FEBRUARY

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been a busy and positive few weeks across Oak Tree, with students continuing to engage brilliantly in learning and wider school life. As we begin to see the first signs of spring, there is a real sense of momentum building across the school. Classrooms, outdoor spaces and activities have all been full of energy, curiosity and effort from our young people, and it's been wonderful to see the progress they continue to make.

A recent highlight was our Options and Post-16 Evening, where Year 9 students and their families met with subject leads and a range of post-16 providers to explore future pathways and opportunities beyond Oak Tree.
Across the school there has been plenty happening. On Darley site, students have been taking part in a range of sports including football, rugby, dodgeball and pickleball, alongside spending time helping care for the Lost Gardens after the recent storms. Reading progress continues to grow through Accelerated Reader successes, while staff have been further developing phonics practice to support literacy across the school.

In Acorn, work continues to establish regular swimming opportunities for students. Swimming is not only excellent for wellbeing and fitness, but also an important life skill for young people living in Cornwall.

The Lost Gardens are also beginning to show the first signs of spring, with daffodils and narcissi emerging after a very wet start to the year.

Next week will also mark one year since I joined Oak Tree as Headteacher, and it has been a privilege to work alongside such a dedicated team and inspiring group of students. My wife, son and I will also soon be relocating from Exeter to Cornwall, which we're really excited about as we continue to make this wonderful community our home.

As always, thank you for the continued support and trust you place in the school.

Best Wishes
Matt

FEBRUARY

NEWSLETTER

ACORN

MESSAGE FROM Ben

It's been a busy start to the New Year in Acorn with several areas of development being addressed. Our new reading room launched on Monday 12th January where children gathered and shared a glass of fizzy orange juice served in Champagne flutes whilst our school councillors cut the ribbon to open our new relaxing space dedicated to reading and a non-pressured enjoyment of books.

I have been working hard on setting up swimming lessons for Acorn children, despite a stumbling block with the original plan. It has been successful in setting it up for some children individually, and I maintain my determination to get it in place for the children that haven't yet been as soon as possible. Swimming is not only such a valuable exercise for wellbeing and fitness, but also is such an important life skill for children living in Cornwall.

DARLEY

MESSAGE FROM Becky

It's been a busy time for us on Darley site!

The weather still feels against us, but students have attended some excellent sporting events on site including football, rugby, dodgeball and pickleball. Thankfully students have been able to get outside and spend purposeful time in the lost gardens! A huge thanks to all students who helped clean up after the big storm!

Our students have successfully completed their accelerated reader tests and teachers have been brushing up on their phonics training with our OFG regional lead.

In the kitchen students have been practising key skills and learning to batch cook! It's been a brilliant start to the year and well done everyone!

OREGON

MESSAGE FROM Barry

On February 11th Oak Tree held its options and post-16 evening.

This annual event provided a valuable opportunity for Year 9 students and their parents/carers to meet with Heads of Faculty and subject leads in preparation for choosing Key Stage 4 options.

In addition, a range of mainstream and specialist post-16 providers attended. Parents and students were able to speak with these providers and learn more about the options available for when students leave Oak Tree School.

FEBRUARY

NEWSLETTER

Oak Tree's Got Talent!

Coming up this month, we are looking for any budding young musicians, dancers, singers, magicians, comedians to audition for a place on our new Oak Tree's Got Talent show. Any talent will be considered!

FEBRUARY

NEWSLETTER

Lost Gardens Updates

The garden is springing into life after the wettest 2 months on record, and we are finally seeing some settled weather on the forecast! Currently in bloom we have daffodils and narcissi popping up.

The chard and rocket are still producing and over the break some classes have successfully propagated some seedlings to be transferred outside after the last frost.

FEBRUARY

NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

FRIDAY 20TH MARCH - RED NOSE DAY

THURSDAY 2ND APRIL - STUDENTS BREAK UP FOR EASTER HOLIDAYS (12:30PM FINISH)

ALL DAY GREEN TIME ACTIVITIES WILL ALSO BE TAKING PLACE AT THE END OF THE TERM, WHERE STUDENTS CAN ENJOY SOME FANTASTIC TRIPS!

MORE INFORMATION ON THESE TRIPS TO FOLLOW

FEBRUARY

NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL *Pantry*

The Family Support team now have our very own school pantry in place to support our families and young people. The school pantry is being supported by MCKS Charitable Foundation.

You can request a grocery bag through your child's tutor team or the family support team. Please see the email contacts below.

The family support team will then put together a grocery bag that can be sent home with the young person or given to the you if you collect your child from school.

For more information please contact: **01872 264221**
natalie.lacey@oaktreeschoolcornwall.co.uk

Volunteer Thursdays

Join us every Thursday to lend a hand with seasonal tasks.

Kehelland Ceilidh

with the Kessell Ceilidh Collective.

A monthly, family Ceilidh. Watch our facebook or website for dates.

Kehelland Trust

EVENTS CALENDAR 2026

For times and prices visit our website, Facebook, Instagram or give us a call (01209 613153)

January

10th Lantern Workshop
Come and make a willow and tissue paper lantern to light your way for the Wassail parade.

17th Wassail & Back to the Land Day
An early evening celebration with music, dancing and refreshments.
Help us bless our trees Bring your lantern.

February

18th Feathered Friends
It's nest box week so come along and make a nest box for your garden birds. Take part in a birdy trail around our site.

Winter Pruning Days
Join our horticulture team every Thursday for pruning & gathering scion wood for grafting.

March

Mothers Day
Join us for pop-up activities in our shop & on-site. Check our socials for details or call us.

Grafting Workshops
Join our horticulture team every Thursday and learn the art and science of apple tree grafting.

April

1st and 8th Easter Events
Egg related fun for all the family. Craft activities and a seasonal trail.

From Saturday 18th
Extended seasonal opening of our Kehelland site shop.
Plants, produce and more!

May

2nd/3rd Wildlife Discovery Camp
A one night camp to learn about our resident wildlife.

27th Tree- mendous!
Get to know our trees.
Woody crafts and a tree identification trail.

June

NEW for 2026! PYO
A new and exciting opportunity to visit our beautiful site at Kehelland and pick your own fresh produce.

Visit our website or facebook page to see what is in season.

July

11th/12th Wildlife Discovery Camp
A one night camp to learn about our resident wildlife.

29th July Wasson Wednesday
Summer trail and craft activity.

18th Camborne Show
Visit our stall at this local event.
www.camborne-show.org.uk

August

Apple Pressing
The season for apple pressing begins.
Do you have an orchard and an abundance of apples?
We can press them for you to create your own apple juice.

For contract presses please contact:-

hort@kehellandtrust.org.uk

September

3rd, 10th and 17th Summer Pruning
Join our horticultural team to carry out work on our espalier orchard

19th Giant Vegetable Show
Come and marvel at our magnificent giant vegetables. Enter our competition with your own spectacular specimens.

October

10th Apple Day
Our annual celebration of all things Kehelland!

28th Allantide
Celebrate this Cornish autumn festival. Take part in our Pumpkin trail and other fun activities.

November

Christmas Trees and Festive Trail
It's time to choose your Christmas Tree and help plant our new Christmas tree plantation. Have a go at our Christmas Trail.

Wreath Making
An opportunity to get in the festive spirit and create a personalised wreath. Dates TBC.

December

Christmas Trees and Festive Trail
It's time to choose your Christmas Tree and help plant our new Christmas tree plantation. Have a go at our Christmas Trail.

Wreath Making
An opportunity to get in the festive spirit and create a personalised wreath. Dates TBC.