

THE WEEK AT POOL ACADEMY

FRIDAY – 13.2.26

MESSAGES:

What a busy and successful week it has been! Highlights include a fantastic and unforgettable educational trip to Berlin for our Year 10 GCSE History students. We were also delighted to announce the national award nomination for our Young Ambassadors, celebrate the dedication of our Year 11 Carousel Champions and English stars, and commend Hannah R for her outstanding progress on the iDEA Awards. Alongside this, our Year 9 students continue to develop their leadership skills, the TEVI group planted watercress, and Year 10 Hospitality students completed their practice NEA task, demonstrating the hard work and ambition taking place across the school.

We hope you have a restful half-term break. **A reminder that Monday 23rd February is an INSET day, and we look forward to welcoming all students back to school on Tuesday 24th February.**

- Kernow Health will be delivering DTP and Meningitis ACWY vaccinations on Wednesday 25th March 2026. Please refer to the letter for [Year 9](#) and [Year 10](#) students for full details on which vaccines are being offered, how to check your child's previous vaccination status, and contact information for the School Age Immunisation Service.
- A fantastic opportunity to help nature in your local area! Redruth residents can pick up a [free tree sapling](#) to plant in their garden this Saturday 14th February, between 10:30 am and 12:30 pm. The giveaway takes place at Market Way and Redruth Library (TR15 2AU). Seven small species, including hazel, rowan, and crab apple, will be available. No booking is required—just bring a bag to carry your little tree home!

STUDENTS:



The TEVI group enjoyed a fantastic indoor learning experience as they planted watercress. Students worked together to carefully prepare the planting area, learning about the importance of freshwater plants and how they support local ecosystems.

Watercress is not only a nutritious plant but also plays an important role in maintaining healthy waterways. By taking part in this activity, pupils developed their teamwork skills while gaining practical knowledge about sustainability and the environment.



Well done to everyone involved for their enthusiasm and hard work - we look forward to seeing the watercress grow!



Get ready for the Pool Academy Fashion Show!

Please save the date and join us for the main event on Wednesday 4th March from 3pm.

The show will feature a diverse array of genres, including Flower Power, Retro (80s, 90s), Street Style, Medieval Gothic, and a spectacular Recycled - Alice in Wonderland group, among many others.

Rehearsals take place in the Drama Studio as follows -

- Group 1, 2 & 3 (Flower Power, Retro (80s, 90s), Street Style) - Tuesday 24th Feb 3-4pm
- Groups 9 & 11 (St Pirans and Panto) - Wednesday 25th Feb 3-4pm
- Groups 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (Flower Power, Retro (80s, 90s), Street Style, Sports, Black & White) - Monday 2nd March 3-4pm
- Groups 6,7,8,9 (Smart vs Casual, Recycled - Alice in Wonderland, House Colours, St Pirans) - Tuesday 3rd March 3-4pm

Dance and Drama Club will return to normal from Monday 9th March.

Group Leaders and Designers are reminded of their meeting in MU1 every Monday lunchtime. All Groups - please make a note of your rehearsal time.

A huge thank you to all the designers and models for their dedication!

On 29th January, following the success of last year's Young Ambassadors project, a film company visited the school to interview students and capture footage of some of the activities they organised.

Now in Year 10, the students have been nominated for a national award in recognition of the project's impact and achievements. Their dedication, teamwork, and leadership have made the initiative a real success, and the nomination is a fantastic accomplishment for everyone involved.

We look forward to seeing the final edit and celebrating their hard work.



This year has seen a strong focus on leadership, with 27 Year 9 students currently undergoing training to develop their skills. All student leaders have taken part in either the Time2Lead Programme, delivered by Active Cornwall, or the Young Ambassador training provided by the Youth Sport Trust.

In addition, students attend training sessions on Friday afternoons led by Mrs Bright, working in collaboration with Mr Shaughnessy, the Crofty Primary Sports Co-ordinator. Through this partnership, Mr Shaughnessy offers valuable opportunities for students to practise their leadership skills at primary school festivals, helping them build confidence and experience in real-life settings. The students are now looking ahead to July, when they will work alongside Mr Shaughnessy to host a Primary Sports Festival - an exciting opportunity to demonstrate everything they have learned.

On 28th January, twelve of our students attended the Youth Sport Trust Young Ambassador training at Penryn. It was a fantastic event, delivered by the PE SCITT and Higher Education students from Truro College, who provided an engaging and informative programme.

The training has equipped our students with the skills and confidence to promote physical activity and encourage participation across the school. They will now be working alongside Miss Hawkins, our student teacher, to organise and host a new sports club for their peers.

We are incredibly proud of their enthusiasm and look forward to seeing the positive impact they will make within our school community.



Our Year 11s have been hard at work on their Carousel revision homework in preparation for their GCSE exams. Well done to all our students who have completed the homework, with a special congratulations to this week's Carousel Champions, who will be presented with a special certificate in assembly in recognition of their great effort and commitment to achieving brilliant results. This week's champions, who scored 100% in all their revision quizzes are:

Carousel Superstars! 100%

Chelsea W, Latheeba, Alesha P, Temera-Jane, Amelia, L, Norutendo, Karl, Jade, Leon, Oliver H, Poppy, Owen, Tinotenda, Lillian, Piran, Reuben C-W, Lola, Sonny, Lily A, Sam C, Hannah C, Chris, Zac, Evie, Freya B, Sophia W, Ethan W, Amaiah, Ashley, Splendour, Oliver R, Michael, Mechaila, Mia N, Tanatswa, Jake H, Alex G, Amelia G, Jamie, Imogen C-G, Ruby C, Eva B, Joel A.

Pictured below are Carousel winners Harley and Noru, Hollie and Eva and Harley and Tino.



A huge congratulations to this week's fantastic English stars at Pool Academy:

- ★ Reuben (Y11)
- ★ Heath (Y11)
- ★ Logan (Y11)
- ★ Phoebe C (Y10)
- ★ Noah T (Y10)



These students have impressed us with their dedication, effort and commitment to excellence in English. We are incredibly proud of the maturity, focus and ambition they show in lessons every day. Keep shining – your hard work does not go unnoticed!

This week, our Year 10 GCSE History students enjoyed an unforgettable educational trip to Berlin, packed with meaningful visits and powerful learning experiences.



On Tuesday, students explored the Berlin Story bunker before visiting the Topography of Terror, a photographic exhibition documenting the Nazi regime on the former site of the Gestapo headquarters. They then walked along a surviving section of the Berlin Wall and ended the day with a visit to the Reichstag.



Wednesday began with a guided tour of the Olympic Stadium, followed by a moving visit to Grunewald Station, the main platform from which many Berlin Jews were deported. Students then explored life in East Germany at the DDR Museum. After dining in a traditional German restaurant, they took in breathtaking night-time views of the city from the Fernsehturm TV Tower.

Yesterday, the group visited the Otto Weidt Workshop for the Blind before heading to the Sachsenhausen Memorial and former concentration camp, one of the largest in Germany between 1936 and 1945. The trip concluded with a fun evening of bowling.

What a fantastic and memorable trip for all involved!



Gwithian House Day was a huge success, raising over £100 for the Wave charity. This fantastic total was made possible through a popular bake sale and the competitive spirit shown during the staff vs Year 11 volleyball match. A big thank you to everyone who contributed, took part, and supported such a worthwhile cause.



Congratulations to this week's Sparx Reader winners for their outstanding commitment to reading. Their hard work, enthusiasm, and dedication to developing their literacy skills truly deserve recognition. We are incredibly proud of their achievements - keep up the fantastic effort!



SPARX READER CHAMPIONS	
YEAR 7	
OLIVER F	2034
KENZIE D	1319
ETHAN M	1000

SPARX READER CHAMPIONS	
YEAR 8	
OTIS M	2519
KARINA S	1540
DEWANYA B	1285

SPARX READER CHAMPIONS	
YEAR 9	
SEBASTIAN B	992
JAMIE W	877
BLAKE R	550

SPARX READER CHAMPIONS	
YEAR 10	
KANYIMA U	1114
NOKUTENDA V	616
FATIMA N	395

KS3 Valentine's Day Disco – A Sweet Success!

Thank you to everyone who supported our KS3 Valentine's Day Disco. The event was a fantastic success, with students enjoying an afternoon of music, dancing and treats.



We're delighted to share that we raised £60 to support the teacher's place on our upcoming Kenya expedition. A huge thank you to all the students who attended and contributed so enthusiastically!

We're now looking ahead to our next fundraising event — our Quiz Night on 26th March. We look forward to sharing more details soon and hope to see many of you there!

We are delighted to celebrate the outstanding achievement of Hannah R in Year 11, who has successfully completed both the Bronze and Silver iDEA Awards. Even more impressively, Hannah has progressed as far as currently possible with the Gold award, with the final badges still being developed by the programme.



The iDEA (Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award) is an internationally recognised programme designed to help students develop digital, enterprise, and employability skills. Through a series of short, engaging e-learning courses, students explore topics highly relevant to everyday life and future careers in technology. The platform is intuitive and motivating, making it an excellent tool for independent learning. You can find out more about the programme here: <https://idea.org.uk/about>

iDEA was introduced to the Year 11 iMedia group last year, encouraging students to complete badges that complemented both their course content and their individual “Dream Big” aspirations. One particularly valuable feature of the programme is the automatic generation of a professional Record of Achievement. Students can add this as a PDF to their portfolio or link it directly to their CV, helping them showcase their skills to future employers or education providers.

Meanwhile, our current Year 10 Business and iMedia students are working through iDEA as part of their homework, with the expectation that all will achieve at least the Bronze award by the end of the academic year.

Hannah’s dedication and initiative set a fantastic example for her peers, and we look forward to formally recognising her accomplishment. Congratulations, Hannah, on this exceptional milestone!

CLASSROOM CLIPS: FOOD (YEAR 10)

Year 10 Hospitality and Catering students have been completing a practice NEA task. They are making 2 products of their choice that fit a given brief. Here are some of their results ...



Sports Bulletin (Week Commencing 24th February)



POOL ACADEMY
COMMUNITY • WELLNESS • RESILIENCE

SPORTING INSPIRATION PROGRAMME
3 – 4 pm Week Beginning 23rd February 2026

Weekly Extra-Curricular Activities

(Please come to the Gym changing rooms at 3pm)

Monday
No clubs – INSET DAY

Tuesday
Boys Football (TF) – Year 8
Boys Football (MF) – Year 7
Girls Rugby (MCR) – All Years

Wednesday
Hockey (SBR) – All Years

Thursday
Fixtures

Friday
No clubs

Weekly Fixtures

Wednesday 24.2.26

- Girls Football vs Falmouth (Away)
Cup Game - Year 8/9 - Return @ 5.15pm

Thursday – 25.2.26

- Boys Football vs Helston (Home)
Year 8 & 10 - Finish @ 5.15pm
- Hockey vs Falmouth (Home)
Year 7 & 8 - Finish @ 5pm

Parents and carers are invited to come and enjoy watching their child play in our school teams **from 4.15pm onwards**.

If you need to use the toilets, parents / carers will need to use the facilities near the sports hall. Students are to use the facilities by the PE changing rooms.

Enjoy the game and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Menu (week commencing 24th February)

Lunch Week 1

All our ingredients are locally sourced and delivered fresh by local suppliers.
Our eggs are free-range and Red Lion stamped, our fish is sustainably sourced and MSC approved and our meat is British Red Tractor accredited wherever possible.

Spring 2025

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Meal	CRISPY CHICKEN BURGER POTATO WEDGES	BEEF CHILLI with Rice & Nachos	ROAST GAMMON with Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Peas	CHICKEN TIKKA With Rice & Garlic Bread	SAUSAGE/CHICKEN NUGGETS CHIPS
Plant Based / Vegetarian Main Meal	Veggie Burger with Seasoned Wedges,	Vegetable Chilli with Spicy Rice, Green Salad, Nachos	Quorn Roast Fillet with Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Peas	Sweet Potato & Chickpea Curry with Pilaf Rice, Green Beans, Bombay Potatoes	PIZZA SLICE MOZZERLLA STICKS CHIPS
Street Food	PIRI PIRI CHICKEN WRAP	CRISPY CHICKEN MAYO WRAP	BEEF BURGER SALAD/CHEESE	PULLED PORK WRAP	THE SHACK
Takeaway Tubs	TOMATO & CHORIZO	PENNE ARRABIATA	MAC & CHEESE	KARLAN COCONUT CHICKEN RICE	THE SHACK
Pizza Slice	CHEESE & TOMATO	HAM & TOMATO	CHICKEN & SWEETCORN	CHESSE & TOMATO	THE SHACK
Jacket Potato	Available daily with a range of delicious fillings	Available daily with a range of delicious fillings	Available daily with a rang of delicious fillings	Available daily with a range of delicious fillings	Available daily with a range of delicious fillings
THE SHACK	A SELECTION OF FRESH SANDWICHES/WRAPS BAGUETTES/SALADS	A SELECTION OF FRESH SANDWICHES/WRAPS BAGUETTES/SALADS	A SELECTION OF FRESH SANDWICHES/WRAPS BAGUETTES/SALADS	A SELECTION OF FRESH SANDWICHES/WRAPS BAGUETTES/SALADS	A SELECTION OF FRESH SANDWICHES/WRAPS BAGUETTES/SALADS



Meal Deal

Main Meal
with vegetables
and dessert



All of our main meals,
sandwiches & desserts
are freshly made on
site every day.



EVENTS WEEK COMMENCING 23RD FEBRUARY (WEEK B)

[Link to the School Calendar](#)

- Monday 23rd February - INSET Day (no students in school)
- Tuesday 24th February - Students return to school
- Thursday 26th February - Year 9 Options Evening, 5.30pm-6.30pm
- Friday 27th February - Crofty Benchball, 12.45pm-2.45pm

CAREERS:

Each week we focus on a career pathway to highlight. This week we are looking at a career as a Lighting Engineer.



Please follow [this link](#) to learn more about careers as a Lighting Engineer.

If there is a particular pathway you would like to find out more about, please email enquiries@poolacademy.uk.



This is the final call for Year 9 and 10 students to apply for the exciting Future Skills course: Careers in STEM!

Taking place virtually over the February half term (February 16th-21st), this 20-hour programme is a fantastic opportunity to explore careers in Net Zero, Digital AI, Health and Life Sciences, and

Engineering/Infrastructure. Students will benefit from live Q&A sessions with professionals, receive support for CVs and interviews, and achieve the Bronze Industrial Cadet Award.

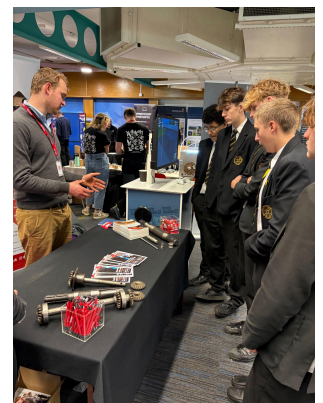
Applications close this Friday at 9 am!

The course costs £50, with bursaries available. Please visit the [EDT website](#) or [scan the QR code on the flyer](#) to register immediately.

National Apprenticeship Week is here! 🎉

This week is all about celebrating apprenticeships and the wide range of technical and vocational pathways available to young people.

On Thursday 12th February, students from Years 10 and 11 at Pool Academy visited Cornwall College for their Apprenticeships Fair. It was a fantastic event, giving our students the chance to speak with employers, training providers and industry professionals about future opportunities. They were then able to see how the courses available to them link to future employment.



We're proud to support our students in exploring ambitious and diverse pathways — helping them make informed choices and take confident next steps towards their futures.



PRAISE POSTCARD RECIPIENTS:

Students are awarded a Praise Postcard for their class work, effort and attitude. This week we have given out a total of 336 Praise Postcards! Please see below for this week's recipients.

