

MOUSEHOLE NEWS

Friday 28th February 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

Dyth da

We have had a busy first week back. The children have been enjoying the sunshine and having lots of opportunities to be outside.

A quick reminder that next week we shall be celebrating St Piran's Day. We have children representing us in the St Piran's concert on Tuesday evening at St Johns Hall and Schooner Class and the musicians in the St Piran's Parade on Wednesday in Penzance. The children will need to wear black and white, further details are in the posters below.

We have taken part in several sporting events starting with cross country on Tuesday at Cape Cornwall School. The children demonstrated great resilience and determination with Alfie, Lilah & Bethannie running for the first time! Congratulations Caleb who came third and received a bronze medal with Jude and Kerra coming eighth in their races.

The whole school have started tennis sessions with Sammy from the Penzance Tennis Club on Wednesdays which has gone down a real treat!

On Thursday the High Five team played Bodriggy School they had a fantastic game with all of the children demonstrating great improvement in their skills. We won 12-3 with Theo finding his shooting prowess. Well done to all of you.

We welcomed Tom Williams the Senior Education and Engagement South West Parliament Officer on Wednesday. He delivered a UK Parliament assembly to Luggar and Schooner looking at the House of Commons, the House of Lords, our constituency and our current MP Andrew George. He talked about laws and why we have them. The children listened well and came up with some fantastic questions to ask him.

Next Thursday is World Book Day, please can your child dress up as a favourite book character - you don't spend lots of money buying costumes for your child. Please complete the reading challenge that has been set by Mr Mullaney as detailed in the poster that went home before half term. Look out for the international lunch menu that is displayed in the entrance that has been put in place for our International Day on Tuesday 11th March.

Finally the Mousehole Carnival Committee are looking for more support. If you are able to give your time for this wonderful community event then please get in touch with Tim Joel to be sign posted in the right direction.

I hope you have a lovely weekend and enjoy this wonderful sunshine and I look forward to seeing you all next week or at one of the St Piran's events!

Best wishes

Sarah Trow

HOUSE POINTS:



PORTHCHAPEL:90

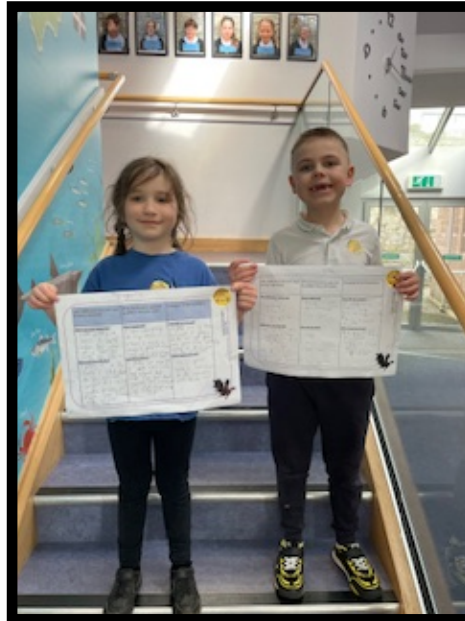
GWYNVER:64

SENNEN:88

PRAA SANDS:146



WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE:
95.06%
SKIFF-93.72%
LUGGER- 97.8%
SCHOONER-92.09%



Headteacher awards this week go to Eugenie and Hugo for their fantastic dragon story plans- they used great imagination and wonderful vocabulary. I look forward to reading their final stories!

Cornish words of the week!

**“Deudh an Lyver”-
World Book Day**



Congratulations to all who took part in the cross country at Cape Cornwall School with some new members taking part. A big shout out to Caleb who achieved a bronze medal!

The High Five team played against Bodriggy and won 12-3. Wow- amazing teamwork and developing great skills!



The whole school are enjoying their tennis sessions with Sammy from the Penzance Tennis Club- we look forward to the next 4 sessions!



Lugger and Schooner learning about the UK Parliament with Tom Williams in assembly.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Spring Term:

Fridays- Schooners swimming

Wednesdays -Tennis for 5 weeks for the whole school

Jumping Mice weekly on Tuesdays 10.30-11.30am

Tue 4th March St Piran's Concert 7pm St Johns Hall

Wed 5th March St Piran's Parade 10am

Thurs 6th March World Book Day

Wed 12th March Parent Consultations

Fri 21st March Red Nose Day

Wed 26th March Tempest whole school photos

Thurs 27th March Songfest 3.30-8.45pm St Johns Hall

W/B 31st March No Clubs

Friday 4th April Easter egg Raffle

Friday 4th April- Last Day of Term

Yr 6 SAT's w/b 12th May 15th May

Summer Term Begins 22.4.25

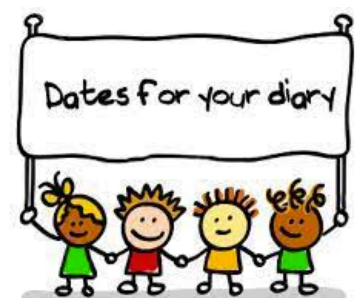
2024-2025 INSET Days:

Monday 21st July 2025

Tuesday 22nd July 2025

Wednesday 23rd July 2025

Autumn Term Begins 2.9.25



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The impact of smartphones



There is a growing concern on how excessive use of smartphones can affect our children.

In addition to the effects of seeing inappropriate content online, the risk of cyberbullying and grooming, it is important that we also highlight the effects of smartphone use on our children's mental health.

If your child is using a smartphone then please try to ensure they maintain a healthy screentime limit.

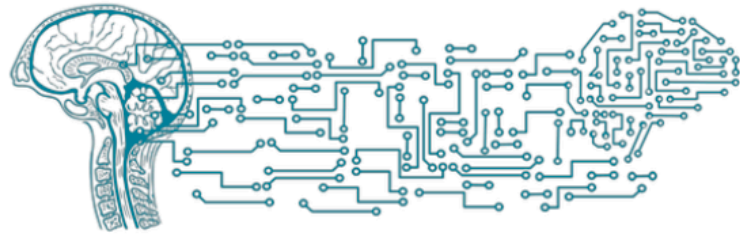
According to King's College London, "two new studies of smartphone habits in teenagers have identified links between problematic smartphone use and depression, anxiety and insomnia." You can read more about these studies here:

<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/news/teens-with-problematic-smartphone-use-are-twice-as-likely-to-have-anxiety-and-many-are-eager-to-cut-down>

Compass have published an article as well on what effects mobile phones have on children here:

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

Artificial Intelligence (AI)



What is AI?

AI is when a computer/machine can learn and perform tasks like a human. Its popularity continues to increase, and examples include:

- **Virtual assistants** like Alexa and Siri.
- **Chatbots** such as ChatGPT and My AI from Snapchat

Potential Risks of AI?

- **Chat apps** - A simple search of "AI Chat" within the App store highlights the number of apps already available and just scrolling through, you can see that they are not suitable for children with many rated as 17+.
- **Image manipulation** – there are AI tools that can be used to digitally remove clothes from photos, which clearly raises serious safeguarding and privacy concerns.
- **Deepfakes** – there are also AI tools that create realistic, fake videos which can be used to spread misinformation or cause harm.

Child Rescue Coalition discuss the dangers in more detail here:

<https://childrescuecoalition.org/educations/the-dark-side-of-ai-risks-to-children/>

How can I protect my child?

As always, to keep your child safe online, it is important to:

- Develop your child's digital literacy by highlighting the risks of AI and showing them how important it is to verify what they see online.
- Set up appropriate parental controls on their devices/ broadband.
- Chat to your child regularly and ensure your child knows that they should talk to you or another trusted adult if anything concerns them.

Further information

For further information, the NSPCC and Internet Matters provide useful guides on their websites:

- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/about-us/news-opinion/2025/artificial-intelligence-safety-tips-for-parents>
- <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/parent-guide-to-artificial-intelligence-ai-tools/>

TikTok

You must be over 13 years of age to use TikTok. TikTok is a social media platform for sharing and watching short video clips. Some of the videos may not be appropriate for your child to view and there is also the risk of strangers contacting your child. If your child is using TikTok then make sure appropriate security/privacy settings are applied.



Account set up

It is important that when setting up an account, your child enters their real date of birth as accounts are tailored by age e.g., Direct Messaging is disabled for accounts aged 13-15. In addition, advertisements are tailored by age. By default, accounts for people under 16 are set to private and we would recommend keeping it as this. This means your child must approve follower requests. You can read more about the other settings available, such as switching off comments and restricted mode here: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings/privacy-and-safety-settings-for-users-under-age-18>

Family Pairing

This allows you to link your own account to your child's account. You can then set controls such as restricted mode. You can find out more here: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/safety-hc/account-and-user-safety/family-pairing>

Inappropriate content, themes and challenges on TikTok

Whilst against TikTok's guidelines, explicit and inappropriate content can be found on this platform, for example nudity/sexual content and hate speech. Some of the songs available to lip sync to may contain inappropriate lyrics or adult themes. We often see viral challenges on social media, some of which can be dangerous. If your child is using TikTok, chat to them regularly about what they are viewing.

Stranger contact

Talk to your child about who is following them online and ensure that they understand that people may not be who they say they are when online. It is important that children understand not to share personal information.

Refresh your feed

You can refresh your "For You" feed to update the content recommended: <https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings/refresh-your-for-you-feed>

Blocking and Reporting

Ensure your child knows how to use the safety features available to them, including how to report comments, direct messages and another user.

Further information

- <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/tiktok>
- <https://safeguarding.thekeysupport.com/factsheets-and-briefings/child-safety-tiktok-parent-factsheet/>

Talk PANTS with the NSPCC

Talk PANTS was developed to help you have conversations with your child to help them understand that their body belongs to them.

You can find out more here as well as a further link to helpful questions:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

LEGO Arcade

Are you looking for games for your child to play online? LEGO have a selection of fun games including Lego Ninjago and Lego Friends:

<https://kids.lego.com/en-gb/arcade>

Stars Messenger App

The Stars Messenger App is rated as 4+ on the App store. It is a free messaging and video app designed for children to use. Users need their friend's username as well as their unique private Friend Code to add each other. There is also an optional Parent View available for a monthly charge.

South West Grid for Learning provide a full guide to staying safe on this app as well as safety considerations:

<https://swgfl.org.uk/magazine/a-guide-to-staying-safe-with-the-stars-messaging-app/>

Are you the parent or carer of of child with SEND?

Drop into Hayle Family Hub on Tuesday 4th March 9:30-11:30.

You can meet with other parents who may have similar experiences, or you may have questions for some of our attending professionals:

SENDIASS

Children's Disability Team

SEND System Navigator

Family Information Service

Early Help Family Worker and Parenting Worker

No need to book – please drop in on 4th March.





Cornish Concert

Tuesday 4th March

7pm at St John's Hall

St Pirans School's Choir &
The Penzance Guizers



Tickets on the door
Adults £5 / Child £1



Grant Funded by

**PENZANCE
COUNCIL**



St Piran's Day Furry

Wednesday 5th March

10.15am Dance

Route - Causewayhead / Morrab Gardens



