

MOUSEHOLE NEWSLETTER

What's Been Happening This Week - 27.2.26

Dyth da, Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new half term - and finally to our new playground! It was wonderful to see the children's excitement as they explored the new equipment for the first time. We were joined by visitors from Kiers, the Environment Agency, Governors, members of the community, and Chris Gould, Deputy CEO of TPAT. All took great delight in seeing the children's joy as they were set free to play, and the celebrations were topped off with delicious cupcakes!

A huge thank you to everyone who came along to help on our volunteer day over half term. Thanks to your hard work, we were able to plant and paint areas of the playground, making it look fantastic.

Congratulations to the boys' football team, who finished third overall in the Penwith League - an excellent achievement. Their match results are shared below. Well done to the whole team for their teamwork and sportsmanship.

A special mention also goes to Kerra, who took part in the cross-country event on Wednesday and achieved an amazing second place. We are incredibly proud of you, Kerra!

The Dinghies had a fantastic time at the hockey club on Wednesday with Helen, learning new ball skills and showing great determination and resilience despite the rain. A big thank you to Helen for teaching hockey skills to all classes over the past few weeks.

Next week is a busy and exciting one as we celebrate St Piran's Day.

- Skiff Class will be taking part in a concert at Humphry Davy School on Monday afternoon.
- The choir will perform in the St Piran concert at St John's Hall on Tuesday at 7pm and should wear black and white.
- On Thursday, Schooner Class and our musicians will take part in the St Piran Parade through town. Please do join us to cheer them on—fingers crossed for sunshine! Children need to wear black trousers or skirts; we will provide white sweatshirts.

We also celebrate World Book Day on Wednesday 4th March. Children are invited to come dressed as their favourite book character and take part in the challenges set by Mr Mullaney. Choir members may wear their costumes to the St Piran practice in the afternoon.

We are having a community garden day next Saturday 7th March and 14th 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: 286

Praa Sands: 224

Sennen: 375

Porth Chapel: 262

Attendance

Whole School: 95.7 %

Dinghy: 98.2 %

Skiff: 94.4 %

Lugger: 97.6 %

Schooner: 93 %

Dates

- Lugger class swimming this half term on Friday
- Monday 2nd March Skiff St Piran Concert HDS
- Tuesday 4th March World Book Day dress up TBC
- Tuesday 4th March St Piran Concert-School Choir- St Johns Hall 6.45pm
- Wednesday 5th March St Piran parade- Schooner Class and school musicians.
- Tuesday 10th March Skiff Penlee Gallery music
- Wednesday 11th March Lugger Songfest at St Johns Hall
- Friday 20th March-Red Nose day
- Friday 27th March Skiff Cake Stall
- Thursday 2nd April last day of term

2025-2026 INSET Days:

Monday 1st June 2026

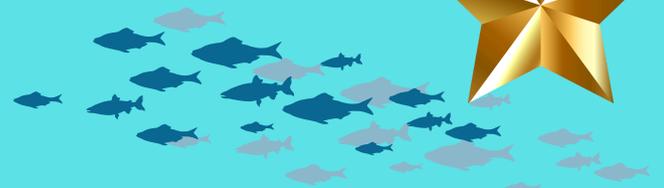
Stars of the week

Congratulations to our fabulous stars of the week- Stanley and Harbour, Delilah, Zennor, Varya and Caleb C who have been spotted for fantastic letter formation, perserverance, being a great friend to all, focusing hard on the task in hand, beautiful manners and kindness and being brave enough to take risks in maths to push their understanding. These are all wonderful examples of our Mousehole spirit and well deserved by all.

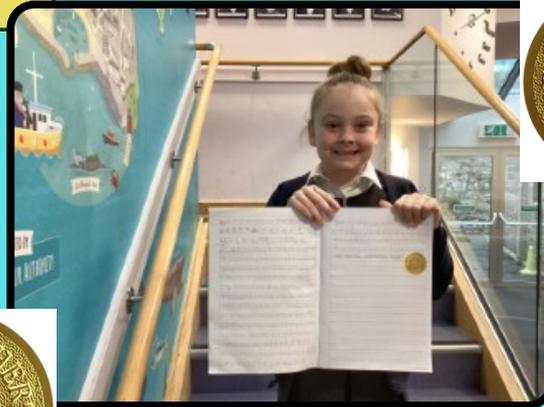
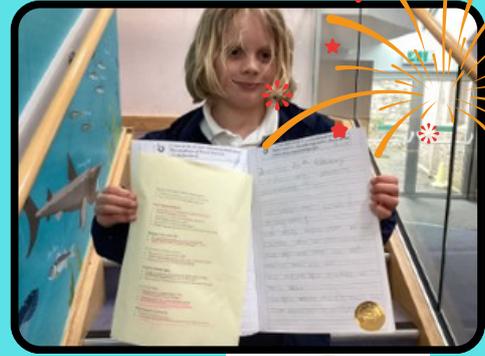
Marvellous Mouse



Lillian- for always helping and taking care of others. Also for her amazing knowledge of baby animals.



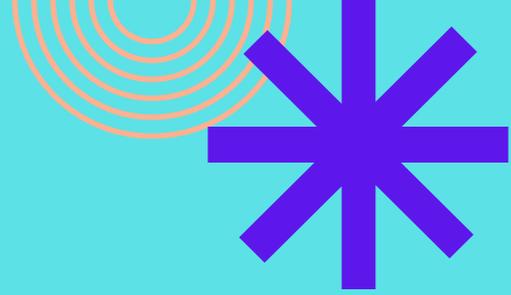
Headteacher awards this week go to Tyson for his amazing hard work learning his sounds and letters in phonics. Zennor for her fantastic cursive handwriting and Rupert for his brilliant writing about Mount Versuvius. Keep up the great work!



The children have been so happy being back in our new playground. We had a wonderful opening ceremony with Kiers and the Environment Agency topped off with lovely cakes!



Cornish words of the week
Happy St Pirans Day-
Gool Peran Lowen



Well done to the boys football team!
 We finished 3rd in the league after the play offs
 Penwith Primary league results:
 Won 4-0 v Trythall
 Lost 2-0 v St Hilary
 Lost 1-0 v Nancledra

Congratulations to Kerra for taking part in the cross country at Hayle secondary school on Wednesday. She came second an amazing achievement Kerra we are very proud of you!





M.H.S.T



Video Interactive Guidance (VIG)

Exciting offer.....

We have 2 spaces for 2 families from Mousehole school to do VIG

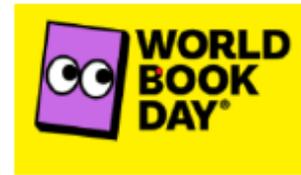
- VIG consists of being filmed playing with your child in school or at home. Then we edit the footage to show you all the positive things you are doing, and analyse this together. This is one cycle. We offer 3.
- VIG is really positive and strength based
- VIG works well if you are struggling to manage your child's behaviour or if you'd like to feel more connected to your child.
- All the families I have worked with have had amazing results and enjoyed the process

If you think you and your child could benefit from VIG, then please speak to your mental health lead in school - Ms Addrienne Munday





World Book Day at Mousehole School Wednesday 4th March 2026



This year, at Mousehole School, we would like to celebrate World Book Day by sharing the love of reading.

There will be a two-part book challenge...

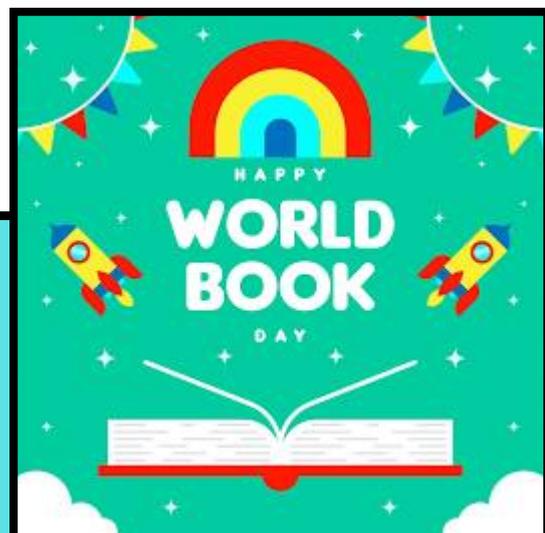
1. We've all got a favourite book and we would like you to redesign its front cover. Each child will be given a sheet of plain A4 paper and the task to create an alternative front cover for their chosen book. You can be as creative as you like. The new covers will be displayed around the school and prizes awarded for the ones that really stand out! We would love parents to take part in this challenge too and have your designs on display.
2. The second part of the challenge is to create an alternative blurb for your favourite book. The children will be given a separate piece of paper on which to produce their blurb. Again, we encourage you to be as creative as possible. The blurb could be a phrase, a sentence a paragraph or a quote from the book, but don't mention the book title in your blurb because we will put these on display and have the challenge of trying to match the blurb to the new book cover!

Make sure all your work is named clearly on the back.

On the day itself (Wednesday 4th March), please come to school dressed as a book character of your choice. It's always better to go for home-made and therefore less costly, creative costumes.

Good luck and Get reading!

Mr Mullaney



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

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

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date released 01.03.26. The inclusion of any links does not imply any affiliation with or endorsement of the linked websites, documents, or videos, nor are we claiming any ownership or copyright in the content of the linked materials.

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 \(MHST\)](#)