Circus and get some shopping done before we headed down to KFC (the meal of our choice) where we shared buckets of chicken and litre bottles of fizzy drinks!



Finally, we headed to the Theatre to watch the performance. It was a brilliant rendition of the play with great acting and some very humorous parts. The settings and costume were very colourful and the actors had some creative ways of showing the more complicated aspects of the plot. Everyone had a great time and we were all sad to go when the evening finished

It was a great day and many thanks to Miss Parker for organising the trip and Mr Foster for driving the mini bus and helping out!



Written by Ryan Collins – 9KP

“The Performance was excellent”

“I really enjoyed the workshop”

“IT was a really good trip and it was really funny. There were dramatic moments too. I would love to do something like this again!”



“Stand up for Shakespeare”

The English Department has been taking part in a series of training sessions run by the Royal Shakespeare Company.

The work is part of a network being led by Treviglas Community College and is aimed at re-vamping the teaching of Shakespeare and ensuring that students enjoy studying his excellent pieces!

It has been brilliant to see students of all ages, engage with, and enjoy their explorations!

