

# MOUSEHOLE NEWSLETTER

## What's Been Happening This Week - 6.3.26

Dyth da, Parents and Carers,

We have had a wonderful week celebrating St Piran with our local community. Skiff Class were lucky to take part in a singing concert at Humphry Davy School on Monday. On Wednesday evening the school choir represented us in the St Piran Concert at St Johns Hall where they sang Cornish songs with great gusto and enjoyed taking part in the traditional Cornish dancing. This was followed on Thursday by Schooner Class dancing through the streets of Penzance being lead by our fantastic school band in the St Piran Parade. We are incredibly proud of you all and the fantastic talents you bring to all of these occasions. It was lovely for the children to be part of these wonderful celebrations of our local heritage. We also celebrated World Book Day on Wednesday and the children looked amazing in their costumes- thank you for your support in not only finding costumes but encouraging your children to take part in designing the front cover and blurb competition. We still have all of them displayed in the mezzanine outside the library. It is so important to read with your child daily to expand their imagination and vocabulary to support with their writing as well as a life time love of reading! Congratulations to Arthur, Henry, Raphi and Noah for winning book tokens from the Edge of The World bookshop for their winning entries. The children were also given two volumes of Cornish Piskies Adventures each written by Karenza Veor as a gift to take home and enjoy. The children in Lugger Class also enjoyed an online reading session with Michael Rosen and created their own little books.

Well done to the hockey team who played 3 matches on Thursday against, Alverton, St Marys CE and Seagull. They won 1:0, and drew 0:0 in 2 games. Mr Ansell was very impressed with their teamwork and skills progression and fantastic job of representing the school with great sportsmanship.

This Wednesday we have the Tempest photographers in school for class photos and sports photos. Please wear your school uniform including black shoes and smart hair. A quick reminder that children shouldn't be wearing jewellery into school apart from a watch or stud earrings. This is due to health and safety reasons, thank you for your support with this.

A reminder that children should be in school each day and where possible ensure that medical or dental appointments are made after school or in the holidays.

Thank you if you made it along to the community garden on Saturday we have another session next Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March from 11-1pm. If you have some spare time please come along and support.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend. We look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Monday.

Best wishes,  
Sarah Trow and all the Mousehole Staff

## Housepoints

Gwynver: 106

Praa Sands: 329

Sennen: 251

Porth Chapel: 183

## Attendance

Whole School: 96.4%  
Dinghy: 93.7%  
Skiff: 99%  
Lugger: 96.8%  
Schooner: 95.6%

## Dates

- Lugger class swimming this half term on Friday
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March- Class photos
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March-Lugger singing in the Songfest
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March-Swimming gala for Yr 5/6- children/parents have been informed if swimming.
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March-Red Nose day
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March Skiff Cake Stall
- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April Easter Egg Raffle
- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April last day of term

**2025-2026 INSET Days:**  
Monday 1st June 2026

## Stars of the week

Congratulations to our amazing stars this week are- Eli, Rupert H, Matha and Hugo. They were spotted for their fantastic team work skills in forest schools, beautiful informative St Pirans work, Dressing up with confidence for World Book Day and fantastic independent sentence writing. Keep up the great work all of you!

## Marvellous Mouse



Henry- for always taking part in all of the activities with confidence and enthusiasm. A fab Mousehole Mice member.



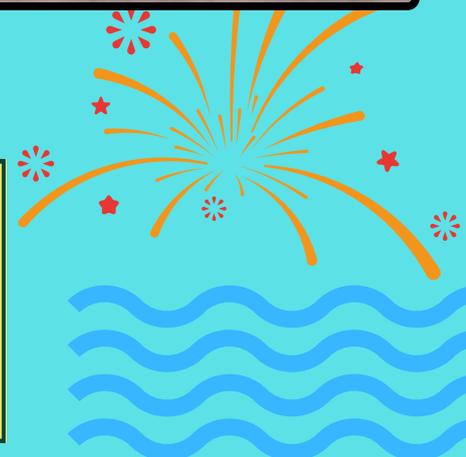
Headteacher awards this week go to Rupert and Hugo for independent sentence writing and amazing writing about St Piran-Keep up the great work!!



The children looked amazing in their World Book Day costumes and took pride in parading them in assembly. Congratulations to Arthur, Henry, Raphi and Noah for winning the book tokens for their fabulous blurb and front covers! Each child was presented with two volumes of *Cornish Piskies Adventures* by Karenza Veor to take home as a gift.



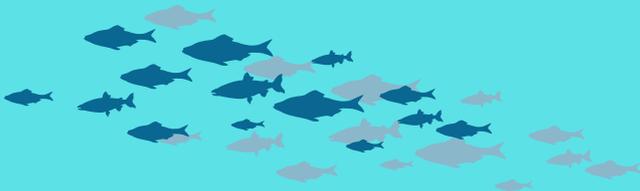
Cornish words of the week  
St Piran-  
San Peran

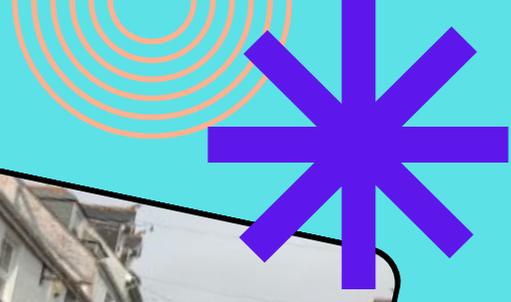


BE  
PROUD  
OF YOUR  
WORK

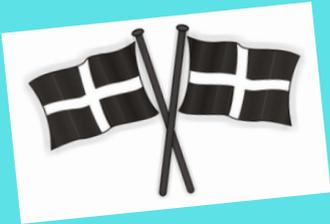
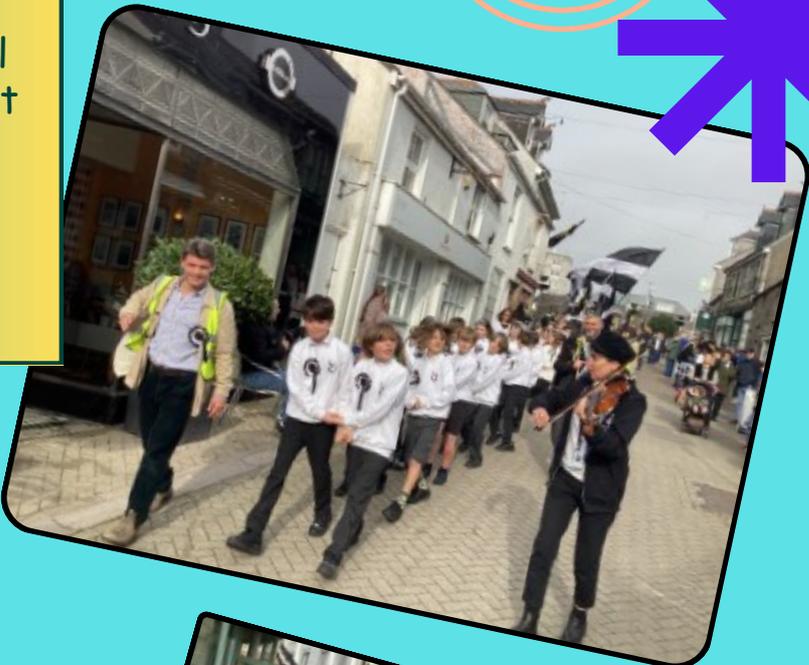


Congratulations to Agnes, Martha, Margot and Ben for showcasing their work with pride and beautiful presentation- we are working hard to showcase our best work at all times. Also to Leo for being a kind friend to Ben!





The children had a wonderful time at all of the different St Piran events with joy and enthusiasm and fantastic behaviour- we are always so proud of you all!



# **Are you the parent or carer of a child with SEND?**

*Come along to our coffee morning hosted by the Family Help Team on*

***Monday 10th March 2026 at 9:30-11:30am  
at St Johns Hall, Penzance.***

Meet with other parents/carers and have a chat with our  
friendly guest professionals from:

**SENDIASS**

**Children's Disability Team**

**SEND System Navigator**

**Family Information Service**

**Parenting Worker**

**Targeted Youth Worker**

**Family Workers**



**No need to book, please just pop in on the day ☺**



# Online Safety Newsletter

March 2026

## YouTube Safety Update: New Parental Controls

YouTube have published their latest update on how parents can support their child on YouTube. YouTube will now allow parents to set the amount of time viewing Shorts – this can even be set to zero. YouTube Shorts are short videos, usually less than 60 seconds long, which when continuously watched, can lead to excessive screentime. Furthermore, parents will also be able to set bedtime and ‘take a break’ reminders. You can find out more here:

<https://blog.youtube/news-and-events/updates-youtube-supervised-accounts-teens/>

If you would like to find out more about supervised accounts on YouTube, then this article explains the different settings available:

[https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/10315420?hl=en-GB&ref\\_topic=15279060&sjid=15225282118002181205-EU](https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/10315420?hl=en-GB&ref_topic=15279060&sjid=15225282118002181205-EU)

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version: <https://www.knowsleylcs.org.uk/march-2026/>

## Mobile phones: do you know the risks?

We know that children having access to a smartphone can expose children to risks including:

- Viewing inappropriate content
- Excessive screen time/use, which in turn can affect their mental health and sleep pattern.
- Contact from inappropriate people/grooming
- Cyberbullying
- Spending money on in-app purchases/scams

### What effects do mobile phones have on children's mental health?

Compass discuss the research around this important topic, outlining the positive and negative effects that mobile phones have:

<https://compass-uk.org/services/compass-changing-lives/online-resources/what-effects-do-mobile-phones-have-on-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health/>

### EE Online Safety Hub

EE has published age guidance for smartphone usage to improve children's digital wellbeing. In summary, they recommend that children under 11 should use non-smart devices, for children aged 11-13, they advise that if a smartphone is used, then parental controls should be enabled and access to social media restricted. Finally, for 13-16-year-olds they still recommend that parental controls are implemented and appropriate restrictions set up. You can read the full guidance here:

<https://ee.co.uk/internet-online-safety>

### Could you delay when your child is given a smartphone with Smartphone Free Childhood?

The premise behind this movement is that all parents/carers of a class all agree not to give their children smartphones (therefore the level of peer pressure is reduced) for a set time or until a specific age:

<https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/>

### What device?

When you think it is the right time for your child to have a phone, then ‘Which?’ provide an overview of some options available:

<https://www.which.co.uk/reviews/mobile-phones/article/buying-a-first-mobile-phone-best-dumb-phones-and-smartphones-for-kids-aA03C3Y8aTzr>

# Virtual Private Networks

A Virtual Private Network (VPN) helps make your connection between a device and the internet more secure and can help protect personal information and add privacy. However, whilst a VPN has benefits, it is important that you are aware that if your child is using a VPN, they may be able to get round Wi-Fi restrictions, access blocked or restricted websites and bypass parental controls. It may also mean that their browsing history is hidden.

The NSPCC provides a helpful overview of VPNs, plus top tips and conversation starters here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/vpns-and-online-safety/>

# Social Media Algorithms

## What is an Algorithm?

Algorithms influence what we see on social media platforms and predict what type of content we are most likely to interact with, thereby keeping us online for longer. The algorithm uses information such as who you follow, what you have searched for and what you have watched, liked or shared to determine what it thinks most interests you. It will then show you this content more, for example, in the explore tab on Instagram.



## What do I need to know?

Whilst there are benefits to algorithms, for example it means we tend to see content that does interest us, unfortunately there are negatives as well. They can lead to increased screentime as we continue to see things that interest us. Secondly, it can lead to users being shown large amounts of inappropriate content which can for example, exacerbate negative body image or heighten access to misogyny content. It can also lead to 'echo chambers' where you are only seeing content that relates to your opinion rather than seeing a balanced viewpoint.

## Further information

- <https://cybersmarties.com/behind-the-screen-how-algorithms-shape-what-kids-see-online/>
- The BBC discuss algorithms in this article about doomscrolling: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zwnk3qt>

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## Five Nights at Freddy's

Five Nights at Freddy's is a horror game designed to frighten players with jump scares or creepy characters. It can be accessed from several places, for example on an Xbox (PEGI rating of 12) and on the App store (age rating of 13+). There is merchandise available, which may suggest that it is child friendly. We would recommend that you preview the game first to ascertain its suitability for your child. You can view Bark's review here:

<https://www.bark.us/content-review/five-nights-at-freddys-review/>

## Screen time and online harms

The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health have created a page that brings together key resources on screen time. Find out more here:

<https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/resources/screen-time-online-harms-resources-members>

## New government campaign: Is your child influenced by toxic content?

The Government have launched a new campaign providing guidance to parents on safety settings, conversation prompts and advice for tackling misinformation and harmful content. It also includes a quiz to help you and your child spot misleading or unreliable information online. You can find out more here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/is-your-child-influenced-by-toxic-content-new-government-campaign-supports-parents-to-talk-about-harmful-online-content>



Cornwall  
Wildlife Trust



Cornwall Partnership  
NHS Foundation Trust



# MHST Wild Wellbeing



MHST, in collaboration with Natural England, Cornwall Wildlife Trust and National Trust, would like you to join us on a FREE Wild Wellbeing session in Cornwall.

This is for parents and children aged 5-12 in Cornwall to help understand and support emotional and mental wellbeing.

Please book EACH child on to a session

Each session will last approx. 2 hours

## Locations and dates:

07 April - Golitha Falls

07 April - The Gardeners House, Penzance

14 & 15 April - Penrose Estate

16 April - St Ives Community Orchard

More sites and dates may be added so keep checking!

All sessions will begin at 10am. Please wear weather appropriate clothing!



To request a place, complete the online form

<https://forms.office.com/e/CdbKBnMHOq>



Scan to sign up

Please be aware that spaces are limited and assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. If you cannot attend after being allocated a place, inform us so we can give your spot to someone else.

Follow us on Facebook for updates and upcoming events:  
[Cornwall Mental Health Support Team \(MHST\)](#)