



End of Half Term Parent Bulletin



A Message from the Headteacher

I am very pleased to say that this has been a much more normal start to the academic year than we have all seen for some time - it is extremely refreshing to see enthusiastic, if not a little tired, students approaching a well-earned break.

This year's Year 7 is the biggest the school has seen in over twenty years! They have settled in remarkably well, engaging with lots of after-school activities - I am proud to say that they have been very well supported by both the staff and the older students.

The outcomes for the outgoing Year 11 have just been released nationally and I am delighted to say that Poltair now sits within the top seven performing schools in the whole of Cornwall! This was an amazing achievement for those young people, they worked so hard despite the significant challenges they faced due to COVID. They are role models to our current students - demonstrating that if you show commitment and perseverance, despite adversity, you can succeed.

It has been an exciting term with lots going on, we are continually grateful for all the support that have you given the school and I hope that you manage to get some family time over the holiday.

Poltair Plus Enrichment



A new term – new Poltair Plus activities

It has been brilliant to see so many students taking advantage of the various enrichment activities on offer, as part of our Poltair Plus programme.

It has been especially nice to see those in Year 7, who have only just joined us, getting involved with all the extra-curricular activities with such enthusiasm.

You can view all the activities on offer on our website. [CLICK HERE](#) to view them now. All activities are free, there is no need to book, just turn up!

Nurturing New Musical Talents



We have had a huge number of students enrol for instrumental lessons this term.

We are offering weekly, one-to-one lessons on guitar, piano, drums, brass and vocals.

Lessons start from £75 per term - although there is no charge for students in receipt of Free School Meals.

If your child is interested in learning to play an instrument, please ask them to pop along and see Mr Richards, or email djohnston@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk for more information.

We look forward to hearing lots more from all of our budding musicians...



Our New Creative Learning Suite



Work is rapidly progressing as our old DT & Art Blocks are transformed into a new Creative Arts Suite – a bespoke home for Drama, Art, DT, Music and Catering.

It's been very exciting to watch as walls have been moved, windows and doors replaced, original stonework cleaned, and a host of other changes made to turn the old building into state-of-the-art learning spaces for our creative subjects. Over the coming half term, walls will be painted, carpets fitted, and furniture set out in readiness for classes to move in after Christmas.



Literacy at Poltair



From J.K Rowling to George Orwell, the newly refurbished school library is stocked with over 8,000 books for students and staff to borrow.

A recent investment of £11,000 on new books alone, means that there is now more choice than ever! Students can take their pick from fact, fiction, graphic novels, poetry or quick reads for those who want a shorter text.

Borrowing books has also been made easier than ever, through our new online booking system. In addition to being able to visit the Library during break/lunch times and after school, students are able to use our online booking system to browse our 'virtual' shelves.

Ms Hancock, our Librarian, is being kept very busy by all our keen student readers and we're delighted to see such a buzz around the new space, having relocated the library to the heart of the school.



We are incredibly proud to have implemented a thriving reading programme on a grand scale. The energy and commitment invested by each member of staff has, and will, continue to reap huge gains, both on an academic and a pastoral level.

When? Every day during tutor registration time

Where? In tutor bases

How? Trained tutors read to their tutees, who track the text with a ruler

Which texts? Texts have been extremely carefully selected, to address age-appropriate key themes, offering challenge to support your child's learning journey.

Why? There is growing evidence in the field of education, to suggest that the act of reading is one of the best ways in which you can improve academic performance in the long-term.

Key benefits of reading together:

- 1.** A social experience that builds a sense of community and belonging
- 2.** Regular modelling of fluent, passionate reading delivered by tutors
- 3.** Exposure to countless words and phrases not found in everyday dialogue
- 4.** Coverage of a wealth of themes and concepts, valuable for personal development
- 5.** On-going improvement in independent reading skills

Homework Club

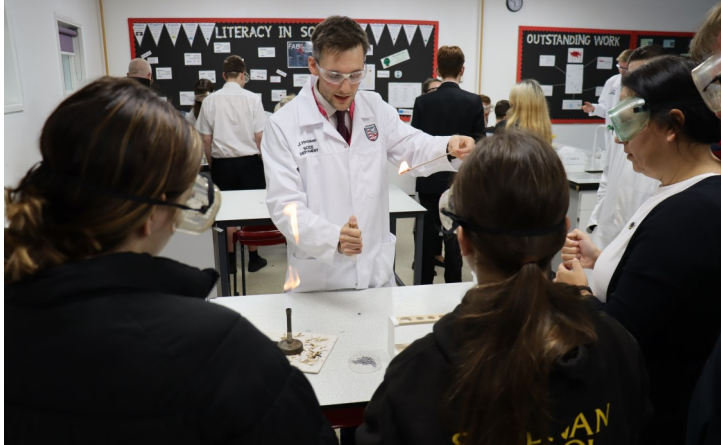
The Arc will now be available to all students from 3:15 pm - 4:15 pm every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

This will be an opportunity for students to have access to a computer and complete their homework using the school computers and resources.

There will be members of staff on hand to assist students with logging in as well as with their homework, if required.



Open Evening 2022



On Thursday 6th October, we opened our doors and gave prospective pupils and their families a glimpse into Poltair life.

From 5 – 7:30pm, the school corridors and classrooms were full of activity as colleagues and students welcomed our visitors into school and showcased the subject areas.

Mr Everett was joined by Year 7 students and our Year 11 Head Prefects, for a two presentations to a packed hall.

It was lovely to see so many people here, and to receive such positive feedback from our visitors on the considerable changes the school has undergone this past couple of years.

Thank you to all students who came along to support the evening, you did an excellent job representing our school.

Poltair School Sports Partnership



On Monday 3rd October, we hosted our first primary sporting event.

Five schools from Poltair School Sports Partnership (SSP) each brought 12 budding rugby players. The event was run by players from The Cornish Rebels Rugby League Team, who engaged and inspired the students.

It was fantastic to see the children embrace a new skill and make such improvement in that short space of time.





**Poltair School
Super Camp
Holiday Activities**

OCTOBER HALF TERM

10:00 - 14:00

Monday 24th - Friday 28th October
Monday 31st - Friday 4th November

For children in years 5|6|7|8
A fun day of sport & creativity

Free for free school meal children.
£5 if you are not entitled to free school meals.

Lunch is provided

CLICK HERE
to book



Term Dates

Half Term

Monday 24th October - Friday 4th November

Return to School

Monday 7th November

Last Day of Term

Tuesday 20th December



We hope you all enjoy a lovely Half Term break...