



The Tywardreath School

Newsletter

for pupils, staff, parents and carers

7TH FEBRUARY 2025



This week, we have been celebrating **Children's Mental Health Week**. The key message we hope that the children will take away is: the more we can understand about ourselves, the more prepared we are to express our emotions and take on life's ups and downs.

Children have taken part in a range of activities: practising calming, breathing techniques; reflecting on the roots of their identity, what's important to them and what helps them grow; making shields to protect us when life is tough and painting in the style of Jackson Pollock to express feelings.



Are you having a declutter?!

If you have any of the following items you would be willing to donate, Little Gerrans would be very grateful!

- ◇ Dolls / doll clothes / accessories
- ◇ Small world play (figures etc)
- ◇ Scarves/hats/material for dressing up
- ◇ Kitchen utensils
- ◇ Wooden puzzles (with all the pieces!)

Good condition items please.

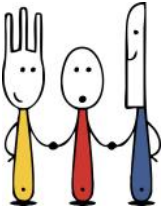
Thank you so much.



It's been a brilliant season for our cross country runners. A team shield has been won by our Year 5 girls! Year 6 girls finished 2nd, Year 5 boys finished 5th and Year 6 finished 6th. The children have the most fantastic team spirit and they should all be very proud of themselves.

Well done and thank you to everyone involved for organising the training and races and everyone who has supported and cheered our children on!

Reminder for next half term:



Please make sure you have booked and paid for Sunbeams and lunches using Parent Pay. Thank you!



EYFS Trip to Eden next Friday!

Please return your slip and pay via Parent Pay. Please check Class Dojo next week for final details.



Next Tuesday 11th February, our football team and netball have a match! (vs Mevagissey, away)

Respect



Compassion



Resilience





Community



Curiosity



Ambition

Attendance		
	This Week	Year to Date
LG1	91.8%	95.84%
LG2	95.0%	95.45%
Crinnis	94.1%	95.27%
Booley	95.4%	93.45%
Polmear	96.0%	93.84%
Polkerris	93.8%	93.67%
Silvermines	89.0%	93.01%
Gribbin	93.2%	94.1%
Carnjewey	94.14%	97.7%
Duporth	95.6	95.43%
Menabilly	98.8	95.78%

FREE!

CORNWALL COUNCIL | Healthy Cornwall

CRAFTERNOON

SUITABLE FOR AGES 3-12

ARTS & CRAFTS WORKSHOP

GET READY FOR A FUN-FILLED AFTERNOON OF IMAGINATION AND HANDS-ON CREATIVITY!

FALMOUTH, 17TH FEBRUARY
13:00 - 14:30, THE PARK FAMILY HUB

ST AUSTELL, 18TH FEBRUARY
12:30 - 14:00, WOODLAND ROAD FAMILY HUB

ST DENNIS, 19TH FEBRUARY
12:30 - 14:00, CLAYTAUC

TO REGISTER, GET IN TOUCH:
01872 324200
HEALTHY.CORNWALL@CORNWALL.GOV.UK

Respect



Compassion



Resilience



Diary

February

- 14th EYFS Trip to Eden
- 15th Half Term Holiday Starts
- 24th Return to School

March

- 5th St. Piran's Disco
EYFS/KS1—4.30-5.15pm
KS2—5.30-6.15pm
- 26th Parent Consultations
- 27th Parent Consultations
- 28th Mother's Day Shop

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
- 9th-13th Y6 Camp

July

- 24th Summer Holiday Starts

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.