

Friday 9th December

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: Autumn 2 Reflections and News

I am writing this newsletter having had such a lovely week!

Starting with 'Student Observation Evening' on Monday. It was super to hear the positive feedback being given to parents and carers about the progress their children had made over the last term.

Tuesday morning was the parents' group breakfast at The Bunker, organised by Tess Tyler. It was a nice opportunity for parents to come together, have time to share thoughts and ideas and for me to hear how we can share more information around how we use 'Motional' to best support the emotional health and well-being of your children. I do know there are plans to have more breakfast meets and you are all very welcome. Tess will share details with you on the parents' WhatsApp group and facebook page.

After my breakfast meet, I then had the pleasure of joining the school Christmas dinner, held at both The Barn and Gatehouse sites. I was struck by not only the lovely atmosphere of children and staff sharing lunch together but how polite the children were when having their lunch served to them. After this I reflected on how lucky I felt to be working at a school with such an amazing group of children and staff.

Wednesday was the Christmas Fayre at The Gatehouse. I was so impressed by the creativity of the Gatehouse students, staff and parents and carers and the range of items they were selling. A great opportunity for me to get some Christmas shopping done! Thursday saw The Barn's Christmas Fayre and once again such a wonderful range of stalls being run by confident and accomplished young people.

As I have reached the final few days of my first term as Headteacher at The Stable School I would like to thank all the children, staff, parents, and carers for all their hard work and support in enabling us to achieve so much.

Staffing

We are saying goodbye to Shelia today as she is leaving us. We would like to thank her for all the work she has done across both sites. We wish her every success in the future.

At the start of the Spring Term, we will be welcoming some new staff. Jamie Johnston will be based at the Gatehouse supporting students with their learning in class. He comes to us with a wealth of experience relating to emotional well-being. Timmy Asepo-Jones will be based across both sites, and he will be supporting children with their behaviour needs and be part of the Triage team. Timmy has worked with us before and has already built excellent relationships with the children and staff. We are delighted that Phoebe Lawford will join the teaching team at The Barn and be instrumental in supporting children in our Polzeath class. She too has already done some excellent work with our young people. Darryl Walsh will be with us every Friday. Darryl has many years experience as a leader in primary education and will be supporting us to further develop teaching

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and learning. Karen Clarkson who joined as Exams Officer in September will now be with us full time to support with project related admin. We would like to wish them every success as they join The Stable School family.

The Barn

Seasons Greetings to One and All,

How time has flown again this half term as we head into the festive season. It still never fails to make me proud of how much has been achieved and the progress that all the young people at the Barn have again made. There have been a number of changes which we felt were important to make at the start of the term as well as some improvements to the layout of the building to help with learning and groupings which have all been taken in everyone's stride. I have been particularly impressed with the engagement and work which is being produced all across the school, I have witnessed young people being supported and appropriately challenged who are responding in an incredibly positive way and even surprising themselves with what they have been able to do. Just some of the many highlights have included, being taught to play Yugioh by young people who have been introduced to it by Luke who has joined us to promote strategy games with great success. Enjoying a famous Stable School breakfast which has been designed and shopped for, by the young people. They have also really enjoyed going to the Flavours Cookery School, as part of their personal development sessions. I have finally been allowed to go on the Christmas Tree Farm trip to help the young people choose our Christmas Trees, which although chilly was interesting to see and followed by our school Christmas Dinner was another experience which helps to make positive memories. Lastly, one of my favourite parts has been during our Friday celebration assemblies is being able to show everyone about how many more positive events have been recorded each week compared to negative incidents, hopefully everyone at home is also seeing and hearing that difference.

Wishing you all a fun, festive time and looking forward to seeing you all back next year.

Waikiki

Well done to all of Waikiki who have all had a fantastic Autumn term, showing commitment and teamwork throughout to succeed in many of the activities set this year. We are all so proud of them for persevering even when the learning has become challenging, showing determination to progress in so many ways in themselves and their learning.

One of our favourite activities this term has been on Wednesdays where we go to Pony Palace, learning practical skills in horse care to riding the horse from a slow pace to a trot! The children have all encouraged and supported each other with every child managing to regularly ride the horses! In School every Wednesday we have all participated with AFC Bournemouth doing our 'Active Maths' where many of our children have developed alongside this have progressed into some fantastic footballers! Alongside the active Maths it has been excellent to see everyone in Waikiki in our DIVE sessions take part week in week out in learning new skills such as climbing, cooking and coding, super work everyone! In class we have all been impressed with all of the children showing so many ways to represent their answers using the physical resource and developing their writing skills using a wide range of adjectives.

At Christmas it has been a lovely way to end the year seeing the children collect the cartons to build an igloo for our competition. Not only have they built a great place to 'hideaway' when reading but

this also provided a foundation for us all to discuss recycling and ways to be resourceful - again well done to each and every one of you! We now look forward to a deserved, restful Christmas break and look forward to seeing each other again in the New Year 🍷

Matt, Lou, Marc and Phoebe



Abersoch

Well, well what a busy but fantastic term we have had! Everyone has settled into the school routines and are flourishing within their year group classes.

This half term, we have been focusing on our unit 'Coming and Going' where we have been exploring different countries and why people might migrate/immigrate to the UK. We have been able to make links from our geographical knowledge within our writing. Our writing focus, this half term has been diary entries. We have been exploring emotive language, showing empathy for characters, and writing for purpose. I have been super impressed with work leading up to the main writing outcome this half term. We have also shown brilliant creativity and curiosity when researching different countries. There has been lots of exploring and discovery about where they are on the map, what countries are at their border, whether they have natural or man-made borders and what landmarks, animals or cuisines make particular places attractive to visit.

In maths this half term, we have been focussing on ratio. Everyone has worked really hard, using the practical resources available to support their learning and using 1:1 check ins to reflect on their learning. Throughout this half term, we have seen everyone really challenge themselves, showing resilience and perseverance throughout their learning, which has resulted in everyone making great progress in their work.

Our personal development mornings have given us the opportunity for new experiences. Our most recent adventure was to Flavours Kitchen School, where the young people engaged in Christmas baking, making scrumptious mince pies and gingerbread men! I even got to sample a couple!

We hope you have a lovely Christmas break. Rest and relax and we will look forward to welcoming you back in the New Year.

Team Abersoch.

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POLZEATH NEWS

The Polzeath group have steadily settled into the chilled, calm space and it has been really wonderful to see friendships take seed and start to flourish. Some days there are a few of us, some days we welcome in others who are also in need of a bit of TLC and time to regulate. One of the main intentions of this space is to help foster social skills and communication and language, so many board games and rather complex card games are played (Yu-Gi-Oh!) as led by resident expert, champ and youtuber Luke!

Polzeath have been joining Waikiki on Wednesdays for AFC Bournemouth sport sessions – the structure of the sports sessions encourages skill development, teamwork and respect for each other. Following that we venture up to the forest for time in the outdoors, we've been pretty lucky with the weather so far – even during those weeks of downpours and gusty winds, it seemed like we'd have pockets of relatively good weather

Thursdays continue to be Art focused, and we incorporate fine motor skills development into these fun and creative sessions. The last few weeks have been Christmas themed, and we are looking forward to the Christmas Fayre, where the young people's hard work will be on sale! Alongside our focus on fine motor skills, we have recently added Sensory Circuits into the program. This daily sensory motor skills programme helps to set children up for a day. It enables them to regulate and helps focus during a day. Each exercise activity focuses on either alerting, organising or calming.

We wish all our young people and their families a wonderful holiday and look forward to welcoming the children back to Polzeath in January.

The Polzeath team

Bude – Year 7s

A busy half term for the Year 7's and Bude Tutor Group.

Our Year 7 topic this half term has been 'Journey to the Centre of the Earth' we have learnt about the 'Big Bang Theory', different religious creation stories, plate tectonics and have built our own Volcanoes to erupt.

In English we have been following the story of 'The Wind Singer' and writing some super sentences with new words we have learnt.

In Maths we have been learning about linear and non-linear sequences and some algebra too.

Our personal development days have been a huge success we have enjoyed golf, breakfast shopping, a library trip, baking mince pies and a trip to see the Bournemouth Christmas lights. Lovely memories and appreciated by us all.

The lovely Janine has kept us well stocked with Playdough and we have a new Lego station in the class which has kept us entertained on the rainy days.

It has been wonderful to get to know the new class and I'm looking forward to seeing the progress in the new year.

Have a wonderful Christmas!

The Bude Team



Andy's end of term round-up of The Gatehouse

Dear Families,

What a term it has been! So many wonderful and positive things have happened at the Gatehouse. Along with the vast amounts of learning and progress, it has been great to see school trips, clubs, events and assemblies where we have come together as a school community. The Stable School values have been at the heart of our community, and we continue to strive to support the young people in becoming happy, healthy and ready to face life's challenges.

The young people have definitely 'enjoyed learning' and stepped up to all the new challenges. Across the term we have been lucky to welcome parents and visitors into the school and they commented on how 'warm' the Gatehouse feels. We are thrilled with this summary as this is what we aim to create via our values.

A huge THANK YOU to all the members of the Gatehouse team. They have worked so hard to ensure that the young people have had a really brilliant term. It has felt productive and exciting, and this is down to the hard work and determination of our fabulous team. A special mention goes to Melissa who has worked hard in providing our year 11's with support, direction and information about next steps post 16 including arranging numerous college visits to give our young people a flavour of college life. Thank you, Melissa.

I wish you all a happy and safe holiday and a Merry Christmas. Thank you for your continued support of our young people at the Gatehouse. We look forward to all the wonderful things the new year will bring.

Andy Fulker

Members of the Gatehouse team have provided a summary of the learning and achievements of our young people below:-

Construction news

We have had a great term over at construction, working towards the Aim levels 1 and 2. I am really pleased at the progress that has been made by our students, lots of focus and commitment to their individual and team projects produced some fantastic results, working on wooden toolboxes, bespoke sets of drawers and bird boxes, and for some festive fun we have been making wooden reindeer. All the projects have helped improve their manual tool techniques and build on their tool knowledge. There has been lots of hard work on the farm too; building a new rabbit enclosure and creating a boundary fence has really helped keep the farm area safe and looking great too.

Overall, a brilliant term. I am really proud of our achievements so far and looking forward to seeing the students getting stuck into some more exciting projects and successes in the new year.



Have a lovely Christmas and New year

Baz

The Pod – Autumn Term 2022

In Motional members of The Pod has been a hive of activity throughout the Autumn term travelling the world with The Frozen Planet 2, considering the impact of our choices on the environment; exploring the next steps in Careers and our responsibility to each other reflecting on our school values beyond 3pm Monday to Friday. Motional has also focused on the main world events including the change of Prime Minister, the Queen's funeral, the economic environment and of course, more recently, the World Cup. Our discussion and

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debates have been interesting, challenging and an opportunity to think both in and out of the box!

In the world of Functional Skills, we have calculated the perimeter, understood how to calculate area and applied the skills to their use outside of the classroom. We have explored averages and taken on the fear of fractions with a new determination to conquer the confusion they bring whilst applying their use practically.

English has held a strong focus on Speaking and Listening. Debating different topics and views whilst engaging with considering the views that may oppose our own but are equally valid albeit diverse and different. Using the different views in a practical application to comparing and contrasting text in different formats: articles, news report, stories, book and some film.

Finally, the Pod has been home to some new subjects: GCSE Science and ICDL (International Computer Driving Licence) previously known as ECDL. Gaining this qualification will give future employers the confidence that our students have a competent understanding of computers for personal and professional use. The qualification is overseen from BCS (British Computing Society) and is recognised worldwide.

As Christmas draws a close to this term I look forward to spring where we will take the next step towards mocks with a focus on exams in the summer term.

Helen Dyer

The Den – Autumn Term 2022

In English this half term we have been studying Macbeth in our literature classes and exploring creating reading and writing in language. This of course culminated in the mocks, I am so proud of the students for completing their exams with such resilience and determination.

In Maths we have got our teeth stuck into some hefty topics such as BIDMAS, Pythagoras, the circumference and area of circles, nth term and midpoints. For some students this has been their first look at complex concepts such as pi or writing formulas. We have a strong competitive spirit amongst the group with work being completed into break times and even some particularly studious pupils completing homework now. Well done!

In Digital Tech we have moved away from Photoshop and begun studying the theory and principles of 2D animation. I am excited to see these concepts put into action next term when the students begin to conceptualise and make their own animated films.

In Media Studies we have examined the first three case studies for the course which are all advertisements ranging from the 1950's to today across print and audio-visual media. Alongside this we have been studying audience theories.

Lastly in motional things have been feeling festive as we prepared for the Christmas Fayre by getting creative in the kitchen making chocolate bark.

Hannah

Aim Catering

This term we have covered general dishes where the students are asked to work independently following a demonstration of the dish. This builds both their independent cooking skills and their problem-solving skills as they are tasked with making adaptations and correcting things that go wrong. It also allows them to work collaboratively with the other students in the class before asking the Teacher. Gareth, Hayli, Leona and Eden have produced some complex dishes including Souffle, which can easily go wrong. They all produced amazing dishes using technical skills and correct weighing of ingredients. These are just a few of the dishes they have produced, and I am proud of how they have all grown this term in their cooking skills and independence.

Have a wonderful Christmas - Vickie



Oahu – Autumn Term 2022 (Claire)

Oahu have had a busy few weeks collecting resources and crafting for the Christmas Fayre. Having St Catherine's Hill on the doorstep meant we could source our own during Motional time. We then had to saw, router and assemble wooden reindeers, give them button noses, and crochet them scarves. We are really pleased with the results.

During our mornings we have worked extremely hard at our maths and English studies, some of Oahu have also been taking part in some mock exams and performing amazingly well. Our afternoons have included a mixture of activities including some work on the theme 'Whose Earth Is It Anyway?'. At the end of the topic, having looked at world maps, studied environmental issues and researched some spiritual and religious themes, we have decided that it doesn't in fact belong to us at all – but we are all responsible for its care...



Bike Maintenance

The bike maintenance team have had a brilliant half term learning new skills both on and off the bike. We have explored parts of the New Forest, Iford BMX track and Moors Valley to name a few. Some rides muddier than others! The students have learned the importance of well-maintained bikes and were lucky to spend a morning with The New Forest Bike Project team carrying out a full bike service to each of our bikes completing some of the more difficult tasks.

A massive thank you to all that contributed at last year's Christmas fair. With your help we were able to purchase extra mountain bikes for our young people to enjoy.

Have a lovely Christmas - Kate & Dom

Nazere – Autumn Term 2022 (Karen)

In Motion we have been working on the winter edition of The Stabiliser, which is a World Cup special and features a football scoop with a local celebrity. We've also been hard at work on our Christmas fayre merchandise, making beautiful handmade gemstone bracelets. Students have shown a real flair for jewellery design and an eye for matching colours. We'll also be making our famous Christmas tree meringues which were a huge hit at last year's fayre.

Years 10 & 11 had their GCSE mocks, and we were all impressed by the effort they put in and the resilience shown. For some students this was their first timed exam, and they coped incredibly well with the pressure. Congratulations on some great results.



I hope you all have a lovely, restful, and healthy Christmas. We look forward to seeing the children back in school on **Wednesday 4th January 2023** for what I know will be an exciting year at The Stable School!

Best Wishes

Beth

Beth Whittaker
Headteacher

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