Celebration of Achievement Policy

“If we all did the things we are capable of, we would astound ourselves.”
Thomas A. Edison

“Well done is better than well said.”
Benjamin Franklin

At Budehaven Community School, we believe that through recognition and reward, we can help our students to harness intrinsic motivation—the desire to pursue excellence for its own sake. We believe that all of our students have a valuable contribution to make to our community and want to promote and celebrate their efforts in doing so. Our students have many talents and where possible and relevant, we will show our appreciation of their achievements, whether they be in the academic disciplines, in sports, in the arts, or in technology. To support these intentions, our staff will offer praise in both formal and informal contexts; publically or discreetly as appropriate; regularly, consistently and sincerely.

It is important to us that all of our students are recognised and rewarded, regardless of their level of ability, age or stage and that this is done consistently across subject teams and from teacher to teacher. Rewards must be given fairly and in recognition of an effort, achievement or action that is beyond what we would ordinarily expect from all of our students, or in the case of particular individual improvement.

Rewards in our school will be given for:

- Effort
- Attendance
- Behaviour
- Attainment
- Co-operation
- Participation
- Positive actions
- Progress or improvement

During the course of each school year, we will consult with student representatives, through our school council structures on our Celebration of Achievement policy. Students can expect to be consulted over what actions should be rewarded or recognised, our rewards structures and how we might develop or improve them.
Teachers and Subject Teams are able to reward, or recognise student achievements in the following ways:

- Public display of high quality work
- Feature on the school website, in our ‘Celebration of Achievement’ area (a termly digest of this is available upon request as a full colour, printed magazine)
- Verbal praise
- Positive ‘red flag’ to the form tutor
- Praise postcard (these may be given to the student in class to take home, sent home via email (coming soon), or posted home by the class teacher as appropriate to the situation)
- Phone call home
- Letter home
- Commendation to the CoLPWBs, who will feature the commendation in a celebration, or ‘Team Aspire’ assembly
- Certificates and awards at Awards Evening (Year 11 and Year 13) and Awards Afternoon (Years 7-10)

In addition to this, there are several whole-school approaches to the Celebration of Achievement:

- Each week, students that achieve 100% attendance will be credited with an entry into the 100% attendance draw (prizes include Budehaven vouchers, which can be spent in local shops).
- ‘Team Aspire’ is a cross-curricular, inter-form programme of events in which individuals and their tutor groups earn points for attendance, performance and team work in curricular challenges and sporting events.
- Bi-annually, gold, silver and bronze certificates are issued to students for maintaining high standards of ‘Attitude to Learning’ in their monitoring reports.
- Awards Evening. In December, Year 12 and Year 14 students are invited to an informal celebration of their academic achievements at GCSE and ‘A’ Level in the previous academic year. Qualification certificates and subject awards sponsored by the local business community are presented at this event. There is also recognition for exceptional results sets or progress.
- Awards Afternoon. Towards the end of the Summer Term, Year 7-10 students will attend a formal celebration of their academic achievements throughout the year. Subject awards sponsored by the local business community are presented at this event. There is also recognition for exceptional or distinguished attainment or progress.

We are very keen to hear from you if you are aware that one, or a group, of our students has achieved something worthy of public recognition. Please email sm@budehaven.cornwall.sch.uk with any details.