



"The dearest ones of time, the strongest friends of the soul: books." Emily Dickinson

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last Saturday evening, 30 of us took part in the Liskeard Lights up Lantern Parade. Big thank you to all the children and parents for bringing them along to join us in representing Dobwalls so well. Liskeard was brimming with people and the fireworks were great! We loved waving at many on the pavements too, thank you for the support.

On Monday, the PTFA led the wreath making in the hall. A HUGE thank you Rachel Hand for all her hard work with the preparations which made the event such a success. The wreaths all looked beautiful - all so different!

On Wednesday, I led the Christmas Singing Club carol singing around the village. The weather stayed dry and it was so lovely to see people coming outside to hear us sing! Thank you to all the parents who joined us along the way and helped us to cross all the roads safely. Thank you to Dobwalls United Church for providing us refreshments at the end.

Next week, we are looking forward to our Christmas performances for the infants here at school and the juniors at Carnglaze Caverns!

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Best wishes (Gorhemynadow a'n gwella).

Mrs Pipe, Headteacher

Diary Dates

10 Dec	Infant Xmas perf 2pm school hall
11 Dec	Y3 Wild Tribe
	Day For Change
	Infant Xmas perf 9:30am school hall
16 Dec	Junior Xmas concert 6pm at Carnglaze
	Christmas parties
18 Dec	Pupil Xmas lunch
	Y2 Wild Tribe
19 Dec	PTFA Xmas Fayre
20 Dec—5 Jan	Children finish at 1:30pm
26 Jan	CHRISTMAS BREAK
16-20 Feb	Governor meeting
23 Feb	HALF TERM
5 Mar	Non-pupil day
12 Mar	World Book Day
9-20 Mar	Johnny Cowling evening
16 Mar	Y3 & Y5 swimming lessons
23 Mar	Governor meeting
3-17 Apr	Photographer in school—teams/classes
4 May	EASTER BREAK
11-14 May	BANK HOLIDAY
13 May	KS2 SATS week
25-29 May	Governor meeting
1 Jun	HALF TERM
22 Jun	Non-pupil day
24-26 Jun	Governor meeting
24 Jul	Y6 Residential
27&28 Jul	Children finish at 1:30pm
29 Jul	Non-pupil days
	SUMMER BREAK

Emergency Lockdown Procedures

LOCKDOWN As you know in school, we practice fire drills in case of emergencies. Soon, we will also be practising a lockdown in case of emergencies. I will go through with the children in assembly next week so children know what to do when they hear the lockdown alarm. Whilst we hope never to have to secure the school, it is always better to be prepared.

IMPORTANT NO clubs next week—clubs have finished until the new year

Christmas Events

Tickets are still available from the school office for both Infant and Juniors performances.

11 Dec **Day for Change**. Please send in any loose change with your children. We will be attempting to create a mile of change on our daily mile track. We will send the amount collected to UNICEF.

16 Dec **Xmas parties and Xmas lunch** (Party clothes/Xmas jumpers)

18 Dec **PTFA Xmas Fayre** (Xmas jumpers), **Xmas Bake Off** see P5

19 Dec 1:30pm finish

We will not be supporting Xmas Jumper Day this year as funds from the Day for Change will be going to UNICEF [UNICEF UK - Children's charity - For Every Child](#). Instead children can wear Xmas jumpers/party clothes on Xmas lunch day/party day and Xmas jumpers (with school uniform) on the day of the Xmas Fayre.



Reminder — Memorial Hall Parking dates

We have had notification from the Memorial Hall that due to bookings, parking will not be available as follows:

Dec 10 — No parking before 2:45 pm

Dec 11 — No parking after 9am

There will however be parking available for the Xmas Fayre on 18th Dec and again on Friday 19th to accommodate the early finish.

Please be respectful of the above times as the Memorial Hall committee have a duty to honour bookings and provide parking. As always, please park safely and sensibly.



Last week's SECRET Skills Powerful Learners

Lerryn	Arlo & Theo	Tamar	Ella & Spencer
Fowey	Harley & Elodie	Lynher	Bonnie & Matthew
Loveny	Harry S & Luke	Camel	Millie & Dolci
Valency	Madeleine & Aaron		

Online Safety Newsletter—Dec

This issue is coming home with this newsletter. It offers advice on Roblox, Discord, AI Chatbots and various new technology.

Christmas Fayre—Soft Toys

After last years success the PTFA are asking for donations of good quality soft toys for the 'teddy tombola' at the PTFA Christmas fayre on 18th December. Please drop off any soft toy donations into the school office. THANK YOU!

PE Kits

Please see our [website](#) for uniform reminders.

PE Days

Children will need to come to school dressed in their PE kit on PE days.

Long hair should be tied back.

Please wear their usual school jumper/cardigan.

A reminder of the school PE Kit...

Black shorts/leggings/skorts with plain coloured t-shirt (team colours) or white t-shirt and plimsolls/trainers. (No team football kits, running gear or other attire should be worn for P.E. or after school clubs unless specified by the teacher in charge of that club.)

During the winter, plain black leggings or jogging bottoms may be worn for outdoor games.

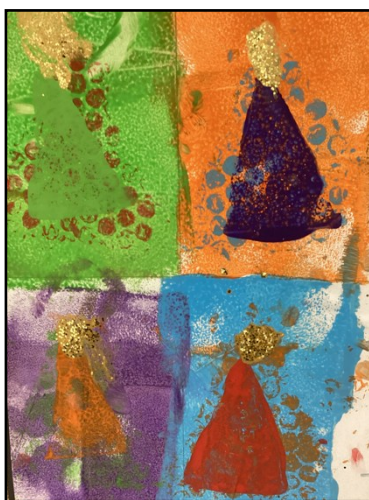
Monday	Y2 & Y3
Tuesday	Y5
Wednesday	Y1
Thursday	Y4
Friday	EYFS & Y6

Attendance Stars

Lerryn	Fowey	Loveny	Valency	Tamar	Lynher	Camel
93%	94%	88%	93%	95%	92%	98%



Star Learners this week are from EYFS and Y1. Last Friday was Christmas Art day in school. Art day was based on Roy Lichtenstein an American Pop Artist in the 1960's. Fowey class created pop art inspired prints using bubble wrap, sponges and bright complimentary colours. Lerryn class based their pop art on stars making a stencil of a star, using the outside to print the background and then cutting out to paint the star. They then printed the opposite colours on the other side to give a negative effect. Their art work is now hanging in the hall ready for their Nativity next week! Well done to both classes!



Absence Requests—Reminder

The law does not grant parents an automatic right to take their child out of school during term time. We publish the dates of school terms well ahead, this is to help you plan your holidays and check that it does not clash with the school term. **Permission must be sought in advance.**

Headteachers no longer have the authorisation to grant leave during the term time unless it is for exceptional circumstances as outlined by the Department for Education.

When deciding whether to allow term time leave, for any reason, the school will consider:

Are the circumstances surrounding the request exceptional

- The time and duration of the leave (e.g. closeness to Standard Attainment Tests (SATs) in Year 2 and Year 6)
- Your child's record of attendance
- Learning that will be missed

Warning: if the school refuses your request and the child is still taken out of school, this will be recorded as an **unauthorised absence. In cases where parents subsequently report their child as ill during this period, medical evidence may be requested to support this. This unauthorised absence meets the criteria for a penalty notice, which we must request is issued.**

Please be aware of the legislation regarding unauthorised absences-

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.

If your child is further absent from school without authorisation within any 3-year period, you will be committing a further 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 for a second offence are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £160, payable within 28 days.

Importantly, fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action such as a parenting order or prosecution will be considered.

Failure to pay the Penalty Notice may also result in legal action. If you are prosecuted and attend court because your child has not been attending school, you could get a fine of up to £2,500. Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs. Penalty Notices for unauthorised absence not authorised by the school may also 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. Again, Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs.

Money raised from fines is only used by the local authority to cover the costs of administering the system, and to fund attendance support. Any extra money is returned to the government.

Local Education Officers make termly visits to schools to review individual attendance figures and will visit families where children's attendance is low or there is persistent absence.

Guidance

Other absence from school will be authorised if it is for the following reasons:

- Genuine illness
- Unavoidable medical / dental appointments (but try to make these after school if at all possible)
- Days of religious observance
- Exceptional circumstances, such as bereavement
- Seeing a parent who is on leave from the armed forces
- External examinations
- When Traveller

Other absence from school will not be authorised:

- For any type of shopping
- Looking after brothers, sisters or unwell parents
- Minding the house
- Birthdays
- Resting after a late night
- Relatives visiting or visiting relatives

This week the library van visited and some of our librarians were busy selecting new books for us to read!



Christmas Post Box
The Christmas post box is open and situated by the school office. Please ensure that each envelope is clearly named with first and last name and the class of the child to whom it is being sent; any cards that are not labelled correctly might not be delivered. We would be grateful if you could check through the cards before they come into school as trying to pass on cards addressed to Aunty and Grandad takes a lot of detective work! Thank you.



Did you know that you can access Blackbird Pie magazine for free on BorrowBox using your library card?

If the printed copy is lost, crumpled at the bottom of a school bag, or simply never made it home, it's quick and easy to read the magazine on any personal device.

BorrowBox is completely free to use with a Cornwall Libraries membership and offers instant access to Blackbird Pie along with a wide range of children's eBooks, eAudiobooks and eMagazines—perfect for days when you need inspiration for things to do.

If you aren't already a member, you can sign up for FREE online in minutes or pop into any Cornwall Library.

PTFA Wreath Making!

Monday's wreath making workshop made a profit of £162.30. It was so successful and not only from a fundraising point of view as we have had very positive feedback.

A very special thank you to Rachel Hand, who organised this; sourcing all the components, travelling around to collect them and getting them in to school. A lot of hard work but worth it!

The photo is of Mrs Smith's masterpiece!



PTFA Christmas Raffle

WOW! This is the list of prizes to be won at this year's raffle! Tickets were sent home yesterday so remember.....

YOU HAVE TO BE IN IT, TO WIN IT!



£60 Afternoon Tea Voucher	Talland Bay Hotel
Voucher	Ebb & Flow Dance Studio
Plushie	Bay Crafts
Boxes of fudge	Roly's Fudge
Cream Tea for 2 people	The T Garden, Liskeard
20 Minute Acupuncture Treatment	Melissa Shapland Acupuncture
Family Travel Voucher	South Devon Railway
Goodie Hamper	Trina's Funbox
£15 Usborne Voucher	Usborne (Liskeard)
Voucher (box of 4 cakes)	Barretts Bakery
Sweets	The Sweet Spot
Prize	Spar, Dobwalls
Voucher	TWF
Hair Products	Bee Unique Hairdressers
Hamper	Morrisons



PTFA Christmas Bake Off



Can you make a Christmas themed bake?

- **Bring to school on the morning of the Christmas Fair on Thursday 18th December.**
- **There will be a prize for winners in the Infants and the Juniors.**
- **Please include child's name and a list of the ingredients with your bakes.**
- **All bakes will be sold in the afternoon at the fair.**



Thursday 18th December
Dobwalls PTFA

Christmas Fayre

An Afternoon of Fun, Games and Activities for All
Stalls and games include Teddy Tombola, Key in
the Box, Wooden Decorations, Key Rings,
Christmas Pens, Snowman Can Alley,
Hoop An Antler!

Prices between 20p and £1



Children will attend with Teachers in the
afternoon. Parents welcome from 3.15.
The Raffle will be drawn at 3.45.
Christmas Fayre held in the School Hall

CHRISTMAS ROADSHOWS

22 DECEMBER - 2 JANUARY | 9.30AM-3.30PM
BOYS & GIRLS ALL ABILITIES AGED 5-15



ARGYLE
COMMUNITY
TRUST

01752 522202
argylecommunitytrust.co.uk

COME AND JOIN US!

MULTI SPORTS

Monday 22nd December 2025 / Monday 29th December 2025

£10 per person

Burraton Primary School

9:00am - 15:00pm

EAST CORNWALL / NORTH DEVON

Football Roadshow unless stated

Monday, 22 December
Callington 3G Sport's Centre
Lanivet Community Hub

Tuesday, 30 December
Saltmill 3G, Saltash
Bude Football Club

Tuesday, 23 December
St Joseph's School, Launceston
Saltmill 3G, Saltash

Wednesday, 31 December
St Joseph's School, Launceston
St Joseph's School, Launceston
- Multi Skills Roadshow

Monday, 29 December
Lanivet Community Hub



COME AND JOIN US!

MULTI SPORTS

Monday 29th December 2025

£10 per person

Looe Primary School

10:00am - 15:00pm