Southerly Point Co-operative Multi-Academy Trust

Enabling Excellence Together

CEO Newsletter May 2019



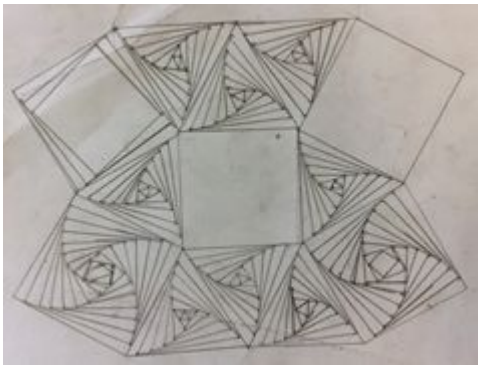
As half term approaches, it is time to celebrate all the fantastic work going on in our schools across the Trust.

The month began with the Fantastic Flora Day. It was such a delight to see our schools so involved with this very special community event. This is my 6th Flora day and the first one where it didn't rain! The children looked spectacular. I am always impressed at the levels of participation from the smallest children through to students in the Trust's Sixth Form.

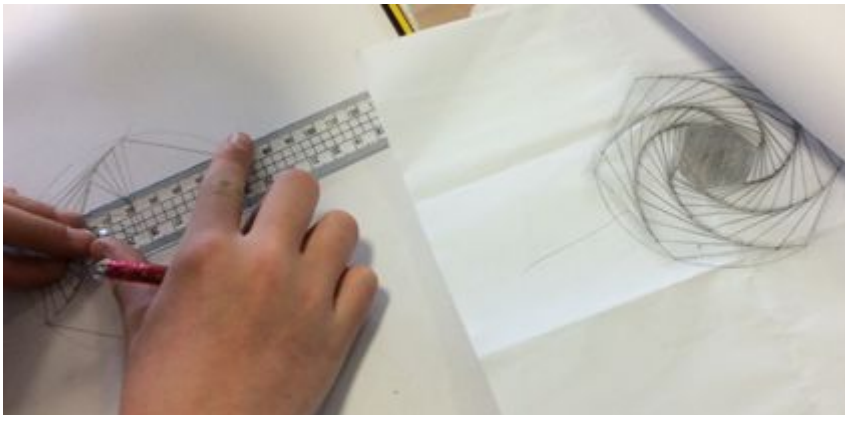
Pupils from St Keverne Schools had a lovely time at Poltesco along with children from Manaccan and Coverack schools. The children took part in some fantastic outdoor activities all provided by the National Trust: boat making [and testing them on the river], making string from flax, painting with natural materials and making mini dens for bugs!

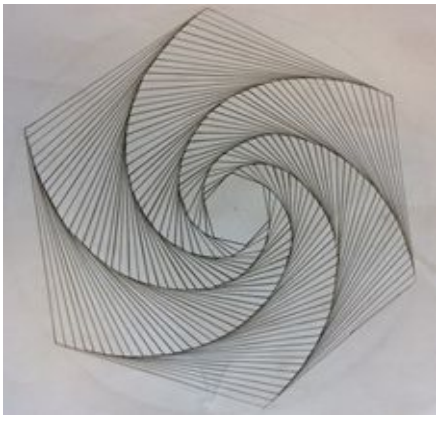


Pupils from Manaccan Primary School visited the Pirate FM studios in Redruth. The children had taken part in a school-based competition to write a short radio advert for the HRCST to advertise their upcoming open day at their new facility at Trevassack Quarry near Garras. The winners had the opportunity to record and edit their entries which will be played out on Pirate FM as the open day approaches.



The Year 6 Maths Challenge group from schools across the Trust have been using maths to create artwork. They had to use accurate measuring with protractors, compasses and rulers to create regular shapes. Some children experimented with tessellation or fitting together different shapes to create a basic starting shape. The children then created the 'whirl' effect using straight lines. They had to think very about how they would organise their work, visualising the effects before putting pencil to paper. If you look carefully, you will see that each piece of art is created using different sized hexagons, squares or equilateral triangles.





Parc Eglos School [The West Cornwall Teaching School] in partnership with MADE [formerly Music and Dance Education and specialists in creative arts work in education] and the Minack Theatre have been granted funding to look at the development of 4-5 year old children in several of our schools.



This major Research study, 'A Child's Eye View' looks at the link between the creative arts and achievement in language, literacy and personal and social education in ten local schools. The Paul Hamlyn Foundation [Teacher Development Fund] has granted £137,000 for this two-year project. Actors, Artists and Musicians will be working with teachers and senior leaders and their children from these schools. The project aims to embed learning through the arts. Using dance, drama and music, with a focus on story, narrative and play, the artists will help to develop teachers' knowledge, skills and experience in supporting the development of speech, language and communication amongst children in the schools' Reception classes.

This is such an exciting opportunity for our schools. At a time when many are talking about the demise of the Arts in schools, our commitment to this project, and this way of working to develop children's speech and language, clearly demonstrates that that is not the case here. Indeed, all of our schools celebrate and embrace the Arts throughout the whole educational journey of our children, from our pre-schools to Post 16 education at Helston Community College.



As well as the important research being carried out, the project will benefit over 250 children in a number of our schools: Breage, Coverack, Crowan, Grade Ruan, Halwin, Manaccan, Mullion Primary, Parc Eglos, Porthleven and St Keverne schools. We hope that there will also be opportunities arising from this to share with the other schools in the Trust.

Congratulations to Tamsin Kelly from St Keverne School on her becoming accredited as a Subject Leader of Education for Literacy. In this role, Tamsin will be supporting colleagues across the Trust and beyond. Tamsin joins a team of SLEs who work through our Teaching School.

I recently attended the South Shore Excellence Awards at Exeter University, Penryn Campus, and I was very proud of our students who were winning awards for excellence and for their contribution to the community life of their schools. It is so important to celebrate with our young people, many of who overcome significant challenges to achieve so highly. Well done to all of them.

Crowan Primary School have just learnt that they are to benefit from a **community project** sponsored by Cornwall Gold, Portreath. The team of 20 plus staff will arrive on Friday 7th June to develop a wonderful new sensory garden within the school grounds. The children will be helping to design some of the features [including totem poles, bird-boxes and bug-hotels] and it is expected that the whole school community will pitch-in to help on the day. The sensory garden has been planned by the Headteacher, Mr. Paul Hunkin, who was keen to include lots of different textures, scents and sounds within a quiet space where the children could relax and have time to be reflective. The new garden is intended to support the children's mental-health and to promote mindfulness. The children will feel that they are undertaking a short journey to the centre of the garden where they can find a little seclusion when necessary inside a busy day. The school has also just received the **Cornwall Council 'Healthy Schools Award'** in recognition of its work to support the physical and mental health of its pupils, and the sensory garden will contribute further to the school's ambitions in this respect.

The Post 16 Football team at Helston have become Cornwall Football Champions after winning the Under-18s County Cup Final at Newquay AFC by beating Saltash School 3-0. This is a brilliant achievement by the team! This means the Trust has County Champions at Post 16 in both Football and Netball. Well done to them!

Congratulations to Neve from Landewednack who was also part of the 15 strong Y6 girls' team for the Peninsula region we celebrated last month. If you recall, this team got the most points out of the four teams so came away with a gold medal! Well done, Neve.





Year 3 and 4 children from the Helston Primary Schools took part in a touch rugby event. They were joined by rugby experts Ted Heaton and Ross Tucknott who worked with the children to develop their rugby skills. Ted and Ross, alongside Colin Snook and Helen Ayotte, led some fun and engaging activities. The children worked in mixed groups working with children from a variety of schools. The afternoon concluded with a tournament to put their new skills into practice. The winning team were Parc Eglos School with Godolphin School in second position.

Both Crowan A and B teams were in action yesterday at the Helston Bowling Club as part of the Cornwall Games Bowls competition. Despite not making the finals this year, missing out on 'shot difference' only, three of the Year 6 children have been invited to compete as part of the Helston Men's Team in future fixtures. Meanwhile, former Crowan pupils Matthew and Jimmy have been selected to take part in the Cornwall U25 trials and the U18 Pairs on Friday 31st May. Good luck to them all!

Have a great half term holiday.



Kind regards

Donna