



End of Half Term Parent Bulletin



A Message from the Headteacher

In a recent letter to all parents/carers, I explained that from September, I will be working with another local CELT school - to support its improvement journey. Mr Cardigan will be taking on the Headship, supported ably by the remaining senior team. I will, however, remain with the strategic oversight of Poltair and will be in school on a regular basis.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all, for the continued support you have given - not only to your children, but also to our school. I feel incredibly proud to have been a part of the huge transformation Poltair School has undergone over the last few years. It is only through teamwork, between us as educators and you as parents/carers, that our school has become the exemplary learning environment that it is today.

M Everett



What a half-term it has been here at Poltair. There have been so many exciting things taking place, both in and out of the classroom, it has really been an action-packed end to the academic year! This edition of the Parent Bulletin showcases some of the highlights, I hope you enjoy reading about what we and our students have been up to.

I am very proud to be returning in September in my new role as Headteacher, Poltair really is a fantastic school and I am excited to be leading on the next phase of its development.

In September, we will be welcoming a new cohort of Year 7s through our gates, a daunting yet exciting prospect for them - but I have no doubt that our current students will help them feel at ease.

On a final note, I would like to wish you all a relaxing summer break - let's hope for some more of that Cornish sunshine that we saw earlier this month, albeit briefly. I look forward to seeing you all again next term.

R Cardigan

Some of this Half Term's Highlights...



Transition Day

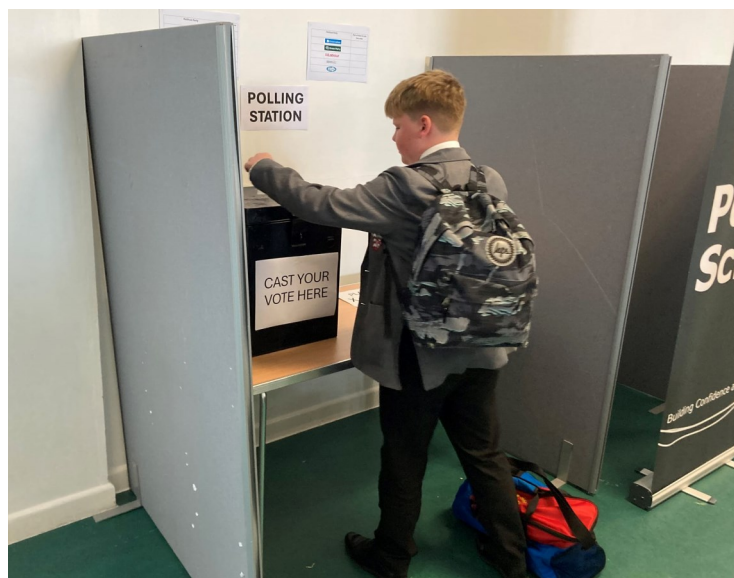
At the start of this half term, we welcomed our future Year 7s to Poltair for a Transition Day.

They spent the day taking part in a range of activities, whilst getting to know the staff and making new friends in readiness for September.

The students returned in the evening, along with their families, for an informative Transition Evening. In addition to talks delivered by staff, our soon-to-be Year 7s got to hear first hand from current students about life at Poltair – we even welcomed back a former student, Willow, who spoke about her 5 year Poltair journey and the opportunities it has opened up for her since leaving.

The evening also provided students/parents with the opportunity to try on and order the mandatory items of uniform, and to speak to some of the external providers we work closely with when providing extra-curricular opportunities for our students.

Election Day



On 4th July, our students participated in a mock election, to learn about Democracy and Fundamental British Values.

Over the past two weeks, they've explored how elections work, how we vote in Britain and examined various different party manifestos.

We are delighted to say we had a very impressive turnout, with 60% of students casting their votes at the Poltair Polling Station.

Well done everyone!

Space Camp Adventures

Earlier this month, two of our students, along with Miss Spicer and Mr Martin, embarked on the experience of a lifetime - a trip to the USA Space Camp!

From hands-on astronaut training, to thrilling talks, they experienced it all. To top off this amazing, once-in-a-lifetime trip, they had the opportunity to meet Charles Duke, Apollo 16 Astronaut - the youngest man to ever set foot on the moon!



Rewards Assemblies

On 15th July, we held our Rewards Assemblies for Years 7-10, celebrating some of the incredible achievements of our students.

A special highlight for our Year 7s was having the honour of Annie Vernon, two-time World Champion rower and Olympic silver medalist, join their assembly!

Annie spoke passionately about determination and perseverance, inspiring everyone in the room, before presenting our hardworking students with their reward badges and prizes.





Year 11, Class of 24 PROM!



On Friday 28th June, Year 11 gathered for the highly anticipated Leavers' Prom, and for the first time in the history of the event, the Poltair Prom was not held in St Austell.

Over the last few decades, the Poltair Prom (or the 5th Year Ball as it was previously known) has been held at The Cornwall Coliseum, The Cliff Head Hotel, The Porth Avallen Hotel, Pentewan Sands, Knightor Winery and most recently, the Carlyon Bay Golf Club. This year, the convoy of flashy cars made the journey from St Austell to The Alverton Hotel, Truro.



The hotel provided a stunning setting for the event, and our students certainly looked the part. As always, our proud staff were there, along with proud parents/relatives, to watch the grand arrivals; and as always, our students didn't disappoint. We saw one student arrive in an articulated lorry, while another arrived on a trike – escorted by 68 motorbikes!

Our Class of Year 11 had a fantastic evening of food, music, fun and laughter – the perfect end to their 5 year Poltair journey.

Here are a few photos from the arrivals.





Poltair Presents... OLIVER JR.



On 10th, 11th and 12th July, our talented young thespians wowed audiences with their truly spectacular production of Oliver Jr.

The extremely talented cast delivered three sell-out performances to proud parents, relatives, friends and staff - all of whom were blown away by the show.

The quality of the acting, singing and dancing was outstanding, as was the sound and lighting (thanks to the fantastic stage technicians!). Everyone, both on the stage and backstage, worked tirelessly to put on what really was a show to remember.

Well done to everyone involved - we can't wait for the next production!





Sports Day



Sports Day 2024 was a fantastic day, and to make things even better, the sun was shining!

The spirit of determination and fun was in full swing, with everyone participating and cheering each other on. We even had a special visit from Chuffy, the Cornwall School Games Mascot, which added to the days' excitement!

Well done to our incredible PE Department for organising such a fantastic day and thank you to the wonderful ex-students who came back to support with the running of the event.





Poltair PE Kit

As of September 2024, all students will be required to wear the new, red and grey Poltair multi-sports top. The green PE tops, which were part of the old Poltair uniform, are no longer permitted.

Our PE kit is supplied by Kitworld, you can view and purchase the new PE items directly from their website:

<https://kitworld.uk/product-category/school-clubs/poltair-school-pe-kit/>



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Attendance

August will see the changes to the National Penalty Notice Framework come into force. Specifically, the changes are:

1. A new national threshold of 10 unauthorised sessions, for any reason, (equivalent to 5 school days) within a rolling 10 school week period for which a penalty notice must be considered. A penalty fine can be issued for any combination of unauthorised absences over a 10-week rolling period. They can be consecutive or non-consecutive and can span over two terms.
2. An increase in the penalty fine from £60 to £80 if paid in 21 days. If the fine is not paid by the first 21 days, it will rise to £160 if paid within 28 days of being issued.
3. If a 2nd penalty fine is issued to the same parent for the same child within a 3-year rolling period, the fine will automatically rise to £160 with no option to pay the lower rate of £80.
4. If a parent then commits a third offence in a 3-year rolling period, the local authority will need to consider options available to them to improve attendance. This will include a consideration to prosecute under section 444 of the Education Act 1996.
5. The current penalty notice warning letter used for unauthorised absence (not holiday) will be changed to a Notice to Improve.

Term Dates

Return to School

- Monday 2nd September: Inset Day (school closed to students)
- Tuesday 3rd September: Inset Day (school closed to students)
- Wednesday 4th September: Inset Day (school closed to students)
- Thursday 5th September: Years 7 & 11 only
- Friday 6th September: All Years return

All term dates for the next academic year are available to view on the "News and Events" page of our website.

CLICK HERE to view them now.

