



The Tywardreath School

Newsletter

for pupils, staff, parents and carers

NOVEMBER 2024

Reminder

Y6 CAMP final payments due 16th May.



Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy week we have had!

Firstly a huge 'Thank you' to our PSA for organising and delivering a truly tremendous fireworks evening. Monies are being counted as I write and we shall share this with you as soon as we can.

School Parliament speeches were a flying success!

The votes have been counted and verified and this year's parliament representatives are:

- Crinnis - Archie
- Booley - Sophia
- Polmear - Tia
- Polkerris - Poppy
- Silvermines - Amelia
- Gribbin - Daisy
- Carnjewey - Joni
- Duporth - Imogen
- Menabilly - Max



Congratulations children we look forward to hearing about your first projects.

Diary Dates

November

- 19th EYFS Parent Consultations 3-6pm
- 20th EYFS to Y6 Parent Consultations 3-6pm
- 21st Y1-Y6 Parent Consultations 3-6pm
- 22nd Non Uniform Day (Bottle for the Christmas tombola)
- 29th Christmas Fayre

December

- 5th Reindeer Roundup Cornwall Hospice Care
- 11th Christmas Lunch (*Change of Date*)
- 18th KS2 Carol Concert—St Andrews Church 1:30pm
- 19th KS2 Carol Concert—St Andrews Church 1:30pm
- 21st Christmas Holiday Starts

January

- 6th INSET DAY (School Closed)
- 7th Return to School

February

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

April

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

May

- 5th Bank Holiday
- 24th Half Term Holiday Starts

June

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

July

- 24th Summer Holiday Starts

Attendance

	This Week	Year to Date
LG1	94.29%	95.45%
LG2	82.5%	93.46%
Crinnis	96.92%	93.81%
Booley	93.08%	93.9%
Polmear	94.67%	94.37%
Polkerris	97.04%	94.96%
Silvermines	95.67%	94.13%
Gribbin	92.67%	95.24%
Carnjewey	100%	98.31%
Duporth	97.42%	95.55%
Menabilly	99.06%	96.77%

Christmas Lunch

Please read:

Please remember to add menu choice and pay for your child's lunch on ParentPay by Thursday 5th December (midnight).

Paper menus still need to be returned by Thursday 21st November (so we can advance buy the turkeys!).

If you have already pre-ordered and paid for that day please be advised this has now changed to the School Christmas Lunch and you will need to re-select from the new menu. Your payment will still be there and it will just be the choices to be made.

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 by the first 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 £60 if paid within 21 days or £120 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.