



★ Year 11 - Goodbye ★

★ Editorial ★

Social Media Ban

“Stare at a wall.”

So a teenager interviewed by the BBC said this week when asked how she would fill her time after the social media ban comes into force in Spring 2027. What will our children do, I wonder?

We are lucky in our beautiful islands that many of our young people already live healthy, outdoor lives. However, like teenagers across the country, their day-to-day experience of growing up is likely to be significantly affected by new restrictions on their online communications.

In Secondary assembly this week, we explored the proposed social media ban together. Rather than telling students what to think, we wanted to give them an opportunity to make their voices heard. Too often, debates about young people happen without young people being included in the conversation. If adults are going to help children prepare for these changes, it is important that we genuinely try to understand the issue from their perspective.

Many teachers have breathed a sigh of relief at the prospect of a social media ban, and I suspect many parents have too. Schools see first-hand the impact that social media can have on young people's wellbeing, relationships and attention. Yet a crucial question remains: how do children themselves feel about it?

The answers are far from straightforward. Some students argued that social media can be addictive, damaging to mental health and a vehicle for misinformation, bullying and harmful content. Others pointed out that it helps them stay connected with friends and family, find communities of people with similar interests (which can feel so important when you grow up on a small island with a tiny cohort of peers who accompany you through the first 16 years of your life), and access a wider range of perspectives and experiences than would otherwise be possible.

The debate also raises questions about whether the proposed ban goes far enough. Here in the Isles of Scilly, there is a growing smartphone-free childhood movement. Some families are asking whether smartphones themselves should be delayed for longer. Others are concerned that, as things stand, WhatsApp is not included in the ban. In school, many of the reports of bullying, friendship issues and conflict that we deal with originate in WhatsApp groups and messages.

Similarly, gaming platforms are not covered by the proposed restrictions. Yet we know that some young people encounter violent, racist, misogynistic and homophobic ideas through gaming communities, often shared by adults who deliberately target younger audiences. If our concern is protecting children online, should these spaces also be part of the conversation?

There are, of course, arguments in the other direction. Some campaigners argue that banning social media risks pushing young people towards less regulated platforms. Others suggest that, rather than restricting access, we should focus on teaching children the critical thinking

and digital literacy skills they need to navigate online spaces safely and responsibly. After all, growing up involves learning how to make good choices, not simply having choices removed.

These are not easy questions, and there are no simple answers. What impressed us most during the assembly and in conversation afterwards was the maturity, thoughtfulness and engagement of our students. They showed a willingness to listen to different perspectives, challenge assumptions and think carefully about the consequences of different approaches.

Please do continue these conversations at home. Ask your children what they think. Does the ban go far enough? Does it go too far? What opportunities might be gained, and what might be lost? Five Islands Academy students have balanced and insightful views to share and this is an issue on which their voices deserve to be heard.

The Leadership Team

★Forthcoming Events★

Please find below the link for the School Calendar
<https://fiveislands.scilly.sch.uk/school-calendar/>

School Clubs

Please find below the link for the Primary and Secondary clubs.
<https://www.fiveislands.scilly.sch.uk/clubs-at-five-islands-academy/>

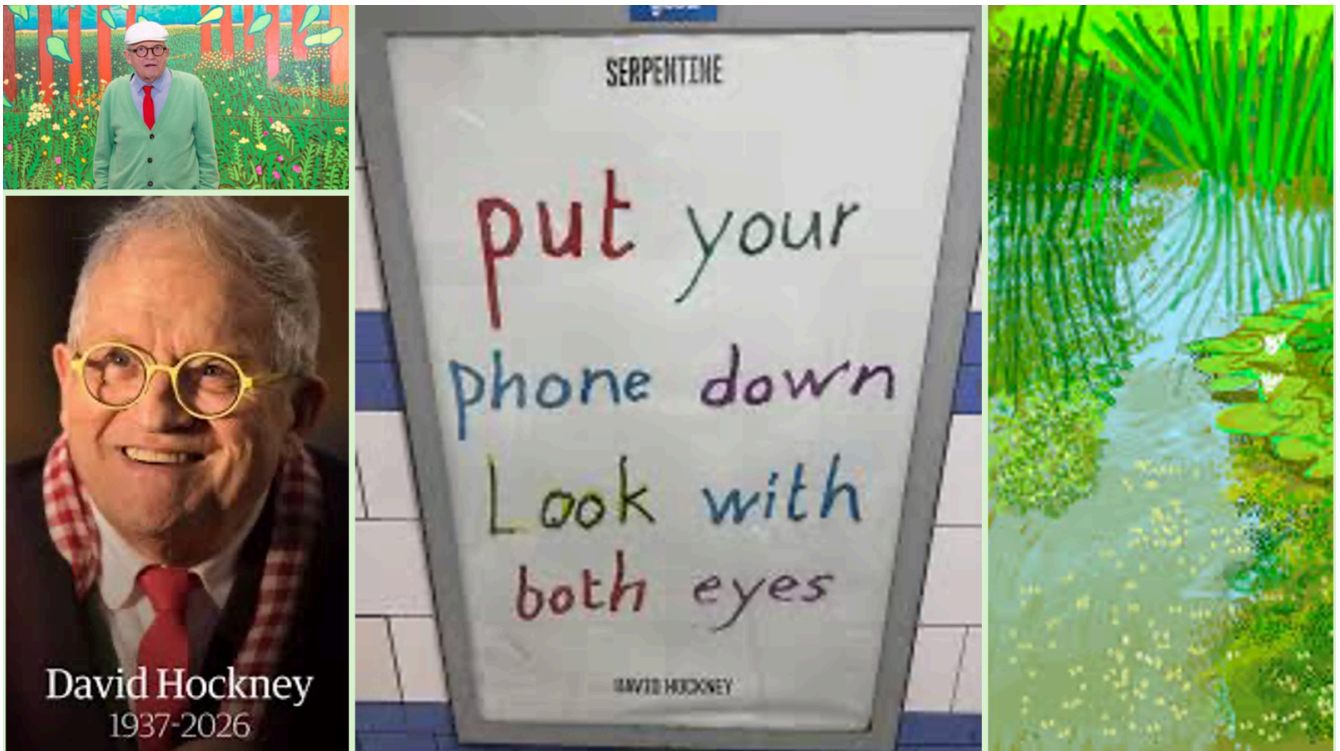
★ Attendance ★

Year group and class	Attendance	Year group and class	Attendance
St Agnes Base	96.2%	Yachts	93%
St Martin's Base	91.1%	Lifeboats	89.4%
Tresco & Bryher Yawls	95.3%	Islander	91.8%
Dinghies	80%	Galatea	91%
Gigs	70.9%	Bonnet	90.7%
Redwings	96%	Emperor	90%
Hovercrafts	91%	Shah	
WHOLE SCHOOL (Primary and Secondary, including off-islands)			89.7%

★ Positive recognition of the Week ★

St Agnes Catamarans	Our focus this week has been on looking out for our friends.
Tresco & Bryher Yawls	Our focus this week has been playing games by the rules.
St Martin's Lasers	Our focus this week has been having a positive attitude to our learning.
The Cove	Our focus has been safe and happy trips this week!
Redwings	Our focus this week has been believing in ourselves and trying our best.
Hovercrafts	This week we have been remembering our manners.
Lifeboats	Our focus this week has been on preparing for transition week!

Reflecting Together



The art world lost one of its most influential and beloved figures on June 11 with the passing of David Hockney at the age of 88. A pioneering British artist whose work transformed contemporary art, Hockney spent more than six decades pushing creative boundaries through painting, photography, portraiture, landscape art, and digital media.

For Hockney, the greatest wealth was never money or status – it was the ability to remain curious, engaged, and excited by the world around him.

He said: "I think I'm greedy, but I'm not greedy for money – I think that can be a burden – I'm greedy for an exciting life. I want it to be exciting all the time, and I get it, actually. On the other hand, I can find excitement, I admit, in raindrops falling on a puddle and a lot of people wouldn't. I intend to have it exciting until the day I fall over."

At first glance, Hockney's use of the word "greedy" may seem surprising. But he is not talking about material ambition. Instead, he is expressing an insatiable appetite for life itself. His quote reveals a man who viewed existence as an endless source of wonder. What stands out is his ability to find excitement where others might see nothing remarkable. Raindrops falling into a puddle become a source of fascination. Nature, colour, light, and human connection become worthy of attention.

His message feels especially relevant in an era when many people are rushing through life, distracted by screens, deadlines, and endless comparison. Hockney encourages us to slow down and notice what is already there – the beauty of nature, the richness of everyday experiences, and the excitement hidden in ordinary moments.

If David Hockney's life teaches us anything, it is that excitement is not something we wait for – it is something we learn to see.

(Hindustan Times, 18th June 2026)

Primary House Points		
	Atlantic	Celtic
This weeks totals	95	97
Running total	3564	4083

Secondary House Points		
	Atlantic	Celtic
This weeks totals	104	126
Running total	2322	2634

Whole School House Points		
	Atlantic	Celtic
This weeks totals	199	223
Running total	6041	7195

St Agnes

This week we have done super superhero writing, cape making, traps for Evil Pea and super reading! As well as becoming pattern experts making pattern necklaces and bracelets in our jewellery workshop.



In addition to all that busyness, Nathaniel has been working hard on his KS1 optional SATs this week- he has been looking forward to this moment since he watched Thea do her KS2 SATs last year. A post SATs treat tied in nicely with us filling our ball tube so we all headed to Troytown for an ice cream (and to deliver our thank you cards from our wonderful farm visit earlier in the term)- delicious.



We are very grateful to Nathaniel and Matilda's Granny who came into school to help us make our very own superhero capes. First we worked with Miss Tam to make our emblems out of fabric and felt, then we chose our cape fabric and helped Nat to sew the emblems on and sew the seams using her sewing machine.

St Martin's

We've had an extra push this week on keeping our focus and energy levels up, especially with all this fog and as lots of us are getting over some poorliness.

We've still managed to have some fun and learn a few things too! Y6 have been baking in maths, applying a wealth of mathematical knowledge - very welcome to keep the rest of us going with our Summer assessments! In history, KS2 found out about the outbreak of World War II and events leading up to it. In our class text, *When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit*, set in 1933, Anna and her family are now refugees, in Switzerland. We've written lyrical setting descriptions as well as diary entries about Anna's first day at her new school. In science we've experimented with making simple series circuits, with much buzzer-fuelled merriment! EY and Y1 meanwhile have found out about the significance of Elizabeth II's televised coronation; in science we've been finding out about the importance of brushing our teeth well - keep doing this morning and night to keep those teeth healthy and clean. We've also all been learning how to hurdle in PE and learning a couple of new songs in music.

Thursday afternoon saw Mrs Grossett visit us for Godly Play with the Parable of the Mustard Seed - we enjoyed making some thankful gifts and talking about sharing happiness. Olivia and Nessa have also had their first Mundesley sleepover. We know transition week will be a big step for you and are very proud of you!



Tresco & Bryher

Our garden transformation has taken another step forward this week. We have created a new bark area ready for our new water trays. We asked for some help to move the huge picnic table and then took delivery of some wood chippings. Thank you Tresco Island ! We weeded the space and put some weed control sheeting down. Then we set to work filling it with wood chips. It is going to be a great place to play !

We also released our butterflies. All 5 of our red admiral butterflies fluttered off into our garden. One was a little reluctant to go and so found a spot on one of our plants.

We have had a busy week learning about place value and pattern in Maths, we looked for signs of summer in science, discussed Queen Elizabeth's life during WWII and enjoyed lots of reading and writing activities.



This week has been a super busy one! In KS2 we started the week with some sports day prep and they challenged themselves to finish off with a lap of the field. Then we had Ginny (Miss Hulands' mum) come in and show the children how to make candles and wax melts for the school stall. The children were captivated. We have also started our book of "Who Let The Gods Out" this has been the highlight of the week as we are loving it already!

Antoni and Willow have been enjoying some transition days and sleep overs. We are watching you take these next big steps and hope you have the best time next week on your Secondary taster week!

Ask your child...

Do you ever ask your child what they've been learning in school only to be told "nothing" or "I can't remember"?

To try and help with this, each class teacher is going to share a specific question about each week's learning to try and get the conversation going.

Let us know if it's useful and helps your child talk about their learning.

The Cove	What was your favourite bit of the airport and Scillonian trips?
Redwings	How do plants survive in hot, dry habitats?
Hovercrafts	What did you find tricky in the maths assessments? How could you strengthen your brain connections?
Yachts	Who or what was Skellig?
Lifeboats	What have we learnt about the Maya and their beliefs this week? What similarities are there between the Maya and other ancient civilisations?
St Martins	EY/Y1: When do we need to brush our teeth and why? KS2: When and why did World War II start?
St Agnes	What comes next in this pattern: red, yellow, yellow, red, yellow, ... ?

The Cove

It was a special week with not one but two fantastic trips! Thank you to the whole team at the airport and on the Scillonian for their welcome and for bringing our Transport topic to life.

In Gigs, we have moved on to mapping, while in phonics we are working our way through the Set 3 sounds - are 'care and share' and e-e 'go Pete and Steve' this week.





EQUITY - EVOLUTION - EXCELLENCE

Redwings

This week has flown by in Redwings. In our Topic lesson, we explored the home and gardens Augustus Smith created at Tresco Abbey and produced some beautiful watercolour paintings inspired by them. I was so impressed with the children's observational skills and creativity.

We had a brilliant maths lesson on Old Town Beach to help us consolidate our understanding of fractions. The children loved creating their own pizzerias. I was especially impressed with Angus and Albi's setup — they even introduced an ordering system!

It has been great welcoming Mr Barrass back into the classroom. We've loved hearing all about baby Florence.



Hovercrafts

Hovercrafts have had another fantastic week of learning! We've been showing off everything we've learned this year by completing our maths assessments, and it has been great to see the children's confidence and perseverance shine through. In English, we've been digging deeper into our class text, *Town Is By The Sea*, exploring the meaning behind what we've read and discovering exciting new vocabulary. The children have shared some brilliant ideas and enjoyed discussing their thoughts together. We also looked at the poetry style of kennings and used this to write some super poems for our important adults for Fathers' Day. In history, we went back to the world of ancient civilisations, where we learned more about how people lived and what the civilisations all had in common. We are beginning to realise that, although the Stone and Bronze Ages in Britain showed great innovation, other places had civilisations with even more incredible inventions! We've also loved getting outdoors for Forest School and PE where we practised for Sports Day on St Agnes next week - we are very excited for this! After a foggy week, we started our Friday with a class conga line/dance session with Mrs Payne to lift our spirits!



Yachts

The past few weeks have flown by, we have managed to complete two maths units on decimals and position and direction, finished our book Skellig (and watch the film), completed our work on Freedom Bird. We have now started our two new books, The silver sword and the lost thing, we have also begun two topics - We have explored reproduction in plants and mammals, planting seeds and cuttings in science, and in geography we have begun learning about where does our stuff come from? We have also been forming our plans for a couple of trips to the off islands before the end of year 5!

Next week we have a packed week with sports day, shuffle up day and a visit from CSCAPE dance on Thursday! They are performing on Wednesday night at 6.30 here at school - tickets free for children! <https://www.cscape.org.uk/production/839-2/>

Lifeboats

It has been good to get our teeth back into our topics and learning this week after all the previous busy but exciting weeks. In Maths we have cracked on with finishing off some of the smaller topics we didn't manage to cover before SAT's - starting with ratio and proportion! We have whizzed through 4 lessons already showing a very good understanding of the link between fractions and ratio and even applying this to scaled drawings too.

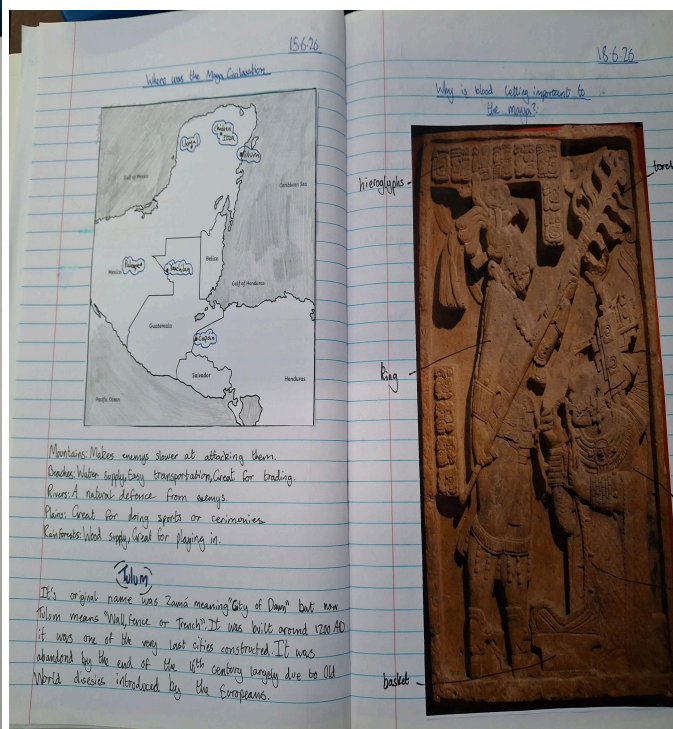
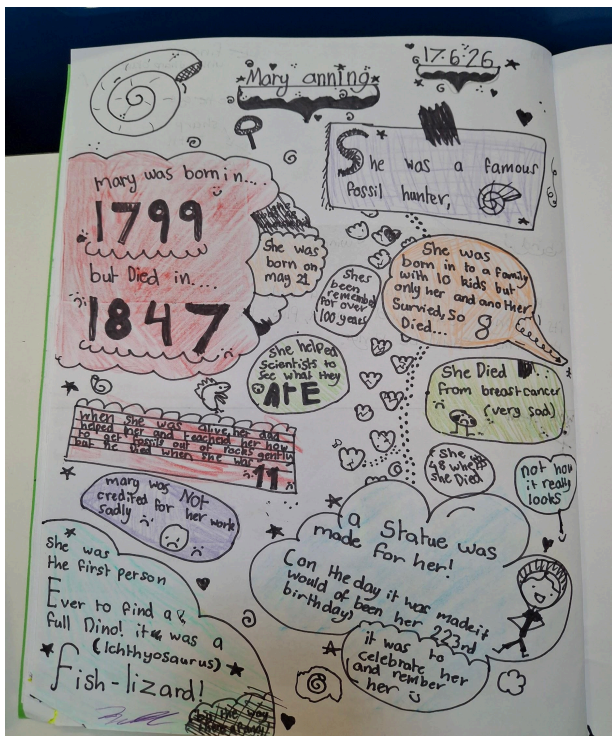
In English we finished reading our short graphic novel - 'The Hero Twins against the Lords of Death'. We were intrigued by all the different challenges they faced and the ancient Maya game of Pok ta Pok too. We have looked at the similarities and differences between the main characters and mapped out the main events too. After transition week we shall be planning, writing and publishing our own graphic novels linked to a myth.

In Science we have continued with Evolution, looking at how the fossil record is important to our understanding of how life on Earth evolved and understanding the importance of this. We also took a look at Mary Anning and found out why she was so important to helping our understanding of fossils and showed great determination to make a difference despite her humble background.

In History we have looked at where the Maya civilization was and how the geographical features of Central America helped it grow and succeed for so long. We also delved deeper into some of their more strange rituals - such as blood letting - and why this was an important part of their culture and beliefs.

All in all, an impressive week of work!!

Next week is transition week which I know they are all really excited about and absolutely ready for! I hope the week is a positive one - I am sure they will all have a brilliant time!



She was a famous fossil hunter

Mary Anning

when she was 15 months old she was struck by lightning and survived

That's why she was so brave

Mary Anning was born in 1799

21st of May

She was the first person to discover fish lizard and many other creatures

She got bones from a griffin

She died in 1847

her brother actually found it but later she uncovered it and took all the credit!

How living things have changed over time

mammals

dinosaurs

reptiles

amphibians

fish

invertebrates

Wednesday 17 June 2026

Mary Anning

Mary Anning is famous for finding many fossils like:

- The Ichthyosaur 1812
- The Plesiosaur 1823
- The Pterosaur 1828
- The Coelocites 1824

Mary Anning was born on the 21 May 1799 and she died on the 9 March 1847

Her father died when she was only 11 and she died from breast cancer.

Her, her father and her brother would go out fossil hunting then they would sell them at the market for 1p but in the 19 hundreds it was worth around 40 to 50p.

Her most famous fossil discoveries are:

- the first complete Ichthyosaur skeleton
- the first complete Plesiosaur skeleton
- and the first complete Pterosaur skeleton

One day she was given a book all about fossils by a lady called Elizabeth Philpot who knew a lot about fossils!

When Mary Anning was only 15 months old she was struck by lightning. She survived but the three women trying to shield her got struck and sadly died.

15.6.26

Where was the Mayan Civilization

Mesoamerica is mountainous but also has many flat plains and leads of rainforests. It is also very narrow which means it's surrounded by beaches and oceans there are many temples on the coastline. Mesoamerica is very hot because it's on the equator. The oceans help with trade and fishing.

How living things have changed over time

The table shows the highest is the youngest and oldest is at the bottom

The layers grow by because of little rocks in the sea and all the layers were once in the sea.

← newest

Scientists use these diagrams to tell the age and see what animals were in the same age or time.

materials wash into the sea

Land

Sea

Plant and animals dies

Layers of sediment form

over time turn into rock

oldest

Creative Arts



Wipeout!, Wednesday 24 June 2026, 18:30

Five Islands Academy

Tickets available on the door £6 per adult, children free!

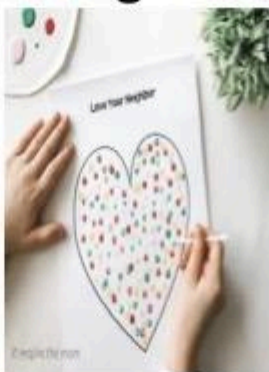
<https://www.cscape.org.uk/production/839-2/>

CREATIVE CHURCH



This month, we are wondering who is our neighbour?

Refreshments, activities and a **story of the parable of the good Samaritan.**



SATURDAY 20th June from 2.30 - 4pm

At the Garden Pavilion next to the Parish Church

Any age welcome- Primary aged children to be accompanied by an adult.

Why not come and join us?

FIVE ISLANDS ACADEMY

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

WE'RE LOOKING FOR **KEEN VOLUNTEERS**
TO HELP CUT BACK AND TIDY THE
SCHOOL NOWHERE CAR PARK!

WOULD ANYONE FANCY
JOINING IN TO
**CUT BACK SOME
HEDGES, TREES**
AND CLEAN UP
THE CAR PARK?



NEXT
SATURDAY
27TH JUNE
 **9:30AM**
FOR A COUPLE
OF HOURS

LET'S MAKE
OUR CAR PARK
SAFER, CLEANER
& NICER FOR
EVERYONE!

PLEASE BRING ALONG:



STRIMMERS



HEDGE
CUTTERS



GENERAL
PRUNING
EQUIPMENT



EVERY HELP IS APPRECIATED – YOUR SUPPORT
WILL MAKE A **BIG DIFFERENCE!**

