

Newsletter



Friday 22nd November 2024

Dear Families,

With the inclement weather we've had this week, I thought I'd take this opportunity to remind you of the procedure for unexpected school closure. In the event that it is not safe for staff and pupils to attend school, we will notify you at the earliest possible opportunity via an email, the banner on the school website as well as through local radio stations. Please see the attached guidance from Cornwall Council about this. We hope we don't have to use the guidance but it is important to familiarise yourself with it nonetheless.

Have a wonderful weekend!
Mrs Pallôt

We are in the process of updating and redesigning our website. As such, there may be things missing which would normally be there. If you can't find something on there, please contact us in the usual ways.

Healthy Cornwall Workshops

We've been fortunate in being able to book a workshop for every class this year with Healthy Cornwall. This week Classes 3 and 4 had workshops to learn about healthy eating and general well being. The team from Healthy Cornwall, who visit many schools across the county, were incredibly impressed with the children's behaviour in the workshop and how polite they were. The team are excited to come in to work with the other classes over the coming year.



After School Club

Our ever-popular after school club, run by Plymouth Argyle, have listened to parent feedback and have now created a timetable to let you which activities are planned for each day. Have a look at the timetable for details

MYLOR WRAPAROUND TIMETABLE

DAY	ACTIVITY
MONDAY	ULTIMATE DODGEBALL
TUESDAY	BALL SPORTS
WEDNESDAY	GYMNASTICS EQUIPMENT
THURSDAY	BAT / RACQUET SPORTS
FRIDAY	DEN BUILDING



PLEASE NOTE THAT OTHER ACTIVITIES WILL STILL BE AVAILABLE ON THESE DAYS, YOUR CHILD DOES NOT HAVE TO JOIN IN WITH THE ACTIVITY LISTED ABOVE IF THEY DON'T WISH TO PARTICIPATE.



Christmas Performances

You will have seen the dates for the different Christmas performances on the 'Diary Dates' Sheet.

Information about tickets for the Class 5&6 performances and for the KS1 performances have gone home with the children today via satchel post

We have listened to feedback from parents following last year's event at the café and as such, the Class 3 & 4 Christmas concert at 2:30pm on Friday 6th of December in school is for parents to attend. At this performance, children will be singing Christmas songs and playing festive tunes on instruments they have been learning as part of their music this term.

The event on Monday 9th at Café Mylor is intended to be for the community and at this event children will only be singing a few Christmas Songs.

Do you have a child who will be starting school in September 2025? If so, please apply via Cornwall Council [through this link](#) The closing date for applications is 15th January 2025. If you, or someone you know, needs support with the application process, please call the office and we will gladly assist with this. If you would like to book a tour of the school, please contact us and we will organise an appointment.

Attendance

Regular school attendance is so very important for our children. Not only do days missed mean they miss out on learning but also on that crucial time socialising with their friends. We recognise that there are times when a child is too ill to attend school and when this is the case, please phone the school office before 8:45 to let us know.

Children are expected to be in school at 8:45 each day. Registers are taken at 8:50 and children arriving between 8:50 and 9 are marked at late. Children arriving after this time will be recorded as an unauthorised absence.

Here at Mylor Bridge CP School, we recognise that there are occasions when it is appropriate to authorise an absence, such as when a pupil is genuinely too ill to attend school.

However, the Government does not support parents taking children out of school unless the school agrees this is appropriate under 'exceptional circumstances'. Any request for leave should be made in writing to the Headteacher using the school's 'Leave of Absence Exceptional Circumstances' request form (found in reception)

Holidays during term time are not deemed an 'exceptional circumstance'

If you are finding attendance a challenging issue for your child, please get in contact with us.

There are 175 non-school days in a year and 190 school days each year.						
190 school days in each year 190 days for your child's education	187 days in school 7 days absence		183 days in school 10 days absence			
			180 days in school 19 days absence			
			171 days in school and the equivalent of a month not in school that year		28 days absence 162 days in school 47 days absence	
					If attendance is 85% each year, your child is missing the equivalent of a year of education over their time at primary school 143 days in school	
100%	96%	95%	90%	85%	75%	
Good -Best chance of success - Gets your child off to a flying start -Helps their confidence, social development as well as their academic progress - Over 97% is considered excellent attendance		Some Concern -Harder for your child to make progress -School starts tracking your child's attendance closely. Medical evidence may be required to authorise further absences linked to illness		Worrying -Your child is now classified as 'persistently absent' - Education Welfare Officer involvement is likely		Serious Concern -Having a significant impact on your child's education and well-being -Legal Action may be taken -At 50% your child is classified as 'severely absent'

School emergency closures

A guide for parents / carers

We recognise that the decision to close a school in the event of an emergency (eg snow, flooding, no water or heating) significantly impacts upon you, as parents / carers. This guide outlines the agreed procedure which all schools are asked to follow and offers advice to parents / carers on the key things to consider, both before and after the decision to close has been made.

Guidance given to schools

Guidance and procedures are sent to all schools on an annual basis, usually at the start of the autumn term. To prevent the possibility of fraudulent school closures, schools are required to follow a verification process before providing school closure information. Schools are then asked to:

Undertake a risk assessment, using common sense to determine whether it is feasible for children and staff to remain in the school; and if not, what subsequent risks could arise by sending them home. Before school hours start, schools are also asked to assess if the roads are safe for children to travel to school.

Seek approval from the Governing Board (usually the decision of the Chair of Governors will suffice) to authorise the decision to close.

Notify Cornwall Council and the local radio stations (BBC Radio Cornwall, Goldmine FM, Heart FM and Pirate FM). Providing the school follow the agreed procedure, each of the radio stations have all agreed to broadcast details of all school closures.

We will publish a list of current school closures on the Cornwall Council website at www.cornwall.gov.uk/schoolclosures and on our social media channels.

Social Media

- **Facebook**
www.facebook.com/TFFCornwall
- **Instagram**
www.instagram.com/TFFCornwall
- **Twitter**
www.twitter.com/TFFCornwall

Know your school's procedure

Although schools are asked to follow this procedure, schools will have their own plan of action to be followed in the event of a closure. This should include details of how parents will be notified (eg via radio, text message, social media, etc). It is essential that schools communicate their plan to all parents as early as possible, and equally that all parents familiarise themselves with the agreed plan.

Who to contact

If the decision is made to close, you will be notified by the school's agreed notification procedure. Should you need to contact the school directly, please be aware that the line(s) may be busy or unavailable when a large number of parents are calling at the same time.

Useful websites

- **Cornwall Snow Advice**
www.cornwall.gov.uk/snow
- **Met Office**
www.metoffice.gov.uk
- **Environment Agency**
www.environment-agency.gov.uk
- **Devon and Cornwall Police**
www.devon-cornwall.police.uk

Contact us

Email: togetherforfamilies@cornwall.gov.uk
Call: 0300 1234 101



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Together 
for Families



www.cornwall.gov.uk/togetherforfamilies

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

EDUCATING CHILDREN ON SPENDING AND SAVING

Evidence shows that children's spending habits begin to form as early as seven years old. With primary schools in England not required to teach financial literacy, many young people are reaching adulthood without knowing the basics of budgeting. This guide explains how to teach young people about money in a practical way, giving them the understanding to become savvy spenders and savers.

1 PROVIDE POCKET MONEY

Giving children money – even a small amount – can help them learn to make their own budgeting decisions about how to spend or save it. Research shows that youngsters who receive pocket money are more likely to become adults with strong financial skills and significantly less debt.

2 USE A PREPAID CARD

Being able to pay by card is essential these days, with some retailers not accepting cash since the pandemic. Prepaid debit cards are available for children from the age of six, allowing them to get used to spending like they will as adults with no risk of dipping into an overdraft. Learning about money is like learning to swim – you need to get in the pool and have a go!

3 PRACTISE BORROWING

Although official borrowing is only available to over 18s, kids need to understand how debt and interest works before they become adults and are exposed to credit cards or 'buy now, pay later' schemes. For a safe means of teaching them about this, parents could offer them extra pocket money but explain that it needs to be paid back by a certain date, plus an extra couple of pounds as interest.

4 ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATION

Chatting about money and how much things cost will teach children that finance is a part of everyday life and not some "scary adult thing". Parents can involve them in budgeting for the weekly shop, for example, working together to get everything on the list while keeping the total below a certain number. Letting young ones make spending decisions in a safe space can build up their confidence regarding money.

5 DISCUSS THE PRESSURE TO SPEND

Whether it's YouTube ads or a hint of envy at a friend's recent purchase, spending triggers are everywhere. Encourage children to notice how clever shop design (like placing sweets at the checkout) and offers such as '2 for 1' deals entice us to spend more. Challenge them to resist impulse buys by getting them to sleep on it before deciding to spend.

6 TELLING 'NEED' FROM 'WANT'

Learning how to prioritise spending is an important life skill: the difference between life's essentials and "nice to haves" is key to budgeting. If children pester you for treats while shopping, it's the perfect time to say "That's a want. We're getting our needs first." You could show how you budget for food, electricity and so on before buying fun things.

7 ENCOURAGE SAVING

Getting children saving early can set them up with a useful habit for their adult life. Suggest that they set something aside every time they receive money and help them set a target for how much to put away, so they feel motivated to continue. For example, encouraging them to save for a friend's birthday gift can get children much more invested in what they buy.

8 SPARK INTEREST IN INTEREST

Motivate children by telling them about interest; you can describe it as a reward for saving money. Explain how everything they put away will grow over time. As an exciting example, explain that 1p doubled every day for a month would amount to approximately £10 million. Some prepaid cards for young people also offer interest; parents and carers could also add a little to supplement what their child saves and show how it works.

9 PAYING FOR CHORES

This is a complex debate with no right or wrong answer; it depends on what works for each individual family. However, it can be one of the best ways to teach children that money needs to be earned and helps to create more mindful spenders. If parents aren't keen on paying for everyday chores, they could ask the children to suggest their own ideas for earning a little extra.

10 PROTECT CHILDREN FROM SCAMS

Scams are a terrifyingly easy way to lose money, and children are generally more likely to be taken in due to a lack of experience with these financial criminals. As a minimum, make sure they're aware of the most common scams they could be exposed to – by text, email and phone, for instance. Young people should tell a trusted adult about any unexpected message or call and never give out their personal information.

Meet Our Expert

GoHenry is a prepaid debit card and financial education app with a mission to make every young person smart with money. Co-founder and CEO Louise Hill is a passionate campaigner for better financial literacy among school children and strongly believes that money management is a crucial life skill.

gohenry

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/spending-and-saving>

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