

The Tywardreath School

Newsletter

for pupils, staff, parents and carers

6th DECEMBER 2024

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

EYFS Nativity:

Tickets are available from the main school office and are limited to 3 per child to begin. Any tickets that are unsold by Thursday will then be

offered to those wishing to purchase additional

tickets. We will be asking for donations on the day and hope to raise enough money to buy a new shelter for forest school! KS1 would like to invite you to their Sing and Sign Christmas celebration. Tickets will be limited to 2 per child and can be collected from the school office. We kindly ask for a small donation on the day.



Dates:

Monday 16th December 1.30pm

Tuesday 17th December 1.30pm

KS2 Carol Concert:

Due to capacity at the church, please can we kindly ask that two adults per child attend.

Please choose which day you would prefer and let your child's class teacher know which day you will be attending. For the performances, the children may wear a Christmas jumper over their school uniform, if they wish. Dates:

Wednesday 18th December 1.30 pm Thursday 19th December 1.30 pm





Instead of our annual cinema trip this year, we have arranged for a touring pantomime to come into school to perform Jack and the Beanstalk! This will take place on Thursday 12th December.

The PSA have very kindly offered to pay for this so there will be no cost for you.

We are really excited and hope the children will love seeing a live performance!



What brilliant fun we have all had taking part in the Reindeer Roundup to raise money for Cornwall Hospice Care.

Thank you so much for your sponsorship—we will let you know the total raised next week.







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	December:	<u>February</u>	
6	10th EYFS Christmas Play 9:30am	– 15th Half Term Holiday Starts	
	11th Christmas Jumper Day	_ 24th Return to School	
	11th Christmas Lunch (Change of Date)	<u>April</u>	
	12th Whole School Pantomime (in	5th Easter Holiday Starts	
	school)	22nd Return to School	
	16th KS1 Play 1:30pm	<u>May</u> 5th Bank Holiday	
	17th KS1 Play 1:30pm	16th Y6 Camp final payment due	
	18th KS2 Carol Concert—St Andrews Church 1:30pm	² 24th Half Term Holiday Starts	
	19th KS2 Carol Concert—St Andrews	June	
	Church 1:30pm	2nd INSET DAY (School Closed)	
	21st Christmas Holiday Starts	3rd Return to School	
	·····, ····,	July	
1	<u>January</u>	24th Summer Holiday Starts	
	6th INSET DAY (School Closed)	-	
	7th Return to School		



Attendance					
	This Week	Year to			
		Date			
LG1	99.52%	96.03 %			
LG2	95.48%	94.12 %			
Crinnis	98.52 %	94.42 %			
Booley	94.62%	93.35 %			
Polmear	95.67%	94.16 %			
Polkerris	87.33%	94.7 %			
Silvermines	88.89%	94.1 %			
Gribbin	95%	95.14 %			
Carnjewey	98.28 %	97.94 %			
Duporth	95.48%	95.82 %			
Menabilly	94.69%	96.79 %			

Thank you for your responses to our Parent Questionnaire. We really appreciate your support and your feedback.

If you would still like to share your views with us, here is the link:

https://forms.gle/ZnfU1d13j7m22LU66

The form will be accepting responses until Thursday 12th December.

Thank you!





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Community

Ambition 2 Curiosity



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.