



MARAZION SCHOOL

GOVERNORS' NEWSLETTER

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Change is both exciting and daunting, and every year brings change to a school as new pupils come to join, and usually some new staff as well. For Marazion School this year, the changes included new leadership and the school's first full year as part of the Crofty Multi-Academy Trust. New teaching schemes have also been introduced with the aim of enhancing learning and creating greater consistency in core subjects to support pupils as they progress.

At the same time, everyone has worked hard to maintain the underpinning Marazion School ethos. The whole school community has continued to work together, both on Marazion School-specific activities, such as the Super Learning Days, and for events that are celebrated much more widely. These have included National Poetry Day, World Book Day, Red Nose Day, and the celebrations for David Attenborough's 100th birthday when a card featuring one hundred different creatures was created with every child in the school contributing.

Looking back from this end of the year, here are some of the highlights and achievements – we are not sure quite how all of these were fitted in!

Our School

We are very fortunate with our school's setting and the outdoor space that we have. The **new fencing** that has been put up is helping make much more use of that space and keeping the children safer, not just for outdoor learning on Fridays. **Landscaping** work is also enhancing the different areas where the children can spend time outside of the classroom and offers the opportunity for lots of different activities, including the climbing wall, the sandpit, space to play ball games, imaginative play or just chatting with their friends. The **planting** done by the children also means that everyone can enjoy some colour and spot visiting pollinators.

Inside the building, a wonderful new **quiet room space** has been made and an inspiring re-created **library** area, helping all the children to thrive in their learning and support their wellbeing whilst at school.

Our Town

Marazion School has always been an integral part of the town and we have seen those close connections with the local community continue and deepen this year. This has included representatives of the pupils and staff taking part in the annual **Remembrance Day** commemorations, the **Lantern-Making Workshop** and engagement in the switching on of the Christmas lights, and the efforts of the Tetrahedrons Class to maintain the **Community Phone Box**.

The annual **Christmas Fair** saw a range of different local crafts people and businesses gather in the school hall, bringing the community into our fantastic school and fundraising for a very special Christmas treat for all of the children. Congratulations to all of the Tetrahedrons Class entrepreneurs who offered a variety of different stalls, refreshments and games as part of "Trade Your Way" in their most ambitious efforts yet.

Our Cornish Heritage

Marazion School celebrated **St Piran's Day** with enthusiasm. Some of the older children took part in the St Piran's Day Parade in Penzance with other local schools, dancing through the streets of the town, and the



school day finished with the pupils leading singing in the school playground. Thanks to Marazion Town Council for the saffron buns!

More recently, Marazion School pupils, parents and teachers turned out in force for **Mazey Day**, the high point of Penzance's Golowan Festival. The Marazion seagull looked terrific as it "flew" from the top of Morrab Road, along the Greenmarket, and down Market Jew Street, buoyed all the way by lots of mini seagulls with pasties, chips, loud percussive instruments and even louder voices.

The Crofty Community

Being part of the wider Crofty community has also brought new opportunities and experiences. Some of the older pupils applied to represent Marazion School on two Crofty-wide groups: the **Coastal Crew** and the **Eco Council**, both of which offered particularly prestigious experiences to the successful applicants and bring a wider enrichment to the broader school community. And all pupils were able to take part in the **Crofty Trust Parliament** vote (whether to plant a forest or host an art gallery), giving them all an introduction to democracy.

Other ways in which the school has benefited include additional support around language development and the use of a Crofty pool minibus.

Out & About and Nights Away

There have been lots of exciting opportunities to explore beyond Marazion and, for many of the children, this has also involved nights away. As well as a week in **London** visiting the Science Museum, the Tower of London and taking in a West End show, Tetrahedrons had a visit to **Oxford** where they had a tour of University College (which has a claim to be the oldest college of the University of Oxford) and spent a very inspiring day at the **Williams F1 factory**, learning about the technology and different roles in the racing industry, and having a go on the simulator. Maybe this contributed to the success of the **Monster Mechanics** group this year who worked hard to fundraise and build three go-carts which they then raced against other schools in some very hot weather.

Counting Crew have also been exploring industry, but a little closer to home with a visit to **Trink Dairy**, and the Maths Magicians have had their **Grand Day Out** and a **sleepover in the school**. Tessellations have finished the year with three lovely days at **Adventure Bude**, challenging themselves in lots of new ways and discovering they can do things they never thought possible.

When our pupils go away on trips, the staff with them consistently receive very positive comments and feedback about the children's behaviour – we are very proud of all of them.

Performing Arts

This year, we have celebrated **Christmas with the Aliens**, courtesy of Key Stage 1, and been **Welcome(d) to Neverland** at the Acorn Theatre. There was also a thought-provoking and enjoyable **Christmas Carol Concert** provided by Key Stage 2, which took place in Marazion Methodist Chapel, again demonstrating the close ties between the school and its local community. We have been privileged to see some brilliant acting, singing and dancing. Enthusiasm and determination have shone through and all of the children should be commended on the confidence with which they stand in front of an audience and deliver lines.

It was particularly lovely to hear the Christmas Carol Concert opened this year with the Carol of the Bells, performed on the piano by one of the pupils. More recently, we were delighted to hear about the whole-school **Festival of Music** which was clearly really inspiring. The school is exploring opportunities with external organisations to offer instrumental lessons next year.



Sport

This year, pupils have taken part in several **football** tournaments, a **tennis** tournament, local schools' **cross-country**, and an **Athletics** Championship, bringing back medals and a string of successes. The school has also offered a range of opportunities with local sports and physical activity providers, including **Penzance Gymnastics Club**, **Cross-Fit**, **Pirates Rugby**, and the **Big Dance Company**, as well as using the **swimming** pool in St Ives.

Children in Maths Magicians, Tessellations and Tetrahedrons all enjoyed a **Surf Safe Day**; there have been Balanceability and Bikeability sessions to support children develop skills and confidence **cycling**; and the school also took part in the local **Beat the Street** initiative. There was the **Family Fitness** Friday morning bootcamps which the school offered to pupils and their families, and it was lovely finally to celebrate **sports day** together.

Guests

The school has also welcomed a number of inspiring visitors this year. There was a visit from **Culdrose** to support STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) learning and the **Elmore Quartet** – a professional string quartet currently on a residency in West Cornwall – visited to inspire pupils through their performance and conversation about music. **Tigger Pritchard**, an ambassador for neurodiversity, also came to talk to pupils and the wider school community about how we can celebrate differences and the collective strength and advantages that we have from different ways of thinking and doing things.

Final thoughts

None of this is achieved without an awful lot of people going above and beyond. As governors, we were pleased to see through the parents' survey that the efforts of everyone in the Marazion School community were recognised and valued. As governors, we would also like to thank everyone – staff, pupils and volunteers – for everything they have done to fulfil the “Living, Learning, Laughing” ethos this year. Life always brings challenges on its way but this has been a year of exciting developments, enhancements and new opportunities, and we are looking forward to building further on these successes next year.

The school community is everyone – not just pupils and staff. We have some amazing volunteers who listen to reading, drive the minibus or bring expertise and skills to particular projects. Could you join them? If you – or a member of your family or someone you know – could offer some time, please get in touch. You might even consider becoming a governor?

Finally, we wish our leaving Year 6 pupils the very best of luck for their new schools in September, and hope that everyone has a well-deserved rest before then.

Marazion School Governors 2025/26 have been -

Caroline Peers - Chair

Demelza Curnow - Vice-Chair

Stuart Firth - Parent

Annia McNeill - Parent

Derek Laity - Community

Tanya Tredinnick - Staff

