

Environmental Sustainability Day

On Wednesday 16th March, Mrs Willis and nine eager and forward thinking Yr 10 geographers attended an environmental sustainability day at the University of Exeter's Penryn campus. The students were able to tour the site's laboratories and talk to scientists about their research as well as participating in debates and activities.

Keagan, spokesman for the group said the following, 'The day was full of interesting facts and interactive sessions that made the experience a really useful source of innovative knowledge. We were able to learn about global sustainability issues as well as local issues in Cornwall such as pollution in the disused mines. We especially enjoyed learning about a research project into animal waste! I was able to test my public speaking and give feedback to an audience of over 50 students and scientists-which was a great development opportunity. It was a great trip, that was full of laughter and learning and it was inspiring to be able to visit a university campus and meet real life scientists'.



Exam Invigilators Required

Rate of pay: Grade B (approx. £7.00 per hour at present).

We are seeking to recruit Invigilators to join our current enthusiastic and professional team. We are now recruiting for the summer exam season, starting 3rd May through to beginning of July, although help may also be required at other times during the academic year. Full training will be given.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and all staff and volunteers are expected to share this commitment. All our recruitment and selection practices reflect this and successful applicants are subject to Criminal Records Bureau checks along with other relevant employment checks.

For further details please contact Mrs Kathryn Northcott, Exams Officer on 01726 874520 (ext *266) or download information from www.poltairschool.co.uk

Poltair School Signs up to Schoolgateway

What is School Gateway?

School Gateway is the parent portal (smartphone app and website) which you can access to see the information we hold on your child. This includes your contact details as well as their achievement (Vivo rewards), attendance and behaviour information for the academic year. School Gateway will be operational from **Monday 11th April 2016**.

Make online payments to school via credit or debit card

Use School Gateway to make online payments with a debit or credit card any time, via the smartphone app or website. You can also view school meal balances and top them up. It makes paying for school meals easier and more flexible for parents and reduces the amount of cash being carried by children on school premises.

Communication

To make things easy, we will also use the School Gateway system to notify parents of relevant school information by text or email. This facility also allows you to text or email us back. With the School Gateway app on your smartphone texts to and from school will be free. This will replace our current system text/email system which operates through The Contact Group. However we will continue with The Contact Group in managing our pupil absence calls to parents.

Not Used School Gateway before?

Activating your School Gateway account is quick and easy to do. All you need is your email address and mobile number that school holds on record for you.

Download the app

If you have a smartphone, please download School Gateway from your app store (Android and iPhone). The app shows the same information as the website PLUS it saves the school money when we send you a text message.

The logo for Schoolgateway, featuring the word "Schoolgateway" in a blue, sans-serif font. The "S" is significantly larger than the other letters, and the "y" has a long tail that extends downwards.

Visit the website

www.schoolgateway.com and click on 'New User'. You'll receive a text message with a PIN number. Use this PIN to log in to School Gateway.

The set-up process is simple and will take no more than a couple of minutes. When you install the app please say yes to "Allow Push Notifications" when prompted. When you launch School Gateway for the first time and select 'New User' you will need to enter the email address and mobile telephone number you have registered with the school.

We hope that you will find School Gateway to be a fast and easy way to see how your child is doing in terms of achievement, behaviour and attendance at Poltair School

Trouble logging in?

It may be because we don't have your current email and mobile phone number on record.

Please contact the school on 01726 874520 or email secretary@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk and we'll update the details on our system.

Take 3 Parenting Programme

Poltair have be delighted to facilitate a Take 3 parenting programme at the school over the past three months. Our parent support advisor worked alongside a targeted youth worker to deliver the course to a group of parents within the community. This week seen the final session in the 10 week programme, which looked at strategies to support adolescent development. The programme included sessions on understanding adolescents, effective communication, encouragement, parenting styles, negotiation, boundaries and consequences.

"I think every parent should go on this course, whether or not they are having problems, as long as you go with an open mind, are honest with yourself and are willing to put in the time & effort, you will find it useful". - Parent

The programme has been a real success and we look forward to facilitating another one later in the year. The parents who attended have found the course hugely beneficial and as result positive feedback was given by all.

"The facilitators were fantastic and I felt I could tell them anything, knowing it would be kept confidential if I wished". - Parent

If you are interested in attending any parenting courses please call the school and speak to our Parent Support Advisor - Rebecca Stoneman.

Pit Porcelain Paper Exhibition

A group of Year 9 Art students have been working very hard over the last few lessons to produce work for an exhibition to be held at Wheal Martyn Museum and Country Park. The exhibition is a showcase of poetry and artwork created by children from Poltair, Brannel, St Dennis and Nanpean schools.

The exhibition will run from Saturday 19th March until Sunday 10th April to celebrate the work of local school children who have created original artwork and poetry inspired by the Wheal Martyn Museum, the local landscape and Cornish poet Jack Clemo.



A Selection of the Year 9 students work for the exhibition

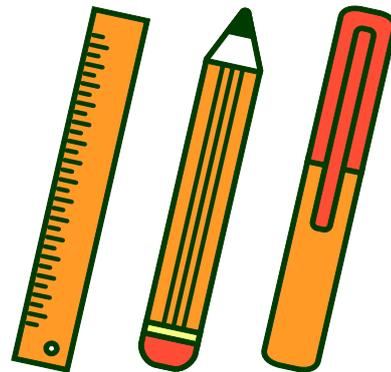


Behaviour for Learning Policy Update

After launching our new Behaviour for Learning policy in September 2015, it has become apparent that some minor adjustments are needed in order to raise basic expectations. One area of focus is around the essential equipment needed to be successful in school and indeed the workplace.

The essential equipment for school is as follows:

- Writing pen (blue or black ink)
- Sharpened pencil
- Ruler
- Eraser
- Sharpener

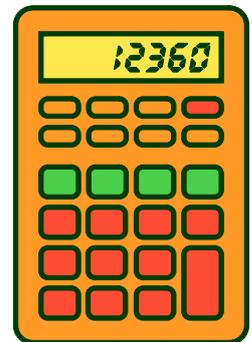


The list above should be kept within a pencil case or pencil tin which should of course, be graffiti free. Having the equipment within a suitable case supports the longevity of it.

This is the minimum expectation for all students. All equipment can be sourced at a very low cost from local supermarkets and shops and via the Vivo Reward Store for students.

In addition to the list above, students would also benefit from the following:

- Highlighter
- Coloured pencils
- Scientific calculator (this can be purchased via the Maths department)



Students arriving at school without the essential equipment for school will now be issued with an A2 breaktime detention by their tutor on every day that they do not have the equipment. This change has been made to ensure that students are well prepared and ready to learn from the moment they enter the classroom. Not having equipment can detract from learning of both the student without equipment and also from other students in the class. Equipment will be checked every morning at tutor time.

As parents, we hope that you will support us in this drive to raise standards and expectations by ensuring that you check your child's equipment and replenish this regularly where needed. If you are struggling to provide equipment, please contact your child's tutor who will be able to offer assistance.

This update to policy will come into effect after the Easter break,
Monday 11th April.

Please ensure your son/daughter has the equipment listed to
avoid receiving a sanction.