



**Issue No. 213**  
**3 September 2015**

**DIARY DATES**

**Thursday 3 September**

8.00am Michaelmas Term commences

**Sunday 6 September**

10.00am Head Choristers' Installation at Truro Cathedral

**Monday 7 September**

pm NFER CATs (Y4-Y8)

4.00pm After School Clubs Commence

5.30pm Chorister Parents' Meeting (Crypt)

**Wednesday 9 September**

8.30am PHSoc Meeting (TV Room)

2.00pm Polwhele House Toddler Group Commences

THE

# Polwhele Post

THE NEWSLETTER OF POLWHELE HOUSE

## From the Headmaster...

I hope you have all had a lovely summer holiday and that wherever you have been and whatever you have achieved you feel well rested and ready for the year ahead.

In staff news, we extend a warm welcome to the following new members of staff:

Mrs Karen Ashford	Special Support Assistant
Mrs Sue Fazakerley-Owen	Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator
Mrs Tara Hounsell	Housemother
Mrs Lynne Topsey-Eaton	Year 2 Teacher
Mr David Whitworth	Choral Scholar
Mrs Rachel Wright	Kitchen Assistant

In recent times we have appointed a Head Boy and Head Girl to undertake various roles and responsibilities around school, both during the school day and at events. From now on we are going to revert back to the prefect system, employed very successfully in the formative years of the school, and appoint all our senior pupils in Year 8 as prefects. By allowing them the opportunity to share these duties, they will all benefit from the extra opportunities which will provide useful experiences and support their senior school applications. Congratulations to them all on their appointments; they are incredibly proud to be wearing their Polwhele rose badges which they received in this morning's assembly.

Today has been an excellent start to the term and we are all looking forward to what promises to be another happy and successful year for each and every member of the Polwhele community.

With best wishes,

Alex McCullough  
 HEADMASTER  
[headmaster@polwhelehouse.co.uk](mailto:headmaster@polwhelehouse.co.uk)



**The whole school photograph orders have been delivered. Please collect your order from my office.**

**Thank you, Miss Ettinger**

*'Karenza whelas karenza'*

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## Congratulations to...

Ted Brown who was the overall runner up in the under 8s Cornwall County Tennis Championships (James Webster Competition 28th August). This means he is the second best player in Cornwall in the under 8 category. When asked which school he attends, he replied loudly and proudly with 'Polwhele House in Truro'.

## General reminders:

- With the exception of the choristers and grooms, our school day officially begins at 8.40am and the register remains open until 8.50am. If children arrive after this time they are required to register in the school office. Thank you.
- All parents should have received data input and pupil photograph consent forms. **If any of your contact details have changed or if you are new to school**, please complete the enclosed data input and pupil photograph consent forms and return them to the school office by the end of this week.
- School uniform - would parents and pupils please note that it is permitted to wear either the summer uniform or the winter uniform up until the Michaelmas half term break; however, it is not permitted to wear a mixture of both! After half term all pupils will be required to wear winter uniform. Trainers should be predominantly white and football/rugby boots should be predominantly black. The school uniform shop is open from 4.00-5.00pm every Thursday starting next week.

## Message from Mrs Lusty...

Y3 and Year 4 will have Games on Tuesday (starting on Tuesday 8 September) and Years 5-8 will be on Wednesday (starting Wednesday 9 September). All boys in the Prep School require a mouthguard and all girls require a mouthguard and shin pads.

Nursery-Year 3 swimming lessons start on Thursday 10 September and Y4-Y8 swimming commences on Monday 14 September. Please ensure your child has school black swimwear, school swim cap and goggles.

Thank you. Here's to a good year of sport!

### Prep School

#### Break Time Snacks

As an alternative to the option of two plain biscuits at break time, we would like to encourage the children in the Prep School to bring a piece of fruit (as most Pre-Prep children do).



## **Years 4-8 Cognitive Abilities Tests (CATs) Monday 7 September**

Throughout the course of the academic year we use various assessment procedures to monitor pupil progress and the above tests are one of the sets of data we use to help track pupils in Years 4-8.

The Cognitive Abilities Tests (CATs) assess an individual's ability to reason with and manipulate different types of symbols. Three main types of symbols play substantial roles in human thought:

- Symbols representing words (verbal reasoning)
- Symbols representing quantities (quantitative reasoning)
- Symbols representing spatial, geometric or figural patterns (non-verbal reasoning)

The CATs assess competence in working with each of these three types of material. The set of three scores obtained will give a profile showing the level and pattern of each pupil's abilities. Knowledge of areas of relative strength and weakness help us to develop strengths effectively and to compensate for weakness.

The tests are nothing to worry about; they are one (and only one!) of the pieces of information used for assessing and monitoring the children throughout the school.

We do **not** spend time in school preparing for them; we will present them in a relaxed way to the children, whilst still encouraging the children to do their best.

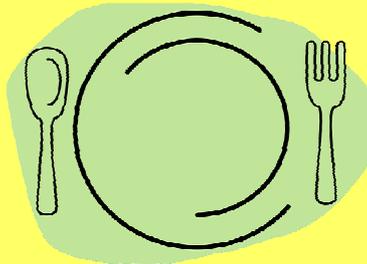
The results are not published, but are kept on file for internal use; the tests provide us with useful performance data on your child and ultimately help us to do a better job.

**It is important for your child to sit these tests so if pupil absence can be avoided, particularly on this occasion, we would appreciate it. In addition, please could you help by ensuring your child brings an HB pencil, an eraser and a reading book into school for the tests.**

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me on [headmaster@polwhelehouse.co.uk](mailto:headmaster@polwhelehouse.co.uk)

# GENERAL NOTICES

## LUNCH MENU



### **Thursday 3 September**

Sausages and Mash  
Veggie Sausages and Mash (V)  
Served with Peas, Broccoli and Gravy

Chocolate Biscuits

### **Friday 4 September**

Green Pesto Pasta (V)  
Served with Tuna, Cheese and Salad

Fruit Jelly and Custard

### **Monday 7 September**

Macaroni Cheese (V)  
Served with Baked Beans

Flapjack

### **Tuesday 8 September**

Chilli Con Carne  
Vegetarian Chilli (V)  
Served with Rice

Shrewsbury Biscuits