



Newsletter 6
Spring 2023
Monday 27th February 2023

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Youth Speaks Area Competition

A huge congratulations to these three competing in the Youth Speaks Area competition. We are very proud of them, I thought they excelled themselves. They have all grown in confidence throughout the competition and they should feel pleased with what they've achieved. Penponds was chosen as the third team and the marks were close to the two winning schools—so they did very well! Super effort, well done Laurie, Olivia and Janise!



Diary Dates:

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Monday 9th January – Friday 24th March. No clubs in the last week of term (27th-31st March)

School Choir Visit to Memory Café

Wednesday 1st March

World Book Day

Thursday 2nd March
Children can dress up as their favourite book character

DDMIX - Friday fun fitness classes start again next Friday until 4pm and are Free.

Please register attendance by email to diversedancemix.martha@gmail.com

Special Visitor in from Sports for Schools

Wednesday 15th March

Red Nose Day

Friday 17th March

Parents Evenings

Monday 20th March – Carn Brea Class only

Tuesday 21st March – Godolphin, Trencrom, Tregonning Classes

Wednesday 22nd March – Godolphin, Trencrom, Tregonning Classes

ShelterBox Fundraising Day

What an amazing day of fundraising we have had in school last Wednesday. Trenccrom class - we are all amazingly proud of you! Thank you so much to everyone that brought in money to spend or donations to make. A special thank you goes to all the people that brought cakes in for our cake sale. The target was £160 but total raised far exceeded that. The total so far is £410!



Here's a few words from the children:

Dear Parents, as you know your children were invited to wear green. The money your child brought in was to help Shelterbox. We had stalls and games like books, crafts and toys. It was very busy and by the end there was not a lot left at all. Trenccrom class hosted this event on Wednesday 22nd of February 2023. The first class to come was Godolphin. And then Year 6 and Reception. The games outside were Penalty Shoot-out, Skittles and Hook a Duck. Me, Ia and Orla ran the craft stall. I set up and totally ran the book stall. By Emily C



Inset Days:

Monday 5th September 2022
Tuesday 3rd January 2023
Monday 17th April 2023
Monday 24th July 2023
Tuesday 25th July 2023

Extra Bank Holiday for King's Coronation

Monday 8th May 2023

Attendance week ending: 24th February 2023:

Carn Brea: 95%

Godolphin: 99%

Trenccrom: 100%

Tregonning: 96%

Well done to **Trenccrom** Class
for best attendance

Class Awards



Carn Brea:

Saffron, Gracie, Dottie

Godolphin:

Caja, Harper, Evie

Trenccrom:

All of Trenccrom Class.
Maddie and Bert

Tregonning:

William, Jasper, Ethan

At Penponds School we raised lots and lots of money for Shelterbox. Trencom class designed a game stall for two people. This happened on Wednesday 22nd February 2023. There was a Can Toss by me and Logan, Hook A Duck by Orrin and Bert and a Penalty Shoot-out by Caleb, Joel and Elffin outside and some more stalls inside. By Keegan



On fund raising day it was fun because you can set up stalls and buy stuff for 20p-50p. People can play your games but if you wanted to buy something a person had to stay at the stall. The other classes came to all stalls after lunch. The money was for Shelterbox. Shelterbox is a charity. So we set up the stalls so we could raise money for Shelterbox. Shelterbox is like if your house got destroyed by natural disaster, they will give you a shelter box of shelter kit but they need money to buy the stuff that's why we are going to give money to Shelterbox. By Seb



Quote:

Without leaps of imagination, or dreaming, we lose the excitement of possibilities. Dreaming, after all, is a form of planning.



Poem:

When I was One,
I had just begun.

When I was Two,
I was nearly new

When I was Three,
I was hardly Me

When I was Four,
I was not much more

When I was Five,
I was just alive

But now I am Six, I'm as
clever as clever
So I think I'll be six now for
ever and ever



From Now We Are Six by A. A. Milne. Illustrated by E. H. Shepard.

On the 22nd of February 2023 Trecrom Class had a fund-raising day to raise money for Shelterbox, a company that send boxes to places that a disaster has destroyed their homes. These boxes provided everything they need to survive with a home. We had craft, book and toys stalls and lots and lots of games! Our goal was to make £160 (enough money to buy two shelter boxes) but everyone thinks we earned more! People sold their old stuff in order to recycle. Some people even made stuff or set up activities! We had Year 6, Year 1 and 2 and Reception in to do our activities and it was very busy! Every child in Penponds School was invited to wear green and bring in £1. We also had a cake sale after school in the bike shed. We had a Can Toss, Hook a Duck and loads of other games but most people were just interested in the lollypops! By Ia





Newquay Zoo

On Friday we were lucky enough to have a fabulous day at Newquay Zoo. We were kindly gifted free entrance as part of Paignton Zoo's 100th birthday celebrations. The children (and animals) were so well behaved and we were treated to lots of amazing spectacles. It was so amazing to see all the different family groups and dynamics and continue our exploration of our amazing world. Thanks Newquay zoo.















Dance Masterclass at CSIA

Nine children from Trencrom class went to CSIA to take part in a dance masterclass this week. They learnt a basic routine and then went into separate groups with other schools to add to the routine. They had to add a jump, balance, swing, slide, roll and spin. The children had a great time and really liked making up their own dance.



Uniform

Please could you take a look through the uniform for Penponds School as detailed below. We are starting to see a variety of 'uniform' in school which is not part of the agreed uniform for our school. If there are ever any issues with purchasing any items of uniform, please do let us know and we will see where we can support. Remember there is a pre-loved uniform shop run by our lovely volunteer Mrs Stone which you can purchase good quality items from at a very low cost.

- Grey skirt/pinafore or plain grey or black trousers or shorts. No jogging bottoms or leggings to be worn (unless on PE day)
- Red checked school gingham summer dresses may be worn in warm weather
- Red school fleece/sweatshirt/cardigan
- White polo shirt or white school blouse/shirt

School jumpers, cardigans, fleeces, summer baseball hats and book bags are available from the school office with the school logo.

Sensible black shoes should be worn. They need to be comfortable and hard wearing. Velcro fastenings are recommended for Reception/YR1. Lace-up shoes should only be worn once children are able to tie them. Smart all black trainers or boots may be worn.

Jewellery – children may wear up to one pair of plain stud earrings. All other jewellery should not be worn unless a specific requirement of religious beliefs. This can be discussed with headteacher. Staff will look after any additional jewellery worn and return it at the end of the day.

Nail varnish or make-up should not be worn.

Hair should be tied up if longer than shoulder length.

PE KIT

Black or red shorts, plimsolls/trainers, plain white t-shirt. Plain black leggings or jogging bottoms may be worn in colder weather. No logos.

PE Kits (complete with bag) are available to order from the school.

Stud earrings should not be worn on PE days, unless they are within the first six-weeks of piercing, in which case staff will help children to cover them with tape.

Bags

Book Bags for EYFS and KS1 only. These are available from the school office priced at £8.50

Back packs to be used from KS2. Only Year 5 and 6 to bring a pencil case to school.

Water Bottles

All children should have a water bottle in school which they can refill throughout the day.

Water bottles can be purchased from the school office priced at £3.50

Toys

We understand that on certain days, if children are upset, that bringing a cuddly toy to school with them can ease the transition of home to school.

For these one-off times this is absolutely fine - a quick Dojo to the class teacher can help us know if children need an extra bit of support that morning too and staff will understand the reason for children arriving with a cuddly.

For the most part, we ask that toys or card games etc are not brought into school for the main reason that there is often upset if they are lost or damaged.

Sewing Club

The sewing club children have worked so hard creating their cushions. They worked well as a team too helping each other with the tricky bits. I am so proud of them all and their gorgeous cushions!



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) SOLUTIONS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AI solutions are becoming increasingly popular. Trained on vast datasets of text (such as books, articles and websites) in order to learn patterns and relationships, AI solutions can generate text, images, audio, video, code or synthetic data, and can be used for things such as crafting poems or books, creating digital imagery or delivering video content. Recently there's been significant discussion in relation to the benefits and risks of AI solutions, with many undecided on whether it will be a force for good or potentially reduce the need for some job roles.

ROOM FOR INACCURACY

AI solutions, such as language models, generate their responses purely based on the data they've been trained on, which often comes from sources on the internet. Whilst questions will often illicit relevant responses, if some of the information they've been 'fed' is incorrect, it follows that the answers too may contain factual errors or inaccuracies.

REINFORCING BIAS

AI solutions, such as those generating content or images, can perpetuate existing biases present in the data they were trained, whether through the algorithms written by humans or the content taken from the web. This could easily lead to biased responses and potentially reinforce existing stereotypes, such as those around gender, race or disability.

IRRELEVANT INFORMATION

AI solutions don't have the ability to understand the context or meaning behind a question or a user request. Although highly advanced, the AI relies entirely on the data it's been exposed to and is devoid of independent thought or reasoning, which could lead to irrelevant or even nonsensical responses to queries.

LACK OF ACCOUNTABILITY

Fundamentally, AI solutions are machines or technology programmes that don't have the ability to take responsibility for the responses they generate. This could lead to confusion or misunderstandings in certain cases if the answers are taken as given. For instance, image-generative AIs can lead to output clearly derived from other peoples' content but without any attribution to the original source artist's work.

STIFLING CREATIVITY

One of the potential risks of children and young people continually using AI solutions for things (such as their homework) is that eventually, they might become reliant on it. In the long term, this could potentially impact their development and hamper their ability to think creatively or solve problems independently without the aid of an AI tool.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

If possible, try to be around when your child uses any type of AI solution and employ content filters to try and reduce the chance of profanity or age-inappropriate subjects appearing in responses. As with any kind of technology, it's important to ensure that children are using AI solutions responsibly and to be there to enable opportunities to discuss their use as part of a safe environment.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Explain to your child that AI solutions can be used as one of many tools to help them research and learn, but that they shouldn't simply accept the responses they receive as the truth. Encourage them to question, verify and think critically about the information they get back – all of which apply equally to any website or platform they use.

DISCUSS BIAS

Talk to your child about the potential biases that may be present in the data that AI solutions are trained on, and how these viewpoints might find their way into the responses that AI generates. Again, with many things children might read online, it's healthy for them to consider whether the information is factual and presented fairly.

ENCOURAGE HUMAN INTERACTION

Not only should children supplement any use of software like AI with additional resources such as books and reputable internet sites, but they also should remember what they can learn from interaction with other people. Discussing things with teachers, relatives and friends isn't just an important and often invaluable aspect of learning – it's an essential part of life, too.

CHECK SCHOOL RULES

Make yourself aware of any rules or guidance your child's school might have about the use of AI solutions. Most software is still extremely new, so many schools may not yet have a policy, however, it's important to make sure your child is aware of how to use it appropriately and will be using it for the right reasons.

Meet Our Expert

Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at a large boarding school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East. With a particular interest in digital citizenship and cyber security, he believes it is essential that adults and children alike become more aware of the risks associated with technology, as well as the many benefits.



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