



The Tywardreath School

# Newsletter

for pupils, staff, parents and carers

**31ST JANUARY 2025**



Our THRIVE journey:

All our Teachers and Teaching assistants have attended THRIVE training this term. This week, we have started talking with the children about the THRIVE Approach and how this will help support them to manage their emotions and how to understand what is actually happening when big feelings overwhelm them. The THRIVE Approach is underpinned by neuroscience, attachment theory and child development research and explains how our brain develops through personal and social interaction.

The relationships children have with the adults around them, therefore, is fundamental to their social and emotional development. Thrive activities focus on providing positive experiences and building trusting relationships.

This helps young people to:

- ◆ Feel good about themselves and know that they matter
  - ◆ • Feel safe and secure at school
  - ◆ • Improve their emotional well-being
- ◆ • Improve their capacity to be creative and curious
- ◆ Build their self-esteem and confidence to learn
  - ◆ • Recognise and manage their feelings
  - ◆ • Think before behaving in a certain way

Please get in touch if you have any questions.



Community



Curiosity



Ambition

Attendance		
	This Week	Year to Date
LG1	95.2%	96.8%
LG2	89.0%	95.48%
Crinnis	98.9%	95.33%
Booley	98.0%	93.33%
Polmear	92.7%	93.72%
Polkerris	95.0%	93.65%
Silvermines	94.7%	93.41%
Gribbin	94.2%	94.15%
Carnjewey	99.0%	97.99%
Duporth	88.4%	95.42%
Menabilly	97.5%	95.78%

**MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM - MHST** NHS Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

Parents and Carers - please join us at our 1hr online Sleep Workshop

Monday 3rd February - 11am & 4pm  
 Tuesday 4th February - 9.30am & 2pm  
 Wednesday 5th February - 9.30am & 1.30pm  
 Thursday 6th February - 11am & 1.30pm

This workshop aims to provide psychoeducation on sleep hygiene and sleep routines. Also includes practical strategies for helping children

To book a place please complete the online form [HERE](https://forms.office.com/e/7ac7qHLPhc) <https://forms.office.com/e/7ac7qHLPhc> or scan the QR code

This workshop is open to parents/carers of primary aged children enrolled in Reception to Year 6 in any school in Cornwall

Respect



Compassion



Resilience



Diary	Dates
<p><b>February</b></p> <p>5th Cross Country—Par Track</p> <p>6th EYFS and Y6 Weights and Measures</p> <p>14th EYFS Trip to Eden</p> <p>15th Half Term Holiday Starts</p> <p>24th Return to School</p> <p><b>March</b></p> <p>5th St. Piran's Disco EYFS/KS1—4.30-5.15pm KS2—5.30-6.15pm</p> <p>26th Parent Consultations</p> <p>27th Parent Consultations</p> <p>28th Mother's Day Shop</p>	<p><b>April</b></p> <p>5th Easter Holiday Starts</p> <p>22nd Return to School</p> <p><b>May</b></p> <p>5th Bank Holiday</p> <p>16th Y6 Camp final payment due</p> <p>24th Half Term Holiday Starts</p> <p><b>June</b></p> <p>2nd INSET DAY (School Closed)</p> <p>3rd Return to School</p> <p>9th-13th Y6 Camp</p> <p><b>July</b></p> <p>24th Summer Holiday Starts</p>

## IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE LAW REGARDING PENALTY NOTICES FOR UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

A new National Framework for Penalty Notices for school absence, including unauthorised holiday absence, is being introduced following changes to the law. These new Government regulations will come into effect from 19 August 2024 and will affect when penalty notices are issued in Cornwall.

### What are the changes?

There will be a new national threshold of 10 unauthorised sessions for any reason (equivalent to 5 school days) within a rolling 10 school week period for when a penalty notice must be considered.

The new rules mean you will no longer be able to take your child out of school for one week's holiday without the consideration of a penalty notice being issued.

There will be an increase in the penalty fine from £60 to £80 if paid in 21 days. If the fine is not paid within 21 days, it will rise to £160 if paid within 28 days of being issued.

If a second penalty fine is issued to the same parent for the same child within a 3-year rolling period, the fine will automatically rise to £160 with no option to pay the lower rate of £80.

If a parent then commits a third offence in a 3-year rolling period, the local authority will need to consider other enforcement options available to them. This could include prosecution.

Please see FAQs below with more information about how the new rules may affect you.

### FAQs

#### **If I have been issued with a penalty notice before 19 August 2024, will this be counted if I am issued with another penalty notice from September onwards?**

No, the new limits come into effect from 19 August 2024.

#### **If I have already booked a holiday for next year, could I receive a penalty fine at the new higher rate?**

Yes, absence from school can only be agreed when the explanation of the leave of absence is considered as exceptional circumstance by the Head Teacher.

#### **Who can be issued with a penalty notice?**

Each parent can receive a fine for each child who has had unauthorised absence from school.

In education law, anyone who lives with a child and who has day-to-day care of the child is also considered to be a parent whether they are the biological parent or not. This will include step-parents and partners.

#### **Do the new rules only apply to holidays during term time?**

No, it applies to all unauthorised absence from school including holidays. Unauthorised absence includes other absence that has not been agreed such as truancy, arriving late after the register has closed and failing to provide acceptable reasons for absence.

#### **How do I request for my child to have leave granted during term time?**

You must submit a Leave of Absence Request form to the Head Teacher before the proposed absence (a minimum of 15 days before the Leave of absence is due to commence). Each request will be considered on its own merit, but where the leave of absence could be taken outside of the school term the absence will not be authorised. Do not assume that the absence will be granted until you have received confirmation from the school.

#### **Do the 10 sessions of unauthorised absence have to be taken all at the same time before a penalty fine is issued?**

No, a penalty fine can be issued for any combination of absences over a 10-week rolling period. They can be consecutive or non-consecutive and can span over two terms (including between academic years).

#### **What happens if I am issued with a penalty fine and I don't pay it?**

Unauthorised absence from school is an offence under S444 of the Education Act 1996. A penalty fine is an opportunity for you to settle out of court. If you don't take this opportunity, you can be prosecuted for the offence of failing to ensure your child's regular attendance.

#### **What should I do if I am worried about my child's attendance?**

Please contact us to arrange a meeting to discuss how we can support you to improve the situation.

***If your child is absent from school without authorisation, you will be committing an offence under the Education Act 1996. We may submit a request to Cornwall Council for a Penalty Notice to be issued, in accordance with Sections 444A and 444B of the said Act. Penalty Notices are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £80 if paid within 21 days or £160 if paid after this but within 28 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice may result in legal action. Absence not authorised by the school may result in a prosecution in the Magistrates' Court under Section 444(1) or Section 444(1A) of the Education Act 1996, leading to a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a custodial sentence. Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court.***