



The Tywardreath School

# Newsletter

for pupils, staff, parents and carers

20TH DECEMBER 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of the Autumn Term, I would first like to thank you for all the support and generosity you have shown to our charities this year: Poppy Appeal, Children's Hospice, Children in Need and St Austell Foodbank. It is a true reflection of this very special community in which we live, that you are able to think of others and give so generously.

The children have worked and played hard and are now ready for a rest! They deserve to enjoy special times with you and your families this holiday time.

The run-up to Christmas is always a very busy and exciting time, but I remain as proud, as ever, of the children's attitude and behaviour through this period.


From my staff and I, we would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful and Happy New Year.

We shall look forward to welcoming you all safely back in January 2025.

With kindest wishes,

Mrs McColville and all the staff at Tywardreath

Christmas Eve Christingle  
St Andrew's church at 4 p.m.  
Come and celebrate the birth of Jesus at our family friendly interactive service.



**Everyone gets to participate!**

...and in the Spring we shall be launching a brand new monthly All age family gathering at St Andrew's.

45 minutes of singing, stories and activities plus refreshments. Let us know what day and time would work best for you so we can plan well.  
Message: shona@tandgchurches.uk

Congratulations



A huge well done to the following children from Sunbeams, who have had their art work selected for publication in a book called "Perfect Pets".

Autumn, Luna D, Poppy, Taylor, Harvey N, Matilda and Ailish

 Young Artists

### LUNCHES:

The menu for next term is now live on Parent Pay for you to make your choices.

Please remember the deadline to do this is midnight on the Thursday before the week you are ordering for.

Club Lists and after school booking forms will be sent home in the New Year.

## Attendance

	This Week	Year to Date
LG1	97.14%	95.93%
LG2	99%	94.85%
Crinnis	98.52%	95.02%
Booley	93.46%	93.54%
Polmear	96%	94.32%
Polkerris	89.63%	94.03%
Silvermines	93.33%	94.11%
Gribbin	89.67%	94.39%
Carnjewey	96.21%	97.79%
Duporth	94.52%	95.89%
Menabilly	95%	96.61%

Respect



Compassion



Resilience



## Diary

### January

- 6th INSET DAY (School Closed)
- 7th Return to School
- 10th TTRS/Numbots Day

### February

- 15th Half Term Holiday Starts
- 24th Return to School

## Dates

### April

- 5th Easter Holiday Starts
- 22nd Return to School

### May

- 5th Bank Holiday
- 16th Y6 Camp final payment due
- 24th Half Term Holiday Starts

### June

- 2nd INSET DAY (School Closed)
- 3rd Return to School

### July

- 24th Summer Holiday Starts



**NHS Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust**

# MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM - MHST

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

Monday 13th January - 9:30am & 2pm  
 Tuesday 14th January - 11am & 4pm  
 Wednesday 15th January - 09:30am & 1:30pm  
 Thursday 16th January - 11am & 4pm

This workshop aims to provide psychoeducation on "What is worry?" and "Why does my child worry?" Also includes practical strategies for helping children manage their worries.

To book a place please complete the online form [HERE](https://forms.office.com/e/YR5MeEwtEF) <https://forms.office.com/e/YR5MeEwtEF> 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

**NHS Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust**

# MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM - MHST

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

Monday 20th January - 9.30am & 4pm  
 Tuesday 21st January - 11am & 2pm  
 Wednesday 22nd January - 11.30am & 4pm  
 Thursday 23rd January - 9.30am & 1.30pm

This workshop aims to talk about the meaning of resilience, explore building resilience and look at how and when a young person should ask for help.

To book a place please complete the online form [HERE](https://forms.office.com/e/TE2UmBZrHK) <https://forms.office.com/e/TE2UmBZrHK> 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

**NHS Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust**

# MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM - MHST

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

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## 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.***