



September Newsletter 2025

Welcome to the September Edition of our Newsletter!

We hope that everyone has had an enjoyable summer and are now ready to start the term with renewed energy!

We would also like to give a very warm welcome to our new families joining us this September.

As we begin the year, we take the opportunity to review our school Mission, Values and Philosophy. Each week, we discuss the importance of these as they help shape the ethos and culture of our school. They are referred to within assemblies and day-to-day through our teaching and positive behaviour systems. Our reward system will continue this year as it was positively received by all children when completing our surveys at the end of last term.

Below, I have outlined our Mission, Values and Philosophy so that you can talk to your child about them and why they are important - ask to hear the song and actions!!

Our School Mission - Building Bright Futures on Firm Foundations

Our School Values - Courage, Kindness, Curiosity

Philosophy - Dream Big, Act Now, Never Give Up - You're Amazing!

To build on the above, we will continue to present weekly awards during our celebration assembly including lunchtime supervisor, Golden Writing and Marvellous Maths awards. We finish each celebration assembly with the 'prestigious' Headteacher's Award. Photos are posted each week on our social media for you to see.

Staffing Updates

We are delighted to share some exciting staffing updates!

A very warm welcome to **Miss Roberts, who joins us as Starlings' new teacher**, and to **Mr Gerry, who will be teaching Wagtails**. We are also thrilled that, following a few last-minute changes, **Mrs Nelson will be continuing with us as Wagtails' teaching assistant**. To top it all off, we're overjoyed to welcome back a familiar face—**Mrs Chandler—who will be returning as Kestrels' teaching assistant**.

We know our children will benefit greatly from the energy, experience, and care that each of these wonderful staff members brings to our school community.

Academic Success

As we move forward into the Autumn term, it is always good to reflect on previous experiences and events. We are extremely proud of our **Year 6 children** who completed their SATs in May. Every child showed courage, kindness to each other and fantastic knowledge across all areas! Our results are yet to be published officially but we can say that we are very pleased with our children's outcomes again this year!

Residentials

It is really important to us to ensure our children leave St Merryn School with a wide range of experiences beyond the classroom. Over the last few years, we have been really proud of our residential programme and hope to continue offering these enriching opportunities moving forward. We also recognise that, with the cost of living increasing, funding these experiences can be a challenge for families. With this in mind, we have decided to offer this year's **London trip to both Year 5 and Year 6**. With a relatively small Year 6 cohort, we feel it would not be financially viable to travel as a stand-alone group. Over the next few weeks, we will be sending out a letter to gauge interest, and we look forward to sharing more details with you soon.

Clubs

Our extended clubs provision will continue this term. We are delighted to announce that we have been able to continue our work with our external sports coach for the Autumn term. They will be running both a lunchtime and after school club. All clubs will begin the **week**

commencing 15th September. We usually have a waiting list for our clubs so we kindly ask that if your child signs up to a club, they attend each week.

We already have lots of events planned for the Autumn term - please see the dates below. We have lots of exciting plans this year...watch this space for details!

Best wishes,

Mrs. King

News from FOSMS

Welcome to the new school year... If you are new we would like to take this opportunity to introduce Friends of St Merryn School (FOSMS). FOSMS is a group of volunteer parents, teachers or anyone with a connection to the school. We raise extra funds through a wide range of fun and creative initiatives, events, and much, much more to enrich the school environment for our children and to provide the extras.

Everyone is welcome to come along to our monthly meetings, we would love to see some fresh faces, also any extra hands at our events is always greatly appreciated.

Events

The school year ended with the amazing Arts Night which **raised £1669.96**, once again thank you to everyone who donated, helped and attended. Big thank you to all our sponsors **Booker Wholesalers, Farmers Arms, Cornish Arms, Fryer Tucks, Malcom Barnecutts, Tesco, Abbey Bears, Rick Stein, Reggie's, Rafferty's, Dog House, The Pig, Spring House, Beach Box, Trevoise Golf Club** and also to our **auctioneer Rose Dann**.

We are already started to make plans for this first term and we can't wait to share the details with you all real soon, please keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates.

Uniform

Our uniform shop is still available and open to all. If you require anything then please see Vicky in the office or Sarah Hodson who will be more than willing to help.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to a successful year.

Meeting

Our next meeting will be in September - Date TBC

Arts Night 2025

Our End of Year Arts Night was a truly special occasion and a wonderful way to celebrate the amazing talents of our children. Every class worked so hard in the run up to the event, and their efforts really shone through on the night.

The singing was full of joy, the dancing was lively and imaginative, and the confidence shown by the children on stage was inspiring to see.

Families, friends, and staff all came together to enjoy an evening that highlighted not only the children's creativity, but also their teamwork and dedication.

It was a fantastic way to round off a fabulous year at St Merryn, and we are so proud of every single child who took part.

Mrs Golay

£20 Challenge



We are incredibly proud of last year's Year 6 children and the amazing fundraising efforts they undertook during their final term at St Merryn.

With great enthusiasm, teamwork, and a real sense of community spirit, the children planned, organised, and took part in a variety of events to raise money for a cause very close to our hearts.

From a high-energy obstacle fun run marathon to a much-loved tea and cake sale, their creativity and determination shone through every step of the way.

Thanks to their hard work – and the generous support of families and friends – they raised an outstanding **£500 for Little Harbour Children's Hospice.**

This is a fantastic achievement that reflects not only their commitment to helping others but also the caring values we hold as a school. We couldn't be prouder of their efforts and the positive difference they have made.

Mrs Golay



Sports day 2025

Back in July, we rounded off the school year with a fantastic Sports Day, and what a celebration it was!

The children showed incredible resilience, determination and, in particular, some impressive stamina during the cross-country running, especially on such a hot day. Every single child gave their very best, and we are so proud of them all for their effort and team spirit.

The parents' obstacle race brought plenty of laughter and brilliant participation – it was certainly one of the highlights of the day! A big thank you to all families who joined in and supported from the sidelines, helping to make the event so special.

We were especially proud to award the **Sports Cup** to **Fred Watson-Smyth**, recognising his outstanding all-round sportsmanship. Fred has been a fantastic role model throughout the year, and this award was thoroughly deserved. Well done to everyone who took part – it was a truly memorable day!

Mrs Cooper











Back by popular demand!

We are delighted to once again invite parents, carers, and family members to join us for a special ***family dining experience*** here at school. Come and enjoy a delicious lunch freshly

prepared by our very own chefs, Paul and Lucy. This is a wonderful opportunity to experience some of the tasty meals our children enjoy each day, including dishes made with ingredients home-grown in our very own polytunnel.

Save the Date!

Wed 5th Nov – Robins

Wed 12th Nov – Wagtails

Wed 19th Nov – Starlings

Wed 26th Nov – Kestrels & Barn Owls

Reading For Pleasure



We hope that everyone enjoyed the summer holidays and had plenty of opportunities to read some exciting new books or enjoy rereading your favourites!

Before the holidays we told you about **The Summer Reading Challenge** at your local library, if you took part make sure you tell your teachers! We would love to hear all about the books you read and which ones you enjoyed the most... maybe, you could impress them with a book review! We will award the official certificates to those who took part in our celebration assembly (12.09.25) Well done to **Ava, Sophia and Izzy** who will be receiving their certificates this week!

We want to continue to encourage the children's enjoyment of reading at home so each class's reading scrapbook will be launching again this September. Every child will get an opportunity to take home their class reading scrapbook for a week. It is a chance for the children to be creative and tell us all about their favourite book and share it with their classmates.

We look forward to seeing all the new entries!

Mrs Olivey

Music at St Merryn

At the end of term, Dave from St Merryn Ukes kindly donated £350 to our music department to buy new instruments for our performances and music curriculum. It was such a wonderful surprise to receive this end-of-year gift!

We are very grateful to everyone involved in raising these funds at the Strum in the Sun event and for thinking so kindly of our school. Music and performance are integral parts of our curriculum here at St Merryn School, and we are always looking for ways to enhance our provision.

With this in mind, we will continue our strong singing and performance curriculum and will also continue to have our Musical *Mondays* during lunchtimes. These sessions will be led by our Year 6 music leaders.

At the end of last year, our instrumental students gave a fantastic concert, showcasing their talents on guitar, piano, ukulele, and recorder. It was wonderful to see the confidence and enthusiasm with which they performed, and the audience thoroughly enjoyed the variety of music on offer.

We are so proud of the hard work and dedication our young musicians have shown throughout the term. We are in the process of arranging the instrumental lessons for our children continuing on from last year. If your child is interested in separate instrumental lessons during school time, please let the office know







St Merryn School Council

As we start a new year, we will be voting for our new school council members. Children will be asked to speak to their classmates to convince them as to why they would be good school councillors for our school. Each year group has 2 representatives on the school council who have been voted for by their peers. What makes a good School Councillor?

- Have good problem solving skills
- Good speaking skills and excellent listening skills
- Enjoy teamwork
- Have an open mind to new ideas
- Be responsible
- Work hard to get things done.

Our school council members aim to:

- To act as a voice for all children in the school
- To benefit the school community
- To benefit all pupils
- To contribute to decisions within the school

To promote democracy Projects that the school council that we will begin with are:

- Choosing charities to support through fund raising events this academic year
- Club Provision (after school and at lunchtime)

Inclusion at St Merryn

Welcome back to a brand-new school year!

We're really excited to see you all and for our classrooms to be buzzing with energy again.

At our school, we believe that every child is unique and deserves to feel included, supported, and celebrated for who they are.

If at any point you'd like to chat about your child's learning or any extra support you feel they might need, please feel free to arrange a meeting with Mrs Golay.

A big welcome from the Early Years team

We would like to warmly welcome all our new Reception and Nursery pupils to Robins Class.

It was such a pleasure getting to know you during our transition events last year, and we are so excited to see how much you will learn and grow during your time at St Merryn School and Nursery.

We know you will have a wonderful experience and make many new friends across the whole school.

We are very excited for the Autumn term and to welcome all of our new children to St Merryn School.

Our theme this term is '*Marvelous me; What makes me special?*', which gives children the opportunity to learn about themselves, their emotions, and their bodies, as well as the people around them.

We will be creating our own family trees, talking about our families, and exploring how our bodies work through song and dance.

Class Dojo

We will be using Class Dojo to share wonderful learning experiences for all nursery and reception children. The app is free to download and sign up. Please see the teachers in Robins class for a link to your child's learning journal.

E-Safety September Updates

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, visit wake.up.wednesday.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about VPNs

VPN use among UK teens is on the rise – with a noticeable uptick following the introduction of the Online Safety Act's age-verification rules. A VPN – or virtual private network – can boost online privacy by hiding internet activity and masking the user's location. But while this technology has legitimate uses, it can also allow children to bypass safety filters and access inappropriate content. This guide covers what parents and educators need to know about VPNs and how to keep young people safe.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- BYPASSING RESTRICTIONS**
VPNs are commonly used by young people to get around blocks on school devices or parental controls. This could include accessing inappropriate content, gaming sites or social media sites which would otherwise be filtered out.
- ACCESSING INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**
When a VPN is active, content that is no longer age-appropriate for a child is being accessed. This means they could access inappropriate content without detection. This also makes it harder to monitor what a child is looking up in any browser, as it may be difficult to detect if it's happening.
- REDUCED TRANSPARENCY**
VPNs may make parental monitoring software ineffective, stopping parents from monitoring their child's activities, including their ability to identify potentially harmful or inappropriate content or online contact. This is how some parents have been protecting their children from attempted sextortion or other online threats.
- FALSE SENSE OF ANONYMITY**
Children believing that VPNs make them 'invisible' online may seek to explore unuitable internet content, including content which might otherwise be blocked. This may result in them seeking and accessing increasingly inappropriate – or even harmful – content.
- INCREASED EXPOSURE TO MALWARE**
Many free VPN apps are poorly reviewed and may carry hidden malware, leaving people installing compromised software (such as spyware) onto their devices (and home networks) to spy on, steal data, computer viruses or even remote access by criminals.
- RISK OF MALICIOUS VPN PROVIDERS**
Although VPNs may increase privacy from network or service provider filtering and monitoring, this results in providing user and usage data to VPN providers. Some VPN providers may track user activity and sell that data to advertisers – or worse, malicious third parties. Not all VPNs are trustworthy.

Advice for Parents & Educators

- EXPLAIN THE POSSIBLE BENEFITS OF VPNs**
Explain how VPNs can help protect user data and therefore may be appropriate when using public or other unsecured Wi-Fi, or when dealing with sensitive corporate or personal data.
- EXPLAIN THE RISKS OF VPNs**
Discuss online risks, including harmful, disturbing, and criminal content, before children about criminal contact, such as sextortion, and how VPNs may prevent adults from monitoring children's internet use and helping them avoid these risks.
- FREE ISN'T FREE**
Discuss the risk of 'free' VPNs and how they may sell or use people's data, which could privacy risks. Additionally, discuss the potential for hidden malware in VPN downloads, and how these compromise devices and apps, leading to potential fraud or theft.
- CHECK DEVICES FOR VPNs**
VPNs can be installed on both apps and browser extensions, so regularly check those on the devices used by the young people in your class. If they have been using VPNs, discuss it, listen to their reasoning, and inform them of the associated risks. In some cases, it may be appropriate to block VPN use via parental controls and other settings.
- DISCUSS ONLINE BOUNDARIES**
Reinforce the importance of keeping safe online and how filtering and monitoring helps keep young people safe – explain this to them rather than just 'being strict'. Encourage an open conversation around what they're accessing and why.

Meet Our Expert
This guide has been created in collaboration with Gary Henderson, director of IT at a large independent school in the UK, an ambassador for the Association of Network Managers in Education and the Vice Chair of the Independent Schools Council Digital Advisory Group.

WakeUpWednesday
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10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING CHILDREN GOING BACK TO SCHOOL

Returning to school after the summer holidays can be both exciting and daunting for children of all ages. Different routines, classes, schools and academic pressures can cause anxiety or uncertainty. Parents play a vital role in easing this transition. This guide will help you support your child emotionally, mentally, and practically as they return to school.

1 RE-ESTABLISH ROUTINES

Gradually shift back to school-time routines a week or two before term starts. Regular bedtimes, wake-up times, and mealtimes can help children feel more secure and reduce the shock of change when school begins. Having a routine creates predictability and stability, helping to reduce anxiety while improving long-term concentration.

2 TALK ABOUT FEELINGS

Encourage open conversations with children about their feelings. Ask them how they feel about returning to school, such as what they're looking forward to and anything they might be feeling nervous or worried about. Validating their emotions can help reduce anxiety and show them it's okay to talk about their emotional wellbeing.

3 SUPPORT WITH SLEEP

Children need adequate sleep for concentration, brain function, memory, and emotional regulation. Establish a consistent bedtime routine without screens at least an hour before bed, and encourage relaxing activities like reading or listening to calming music.

4 LOOK OUT FOR SIGNS

Some children hide their anxiety, watch for changes in their behaviour, such as withdrawal, stomach aches, and irritability. If worse persists, speak with their teacher or the pastoral team early to ensure your child receives support.

5 REFRESH SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

Help children reconnect with school friends by arranging playdates or video chats in the week before school starts. Positive home and social interactions help the transition and provide emotional comfort on that first day back.

6 CREATE A CALM MORNING

Mornings set the tone for the day. Plan ahead with a consistent morning routine that allows time for breakfast, getting dressed, and taking calm about the day, avoid last-minute rushing to reduce stress for everyone.

7 FOCUS ON POSITIVES

Talk about the fun and interesting parts of school – seeing friends, favourite subjects, or exciting activities. One simple but powerful change parents can make is to say, "Here's your day booster" for "What's been good about your day?" This invites more of a positive, open response. Focusing on positives can help shift children's anxious thoughts and reform school as a safe and engaging place.

8 VISIT OR VISUALISE SCHOOL

If possible, encourage visits to the school grounds before the first day, especially if it's a new school. Walking the route or even looking at photos of classrooms and teachers can make the environment feel familiar. The school website is always a great go-to place for this. This is particularly helpful for younger children or those with additional needs.

9 PLAN AHEAD TOGETHER

Involve children in preparing for school. Picking supplies, packing their bag, or choosing lunch options. This gives them a sense of control and builds excitement. Use checklists or calendars to prepare together, helping reduce last-minute stress.

10 STAY POSITIVE AND PRESENT

Children pick up on your outlook. Stay calm, positive, and present, especially during drop-offs. Avoid lingering goodbyes, and let them know you're there to pick up. A consistent, reassuring presence builds their confidence and resilience.

Meet Our Expert

This guide was created by Jo Martin-Brown, an Emotional Health Practitioner with nearly 15 years' experience supporting children and young people's mental health. She produces engaging, YouTube content for pupils and trains adults to better support young people's wellbeing, with a mission to help every child feel valued and understood in their emotions.



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10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

RECOGNISING & MANAGING STRESS

According to recent studies, over 50% of young people report feeling regularly overwhelmed – with stress impacting their learning, emotional wellbeing and social connections. If left unaddressed, stress can lead to more serious concerns such as anxiety, depression or disengagement. This guide offers ten practical, evidence-based strategies to help children and young people recognise, manage and recover from stress in healthy ways.

1 SPOT THE SUBTLE SIGNS

Look out for changes in mood, behaviour, or energy levels. Signs of irritability, withdrawal, clinginess, or frequent headaches. These may indicate that a child is feeling overwhelmed. By tuning into these cues early and offering a calm, non-judgemental space to talk, adults can help children feel heard and supported before issues escalate.

2 KEEP CONVERSATIONS FLOWING

Make time for open, informal check-ins – whether it's during car journeys, over dinner, or in quiet classroom moments. Let children know it's okay to talk about what's bothering them. Regular, low-pressure conversations create a safe space where emotions are validated, not dismissed.

3 MAKE MOVEMENT PART OF THE DAY

Physical activity can dramatically reduce stress hormones while improving mood and focus. Encourage movement through activities children genuinely enjoy – from team sports to dancing around the kitchen. Even light activity like stretching or walking the dog can help us all unwind.

4 SUPPORT HEALTHY SLEEP PATTERNS

Poor sleep makes stress harder to manage. Establish a calming evening routine that avoids screens before bedtime and promotes winding down, such as reading, listening to music, or chatting quietly. Good sleep hygiene helps reset mood, enhance concentration, and boosts emotional resilience.

5 PRACTISE MINDFULNESS

Mindfulness doesn't have to mean long periods of meditation. A few slow breaths before lessons or short family meditation sessions before bed can make a real difference. These simple practices help children ground themselves, reduce emotional reactivity, and build inner calm over time.

6 SET DIGITAL BOUNDARIES

Excessive screen time, especially before bed or on social media, is linked with higher stress levels. Set clear expectations for when and where devices can be used and suggest screen-free alternatives like crafts, nature walks, or board games to promote digital balance and reduce overstimulation.

7 NURTURE SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

Strong relationships act as a buffer against stress. Whether it's a trusted adult, a sibling, or a good friend, ensure children have people around them they can talk to and spend quality time with. Help them build these bonds through shared activities and meaningful interaction.

8 PROGRESS OVER PERFECTION

Set realistic goals and praise effort, not just outcomes. When children feel pressured to be perfect, stress naturally follows. Celebrate small wins and help them reframe setbacks as learning opportunities. This helps build confidence and reduces the fear of failure.

9 TEACH EVERYDAY PROBLEM-SOLVING

Use real-life scenarios to build resilience. Encourage children to identify problems, consider possible solutions, and choose a plan of action. Practising these steps builds a sense of control and reduces the helplessness that often accompanies stress.

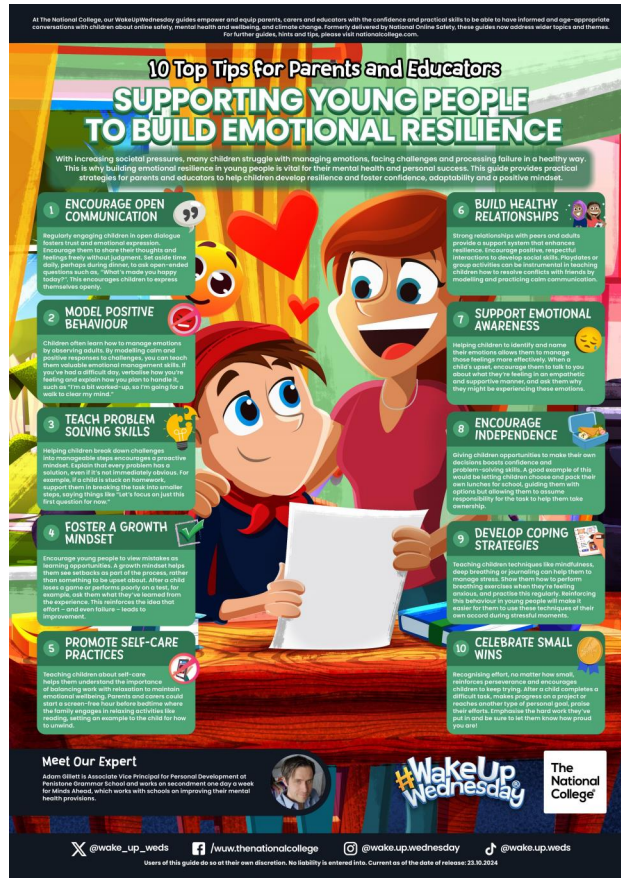
10 BE THE MODEL THEY NEED

Children notice how adults respond to challenges. Model healthy coping strategies such as taking breathers, asking for help, or calmly expressing frustration. By showing how you manage stress constructively, you help normalise these behaviours and encourage children to do the same.

Meet Our Expert

Anna Bateman is Director of Holistic Education Ltd, Director for Wellbeing and Family Services at Leigh Trust, and lead expert for mental health at The National College. Anna specialises in strategic mental health solutions for schools, supporting educators and families to improve resilience, emotional literacy, and overall wellbeing for children across the UK.





St Merryn Gardening Society

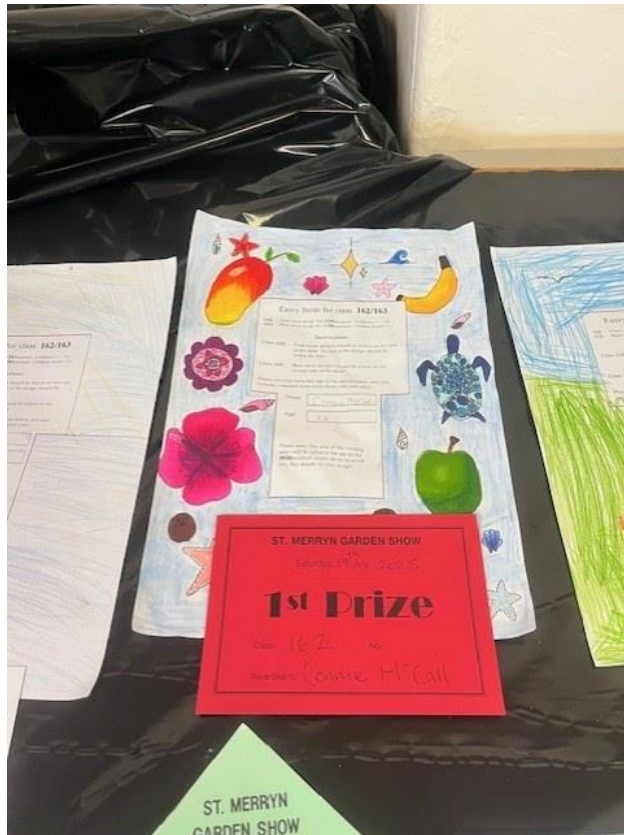
In July, it was delightful to see many of our community taking part in the St Merryn Garden Society Show, where the children's fantastic growing and baking skills were proudly on display.

From beautiful scones to impressive homegrown fruit, vegetables, and flowers, the children's entries showed real creativity, care, and dedication.

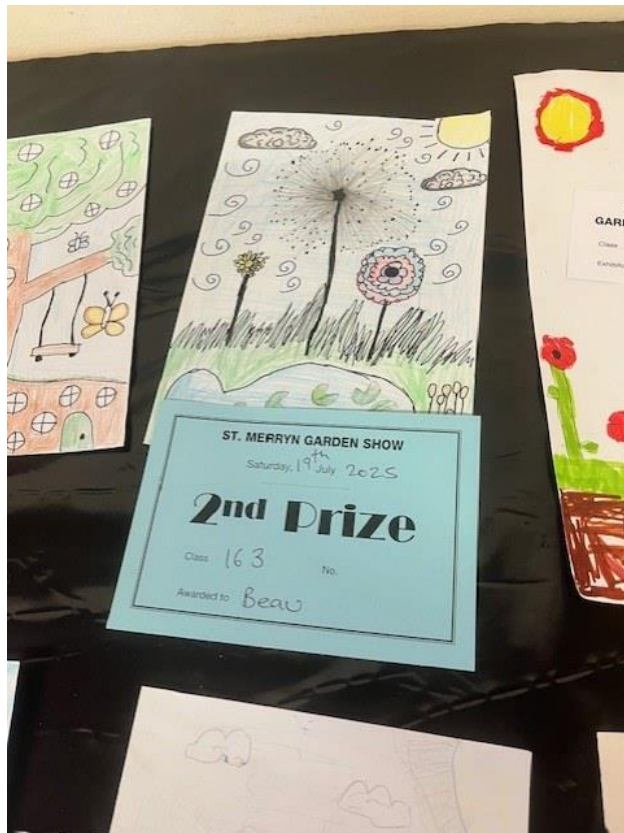
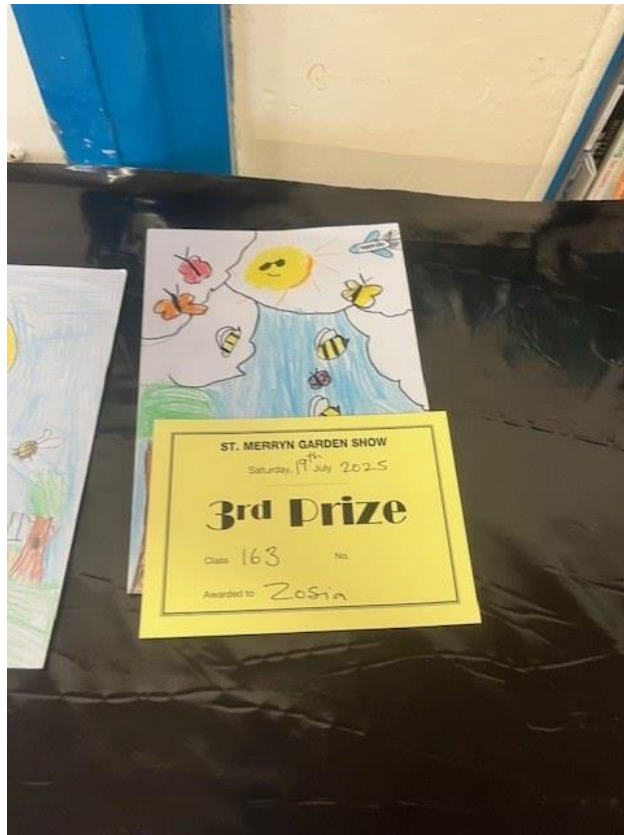
We are so proud of their achievements and it was wonderful to see their hard work celebrated within the wider community.

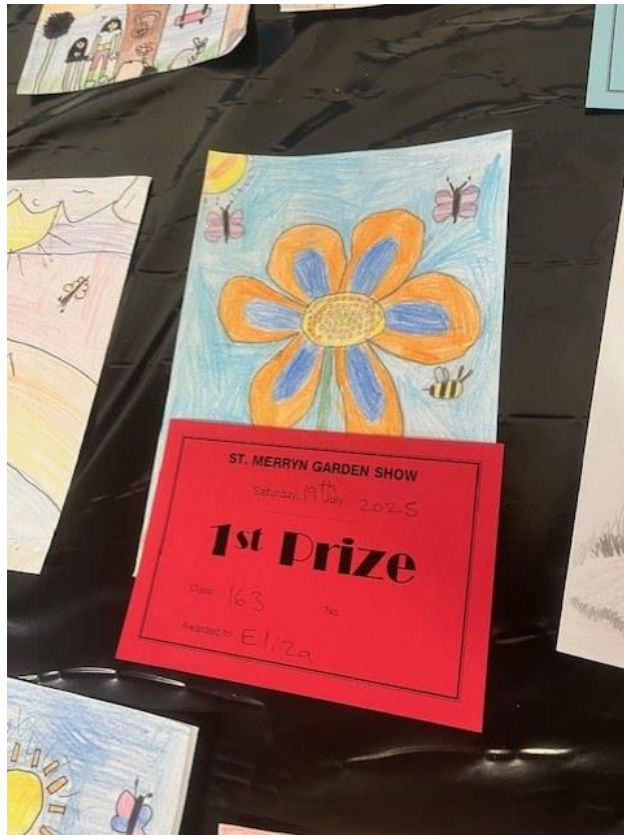
Thank you to the families who made entries from home. There was lots of prizes around.

A big thank you to the St Merryn Garden Society for inviting our children to take part and for giving them the opportunity to share their talents in such a special event.









Attendance at St Merryn School

Every School Day Counts

We all want the best for our children, and one simple way to support their learning and wellbeing is through regular attendance. Research shows that pupils who attend school more than 95% of the time tend to achieve significantly better outcomes in both primary and secondary school—even missing just a few extra days can make a difference.

By establishing consistent routines, keeping open communication with our school, and seeking support early if needed, we can help our children thrive. Together, we can give every child the best possible start in life through strong, regular attendance

Below is a useful reminder of current legislation regarding penalty notices for unauthorised absence from school.

A National Framework for Penalty Notices for school absence, including unauthorised holiday absence, has been introduced following changes to the law. These Government regulations came into effect from 19 August 2024 and now affect when penalty notices are issued in Cornwall.

What are the changes?

1. There is now a new national threshold of 10 unauthorised sessions for any reason (equivalent to 5 school days) within a rolling 10 school week period, at which point a penalty notice must be considered.
1. You can no longer take your child out of school for one week's holiday without the consideration of a penalty notice being issued.
1. The penalty fine is now £80 if paid within 21 days. If the fine is not paid within the first 21 days, it rises to £160 if paid within 28 days of being issued.
1. If a second penalty fine is issued to the same parent for the same child within a 3-year rolling period, the fine automatically rises to £160 with no option to pay the lower rate of £80.
1. If a parent commits a third offence in a 3-year rolling period, the local authority must consider other enforcement options available to them. This may include prosecution.

Please see the FAQs below for more information about how the new rules affect you.

FAQs

Who can be issued with a penalty notice?

Each parent can receive a fine for each child who has unauthorised absence from school.

In education law, anyone who lives with a child and has day-to-day care of the child is considered a parent, whether they are the biological parent or not. This includes step-parents and partners.

Do the rules only apply to holidays during term time?

No. They apply to all unauthorised absence from school, including holidays. Unauthorised absence also includes other absence that has not been agreed, such as truancy, arriving late after the register has closed, and failing to provide reasons for absence.

How do I request leave for my child during term time?

You must submit an Exceptional Circumstances / Absence Request form before the proposed absence (see your school's policy for the required notice period). The Head Teacher decides whether there are exceptional circumstances that allow them to grant the time off. Do not assume the absence is granted until you receive written confirmation from the school.

Do the 10 sessions of unauthorised absence have to be taken all at the same time before a penalty fine is issued?

No. A penalty fine can be issued for any combination of unauthorised absences over a 10-week rolling period. They may be consecutive or non-consecutive and may span across two terms (including between academic years).

What happens if I am issued with a penalty fine and I don't pay it?

Unauthorised absence from school is an offence under S444 of the Education Act 1996. A penalty fine gives you the opportunity to settle out of court. If you do not pay, you can be prosecuted for failing to ensure your child's regular attendance.

What should I do if I am worried about my child's attendance?

You should contact your child's school (Mrs King) and ask for advice on how they can support you to improve the situation.

School Uniform

Below is a brief reminder of our school uniform expectations. Please can you support your child by ensuring they are in the correct uniform every day.

Our policy is based on the notion that a school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school

- engenders a feeling of community and belonging
- is practical and smart
- identifies the children with the school
- is not distracting in class
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents
- has been designed with health and safety in mind

School Uniform:

- Red school jumper, a red cardigan or red school fleece (available from the school office)
- White polo shirt
- Suitable outdoor coat or anorak
- During the summer months, please ensure your child attends school with a suitable summer hat. It is recommended, to avoid sunstroke, that they wear one with a back neck cover.
- Jewellery and visible body piercing are not permitted in school for reasons of loss, damage and safety. One pair of earrings, which are small studs and a wristwatch, may be worn.
- We ask that all hair that can be, is appropriately tied back and natural looking (no extreme colours or styles). We ask that novelty hair accessories are kept for non-school uniform days and all headbands are flat and in the school colours (black, red or white please).
- No make up is allowed in school.
- No skinny trousers or black jeans may be worn
- Footwear - Black sensible functional shoes - No flashing lights. All black shoes/boots or all black trainers with black laces and soles (toes must be covered for health and safety reasons)
- Socks/tights must be plain and black, grey or white in colour (red tights are also permissible)
- Black or grey trousers/culottes/skirts/dresses/shorts (just above the knee)

- Red/white summer dresses (just above the knee)

All children may wear their school PE kit on for the whole day when they have a PE lesson or an after school PE club.

- The school black PE shirt (available from the school office) or a plain white t-shirt
- A pair of black shorts and, during the winter months all black trousers/tracksuit bottoms can be worn
- A pair of trainers (not plimsolls)

Pre-loved quality uniform is available to parents via the office and every Friday via our FOSMS pre-loved uniform shop.

Do you have a child for a place in reception class of 2026?




The deadline for applications is 15 January 2026

Do you have a child born **between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022?**

If so, you will need to apply for a place in a reception class in September 2026 for your child by the deadline of **15 January 2026**.





Please note: you will need to apply even if your child attends a school's nursery or pre-school class. If a school is oversubscribed the fact that a child attends a school's nursery or pre-school, or a local nursery or pre-school, does not automatically guarantee a place at that school. The school's oversubscription criteria will be used to allocate places. Visit our website or contact us for more information.

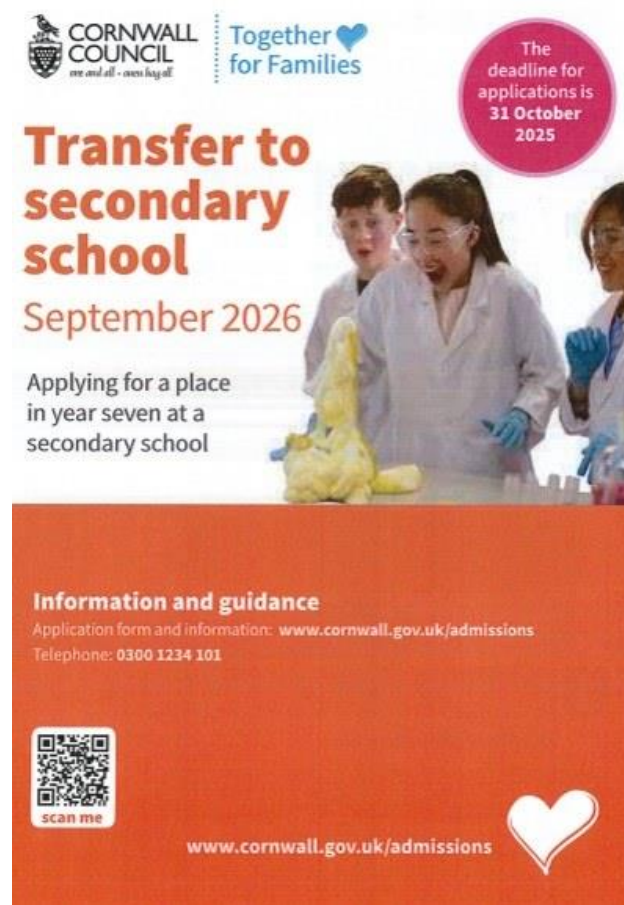
Visit www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions for more information and to access the online application system.




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Photo credit: Cornwall Council, Adam Black, Christopher Smith

Or secondary school in 2026?



The poster is for Cornwall Council's 'Transfer to secondary school' campaign. It features the Cornwall Council logo and the slogan 'Together for Families' at the top. A pink circular badge in the top right corner states 'The deadline for applications is 31 October 2025'. The main title 'Transfer to secondary school' is in large orange letters, with 'September 2026' below it. A photograph of three children in lab coats is on the right. The text 'Applying for a place in year seven at a secondary school' is on the left. The bottom section is orange and contains 'Information and guidance', the website 'www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions', the phone number '0300 1234 101', a QR code labeled 'scan me', and a white heart icon.

CORNWALL COUNCIL Together for Families

Transfer to secondary school
September 2026

Applying for a place in year seven at a secondary school

Information and guidance
Application form and information: www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions
Telephone: 0300 1234 101

scan me

www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions

If you have any **Safeguarding Concerns**, here are some important contacts for you to use.

The Multi Agency Referral Unit¹ (MARU) is a service in Cornwall that provides support and advice to families and professionals regarding the welfare and safety of children. MARU acts as a central point of contact for concerns about children and young people, helping to connect them with the most appropriate services. Key functions of MARU:

- **Referral and Assessment:** MARU receives referrals about children who may be at risk and can initiate assessments to determine the appropriate level of support.

¹https://www.google.com/search?safe=active&cs=0&sca_esv=f76fe1cd3d1e0b31&q=Multi+Agency+Referral+Unit&sa=X&ved=2ahUKewjW0ZyO8bGOAxUOQEEAHT-yJZUQxccNegQIAhAB&mstk=AUtExfDRQ7TOos5Nmc4xbQacZg2J4P0VR6BM3tX8Oq9Dlrz0YnVcpfvhQRPNGFhng4e-Mfus2prDxiDA74A4FcpG9XAOZXfb9ZA8YSHKIX3KZpT9am5Tdkmdo5LguL73mM0WpPc&csui=3

- **Multi-Agency Collaboration:** MARU works with various agencies, including social services, health professionals, and educational institutions, to ensure a coordinated response.
- **Signposting and Advice:** MARU provides information and guidance to families and professionals on how to access relevant support services, including Early Help services.
- **Early Help:** MARU may refer families to the Early Help Hub², which offers a range of support services to address identified needs and prevent escalation to more serious interventions.

When to contact MARU:

- **Concerns about a child's safety or well-being:** If you are worried about a child's safety or have concerns about their welfare, you can contact MARU.
- **Seeking advice about child protection:** Professionals can contact MARU for advice on how to respond to specific situations or to discuss whether a referral to children's social care is necessary.

Contact information:

- **Telephone:** 0300 123 1116
- **Email:** multiagencyreferralunit@cornwall.gov.uk according to Cornwall Council³
- **Location:** Cornwall Council

Important Note: If a child is in immediate danger, contact the police on 999.

²https://www.google.com/search?safe=active&cs=0&sca_esv=f76fe1cd3d1e0b31&q=Early+Help+Hub&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjW0ZyO8bGOAxUOQEEAHT-yJZUQxccNegQIGBAB&mstk=AUTExfDRQ7TOos5Nmc4xbQacZg2J4P0VR6BM3tX8Oq9Dlrz0YnVcpfvhQRPnGFhng4e-Mfus2prDxiDA74A4FcpG9XAOZXfb9ZA8YSHKIX3KZpT9am5Tdkmdo5LguL73mM0WpPc&csui=3

³<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/childrens-services/child-protection-and-safeguarding/>

Inclusion Information



NHS
Cornwall Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM - MHST

Parents and Carers -
please join us at our
1hr online
Behaviour Workshop

Monday 22 September - 9.30am & 1pm
Tuesday 23 September - 11am & 4pm
Wednesday 24 September - 9.30am & 1pm
Thursday 25 September - 10.00am & 4pm

This workshop provides parents with
practical strategies to foster positive
behaviour and communication at
home.

To book a place please complete
the online form
<https://forms.office.com/e/gA2jNGbZ4F> or scan the QR code

This workshop is open to parents/carers of
school aged children enrolled in Reception
to Year 7 in any school in Cornwall

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM - MHST NHS Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

Parents and Carers - please join us at our 1hr online Resilience Workshop

Monday 15 September - 9.30am & 1pm
Tuesday 16 September - 10am & 4pm
Wednesday 17 September - 11am & 1pm
Thursday 18 September - 9.30am & 4pm

This workshops aims to talk about the meaning of resilience, explore building resilience and look at how and when a young person should ask for help.

To book a place please complete the online form
<https://forms.office.com/e/260T74xF2y> or scan the QR code

This workshop is open to parents/carers of school aged children enrolled in Reception to Year 7 in any school in Cornwall

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM - MHST NHS Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

Parents and Carers - please join us at our 1hr online Worry Workshop

Monday 8 September - 9:30am & 1pm
Tuesday 9 September - 10am & 4pm
Wednesday 10 September - 9:30am & 1pm
Thursday 11 September - 11am & 4pm

This workshop aims to provide psychoeducation on "What is worry?" and "Why does my child worry?" Also includes practical strategies for helping children manage their worries.

To book a place please complete the online form <https://forms.office.com/e/hkyaFeuY1Z> or scan the QR code

This workshop is open to parents/carers of school aged children enrolled in Reception to Year 7 in any school in Cornwall

NHS
Cornwall Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM - MHST

Parents and Carers -
please join us at our
1hr online
Sleep Workshop

Monday 29 September - 11am & 4pm
Tuesday 30 September - 9.30am & 1pm
Wednesday 1 October - 9.30am & 1pm
Thursday 2 October - 10am & 4pm

This workshop aims to provide
psychoeducation on sleep hygiene
and sleep routines. Also includes
practical strategies for helping
children

To book a place please complete
the online form
<https://forms.office.com/e/6cJiu8PArV> or scan the QR code

This workshop is open to parents/carers of
school aged children enrolled in Reception
to Year 7 in any school in Cornwall

Community Events...



ST MERRY CHURCH

Harvest

FESTIVAL

11.15AM SUNDAY
14TH SEPTEMBER

Donations for our local FOOD BANK

ITEMS CURRENTLY IN NEED - LONG-LIFE MILK & FRUIT JUICE
SOUP - SPAGHETTI - TINNED CUSTARD - SHAMPOO
KITCHEN/BATHROOM CLEANER

**DONATIONS WILL BE PLACED AT THE ALTAR
AND RECEIVE A BLESSING DURING THE SERVICE**

CHILDREN WELCOME DOG FRIENDLY

FREE PARKING PL28 8ND



ST MERRYN CHURCH

Service Every Sunday at 11.15am

July 2025

6th	Morning Worship	Trinity 3
13th	Holy Communion SEA SUNDAY Service	Trinity 4
20th	Morning Worship	Trinity 5
27th	Songs of Praise	Trinity 6

August 2025

3rd	Morning Worship	Trinity 7
10th	Holy Communion	Trinity 8
17th	Morning Worship	Trinity 9
24th	Songs of Praise	Trinity 10
31st	Morning Worship PET SERVICE 🐾	Trinity 11

September 2025

7th	Morning Worship	Trinity 12
14th	Holy Communion HARVEST FESTIVAL	Trinity 13
21st	Morning Worship	Trinity 14
28th	Songs of Praise	Trinity 15

*Everyone Welcome - All Services are Family friendly
Services followed with refreshments - Dogs are welcome
Free Car Park PL28 8ND*

Churchwarden: Elizabeth Bennett 07714075039



Additional Information



WALK FOR MENTAL HEALTH
WALK FOR TERMINAL ILLNESS
WALK FOR HOPE

Raise money to support families affected by mental health
and families affected by the terminal illness of a parent

Sunday September 7th
11am Start
Tehidy Country Park, Camborne, TR14 0TS

Adults £6 plus one child free
Additional Children £3 Each
Prizes for the highest sponsorship and best fancy dress!



Register Today: <https://www.givengain.com/event/steps-for-hope>

MONTHLY DROP-INS

AT

St Austell Library

Third Friday of every
month 10am to 12pm.

Refreshments provided.

Open to families looking
for support or anyone
wishing to find out more
about our services.

For families with children
when a parent/carer has
a terminal illness

gunnerskids.org



gunners kids



SilverCloud


Cornwall Partnership
MHS Foundation Trust

Interactive cognitive behavioural
therapy (CBT) programmes to help
support and make you feel better

SilverCloud offers a number of
programmes including:

- Supporting an Anxious Child
- Supporting an Anxious Teen
- Supporting a Child with ADHD



For more information and to sign up please use the
link below:

<https://cornwallcyp.silvercloudhealth.com/signup/>

Dates for the Diary



September

Mon 15th – Clubs start this week

Thurs 18th – School Photos

Mon 22nd – Reception Parent meeting 9:00 – Phonics Focus

October

Fri 3rd – Harvest Festival Church Service 2:15

Thurs 23rd – Year 6 Exploding Words Festival

HALFTERM Monday 27th-Friday 31st

November

Mon 3rd - Inset Day (school closed)

Tues 4th – Children return to school

Wed 5th – Family Dining (Robins)

Mon 10th – Parent Consultations

Tues 11th – Parent Consultations

Wed 12th – Parent Consultations

Wed 12th - Family Dining (Wagtails)

Wed 19th - Family Dining (Starlings)

Wed 26th – Family Dining (Kestrels & Barn Owls)

December

Mon 1st – Nursery/Reception/Year 1/Year 2 Afternoon Christmas Performance

Tues 2nd - Nursery/Reception/Year 1/Year 2 Evening Christmas Performance

Wed 3rd - Nursery/Reception/Year 1/Year 2 Evening Christmas Performance

Fri 5th – Padstow Lantern Parade (All welcome)

Tues 9th – KS2 Christmas Performance

Wed 10th – KS2 Christmas Performance

Thurs 11th – KS2 Christmas Performance

Tues 16th – Panto trip to the Hall for Cornwall (Reception – Year 6) *Nursery will have a separate 'Christmas experience'*

Wed 17th – Christmas Lunch Day

Thurs 18th – Christmas Party Day

Fri 19th – Christmas Church Service

Fri 19th – Last Day of term



School Terms and Holidays 2025/26

St Merryn School

September 2025				October 2025				November 2025									
Mon	1	8	15	22	29	Mon	6	13	20	27	Mon	3	10	17	24		
Tue	2	9	16	23	30	Tue	7	14	21	28	Tue	4	11	18	25		
Wed	3	10	17	24		Wed	1	8	15	22	29	Wed	5	12	19	26	
Thu	4	11	18	25		Thu	2	9	16	23	30	Thu	6	13	20	27	
Fri	5	12	19	26		Fri	3	10	17	24	31	Fri	7	14	21	28	
Sat	6	13	20	27		Sat	4	11	18	25		Sat	1	8	15	22	29
Sun	7	14	21	28		Sun	5	12	19	26		Sun	2	9	16	23	30
December 2025				January 2026				February 2026									
Mon	1	8	15	22	29	Mon	5	12	19	26	Mon	2	9	16	23		
Tue	2	9	16	23	30	Tue	6	13	20	27	Tue	3	10	17	24		
Wed	3	10	17	24	31	Wed	7	14	21	28	Wed	4	11	18	25		
Thu	4	11	18	25		Thu	1	8	15	22	29	Thu	5	12	19	26	
Fri	5	12	19	26		Fri	2	9	16	23	30	Fri	6	13	20	27	
Sat	6	13	20	27		Sat	3	10	17	24	31	Sat	7	14	21	28	
Sun	7	14	21	28		Sun	4	11	18	25		Sun	1	8	15	22	
March 2026				April 2026				May 2026									
Mon	2	9	16	23	30	Mon	5	13	20	27	Mon	4	11	18	25		
Tue	3	10	17	24	31	Tue	6	13	21	28	Tue	5	12	19	26		
Wed	4	11	18	25		Wed	1	8	15	22	29	Wed	6	13	20	27	
Thu	5	12	19	26		Thu	2	9	16	23	30	Thu	7	14	21	28	
Fri	6	13	20	27		Fri	3	10	17	24	31	Fri	1	8	15	22	29
Sat	7	14	21	28		Sat	4	11	18	25		Sat	2	9	16	23	30
Sun	1	8	15	22	29	Sun	5	12	19	26		Sun	3	10	17	24	31
June 2026				July 2026				August 2026									
Mon	1	8	15	22	29	Mon	6	13	20	27	Mon	3	10	17	24	31	
Tue	2	9	16	23	30	Tue	7	14	21	28	Tue	4	11	18	25		
Wed	3	10	17	24		Wed	1	8	15	22	29	Wed	5	12	19	26	
Thu	4	11	18	25		Thu	2	9	16	23	30	Thu	6	13	20	27	
Fri	5	12	19	26		Fri	3	10	17	24	31	Fri	7	14	21	28	
Sat	6	13	20	27		Sat	4	11	18	25		Sat	1	8	15	22	29
Sun	7	14	21	28		Sun	5	12	19	26		Sun	2	9	16	23	30
Key:				Term dates summary:													
<div><div></div>School Holiday</div>				Autumn Term (74 days)													
<div><div></div>Bank Holiday</div>				2nd September 2025 - 19th December 2025 (Half term: 27th-31st October 2025)													
<div><div></div>INSET Day</div>				Spring Term (59 days)													
<div><div></div>School open</div>				5th January 2026 - 2nd April 2026 (Half term: 16th - 20th February 2026)													
				Summer Term (62 days)													
				20th April 2026 - 22nd July 2026 (Half term: 25th-29th May 2026)													
Bank and Public Holidays 2025/26																	
Christmas Day	25th December 2025			Easter Monday			6th April 2026										
Boxing Day	26th December 2025			May Bank Holiday			4th May 2026										
New Years Day	1st January 2026			Spring Bank Holiday			25th May 2026										
Good Friday	3rd April 2026			Summer Bank Holiday			31st August 2026										