



# Humphry Davy School

## A Community Music College

Community Matters, April 2014

### Primary Pirates Invade The School!



32 Year 4 and 5 primary school pupils recently joined the Humphry Davy Pirate Crew and took part in a treasure-hunting adventure! The plucky pupils from Alverton, Marazion, Newlyn, Pensans and St Mary's Roman Catholic School spent the day solving puzzles and challenges based on shapes and coordinates.

They studied how to find areas of basic shapes, coordinates, algebraic substitution, and a mental maths challenge relay race. Gold bars and other precious bars (some may have been chocolate!) were discovered and plundered, as was the biscuit supply.

### Going The Extra Mile

The whole school was out in force for Sport Relief with everyone running, jogging or walking a mile in aid of the charity; even the sun put in an appearance! The HDS cheerleaders supported us, there were prizes for the fastest completions, and a prize for the best staff costume went to an enthusiastic Mrs Chick who, rather aptly, completed her mile in the guise of Roadrunner; what a great way to start a Friday morning!

The day was also an opportunity for the school to come together to help raise money for fellow student Joanna Nankervis who will be competing in the World Transplant Games. Joanna organised a cake sale at lunchtime to add more coins to the coffers and collected almost £70! In total, the school raised over £700 for two very worthy causes. Well done everyone!



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## Cornish Youth Makes Music

HDS Cambiata students reunited with their local counterparts to reform the 60 strong 'Cornwall Cambiata' for a memorial concert at the Hall For Cornwall, in tribute to the late philanthropist Dennis Arbon MBE.

Without Mr Arbon's kind financial contribution towards travel costs, the November performance at The Royal Albert Hall would not have been possible. Sadly, Mr Arbon passed away before the event and it was therefore felt a fitting tribute to recreate the performance at Mr Arbon's beloved HFC. The touching memorial concert saw the boys perform alongside Cornwall Boys' Choir and Cornwall Youth Brass Band and the appreciative audience was visibly moved.



## Battlefields Visit 2014

This August marks the Centenary of the beginning of the First World War. To coincide with this momentous occasion, we will once again be offering students the opportunity to visit the battlefields of France and Belgium this autumn.

Clearly this is a hugely important learning opportunity for Year 9 to Year 11 students, especially those undertaking History as a GCSE subject. Students will travel by coach on Tuesday 14th October and visit the Ypres Salient, key sites of the Somme battlefield, Lochnagar Crater, Tyne Cot Cemetery, Passchendaele Museum and Lutyens' Theipval Memorial. They will also attend the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate on Thursday 16th October.



The cost of the trip is based on a voluntary contribution of £330 per student which will cover all coach and ferry travel, accommodation, visits and all meals. Places are still available; if you would like to find out more about the visit, please contact the school on 01736 363559.

## Connecting Classrooms: Improving International Communities

In recognition of the outstanding work carried out by the school in terms of its international partnerships throughout the world, Humphry Davy School has been awarded a Connecting Classrooms grant by the British Council. This award recognises excellent work already carried out by the school and supports our exciting plans for the future.

Humphry Davy has been working with its Breton partner, Lycée Le Nivot, for three years now. Following the 'Green is Global' conference which took place at the Eden project in October 2011, the International Prefect team from Humphry Davy School made a commitment to work with the team at Lycée Le Nivot to raise 4000 Euros to build and equip a new science lab at another of Humphry Davy School's international partners, the Vision School, in Kisoro in Uganda. Appropriately, the new building will be called the 'Humphry Davy Science Lab'.

The target has been reached and Simeon Royle, Humphry Davy's International Schools Coordinator, and colleague Pete Smith are proud to be travelling to open the new building in Uganda in May. The British Council is pleased to recognise the cultural and educational significance of this project and has awarded the project 'Connecting Classrooms' status which offers some financial support from the British Council as well as putting the project into a longer term vision. The school is looking to send students to teach at the school and to work in the surrounding villages in the summer of 2015. Curriculum links are to be developed between Humphry Davy School and students in Kisoro and there is also a programme of professional development between teachers at all three schools involved.

"I am delighted about this award;" said Mr Royle, "it is recognition of all of the hard work carried out by students and staff at both Humphry Davy School and Lycée Le Nivot in Brittany. Particular thanks must go not only to the International Prefect team for all of their hard work and expertise in terms of fundraising, but also to the students at both schools who took the trouble to put their hands in their pockets to support students who maybe do not have it quite as easy as they do. Whatever the media are saying, the credit crunch is certainly still present in West Cornwall, and yet our students can still spare their own money to make a difference to young people in another part of the world. It is wonderful that students in Uganda will now be able to study science in their own purpose-built science lab. Sir Humphry Davy would have been very proud!"

## BBC News School Report



On Thursday 27th March, the BBC School Report team took part in the annual News Day. The team consisted of Year 7, 8 and 9 students who all helped in creating video, audio and written reports.

Well done to Beth, Avis, Sebi, Mushka, Michael, Katie and Jaden for their fantastic work. To see their finished report, please go to:  
[www.humphry-davy.cornwall.sch.uk/124/bbc-news-school-report-2014](http://www.humphry-davy.cornwall.sch.uk/124/bbc-news-school-report-2014)

Partnership...

## Science Week

Science Week is one of the most eagerly anticipated events of the year amongst our students. Little wonder when you consider how much work our science department puts into astounding, puzzling and entertaining the whole school during this time!

This year we had the ever popular 'science busking' during lunch breaks which saw our Science Lead Learners performing elaborate experiments to enthusiastic crowds of fellow students. At the same time, the new LEGO Mindstorm STEM kits were set up to perform amazing computer-programmed tasks on a specially built track to entertain students as they ate their lunch. We were also grateful to the Fire Service who came into school to give special talks and demonstrations to our students.

The legendary 'HDS QI' quiz took place on the Friday, and the audience was keen to get involved. We all left with heads full of new 'quite interesting' facts and the annoying siren sound ringing in our ears!



## Headteacher's Reflections

What a fabulous end to another busy term at Humphry Davy School!

We've had many exciting visits from the local primary schools and have enjoyed seeing their pupils experience new subjects and learning topics with amazing enthusiasm and interest. These taster sessions proved to be very popular and provided vibrant working interaction between our staff, students and the visiting children. Many thanks to our guests and to our students who helped with the activities and were great ambassadors for our school.

Next month will see the rededication ceremony of our First World War memorial which has recently been restored. Students will be looking into personal connections to the names of the servicemen in the coming weeks and others will be preparing musical pieces for the ceremony. It's always encouraging to witness young people engaging with the past and it will be really interesting to see what they come up with. Fittingly, as you have read in this newsletter, there are spaces still available on this year's battlefields visit; a poignant and tangible way for students to mark the centenary of the start of the war, and particularly helpful for GCSE History students to gain a real narrative sense of what happened during those awful years.

I hope you all have a peaceful and safe Easter break and I look forward to welcoming you back next term.

### Key Dates

**04.04.2014 - 22.04.2014 Easter Break**

**21.04.2014 - 29.04.2014 Le Nivot Visit**

**01.05.2014 First World War Memorial Rededication Ceremony**