

**17<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

Dear Parents and carers,

As we approach the end of our first half term, it's heartening to reflect on the incredible opportunities our children have already had at the start of this academic year.

From engaging in academic pursuits to celebrating meaningful events, it has been a period of growth, learning, and community spirit. Children have had the chance to dive deep into their learning - whether in English, maths, or wider curriculum subjects they have been broadening their horizons helping to foster both academic and personal growth. Some have enjoyed enriching experiences like residential trips, where they've built lasting memories with peers while developing skills in resilience, teamwork, and independence. Others participating in a range of fun and educational activities expressing their creativity.

Schools have held Harvest Celebrations where children have come together as a community to give back. Generous food donations were made to support local food banks, teaching our children the importance of compassion and helping those in need. It's always inspiring to see the children engage with causes like this, understanding how their small acts of kindness can have a significant impact on others.

Recognising World Mental Health Day provided a platform for the children to have the space to express their emotions and understand their feelings. Pupils shared what makes them happy, joined in group activities, and had meaningful conversations about well-being. By opening up about what brings joy and acknowledging the importance of mental health, our schools continue to create an environment to help children understand, recognise, and express their feelings effectively which is vital for their well-being and success both in school and beyond. There are so many memorable events that have taken place across our schools over the last seven weeks, but here are just a few to share with you.

### **Polperro host Orwell Exhibition**

There was a fantastic turnout for the Orwell Exhibition with people attending from around the world and many of last year's year 6 pupils. Visiting Orwell Society members were hugely impressed with the children's ability to speak so eloquently and passionately about their work. Quentin Kopp, Chair of the Orwell Society, said that it was great to see the support of pupils and parents present and hear the excited conversation echoing around the hall. He described the work of the pupils as outstanding. Orwell's son, Richard Blair, who attended the exhibition, presented the school with a plaque which commemorates George Orwell's time at Barnhill on the Isle of Jura, where he completed his famous novel 1984. The plaque will be put in the library along with the children's wonderful artwork from the project.

### **Ben Maguire MP visits Wadebridge Primary**

This week, Wadebridge were delighted to welcome our local MP, Ben Maguire, to school. Year 6 House Captains did a fantastic job of leading a guided tour of the school, showing him the wonderful learning that takes place across all year groups. Afterwards, the School Council met with Ben and his assistants for a question-and-answer session. The children were fascinated to hear what daily life is like as a Member of Parliament and to learn more about working in the House of Commons. They were especially excited to discover that Ben has met both Sir Keir Starmer and the King! During the discussion, Ben shared the children's passion for tackling pollution in our rivers and seas, and their commitment to fighting discrimination. The visit also provided a valuable opportunity to discuss wider educational and community challenges and how we can continue to work together to find positive solutions.

### **St Cleer Primary welcome 'The Poet with Punch'**

Funded by the school's PTFA Matt Windle - the poet with punch, visited St Cleer Primary to work with KS2. Matt a former Olympic athlete and poet laureate in Birmingham explored the theme 'What I want to be...' in all senses of the phrase and helped create poetry with the children and staff around this theme.

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### **Music Maestros at Brunel Primary**

Brunel Primary hosted a musical extravaganza which was attended by representatives from 10 different schools, including their Y5 pupils. Ages ranged from Y5-Y13 and the event was staged by The Gabriel Explore Vocal workshop. Only two schools in Cornwall were chosen to host, with a view to performing in Truro Cathedral next year. The children and staff were thrilled to take part.

As we close this first half term, we are very proud of what our children have achieved so far, and excited to continue supporting their growth, both academically and emotionally, in the terms ahead.

Last day of term is Thursday 23rd October as we have an INSET on Friday 24th where schools will be closed. Schools reopen for children to return on Monday 3rd November where the build up to Christmas festivities begin.

I would like to thank you for your continued support and wish you all a relaxing half term break.

With all good wishes,

**Adrian Massey and everyone in Bridge Schools**