



IN THE KNOW

Staffing updates:

Welcome to Ellie who is our new TA in Maple class, Claire who is our new TA in Willow class and Nikki our new teacher



Ellie



Claire



Nikki

Policy Update:

Policy of the week. After Internet Safety day, please [click here](#) for our Online Safety section and policies.

HEADTEACHER HIGHLIGHTS



We are finally out of what seems to be the longest month of the year, the nights are getting lighter and hopefully soon, it will be getting warmer. Our staff have been working hard on re-designing our newsletter to be able to provide you with more school improvement information. If you would like to provide feedback, please do so.

This term has been particularly busy for our Post-14 teams, in which there has been a review of the environment and provision, and there is a lot of work going on behind the scenes, and in the classrooms to implement changes. Our learners adapted and coped extremely well whilst temporarily using different rooms in the school while changes were being made in their classrooms. It is nice to see they are settling back into their classrooms now, and enjoying their new learning spaces.

We have some new staff who have joined us this half term. Kelly, Elly and Claire who are joining our team of TAs, and Nikki, our new SEN Teacher who will be teaching in one of our new classrooms. Please join me in welcoming them into our school community, I am sure they will be a wonderful addition to our already fantastic team.

I would like to take this opportunity to say I hope you all have a lovely half term break with your families and friends, and look forward to seeing everyone when we return on the 24th February.

Heidi Hoskin

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Post-14 Flat. Empowering Learners with Independent Living Skills

Our site team have been working very hard this term to provide a new space for our post 14 independence flat! This flat has been furnished to a very high standard with all the utilities and furniture to mirror how a home looks. In today's world, the ability to live independently is a key skill that will help learners to thrive as they grow. The skills that will be taught here will range from basic tasks like cooking and cleaning to managing time, thus setting the foundation for a future of success and confidence. Learning these skills early, helps our learners to become responsible, self-reliant individuals capable of handling life's challenges when they move on from Doubletrees, in to adulthood. Well done site team, it looks great!

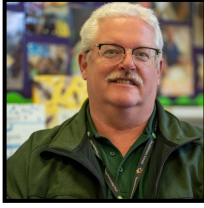




LEADERSHIP INSIGHTS... Read all about what we get up to...

LETS GET TO KNOW...

Mark Hollis.
Site Manager.



Our site manager is responsible for the overall maintenance and management of the school's buildings and grounds. Mark's duties include:

Health and Safety: Ensuring that all areas of the school are safe for staff, students, and visitors. This includes routine checks for hazards, maintaining fire safety equipment, and overseeing any emergency procedures.

Building Maintenance: Managing repairs and maintenance for the school buildings. This can include fixing broken equipment, handling plumbing, swimming pool or electrical issues, and overseeing larger repair projects.

Mark is incredibly helpful to all staff and learners and is always there to support us.

Mark describes himself as an avid hater of gardening (although he does an amazing job on the school site!) He has met Francis from Status Quo and takes pride in always doing a task right the first time!

SPOTLIGHT ON... Phonics

Learners who are ready to access the formal phonics program at Doubletrees, do so 4 times a week.

The learners move around the school to take part a phonics lesson tailored for their needs following the initial phonics assessment.

We follow the Little Wandle Program which is a **phonics complete literacy programme** which helps children learn to read fluently and at speed so they can focus on developing their skills in comprehension, vocabulary and spelling.

Learners will begin at Phase 2 where they will learn single sounds such as s,a,t,p, i,n.

As they move through the phases they will focus on two letters making one sound such as 'ay, ou, oy

Learners will complete their phonics learning at Phase 6 where they will begin to learn spelling patterns within words.



SHOWCASING... Engagement Pathway



In the Engagement pathway this term we have been collaborating across the classes to work on a shared theme in order to prepare for our end of term parent showcase on the 28th February. We have been exploring sounds, smells, tastes and textures of Cornwall and it's associated myths and legends.

We will be inviting parents in to experience a live sea shanty performance with accompanying resources to stimulate all of our senses.

Learners have also been taking part in whole school activities to raise our awareness and understanding of belonging within a part of a community. We have enjoyed taking part in our sensory story workshop, Children's mental health week, Safer Internet Day and Dress up for Digits. Though we may be one of the smaller pathways in school, we are mighty, and keen to get involved in all the school has to offer. Please keep your eyes peeled on our social media pages and website to see some examples of what we get up to.

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Attendance

Regular school attendance impacts far more than just academic achievement it is the cornerstone of student success. A consistent presence in the classroom boosts attainment and fosters crucial social and emotional growth. Our attendance target at Doubletrees is 91% .

Here are some tips for parents to improve their child's attendance:

1: Set good examples and enforce rules. **2:** Reward positive improvement. **3:** Making attendance a priority by promoting regular evening and bedtime routines. **4:** Help your child to understand why going to school matters.

Whole School Attendance





STUDENT STORIES & STAR LEARNERS!

Each week we have a star learner assembly where we recognise all of our learners achievements. We select a star learner that corresponds with our core values below...

ACHIEVE

Maple classes star learner is Nathan for his fantastic maths work and asking for more tasks!

BELONG

TJ in the Cherry class for showing interest in her independence on our recent public transport trip.

COMMUNICATE

Leo in Cedar class for engaging in every lesson this week! We are very proud of your fantastic achievements!

DEVELOP

Rowan is our star learner in the Juniper class for applying what he has learnt in core word sessions.

ENJOY This week we celebrate the whole of Maple class for a brilliant half term with lots of community engagement and finishing off with our Eden Project trip!

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

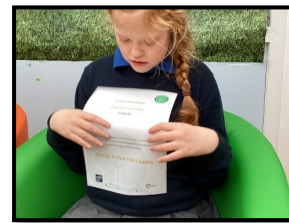
All aboard! Learners on the move!

Written by our talented learner in Cherry class

“On Tuesday 21st January 2025 at 10:26 am we went on the mini bus to St Austell train station and caught the bus to go Truro. We met a man. His name was Frankie then we walked to the bus head quarters. Then we met a boy called Charlie and he told all about the bus times and behind the scenes. Now we know how it works. Then we had a little fresh air then we had lunch outside. it was a lovely sunny day. After lunch we went back to bus station and caught another bus to St Austell and waited for Mark to come and get us from the bus station in the mini bus. It was a beautiful day. We really enjoyed our day out.” [Click here](#) for the full story.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Big Bird Watch!



This term our learners participated in the big garden bird watch! Our school council met and discussed

which birds they viewed at school. 15 learners who also collected bird data from home, were each presented with a certificate of participation for their efforts. For more information about the bird watch and the Bird Lady of Fowey visit, please [click here](#).

Exciting things are happening in all of our classes! [Click here](#) to see what we have been working towards and have achieved recently.

EYFS

Please click [here](#) to see what we have achieved in EYFS this week..



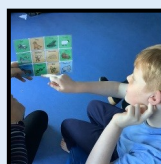
ENGAGEMENT

Please click [here](#) to see what we have achieved in the Engagement Pathway this week..



EXPLORATION

Please click [here](#) to see what we have achieved in the Exploration Pathway this week..



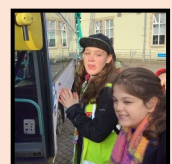
DISCOVERY

Please click [here](#) to see the what we have achieved in the Discovery Pathway this week..



POST-14

Please click [here](#) to see what we have achieved in the Post 14 team this week..



COMMUNITY CORNER

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE COMMUNITY...

Free half term cycling sessions at Par track, for children under 16 and who are eligible for free school meals. There are 2 sessions - one in the morning and one in the afternoon and includes a meal. Click [here](#) to book a place!

Parent/Carer Cornwall are holding a SEND event at the Eden Project on the 12.03.25. [Click here](#) to book a place

Healthy Cornwall are holding a Free craft event over half term. [Click here](#) for more details.



DID YOU KNOW?

Pupil Premium funding...

Pupil Premium Strategy

Pupil premium funding is additional government funding which is provided to raise levels of progress, attainment and aspiration of disadvantaged learners who are either:

- Currently in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM), or have been in receipt at any time during the last six years (Ever 6).
 - Looked after Children and children adopted from care.
- An additional Service premium is awarded to schools to support the children of active or retired Service Personnel.

Doubletrees spend our pupil and recovery premium in line with a menu of approaches, based on expert evidence of what works when it comes to improving the outcomes of disadvantaged children.

We allocate spending across the following three key areas:

- 1: Support high-quality teaching, such as staff professional development
- 2: Provide targeted academic support, such as supportive and specialised/bespoke equipment
- 3: Tackle non-academic barriers to academic success, such as difficulties with attendance, behaviour, and social and emotional wellbeing.

Doubletrees decide how to spend pupil premium so that it supports all of our learners who need it the most.

Please [click here](#) to check your eligibility for pupil premium and help us to achieve even more.

KEY EVENTS

17-21.02.25 Half Term.

24.02.25 Learners return to school for Spring Term 2.

03.03.25 Doubletrees Recruitment open day. Please see above for details or [click here](#) for more information.

03-07.03.25 Careers Week. We are looking for Parent/Carer volunteers to showcase their employment/job roles to our learners! [Click here](#) for more information about how you can help support our event.

28.03.25. Engagement Pathway open event (Sensory sea shanty) More details to follow. Note the date!



St. Blaszy Gate, Par, St. Austell, Cornwall, PL26 7SN
www.doubletrees.org.uk



Would you like a job that makes a difference?

Recruitment Open Day

Monday 3rd March 2025
10:30—11:30 or 16:00—17:00

Would you like to find out more about what it is like working in a Special School?
Are you curious and would like to visit without any obligations?
Please come along for a school tour and meet some of our wonderful team!



Please contact us to register your interest.

msandham@doubletrees.org.uk

01726 812757

