



# SPOTLIGHT



Issue 4 Summer Term

Week ending 23 May 2014

Parents' Information Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer

As many of you will know, James Butterworth will be leaving us at half term, after two and a half very successful years at Poltair School. He will be joining St Ives School as Director of their Mathematics Academy. Mr Butterworth is a fantastic teacher who has played a major part, alongside his colleagues, in the rapid improvements in Poltair School's mathematics faculty. This has been evident in both the quality of provision and the ever-improving outcomes achieved by students. He has been a teacher much beloved of those he has taught, has been an able deputy to Mrs Kellow, and diligent and warm colleague to all those at Poltair School.

We will of course miss Mr Butterworth but it is important that we express our delight in his achievement, as a Poltair member of staff, in securing a promotion at another school. We talk a lot at Poltair School to the students about high aspirations and setting oneself clear goals for the future; this is epitomised in the school's motto 'Believe and Achieve'. And in moving on to genuine new and exciting challenges, and as a learner leading learners, we should equally congratulate Mr Butterworth on his achievements, as well as thanking him and wishing him all the best for the future.

*Stephen Tong*

**Stephen Tong**  
Headteacher

## '2014' POLTAIR'S GOT TALENT

Another successful Final of Poltair's Got Talent 2014 was held on Thursday 15 May. The evening's entertainment of music, singing, dancing and comedy with a judging panel including some of Cornwall's finest producers, comedians, entertainers and ex-pupils: Stephen Tong, Shane Solomon and Edward Rowe (AKA the Kernow King), promised to be extremely exciting yet again.

For those lucky viewers who were fortunate to secure tickets on a sell-out show will agree that the evening proved no less than spectacular. The ten finalists, having endured a process of nail-biting auditions, performed their remarkable talents with exceptional pride and joy.



Runner up: Courtney

The judges had a very difficult task in their deliberations. Congratulations to Ethan Champion and Alisha

Armstrong who were this year's

winner with a fantastic version of 'Read all about it'. The runner up was Courtney Jade Rowden with her delightful solo 'Travellin' Soldier' and third place was Casey Mounce who danced to 'Lived a Lie'.

Congratulations to the winners and well done to all those who took part. We are very much looking forward to next year's audition process and the final of Poltair's Got Talent, 2015. We hope you will join us again for the final!



The winners: Ethan & Alisha





After the success of last year's 'My Money week' this year's will be bigger and better, running from 9 June to 15 June. There will be a number of KS3 and KS4 challenges during tutor time, such as quizzes and competitions that will be Numeracy and Literacy based. Also there will be lots of vivo's up for grabs.

INSERT TO MY MONEY WEEKLY • SECONDARY EDITION

## INVOLVING THE COMMUNITY

INPUT FROM VOLUNTEERS AND EXTERNAL AGENCIES IN YOUR LOCAL AREA CAN BE INVALUABLE IN BRINGING FINANCIAL EDUCATION TO LIFE, PROVIDING REAL LIFE CONTEXTS WHICH HELP YOUNG PEOPLE TO ENGAGE IN THEIR LEARNING.



In previous My Money Weeks teachers have contacted their local bank branches who have often been a valuable source of volunteers for schools and other institutions during the Week.

Staff from local bank branches can provide excellent information about day to day money management, and the advantages of keeping your money in a bank rather than at home.

LOCAL BANK EMPLOYEES

CREDIT UNION STAFF

Credit unions are a local alternative to the major high street banks. They provide similar saving and borrowing facilities, but for members of the local community. There are now credit unions covering many areas of the UK, and they tend to be very supportive of working with local schools. In previous My Money Weeks schools have worked with credit unions to set up school savings accounts and to provide information sessions for parents.

You can find out who your local credit union is at: [www.findyourcreditunion.co.uk/home](http://www.findyourcreditunion.co.uk/home)

pfeg offers a free service for anyone involved in teaching children and young people about money. Specialist education consultants use their experience to give practical advice and guidance about any aspect of financial education. This can range from identifying appropriate teaching resources to providing suggestions on activities to run during My Money Week.

So, why don't you ASKpfeg for help and advice? See [www.pfeg.org/AdvisoryService](http://www.pfeg.org/AdvisoryService) or call 0300 8660 127.

FREE ADVICE AND GUIDANCE



## TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS & CARERS FINANCIAL EDUCATION AT HOME

PARENTS AND CARERS HAVE A KEY ROLE TO PLAY IN HELPING CHILDREN LEARN ABOUT MONEY, AND WITH CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM FOR ENGLAND ON THE WAY LATER THIS YEAR, FINANCIAL EDUCATION HAS NEVER BEEN MORE IMPORTANT. YOU MAY WISH TO SHARE THESE FIVE PRACTICAL TIPS ON HOW PARENTS AND CARERS COULD ALSO HELP DEVELOP FINANCIAL EDUCATION AT HOME.

TALK TO YOUR CHILDREN ABOUT MONEY

It sounds simple, but this is the most effective way to help your children understand personal finance. Explain how you arrive at financial decisions, what's in your budget (or if you don't have one, why not do one together?) and how different aspects of dealing with money make you feel.



TEACH THEM WHERE MONEY COMES FROM

We're an increasingly cashless society, and thanks to the invention of cashback it's easy for children to assume that the supermarket is the source of all of your funds. Showing your child your payslip and explaining what you had to do to find employment are good ways of building financial understanding.



PARENTS AND CARERS

Parents and carers can be an amazing resource when it comes to financial education. Some parents may well work within the financial services sector and could provide more detailed information about specific areas of personal finance.

Alternatively the majority of parents and carers will have had experiences of managing money and be able to communicate this to the young people. Sometimes the stories that parents can bring about their own experiences are really stimulating for a class.



SET SAVINGS CHALLENGES

If you give your child pocket money, talk to them about setting a savings target and encourage them to adopt good habits early. This is a good opportunity to introduce ideas around keeping your money safe and planning for the future.

EXPLAIN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NEEDS AND WANTS

Contrast examples of goods they need every day, such as food and clothing, and items or toys they might want but don't need. This is a great way of introducing the concept of saving and the need to exercise restraint in their spending, as well as helping them to understand that sometimes times will be hard and you won't be able to afford everything everyone wants.



INVOLVE THEM IN THE WEEKLY SHOP

As you go around the supermarket, ask your children to choose the best-value combinations of set products and get them to do the adding up as you go from aisle to aisle. As well as learning valuable lessons, your new helpers can make your job easier at the same time.



## FURTHER SUPPORT

FOR MORE DETAIL ON HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S FINANCIAL EDUCATION, PLUS TO ACCESS PFEG'S FREE RESOURCES FOR PARENTS, VISIT [WWW.PFEG.ORG/PARENTS](http://WWW.PFEG.ORG/PARENTS)

This article was adapted from the pfeg blog. Posts for this appear regularly at [www.pfeg.org/blog](http://www.pfeg.org/blog)

### DIARY DATES

Monday 26 to Friday 30 May	Half Term holiday
Monday 2 June	All pupils return to school
Monday 9 to Friday 13 June	Money Week—Maths Department

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](http://www.poltairschool.co.uk)