

A Flying Visit For Polwhele House

A school in Truro celebrated helpful members of the community and enjoyed a very special 'flying' visit from the Royal Navy's Search and Rescue Sea King helicopter.

Polwhele House, situated in Truro, held a 'People Who Help Us' day, on Friday 19th September, as a chance for its Pre-Prep students to learn about members of the community who provide help to others.

Both the Pre-Prep and Prep pupils were able to explore and learn about the role of the helicopter and its crew when it landed on the school's tennis courts.

Other visitors included representatives from the RNLI, a local GP, a vet, a dentist and a Police Community Support Officer.

Talks outlined the visitors' roles in the surrounding area and the way in which their jobs can have an impact on the lives of those within the community, with many demonstrating their specialist equipment for the children to see and handle.

Helen McCullough, Year 2 teacher at Polwhele House, arranged the day, saying: "It is fantastic that our pupils will get the chance to learn about the role of these community services through the 'People Who Help Us' day, as it is really important that they are recognised and appreciated. We feel that even our very youngest children should be aware of the people in our community 'who help us', as well as the services they might potentially encounter in our coastal community."

Four out of the six visitors are parents of pupils at Polwhele House, with another visit facilitated by a parent, meaning that the event was a real community effort, coming together for the benefit of the children.

Polwhele House is keen to connect with its wider community throughout the year – pupils regularly visit Truro Day Centre and sing to the elderly every year, as well as participating in the City of Lights festivities.

Polwhele House is also the choir school for Truro Cathedral's choristers, meaning that they have close links with the county's cathedral. The choristers at Polwhele House occasionally take part in 'outreach' events where they go out to other schools to promote singing.

In addition to the 'People Who Help Us' day, Polwhele House often invites speakers into assemblies to speak to the children about particular subjects.

Other hosted events at the school include cake sales, parent cocktail evenings and school productions - the proceeds of which go to local charities such as South West Equine Protection, Truro Food Bank and Cornwall Air Ambulance.

Alex McCullough, Headmaster of Polwhele House, was delighted with the event and was pleased to see pupils interacting with members of the community, saying:

"We want to connect with our local community in order to enhance our children's understanding of the world around them. We are keen to continue with events like the 'People Who Help Us' day in order to strengthen this link.

For further information about Polwhele House, please visit

<http://www.polwhelehouse.co.uk>