



The Tywardreath School

Newsletter

for pupils, staff, parents and carers



13TH FEBRUARY 2026



Children's Mental Health Week

This year's theme explores the vital role of **belonging** in our mental health and wellbeing.

A sense of belonging – whether in our families, schools, peer groups, or wider communities – is a fundamental human need. It helps us feel secure, supported, and ready to learn and grow.

KS1: The children talked about where we feel we belong. As well as belonging to our family, our school and our village the children also enjoyed telling us about the various clubs they attend outside of school. These ranged from rugby, football, gymnastics, MMA, wrestling, St John's Ambulance, Brownies, Beavers, Surf lifesaving, Sign Language, French Club, Park Run and many others. It's lovely to hear how involved the children are in community groups and how much they value them!

Year 5 and 6: Children explored the idea of belonging and talked about how we can support our sense of belonging. They discussed finding a sense of belonging within themselves, at home and school, activities, special interests and communities as well as what it means like to belong within the environment and the universe! They then created a collage map with everything that gives them a sense of belonging and makes them feel safe.





Important Notice!

In order to bring ourselves in line with all Trust schools, after half term, our school day will begin at 8.45am. This means that the school gates will be closed at 8.45am. The school gates will open at 8.30am as usual. Please speak to the office if you have any queries.

Thank you

Respect



Compassion



Resilience



Community



Curiosity



Ambition



All the children took part in NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe assemblies this week. They discussed what might make children feel sad, worried or unsafe. They were also reminded that all children have the right to be kept safe and to know who to talk to if they need help. There were lots of great ideas about safe adults that they could talk to. Some of the children made posters to put around the school with Buddy, the NSPCC mascot, to help remind all their friends what to do if they feel unhappy or unsafe.



Please don't forget to order school lunches by midnight on Thursday 19th February!

If you are ordering for the St Piran's Day menu, please do so in the normal way. We are unable to change the menu on Parent Pay so please select the meat option if you would like to order a meat pasty and select the vegetarian option if you would like a cheese and onion pasty.

GREEN FINGERS, HELPING HANDS

You are invited to our working garden day.

TYWARDREATH SCHOOL
Thursday 19th February
From 10 am

Even an hour helps. Just show up

Help reset our garden ready for the children to sew and plant this spring.

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

@TywardreathSchoolParentStaffAssociation

FOOD FESTIVAL
by Aquinas

Come and try our

ST PIRAN'S MENU

05th March

Meat Pasty
or
Cheese and Onion Pasty

With Chips & Beans

Hevva Cake

Delicious food every day

Diary

February:

- 13th Last day of half term
- 19th PSA Big Dig! (10am start)
- 23rd Children back to school
- 25th Cross Country Race

March:

- 3rd Football/Netball Match
(home vs Mevagissey)
- 5th World Book Day
- 5th St Piran's Disco
KS1 4.15-5.00
KS2 5.15-6.00
- 9th British Science Week
- 10th Football/Netball Match
(away vs Lostwithiel)
- 13th Mothers Day Shop

Dates

April:

- 2nd Last day of term
- 20th Children back to school

May:

- 1st Non-Uniform—donations
for rainbow tombola
- 11th Y6 SATs Week
- 22nd Last day of half term

June:

- 1st Children back to school
- 19th INSET Day
- 22nd Y6 Camp Week

July:

- 24th Last day of term

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Fowey Funnystone Youth Theatre
presents
OUR 25TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW

Magic Boots

BASED ON AN ORIGINAL
SCRIPT WRITTEN BY
THE LATE
JOHN VINCENT

AT FOWEY RIVER ACADEMY

Thursday 19th February 7:00pm
Friday 20th February 7:00pm
Saturday 21st February 2:30pm & 7:00pm

(Doors open 45 minutes prior to curtain up)

Ticket Prices
£8 Adult
£5 Child (under 16's)
£24 Family (2x adults & 2x children)

tickets available on eventbrite now

Attendance

	This Week	Year to Date
LG1	99%	95.67%
LG2	98.1%	95.78%
Crinnis	95.7%	96.15%
Booley	95.6%	96.07%
Polmear	92.4%	94.44%
Polkerris	92.4%	94.67%
Silvermines	96.4%	96.57%
Gribbin	92.1%	94.04%
Carnjewey	95.6%	95.63%
Duporth	95.5%	94.02%
Menabilly	91.4%	95.73%

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.