



The Tywardreath School

# Newsletter

for pupils, staff, parents and carers



28TH FEBRUARY 2025

A warm welcome back to you all. We hope you have all had an enjoyable half term break.

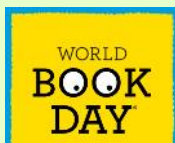
This half term, our children will be exploring some exciting topics:

KS1: "Does it rain in Kenya?"

Y3/4: "Why do people live near volcanoes?"

Y5/6: "Does Alaska need saving?"

We are looking forward to sharing with you another fun packed half term, as well as your children's progress during our upcoming Parent Consultations. Sign up sheets will be available soon.



We know World Book Day is officially next Thursday, however, we will be celebrating towards the end of the half term hopefully with a Cornish author! £1 book tokens will still be given out next week. Please look out for updates on the newsletter and Class Dojo.



Our brilliant medal winning runners have collected their trophies during a ceremony at Par Track. Congratulations girls!

The semi-final will be at Poltair on 19th March.

We wish all our runners lots of luck!



**Please note: NO football training next week**

**(Tuesday 4th March)**



# Family Worker Drop In

Tywardreath School

These sessions will be run by Ruby Waterfield Restormel Early Help Team Family Worker

Do you need some support and advice to understand your child's needs and behaviors?

Advice on positive parenting and how to keep your child safe?

Support with budgeting and debt advice?

To understand the importance of routines for your family?

We are running a drop-in session on:  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025, 13:30-15:00.

Please sign in at the school Reception and you will be shown through to the meeting room.

For more information please contact:

Email: [Restormel.Familyhubs@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:Restormel.Familyhubs@cornwall.gov.uk)  
Call: 01872 324929



CORNWALL COUNCIL  
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Together for Families



[www.cornwall.gov.uk](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk)

## Attendance

	This Week	Year to Date
LG1	92.73%	95.59%
LG2	100%	95.8%
Crinnis	97.04%	95.49%
Booley	98.46%	93.77%
Polmear	97.33%	94.14%
Polkerris	98.08%	93.71%
Silvermines	94.19%	93.12%
Gribbin	95.16%	94.22%
Carnjewey	93.1%	97.27%
Duportth	90.94%	95.3%
Menabilly	97.81%	96.0%

Respect



Compassion



Resilience



## Diary

### March

5th St. Piran's Disco  
EYFS/KS1—4.30-5.15pm  
KS2—5.30-6.15pm

WB 10th British Science Week

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



Part of the  
Truro and Penwith  
Academy Trust



Community



Curiosity



Ambition

## 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.***