



The Tywardreath School Newsletter

for pupils, staff, parents and carers



6TH FEBRUARY 2026



We had another great turn out for the fourth race of the cross country season. Well done to all the 27 runners who all finished the soggy course with lots of enthusiasm and determination. Some brilliant individual and team performances. Huge thanks once again to the adults that support the event. The final race is Wednesday 25th February.

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 sow and plant this spring.

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

@TywardreathSchool/ParentStaffAssociation



Following on from our Stay Safe Workshops, please click the link below for some brilliant step-by-step guides to keep up to date with all things digital!

https://thestaysafeinitiative.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Parents_Online_Safety_Advice_Sheet.pdf

Quick Links

Please use the links on this page to be taken to lots of step by step guides.

Parental Controls

Gaming Consoles & Platforms

Smartphones and other Devices

Broadband & Mobile Networks

Social Media Privacy Guides

Guide to Apps

Entertainment & Search Engines

Get Kids tech set up Safely

Just click on the chosen hand icons!



Restormel Youth Orchestra

Join us for Restormel Youth Orchestra on Mondays 4:15-5:15pm at Penrice Academy. Open to any orchestral instrument, this group is perfect for beginners who know five or more notes and want to enjoy making music together through fun ensemble playing. Due to restricted access at the school, it is essential you email us before attending a rehearsal.

Hear Music. Learn Music. Play Music.

To register or for more information please email: ntimms@cmst.co.uk or sbrock@cmst.co.uk

CMST
ILOW RAG OLL

Diary

February:

- 9th Children's Mental Health Week
- 12th Y5/6 Drop in (2.30pm)
- 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



	This Week	Year to Date
LG1	98.57%	95.47%
LG2	94.76%	95.65%
Crinnis	95.71%	96.17%
Booley	96.4%	96.1%
Polmear	92.33%	94.32%
Polkerris	96.55%	94.8%
Silvermines	99.29%	96.58%
Gribbin	92.33%	94.15%
Carnjewey	94.06%	95.63%
Duporth	90.34%	93.94%
Menabilly	96.55%	95.96%

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.