



SPOTLIGHT



Issue 4 Autumn Term

Parents' Information Newsletter

Week ending 27 September 2013

Meet the Senior Prefect Team!

Poltair are proud to introduce our newly elected senior prefect team. We were delighted that more than half of the current prefect team applied for the role of senior prefect which only goes to show the level of ambition and drive within the team.

The selection process was rigorous and began with a formal interview in front of an interview panel consisting of their Head of House, a member of the leadership team and the Headteacher. In the afternoon, all candidates had to recite a poem in front of a group of Year 8 students and field two searching questions from members of the audience. All candidates performed well on the day which made the job of appointing very difficult indeed! However, we were finally able to agree on our final eight senior prefects who are pictured below. Congratulations to you all!

Miss Sullivan

TEWINGTON HOUSE



Alisha Armstrong
Head of House



Ethan Green
Deputy Head of House

TREVERBYN HOUSE



Keagan de Carvalho
Head of House



Hope Couchman
Deputy Head of House

TRENANCE HOUSE



Tori Marks
Head of House



Dan Marks
Deputy Head of House

TREGREHAN HOUSE



Chloe Jarvis
Head of House



Jamie Chapman
Deputy Head of House

Prefects Wear Blazers with Pride

On Tuesday, the Poltair prefect team were delighted to be issued with brand new blazers which they will wear as part of their normal uniform. Now, they are immediately identifiable as prefects to staff, students and visitors alike. There was much excitement as they tried on their new blazers and posed for a photo session in the main hall and I'm sure you will agree they all look fantastic! **Miss Sullivan**



Photo Orders — Tempest

The deadline for photo orders to be received by school will be **Wednesday 23 October**. Please can all orders with money be handed into Mrs Russell before this date. Mrs Russell is available first break, every day in the Administration Office. When photos arrive at school pupils will be notified to collect their order from the Administration Office in person.

Years 10 & 11 Bag Pack Fund Raiser at ASDA—St Austell

Pupils from Years 10 and 11 have been invited to take part in a bag pack at ASDA this Saturday (28 September).

All money raised will be in support of Poltair's three chosen local and international charities this year:-

Care International, RLNI and Cornwall Hospice Care (Mount Edgumbe Hospice).

If you would like to support or make any donations to our charity campaign we will be at ASDA between 9.00am and 12.30pm.



DIARY DATES	Wednesday 23 October	Year 7 Tutors & Parents Evening
	Friday 28 October to Friday 1 November	Half term
	Monday 4 November	Staff Training Day No pupils in school

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

The Writing Squad Kernow Taster Session

Report written by Ben Bassett

On Tuesday, Anna Murphy a well-known writer for Knee High Theatre and Radio 4 visited Poltair School along with her apprentice Seth Hampshire who is a performance poet. They came to promote the Writing Squad Kernow, and in the session they gave us a flavour of what it is all about. The Writing Squad is run by KEAP (Kernow Education Arts Partnership). It is a club that runs every month (on Saturday) in Truro Library. As well as learning the craft of writing stories from top authors and poets, we also get their work published in books and read on the radio. The Writing Squad has been running for the past 3 years and I myself have been a squaddie for the past year. Over that year, I have had many exciting opportunities, such as selling my short story to the general public at the Penzance Exchange Gallery and getting my story read on Source FM. I also got a chance to read my short stories at an arts festival and meet and talk to three well-known authors: Phillip Reeve (author of Mortal Engines, Gill Lewis (author of Sky Hawk, White Dolphin and Moon Bear) and Michael Morpurgo (author of Private Peaceful, War Horse and many other great books).

At the taster session we were shown some fantastic, imaginative writing exercises and delved deeper into the ways authors 'pluck' award winning ideas from the story tree. Some of the methods that are a 'sure-fire' way of collecting ideas are story boxes, bike rides, scrapbooks, postcards and the main necessity for an author, a writing shed!

So if you are a budding writer or just want to be creative, come along to the Writing Squad. For more information please see Mrs Trevarthen in the English Department.

This is what some of the pupils who took part in the taster session on Tuesday said...

"I really enjoyed taking part in something different as well as learning skills that will help me later on in life!"
Bethany Michael

"I really liked the fact that I was learning English without even realising it!"
Chloe Watson

"I relished the fact that the activities stretched my imagination and made me contact my creative side."

- Ben Philp



Taster session with Anna Murphy

Taster Day—18 September

Year 6 pupils from primary schools across the St Austell area spent the day at Poltair School on Wednesday 18 September. This is an opportunity for the pupils to experience a typical day in the life of a secondary school prior to making decisions about the school that they will attend for the next five years.

The 400 pupils had a timetable of Maths, English, Science and Design Technology reflecting a normal busy school day, followed by an assembly led by the Headteacher Stephen Tong.



Copyright: Paul Williams

"I am really pleased that Poltair School is able to provide such a focused, challenging and enjoyable experience for the pupils of St Austell and the China Clay area. The focus of that day, as it is for the following 900 days for the pupils that choose to join us at Poltair School is about 'learning to fly'." Mr Tong

Open Evening—19 September

Open Evening at Poltair School was yet another resounding success thanks to the hard work and dedication of the many pupils that supported the staff in showing what Poltair has to offer.

We would like to thank all the pupils that attended and contributed to making it such a good evening.

For the first time during Open Evening primary school pupils were encouraged to take part in a Treasure Trail. The winner drawn from the correct entries was Giselle Netherton from Carclaze Primary School pictured below with Mr Tong and some of our senior prefects.



"I am delighted that so many Year 6 pupils, parents and carers from across our community were able to join us on Thursday for our Open Evening at Poltair School. Doing the sorts of things that we do so well, showcasing the best of our learners and teachers working hard together and having fun. There were so many smiling faces it's hard not to feel an enormous sense of pride on such an important evening in the school calendar." Mr Tong

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New courses at St Austell this year!

LINK INTO LEARNING, TRURO ROAD

- Setting up in Business - 10 weeks from October with Rob Smith £85 (£47)
- Business Administration - 27 weeks from October with Lou Hunt £287.55 (free)
- Positive Psychology - 10 weeks from January with Paul Tritschler £85 (£47)
- Egyptian Mysteries - 4 weeks in March with Helen Orlent-Nash £34 (£18.80)

WHITE HART HOTEL, CHURCH STREET

- Award in Preparing to Work in Adult Social Care - 20 sessions, Oct. D Lambert £159 (free)
- Drawing and Painting for all - 10 sessions from January with Jo Sailer £132.50 (£75.50)
- Digital Photography - beginners - 8 weeks from January with John Hillman £107 (£61.40)

SAINTS HEALTH & FITNESS CENTRE, ST AUSTELL RFC, TREGORRICK LANE

Tai Chi - 10 weeks from October with Val Eves £63.75 (£35.25)

*Prices in brackets are concessionary rates

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Is your child missing out on a healthy school lunch?

Did you know that 1700 children in Cornwall who are eligible for healthy free school meals aren't claiming them?

Cornwall Council, through the School Meals Contract, is committed to ensuring that your child has access to a **healthy school lunch** if they want one and to working with families and schools to make sure that all children who are eligible for free school meals get one.

Did you know that school meals now contain more **fresh ingredients**, including fruit and vegetables and fresh baked bread each day, gone

are the many processed and high fat foods with chips now only being served once a week. The meals provided are **nutritionally balanced and tasty** and the content of each week's menu is carefully thought out **to provide for children's needs**; if your child has any special dietary requirements why not have a chat with the Kitchen Manager at your child's school.

