



# End of Half Term Parent Bulletin



## A Message from the Headteacher

I would like to thank parents and carers for their continued support through the first half term of this academic year. We have spent time focusing on students being ready for learning and embedding good habits to aid with this. I am pleased that there has been a great response, which is testament to the support of the student body and their families.

Being learning-ready allows students to concentrate on their learning without distractions, enabling them to get the most out of school. It means students arrive on time, ready to learn new skills and ready to build their confidence and develop their character.

At Poltair, we are committed to providing an enriching and safe learning environment, where every student can thrive. Our dedicated team of educators and support staff are here to nurture the potential within each child and inspire a life-long love for learning.

We have, once again, had a wonderful Open Evening for Year 6 children and their families. This was an opportunity for them to look at the facilities, curriculum and additional opportunities on offer at Poltair; it was great to meet so many throughout the evening. During my talks, I was joined by our previous head students, who were fantastic in providing guidance to Year 6s and explaining how great Poltair is.

This year, we have exciting plans and initiatives that will enhance the educational experience for our students. We will continue to focus on academic excellence, character development, and extracurricular opportunities that allow students to explore their passions.

As you look through our first newsletter of the academic year, you will see a small part of the amazing opportunities available to young people at Poltair.

I look forward to the year ahead and the incredible achievements and growth it will bring. Let's work together to make this year a memorable and successful one for our students.

**Mark Everett, Headteacher**

# Some of this Half Term's Highlights...



## Summer Art Project Success

Our GCSE Art students were given a project to work on over the summer break.

Their task was to make large pieces of 3D Pop Art, inspired by food or sweets and the sculptor Claes Oldenburg.

Students brought their masterpieces into school on the first week back - we think you'll agree they are rather impressive!



## Tunes, Glorious Tunes!

Mr Richards and Mrs Mills have been hugely impressed with the enthusiasm and energy the students are bringing to the weekly Oliver rehearsals.

The sound coming from the hall on Wednesday afternoons is fantastic, the cast and crew are geared up and ready to put on a show that must not be missed!



## Judo Success for Kirill

Year 7 student, Kirill, has been practicing Judo since the age of 4; training weekly in St Austell.

Last year, Kirill competed at the Kingsley School Judo Championships in Devon, where he earned a very respectable 2nd place.

Earlier this month, he competed at the same Championships, but this time claimed 1st place after winning 5 out of 5 fights!

Well done, Kirill!

## The Oxford University Visits Year 8



On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September, researchers from the University of Oxford paid us a visit, bringing the world of "Oxplore Big Questions" into our classrooms.

This visit was part of a series of events that aim to challenge students in Years 7, 8 and 9 with debates and ideas that go beyond what is usually covered in the classroom.

Oxford's Big Questions tackle complex ideas across a wide range of subjects and reflect the kind of critical thinking that students undertake at university.



# Record Number of Visitors to Open Evening 2023!



**On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September, we opened our doors to prospective students and parents, to give them a glimpse into Poltair life.**

We were delighted that over 1000 people joined us for the evening – a record number for Poltair. There was a bustling vibe in all areas of the school as our guests toured the departments, talking to both students and staff members about what Poltair has to offer. While some visitors opted for a self-tour of the school, others were given guided tours by our school prefects. We received very positive feedback from visitors, both on the night and in the days that followed, about their tour guides. The confidence, character and maturity they demonstrated was exceptional.

We are very proud of how far we, as a school community, have come in recent years. The school has benefited from huge investment and now is home to state of the art learning facilities, including the new Creative Learning Suite, Library and IT Suites.

There is a real sense of pride among our students and staff alike; we thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to be able to showcase this to the evening's visitors.







# Poltair School



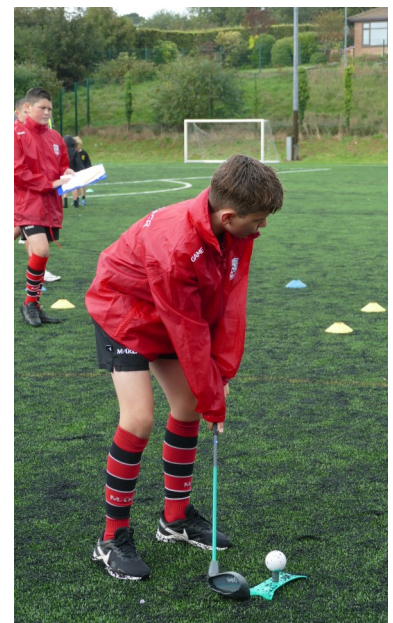
## -Sports Leaders-



**Our enthusiastic team of Sports Leaders have assisted in the smooth running of many Poltair School Sports Partnership events, these include Cross Country, Multi-Sports and Netball. Trained for their role by Miss Hodge, these students recently achieved a Sports Leaders UK qualification.**

When asked about her experience of being a Sports Leader, Year 8's Nerine said:

"Being a Sports Leader has helped increase my confidence. I think this is an amazing thing to do because it teaches you to not only be helpful, but to enjoy helping others to have fun. I have been a part of many of the events that have happened, and I have enjoyed them all. As Sports Leaders, our aim is to be a positive role model to primary school children, and maybe even inspire them to become Sports Leaders in the future. We also encourage them to be a part of a team, making sure everyone is included in the activities. Prior to the events we support, we have meetings - so we understand what we are required to do, meaning we arrive prepared. Being a Sports Leader might be quite daunting for some students, particularly if they don't like speaking in front of people, but I have found that it has made me a more confident person in general. Overall, my opinion on becoming a Sports Leader is that it was a great decision and one that has positively impacted on my experience at Poltair School."





## Instrumental Lessons at Poltair



There has been an excellent uptake for instrumental lessons this year, with a record number of students learning to play an instrument.

There are a few spaces remaining - if you would like to sign your child up to learn an instrument, please email [Djohnston@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:Djohnston@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk)

All lessons are delivered on a one-to-one basis, and can be either single (15 minutes) or double (30 minutes) lessons.

Prices start from £75 per term, however, as we are now half way through the term, there will only be 5 lessons to pay for as opposed to 10 if starting at the beginning of a term.

**\*Students in receipt of Free School Meals could be eligible for free lessons**



To find out more, or to sign your child up for lessons, please visit: [www.poltairschool.co.uk/instrumentlessons](http://www.poltairschool.co.uk/instrumentlessons) or [CLICK HERE](#)

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH



Bronze Award

We are pleased to let you know that here at Poltair, we are able to offer Year 9 students the opportunity to challenge themselves to achieve the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) in 2023/2024.

The DofE is a chance for students to:

- *broaden their horizons,*
- *discover new interests and talents*
- *have fun with friends*
- *develop essential skills for their future*
- *achieve an internationally renowned Award.*

Further details can be found via our website - [www.poltairschool.co.uk/dofe](http://www.poltairschool.co.uk/dofe)

## Term Dates



**Return to School**  
Monday 30th October

**Last Day of Term**  
Friday 15th December

