

SPOTLIGHT



Parents' Information Newsletter

Issue 4
Spring Term 2012

Dear Parent/Carer

HAVING A CHOICE AND GETTING IT RIGHT

It was fantastic to have such a superb turnout at the Year 8 Parents' Subject Consultation Evening on Tuesday night. The high proportion of parents and pupils in attendance left us very reassured that we are all working very much in partnership when it comes to making the right decisions for each and every pupil. We can now look forward to a similar record-breaking attendance at the Options Evening shortly after half term.

I feel it is important to again explain the school's stance on the English Baccalaureate. As you will know, this new measure of attainment, already included in school performance tables, calculates the proportion of pupils who achieve good GCSEs in English, Mathematics, Science, a foreign language and either History or Geography. This presents all schools with a dilemma. Languages, History and Geography are options subjects. We could easily attempt to raise the school's position in regard to the new performance measure by insisting that a majority of our pupils **must** specifically choose French and Geography or History. However, we are not going to do this, as it would limit pupil choice. Whilst these subjects are very important and we want them to continue to flourish at Poltair School (I am a historian myself!) we recognise that they are not necessarily the right way forward for all pupils. We know that if we get the right personalised programme of study right for every pupil, then we will maximise the chances, not only of the pupils being successful, but also happy. We prefer to present as wide a portfolio of courses as possible, so that there is genuine choice.

However, we do recognise that there is some support for the introduction of the EBacc and that it could yet become important for pupils considering future study, albeit in a few years' time, at a high performing university. For this reason, and so that we can do right by pupils now and in the future, we will analyse all pupil choices very carefully, and in some cases present a strong case for a particular combination. If we identify that a pupil has the right aptitude, ability or indeed aspiration to be thinking seriously about such a university placement, then we may articulate what we think the pupil **should** be choosing. In other words, the key to this is intelligent decision-making, based on quality communication between home and school.

Wishing you all the best in getting the decisions right.

Stephen Tong
Headteacher

Dates for Diary

Saturday 4 February to Saturday 11 February
Ski Trip

Monday 13 to Friday 17 February Half Term

Tuesday 21 February
Year 8 Curriculum Evening (6.30 pm prompt start)
Main Hall

School Website

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 G & T Pottery Workshop



The work produced was wonderful and a lot of pupils have asked if this session could be repeated in the future. The staff who joined in enjoyed it too!




PENDENNIS
WORLDCLASS SUPERYACHTS

12 APPRENTICESHIPS

We are delighted to invite applications for our national award winning apprenticeship scheme as follows:

12 General Engineering Apprenticeships on a four year course to begin in August. (Leading to a specialism in either engineering, electrical, joinery or fabrication/welding)

To be eligible for these apprenticeships you will need:

- To be aged 16-18 on 1st September 2012
- To have (or be likely to pass) 4 GCSEs of Grade C or above including Maths & English
- A desire to succeed in an exciting and stimulating environment.

Interested applicants (and parents/guardians) are invited to an

Open Evening

at Pendennis Shipyard

If interested please telephone 01326 211344

Or email: apprenticeships@pendennis.com.



Further information is available on our website:


www.pendennis.com




Santa Fun Run

Mark Wherry Year 11 Tregrehan student presents a cheque for over £2,000 to Karen Holman of Cornwall Hospice Care.



 Luxulyan Amateur Dramatic Society 

present 


Aladdin 

Luxulyan Village Hall

Tuesday 14th – Saturday 18th February

 7.30pm 

Matinee at 2pm on Saturday



Tickets: Adult £6 / Children £5

Tel: 01726 850515

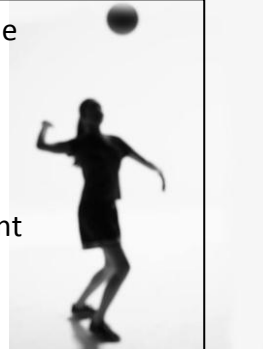
Spotlight n PE



Year 9 girls went to an indoor football tournament at the Roseland School on Wednesday 18 January. We started our first game very positively by capitalising on a defensive error, with Tori Marks slamming the ball into the back of the net. In total we won 3 games, drew one game and lost to Bodmin in our last game. We finished 2nd out of five teams. All the girls played very well. We will work on slowing the pace of the game down and maintaining possession for our next tournament. Well done Poltair.

The team: Tori Marks, Emily White, Casey Mounce, Gemma Floyd Norris, Chelsea Payton & Millie King.

On Thursday 19 January 2012, the Year 7 netball tournament was held at Poltair School. Brannel, Fowey, Penrice, Bodmin and Treviglas all arrived at 4pm in damp conditions. The tournament started well for Poltair beating Penrice 1-0, Bodmin 3-0 and Treviglas 3-0.



The girls then had two difficult teams to play where they drew with Fowey 2 all and lost narrowly to Brannel 2-1. The girls played exceptionally well and their team spirit was brilliant. Overall the girls finished 3rd in the competition narrowly missing out on 2nd place by one goal.

The team: Sadie Davey, Alana Marks, Emily James, Emily Crane, Keira Briden, Bethany Michael and Katie Wenmouth.

Top Ten Fiona Stevenson



- 1) What exactly do you do at Poltair?**
I am a Teacher of PE.
- 2) What is your favourite meal?** Chinese food.
- 3) If you didn't work in a school what would you be?** Definitely working with people, maybe a doctor or a nurse.
- 4) Who are your heroes?**
David Beckham.
- 5) Who is your favourite singer/band?** Rihanna.
- 6) What is your favourite book?**
Any thriller or auto-biography.
- 7) Name one thing that perhaps people don't know about you?** I play football for Launceston Ladies, Cornwall Ladies and have represented the South West team.
- 8) What do you enjoy most about Poltair?**
The friendliness of the staff and pupils.
- 9) What do you treasure most?**
My family and friends.
- 10) What one thing would you change in the world today?**
I would like the troops to come home from Afghanistan.

CLUB FOR YEARS 7 & 8

3.15 – 4.15 pm
TUES (Week A) and WED (Week B)

MEET BY THE PE OFFICE

POLTAIR IS LOOKING FOR A
GROUP OF STUDENTS TO REPRESENT
THE SCHOOL AT THE
CORNWALL SCHOOL GAMES
FOR TABLE TENNIS

POLTAIR SCHOOL (Poltair +) Feb - March 2012

DAY	CLUB	INFORMATION	STAFF/ROOM
MON 3.15 - 4.30	Poltair Live Lounge	Be a recording star in the music recording studio	Miss Johnston Music Practice Room
	Fitness Suite	All welcome	Mr Shepherd
TUES Break 2	Fitness Suite	All welcome	Mr Shepherd
TUES 3.15 - 4.30	Badminton	All years	Club staff Sports Hall
	Easter Toy Making	Y7 & 8, make your own toys, ready for Easter gifts	Mrs Peters T9
	Maths revision	Y10 & 11	Maths Rooms
	Hockey	All years	Miss Owens/Miss Stevenson
	ICT	Homework and improve skills. All years	Mrs Nicholas E7
	Homework Club	For all subjects and all years	Mrs Warwick SSC
	German Club	All years	Mrs Hancock E3
	3.15 - 5.30	Boys' Fixtures	See list
WED 3.15 - 4.30	Maths revision	Y9 & 10	Maths Rooms
	Social Football	All years, all abilities welcome	Mr Booth Astro
	Fitness Suite	All welcome	Mr Shepherd
	Dance	All welcome (boys and girls)	Mrs Hulbert Dance Studio
	Brass Band	Practice	Ms Oram & Mr Pope
	Art Club	All welcome	Mrs Pearson/Mrs Whitbread-Abrutat
	Homework Club	For all subjects and all years	Mrs Warwick SSC
	Catering Catch up	Y9, 10 & 11 clinic to keep up to date with work	Mrs Partis T7
3.15 - 5.30	Girls Fixtures	see list	various
THURS Break 2	Fitness Suite	All welcome	Mr Shepherd
	Football	Y7 & 8 'Fancy a kick about, just bring trainers?'	Mr Watkinson Astro
THURS 3.15 - 4.30	STEM Club	For pupils in the STEM Y9 group to build their formula 24 car ready for the race in June	Miss Brader, Mr Martin, Mr Axe and Mr Boden (various places each week)
	Basketball	Plymouth Raiders Coaching All welcome	Jamie Burchell Sports Hall
	Boys' Football Team Practice	Practice for games/matches	Mr Marshall, Mr Adams, Mr Foster
	Girls' Fitness Suite	All girls welcome	Miss Stevenson
	1-1 Maths	Targeted pupils	Various
	Capoeira	Brazilian form of dance/martial arts	Craig Blackburn Jinga Communities Dance Studio
	ICT	Homework and improve skills. All years	Mr Jones E7
	Choir	Love to sing, come along!	Ms Oram
	Homework Club	For all subjects and all years	Mrs Warwick SSC
	Literacy Club	Improve your reading and writing	Mrs Webb SSC
Song Writers Club	Learn how to make musical magic! GCSE students particularly welcome	Miss Johnston music practice room	
3.15 - 5.30	Boys' Fixtures	see list	various
FRI Break 2	Football	Y9, 10 & 11 'Fancy a kick about, just bring trainers?'	Mr Watkinson Astro
FRI 3.15 - 4.30	Trampolining	Great fun, fab exercise, just for fun or work towards you skills award	Mr Strickland Main Hall
	Indoor rowing	For pupils wanting to give rowing on the water a go!	Alistair Barr - Castledore Rowing Club
4.00 - 5.30	Fitness Suite	Staff only	
4.00 - 5.00	Ten Tors	Team Training	Miss Blackburn T1
5.00 - 6.00	Silver D of E		

Enhancement buses - run on a Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 4.30 pm from the front of school.

Don't forget your **ORANGE** bus slip.

FEBRUARY - MARCH 2012 (Fixtures girls/boys)

Day	Sport	Venue
Mon 6 Feb	Football (boys) Y8 & 10	Poltair
Tues 7 Feb	Football (boys) Y9	Brannel
Wed 8 Feb	Mixed Hockey (girls) Y11	Poltair
Tues 21 Feb	Football (boys) Y8 & 9	Fowey
Wed 22 Feb	Hockey (girls) Y10	Poltair
	Netball (girls) Y9	Fowey
	Basketball (boys) Y11	Poltair
Thurs 23 Feb	Football (boys) Y7-10	Newquay Tretherras
	Football (girls) Y8	TBC
Tues 28 Feb	Football (boys) Y7	Poltair
Wed 29 Feb	Mixed Hockey (girls) Y11	Poltair
	Football (girls) Y10	Bodmin
Fri 2 Mar	Football (boys) Y8	Brannel
Tues 6 Mar	Football (boys) Y8 & 10	Penrice
Wed 7 Mar	Hockey (girls) Y10	Poltair
Fri 9 Mar	Football (boys) Y7	Brannel
Tues 13 Mar	Football (boys) Y8 & 10	Poltair
Wed 14 Mar	Football (boys) Y9	Roseland
	Hockey (girls) Y7	Brannel
Thurs 15 Mar	County Netball (girls) Y8	Bodmin
Tues 20 Mar	Football (boys) Y9	Poltair
Wed 21 Mar	Hockey (girls) Y10	Poltair
	Netball (girls) Y7	Fowey
Thurs 22 Mar	Football (girls) Y7	TBC
Fri 23 Mar	County Netball (girls) Y7	Penair
Wed 28 Mar	Hockey (girls) Y7	Poltair

