

# February Newsletter 2025

The start of the Spring term has been filled with energy and enthusiasm, with so much already happening across the school. Despite the winter chill, our children have been embracing their weekly **Outside Tribe lessons**, and our Poly tunnel is thriving with fresh vegetables—some of which we've even been able to sell! A huge thank you to the **St Merryn Gardening Society** for their generous donations of plants, seeds, and funds to help us expand our gardening projects.

Behind the scenes, we are busy planning for an action-packed summer term, including our **residential programme, Sports Day, Arts Week**, and the **ever-popular Community Night**. We are also thrilled to confirm the return of our **Surf Weeks** for Year 5 and Year 6—always a highlight of the school year!

### Swimming Success!

Our Wagtails class will soon be wrapping up their swimming lessons this half term, and we couldn't be prouder of their progress! Each child has shown fantastic determination and confidence in the water, achieving so much along the way. A huge thank you to our wonderful parent helpers who have supported the sessions each week—it truly makes a difference.

As we look ahead to the next half term, it will be the turn of our Robins class to dive into their swimming lessons. We are excited to see them take to the water, build their skills, and grow in confidence. Happy swimming, Robins!

### **Staffing Updates**

We would like to offer a warm welcome to Mrs Nelson-Pratt, who has joined our team as a 1:1 Teaching Assistant. She will be working across the Reception and KS1 team, and we are delighted to have her on board.

As we look ahead to February half-term, we will be saying goodbye to Miss East, who will be beginning her maternity leave. This cohort has experienced several changes to the teaching team over a relatively short period of time due to circumstances beyond our control. However, we are pleased to share that Mrs Lewis will be covering the maternity leave. Being well-known to both the school and the children, her presence will ensure a smooth and supportive transition.

Mrs Bateman continues to be on long-term sick leave, but we are pleased to share that her treatment is progressing well. She has remained in close contact with the school, regularly visiting the children, and we look forward to welcoming her back following her full recovery. We all send her our very best wishes.

In the meantime, Mrs Golay continues in her role as SENCO, ensuring ongoing support for our pupils.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

We have lots of exciting plans for the Spring and Summer term...some of the dates are already below so you can pop them in the diary!

As always, thank you for your ongoing support. We look forward to another fantastic term ahead!

Mrs King

# Sporting News



### **KS2 Swimming Festival**

This month, some of our KS2 pupils were invited to take part in a swimming festival at Wadebridge Sports and Leisure Centre. They competed in individual events (freestyle, breaststroke and backstroke) as well as team relays, swimming against children from other schools in the Wadebridge area. Being a small school, we didn't have quite enough pupils to take part in the Year 5 and 6 relays, and so some of our Year 4 children did additional races so that their team mates could still take part. The morning finished with the most amazing fun swim. Every child who took part said that they would love to do so again. Well done to Ethan, Bailey, Elsie, Harley, Ivy, Martha, Michael, Sandy and Olivia.

### **KS2 Cross country**

Race number two of the season took place a few weeks ago on a chilly afternoon in January. This time, an extra field was added, making the route even longer. We had another

great turn out and once again a fantastic display of courage and resilience shown from all of our pupils.

The Year 5 boys and girls race saw Bailey and Elsie finishing in 39th and 31st place overall. Well done girls!

The Year 4 boys and girls race saw 109 pupils from different schools taking part. For the girls, Olivia came 49th, Matilda 41st, Indi 39th and Ivy 17th. For the boys, Noah finished in 86th place, Oscar in 53rd, Harley 26th and Jack was 11th. Another thrilling finish saw Sandy take 3rd place and Albi again secured the 1st place position. A huge well done to everyone who took part.

### Netball Stars!

We are incredibly proud of the following children for representing our school in the recent **netball tournament**:

Solly, Audrea, Ezme, Sienna, Sophia, Jack, Harry, Stanley, Amber, Noa and Fraser

Not only did they show fantastic teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship, but they also **won both of their games!** (b) **W** 

An amazing achievement—well done to you all! We are so proud! 🌑

### Surf Week - June 2025

Our Year 5 and Year 6 children are incredibly lucky to be taking part in a week of surfing, with Waves Surf School. The children will have 4 days of professional surf tuition from Bev and Windy, which includes the hire of all boards and wetsuits. What a unique and special experience for our young people

### Dates for the sports calendar:

Monday 10th March – KS2 Cross-country running event

Wednesday 3rd April – Year 3 and 4 Girl's Football Festival

Mrs Cooper









# Talents outside of school...

We love celebrating our children's amazing talents—not just in school, but outside of school too! It's always wonderful to hear about their achievements and the dedication they show in their activities.

A huge well done to **Ezme** for her fantastic progress in swimming! During her last **Cornwall Interclub competition**, she achieved a **silver medal in front crawl** and helped her team secure **silver overall**—what an incredible achievement!

Well done, Ezme—we are all so proud of you! 🏂 🍟



## Year 3 Space Camp

We are very excited to let you know that the Year 3 children will have the opportunity to take part in a '**Space Camp' on Thursday 6th and Friday 7th March.** This is a wonderful opportunity for our children to be immersed in space themed science activities for two school days and return in the evening of **6th March** to have an evening-only 'camp'. We will set up tents in the hall, and the children will do a carousel of more space activities, including star-gazing with fantastic telescopes, and a presentation and star-gazing tips from the Astronomical Society. The evening will end with a space picnic and a space themed movie!

Mrs Cooper - Science Lead



### **FOSMS News**

### **FOSMS** News

We hope everyone enjoyed the Krispy Kreme doughnuts on Friday, once again we fully sold out which was amazing and hopefully with the pre selling everyone got one!

**Christmas activities**: we raised **£2045.57** once again thank you to everyone who supported the various events.

**Cash For Kids** we are really pleased to announce we came second and will be receiving **£2000** which is amazing news.

Asda Cashpot for schools we have just found out we will be receiving £134.88.

Overall a fantastic start to the school year of fundraising.

### Keeping up to date:

We have got lots planned for the coming months, please sign up to our facebook group and keep an eye on the blackboard for the latest information.

### **Big Breakfast is back!**

**Friday 14th February** enjoy a **lov**ely breakfast to start the day. We are really pleased to announce with the generous donations we are able to keep the price the same as last year. Keep an eye in the school bags for the sign up form, to make it easier we are excepting cash or card payments this year.

### Scrumdiddlyumptious

To celebrate world book day we will be holding a very special tuck shop where you will have the chance to find golden tickets and win lots of prizes. More details to follow.

### Spring Clean DIY SOS

Save the date: **Saturday 29th March 1-5pm**. We have purchased lots of outdoor items over the last year with more items coming soon too. With the summer approaching we are opening the school gate to the community and hoping for an army of parents, grandparents, friends etc. to help out with some odd jobs around the school grounds.

Examples of jobs, painting, building, creating a calm mindful space, gardening. There will be a full list of jobs on the blackboard, where you can sign up for a specific job or as a general helper. Even if you can only spare an hour it will all help. Many hands make light work, would be really great to see lots of people.

### Meeting

Our next meeting is Monday 10th February everyone is welcome.

**Diary Dates** 

February:

Monday 10th: Monthly meeting

Friday 14th: Big Breakfast

March:

Wednesday 5th: World Book Day special tuck shop

Saturday 29th: DIY SOS Spring Clean





# Early Years Updates

Applications for the new September intake into Reception have now closed. If you do have any family members that have missed the deadline, please contact the office or visit the Cornwall Council website.

Apply to start school or transfer to junior, secondary or KS4 school in September 2025 - Cornwall Council<sup>1</sup>

### Promoting independence in our youngest learners

In our Nursery and Reception classes, we believe that taking care of ourselves is one of the most important things a child can learn. Self care skills help children develop independence and build

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confidence as they learn to manage daily tasks. It is amazing to see how much progress our children have made even since Christmas time.

Encouraging your child to do things independently and have fun being 'grown up' will really help their friendships and self confidence but also their learning skills for school.

Simple activities like brushing their teeth, dressing themselves, or washing their hands may seem small but being able to do it will really help your child grow in self confidence.

If you have any questions or need tips on supporting your child's self-care journey, don't hesitate to reach out!

Mrs Muller



### Nursery



Nursery have had a wonderfully busy term exploring our theme, 'Animals in Our World,' and celebrating Chinese New Year. The children have been thriving in our Talk for Writing sessions, where they learn and retell oral stories with confidence. *The Enormous Turnip* has been a particular favourite, sparking lots of enthusiasm and engagement!

Looking ahead, next term promises to be just as exciting! Our new theme, **'Transport on Earth and in Space,'** is sure to take us on an incredible journey of discovery. We're also looking forward to celebrating **St. David's Day** together.

Nursery Team





# Outdoor Learning

Despite the stormy weather, our children have been embracing the outdoors and making the most of their learning experiences. Robins have been linking their outdoor activities to important life skills, such as perseverance when faced with challenges and teamwork to achieve shared goals. Wagtails have been exploring the woodland while learning about famous explorers and their adventures.

Starlings have been focusing on team-building challenges in the woodland as part of their Jigsaw learning, strengthening their collaboration and problem-solving skills. Meanwhile, Barn Owls and Kestrels have been honing their creativity by working with willow to build structures and sculptures, developing new techniques along the way.

Unless the winds are too strong, we will continue to enjoy the outdoors—rain or shine! Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing and footwear, as our woodland remains very soggy!





# Reading for Pleasure



This year we will be celebrating **World Book Day on 5th March**, we will be celebrating all things Roald Dahl as the theme.

Looking for book recommendations for children who have been hooked by a particular series or author and are ready to branch out?

**Books For Topics** are passionate about helping readers of all ages discover new children's books and authors they will love. There are so many fantastic books and authors out there that it can be difficult to know where to start looking for a new book to read, especially if you love the series you've just finished.

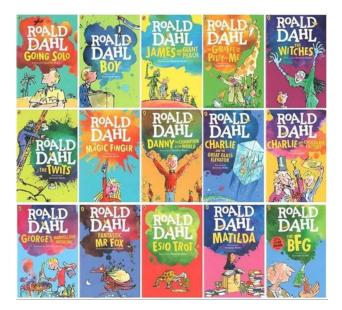
Books For Topics offer branching out booklists and posters that are designed to help **readers of all ages** find their next favourite read that are similar to the books and authors they love.

Best children's books - Branching Out Booklists & Posters<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup><u>https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.booksfortopics.com%2Fbooklists%2F</u> <u>branching-</u>

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#### Miss East



### Art Competition

We know at St Merryn we have many brilliant artists amongst us, we would love to see our pupils show off their artistic talents and have the opportunity to enter and have their work exhibited in **The Royal Academy of Arts Young Artists' Summer Show**. The Young Artists' Summer Show is an exciting, free, open submission exhibition for young artists aged 4–18 years studying in the UK. St Merryn have been registered and are ready to submit submissions!

For more information see Young Artists' Summer Show | Royal Academy<sup>3</sup> or ask your teachers.

Miss East

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<sup>3</sup>https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fyoungartists.royalacademy.org.uk%2Fgetinvolved&data=05|02|kking%40kernowlearning.co.uk|a2745179d2cd483504db08dd43bca742|4069dd172dda443 48f72fc516948a319|0|0|638741199755980945|Unknown|TWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIIYiOilwL jAuMDAwMClsIIAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D|0|||&sdata=TFwehjR4auCTLg%2FI%2BHV87 4ZvaWKqACiG6Nkfba76BcY%3D&reserved=0



Safeguarding - Safer Internet Day 2025



Safer Internet Day 2025 will take place on the 11th of February 2025, with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online' .Safer Internet Day is the UK's biggest celebration of online safety. Each year it

covers an online issue or theme that speaks about the things young people are seeing and experiencing online. Created in consultation with young people across the UK, this year Safer Internet Day will be focusing on the issue of scams online and for young people, how to protect themselves and others, as well as what support is available to them.

During this day, we will have an internet safety focus at school. We will collaborate our thinking around this theme in a whole school assembly and each class will take part in some activities including how might it feel for somebody to be scammed, three signs to look out for if somebody thinks they're being scammed and how to protect online profiles for scammers.

Miss Redman

# Inclusion - Early Help

### What is the 'Early Help HUB' and how can you access support?

The Early Help Hub is the 'front door' to Early Help services led by Cornwall Council and Cornwall Foundation Trust for Children and young people who are aged pre-birth to 18. If a young person has a special educational need or disability, who have a need for early help care and support, this is extended up to age 25.

### What services do they offer?

As the front door for services for children and young people in Cornwall, Professionals can request early help via an Early Help Request Form which is accessed online, Parents can also submit a request through the parent portal.

### Parents and/or professionals can request:

- Child and Adolescent Mental Health
- Early Support Supporting Change in Partnership (SCIP)
- Early Years Service
- Family Support
- Health Visiting
- Parenting Support
- Portage
- School Nursing
- Targeted Youth Support (13 years of age and above)

How do you contact the 'Early Health HUB'?

Tel: 01872 322277

Email earlyhelphub@cornwall.gov.uk<sup>4</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>mailto:earlyhelphub@cornwall.gov.uk

## Additional Information

# TREVOSE JUNIOR GOLF FOUNDATION



### SUNDAY 9TH, 16TH AND 23RD MARCH

INCLUDES: THREE DAYS OF COACHING 14.00 - 15.00 COST: FREE MAKE MEMORIES WITH TREVOSE

TRY GOLF FOR FREE IN OUR NEW TASTER SESSIONS CONTACT GEMMA TO BOOK YOUR PLACE.

EMAIL GMARSLAND@TREVOSE-GC.CO.UK





# Dates for the Diary



### February

Tuesday 11th - Safer Internet Day

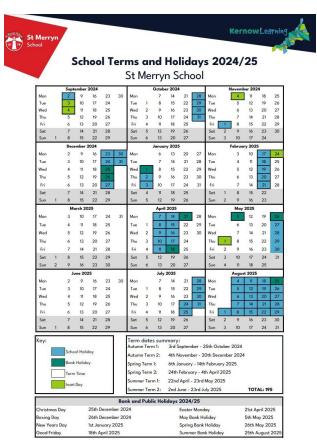
Friday 14th - FOSMS meeting (2:00pm at school)

HALF TERM - Mon 17th - Friday 21st Monday 24th - Inset Day Tuesday 25th - Children return to school March Wednesday 5th - World Book Day - Dress as your favourite Roald Dahl character Thursday 6th & Friday 7th - Space Camp for Year 3 April Friday 4th - Last Day of term, Church service 2:15pm Wednesday 23rd- Friday 25th - Year 5 PGL Residential May Thursday 1st - Inset Day (school closed) Monday 12th - Thursday 15th - Year 6 SATs week Monday 19th - Friday 23rd - Year 3 and Year 4 Swimming Week HALF TERM Monday 26th - Friday 30th June Tuesday 3rd - Sports Day 9:15am-12:00pm Wednesday 4th - Reserve Sports Day Thursday 5th - Friday 6th - Year 4 Residential Wk beg 9th - Year 5 Surf Week Wk beg 16th - Year 6 Surf Week Thursday 26th - Year 5 Junior Life Skills trip July Wednesday 2nd - Friday 4th July - Year 6 London Residential Wk beg Mon 7th: Arts Week Monday 14th - Reports out to parents Tuesday 15th - Parent Consultations

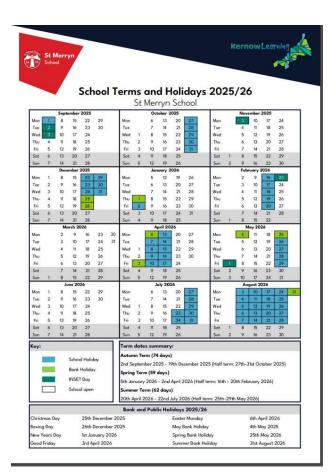
Wednesday 16th - Parent Consultations

Friday 18th - Arts/Community Night

Wednesday 23rd - Year 6 Leavers Assembly 2:00pm



1 - Term Dates 2024-2025



2 - Term Dates 2025-2026