Ryan rises to the occasion

There’s no challenge Ryan won’t tackle whilst on work experience at Café Chaos
Message from the Headteacher

I am absolutely delighted with our Year 11 leavers exam success this academic year. Our students worked incredibly hard to achieve their very best. Particular credit must be given to Olly Parry who gained 11 GCSEs in total including 10 at grade C (4) or above. Olly also achieved a grade A (7) in his English language GCSE, which is an absolute triumph! Alongside his GCSE success Olly also passed 3 vocational BTEC qualifications and has been successful in his application to join College this academic year. Olly’s progress has been unbelievable and these results are evidence of the hard work he has consistently put in over the last 3 years at Oak Tree. All our leavers were set up with either college or work placements and we would like to wish them the very best of luck for the future.

Overall our year 11’s are now leaving with more qualifications than ever before and our results are improving year on year so we look forward to more success next year.

Please do not hesitate to get in contact with us if you have any questions about your child’s curriculum or if you want to learn more about the qualifications they are working towards.

Have a lovely half term break.
School term dates

We will break up for Christmas holidays on Thursday 20th December at 1pm, and return on Tuesday 8th January 2019.

Please refer to the school website for further information at www.oaktreeschoolcornwall.co.uk.

New Staff

Welcome to all the new team members that joined us this term. Thank you for all your hard work, and dedication.
Cultural Week

This term our cultural theme was Belgian. Students had a go at speaking French and or Flemish during language lessons.

You may have heard some of our students talk about the infamous ‘waffle shop’ it certainly lived up to reputation as students and staff enjoyed the tasty treats on offer.

Belgium is famous for its historical churches, if you were in and around mid-Cornwall this week you may have heard our students bell ringing and learning from the pros.

Next half term we will be studying Spanish, listen and look out for the next cultural brochure explaining all the choices.
Students in ICT lessons have been making full use of the Google’s, ‘BeInternetAwesome’ e-safety resource. A full package available for schools to deliver lessons that support students having a healthy relationship when using technology. ICT Teacher – Kevin Jackson supports the resource because the emphasis is to provide guidance that supports young people being safe when using technology rather than having a don’t do it attitude. Use the search engine to look up ‘Interland’ for more details.

As a school that seeks to promotes and develop staff to ensure they are current and up to date with latest developments in their teaching subject, the ICT team were given the opportunity to attend a Safer Internet Training Day hosted by South West Grid for Learning. This was essentially a briefing update that cascaded the latest information to staff that they can pass onto students and staff. The event was hosted at St Ermin Community Centre, and fulfilled its aims as teachers, police and support staff were taken through some of the new indicators of how to promote a healthy interaction with technology.
Work Experience

Café CHAOS work with schools and community groups, providing hospitality and catering experience both in the kitchen and front of house. One student Ryan, has attended weekly over the past six months with the aim to boost his self-confidence and develop work-based skills. Teachers and staff at the school have seen Ryan confidence grow and there is no challenge that Ryan wouldn’t tackle in the kitchen. The start of the term and return to Chaos was great for Ryan because he was handed a chef’s uniform. Well done, Ryan.
Polly Joke

The boys in Polly Joke have been very busy since they started in September. Alongside their core subjects of English, Maths and Science the children have been visiting the farm, completing DT and art lessons, catering, food education and also drama.

Maths

In maths the children have been working with basic number and unit value to help them solve problems such as create the biggest number possible by using these five digits 39874 or create the closest number you can to 50000 using these digits. Test them if you want to see if they can answer it. The children have also started to use Doodle Maths at school and at home to help improve their maths skills.

English

The children have started to read a new book this term “Roman Rescue”. This book allows the children to study the romans not only during their English lessons but also during their geography, catering and DT lessons. During their DT lessons the children have created a Roman sword and will hopefully create a shield, armour and helmet before we complete this story.

Science

The children have been investigating different life cycles and also how animals and plants reproduce. The visits to the farm have helped the children to understand this as the farm they visit is a sheep farm the farmer will discuss the lambing season with them and understanding the life cycle of a sheep helps them plan the lambing season.
Sessions for parents and carers of pupils who attend Oaktree School

The Oak Tree Approach for SEMH

Thursdays: 8th November, 15th November and 15th November
12.30-2.30pm

Workshop based sessions where we will be thinking together about how we work with pupils at Oak Tree, and how we manage their social and emotional mental health needs using Trauma informed approaches.

Building Resilience

Thursdays: 2nd May, 9th May, 16th May
12.30-2.30pm.

Is your child a worrier?

Thursdays on 15th January, 22nd January and 29th January

Workshop based sessions where we will be thinking together about worries, anxieties and how we can support our children when they are feeling these.

Please let Charlie or Dawn in the office know if you will be attending. Lunch is provided.

Hope to see you there!
We are very pleased to announce our new School councillors that will be representing our school, whilst being a voice for their peers:

**Chairman:** Ollie

**Vice Chairmen:** Jake and Wil

**Class counsellors:** Harry, Jaydan, Lux and Kayden

Over the next few months they will be organising fund-raising events to help raise funds for their chosen charities, promoting Anti-Bullying week, naming our new class rooms as well as helping support the school staff in making positive changes within the school.

**SOCIAL SKILLS**

Last year we ran a Social skills group for Tolcarne. This proved to be a great success. We learnt how to form healthy new friendships, listening skills, conversational skills and how to converse without aggression, fears or expectation. These groups will continue to develop throughout the school. Empowering our students with social skills that will remain with them for life. These learnt skills will help encourage a new social confidence.
Online safety

Talking to your child – openly, and regularly – is the best way to help keep them safe online.

You might find it helpful to start with a family discussion to set boundaries and agree what’s appropriate. Or you might need a more specific conversation about an app or website your child wants to use or something you’re worried about.

If you’re not sure where to start then here’s the advice you need – great ways to begin conversations to keep your child safe online. And you can always call our O2 and NSPCC online safety helpline for free expert advice.
Ask about things they might see online which make them feel uncomfortable

Talk about things they, or their friends, have seen that made them feel uncomfortable:

1. Be specific. What exactly made them feel uncomfortable and why? Is it people or animals being hurt? Nasty comments about others?
2. Link these two things in the real world, and explain that you’re always here to protect and help them online and off.
3. Reassure your child that they can always talk to you about anything that makes them feel uncomfortable.
4. Show them how to report or block on the sites and apps they use. Use Net Aware to find out how.
5. Tell them you’ll help them to report anything upsetting they’ve seen, or to deal with online bullying.

Talk about how they can stay safe on social networks

Ask your child if they know:

- Where reporting functions are
- How to block someone
- How to keep information private.

Show them how to do these things. Use Net Aware to help you.

Talk about online privacy, and being Share Aware. Explain that online behaviour — including sharing personal information — should mirror behaviour in person.

Explain that talking to strangers isn’t always ‘bad’, but they should always be careful about what they share and sometimes people aren’t who they say they are.