

Newsletter



Everyone matters, everyone succeeds, every moment counts.

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Dear parents and carers,

Christmas has officially begun at St Dennis this week! Children have been busy creating festive crafts in art lessons for our Christmas Fayre. Children have enjoyed a magical visit to Santa and Mrs Christmas, who gifted books to take home and today's FOSDA Christmas Fayre is a festive way to end the week!

Full details of upcoming Christmas performances from across the whole school are included in this newsletter.

A reminder for next week - Wednesday is Christmas lunch and Christmas Jumper Day!

Hope you have a great weekend.

Mrs Cathy Brokenshire (Headteacher)

St Dennis Stars



All St Dennis Stars were awarded for **responsibility** this week, which is one of our core values.



Nursery	Freddie	Year 3	Jakob
Reception	Beau	Year 4	Effy
Year 1	George	Year 5	Tyler
Year 2	Ayla	Year 6	Lois



Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day

Next Wednesday, 10th December, is Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day. Please book on Arbor if you haven't yet.

Children can wear their usual uniform with a Christmas jumper if they would like to.



We are looking forward to...

Week beginning: Monday 8th December

Nursery	As artists, we are looking forward to making Christmas crafts.
Reception	As musicians, we are looking forward to learning our songs for our Nativity Singalong.
Year 1	As historians, we are looking forward to comparing toys and technology used in the past to modern times.
Year 2	As mathematicians, we are looking forward to learning about 2D and 3D shapes.
Year 3	As historians, we are looking forward to learning about Roman inventions.
Year 4	As scientists, we are looking forward to beginning our non-fiction writing about the digestive system.
Year 5	We are looking forward to singing to the over 70's on Friday.
Year 6	As designers, we are looking forward to designing and making a Christmas stocking.
The Nest	We are looking forward to our workshop with Kathryn from Cornwall Wildlife Trust,

Attendance

Attendance for this year is now **94%**
This week, the class with the winning attendance is **Year 3**



Reception	86.8%
Year 1	96.2%
Year 2	94.8%
Year 3	96.8%
Year 4	92.1%
Year 5	95.3%
Year 6	95.3%

They will have Denys visit and stay with them in class for the week.

Growth Mindset Awards

Our Growth Mindset certificates were awarded to Evie, Len, Elia, Lexie N, Jax, Archie and Ethan.



These awards celebrate children who have continued to believe in themselves and be resilient when something has been tricky! It's knowing that they can't do it... yet!

Lunchtime Awards

George, Alba and Ellis received Lunchtime Awards this week for being polite, using good manners and showing responsibility.



Key Dates - Autumn Term 2

- 08.12.25 Year 5 visit to Brannel - Matilda
- 09.12.25 14:30 Rocksteady Performance
- 10.12.25 Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
- 12.12.25 Over 70s lunch - Y5
- 15.12.25 1500 Nursery - Songs and mince pies
- 16.12.25 14:00 Reception Nativity
- 17.12.25 KS2 Carol Service Rehearsal at St Denys Church
14:00 Key Stage 1 Nativity
- 18.12.25 14:00 Key Stage 1 Nativity
- 19.12.25 1000 Key Stage 2 Carol Service at St Denys Church
Special Golden Time - Silent Disco
Special Attendance Assembly
1330 Finish



Christmas Performances



On **Monday 15th December**, **Nursery** invite parents and carers to join them for songs and mince pies. No need to book, just come along to the Nursery Gate at 1500 to join in the fun!

On **Tuesday 16th December**, **Reception Class** invite parents and carers to their Nativity Singalong. To book tickets (up to 4) please scan the QR code.



On **Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th December**, **Key Stage 1** invite you to their performance of 'It's a Party!'. Please scan the QR code, to book tickets (up to 2 for each performance).


For both the Reception and Key Stage 1 performances, once you have booked tickets online, there's no need to wait for confirmation, please just come along at 14:00 to the top gate, for a 14:15 start.

Key Stage 2 warmly invite you to their Carol Concert on **Friday 19th December**. Please join us at St Denys Church from 09:30, for a 1000 start where we will sing carols with readings from Year 6.





NHS
Cornwall Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM - MHST



Please join us for our 5 week online
Parenting Intervention


- * Each session will take place online, weekly, beginning **Monday 5 January 2026** (10am or 6pm) with MHST practitioners.
- * The sessions are designed to give parents and carers a greater insight into their child's needs and how they can support them
- * Please sign up via the online form here:
<https://forms.office.com/e/nHpNgKgBhH>
or scan the QR code

Sign up closes 29/12/2025 at 5pm

Cornwall Youth Choirs presents

CYC VOICES



A **FREE** monthly singing club for children aged 7–11 in St Stephen, Foxhole, Nanpean, Bugle, Stenalees, Roche, St Dennis, Treviscoe, Whitemoor and nearby.

FREE Refreshments available for parents and singers

Join us on selected Saturdays for exciting, inclusive sessions full of songs, laughter, and friendship. No experience needed – just bring your voice and enthusiasm!


Run by Cornwall Youth Choirs, CYC Voices helps young singers discover their talent, build confidence, and enjoy the joy of music together.






This terms CYC Voices sessions will run on:

- Saturday 11th Oct @** Treviscoe Community Centre
- Saturday 8th Nov @** Treviscoe Community Centre
- Saturday 6th Dec @** Clay TAWC

All sessions run from 10am to 11.15am

To register, or for more details, contact:
kirsten@cornwallyouthchoirs.co.uk
07875269561



CYC Voices is kindly supported by: **CREATIVE KERNOW**   **Funded by UK Government**  **CORNWALL COUNCIL**  **Council of the ISLES OF SCILLY**  **GOOD GROWTH**



All are welcome to join us for our
CHRISTMAS SCRATCH NATIVITY AND CHRISTINGLE

Come and join us dressed as your favourite character from the story!

Always wanted to be Mary? Now is your chance. Fancy yourself to be an angel? Wear your finest tinsel halo!

14TH DECEMBER
10AM
St. Dennis Parish Church



Information Classification: PUBLIC

FAMILY COMMUNITY DROP-IN ST DENNIS FAMILY HUB

Come along and join us!

A friendly, welcoming space for Families to connect, chat and find support

-  **Tea, coffee & a warm welcome**
-  **Information, advice & local services**
-  **Meet other parents and carers in your community**



Tuesday 4th November 2025
1.30pm - 3.00pm

Tuesday 2nd December 2025
1.30pm - 3.00pm

ST DENNIS FAMILY HUB
CARNE HILL, ST DENNIS
PL26 8AY

Heating Advice & Grants, Children's Nurse, Community Maker, Healthy Cornwall, Family Benefits Advice, South West Water Care Team, NHS Talking Therapies, Children & Family Information

 **CORNWALL COUNCIL** *one and all - one and all*  **Together for Families**  www.cornwall.gov.uk

Please [click here](#) to go to our website where you can access the links within this newsletter.



Online Safety Newsletter

December 2025

AI Chatbots and companions

A simple search of "AI Chat" within the App store highlights the number of AI apps already available, many are rated as 18+ so it is important to speak to our children about them and the risks associated with them. Examples of AI chatbots that your child may have heard of are Character.AI (18+) and My AI from Snapchat (13+).

What are the risks?

- Over reliance on AI companions, for example they may replace 'real life' friendships or over reliance on using them for homework or problem solving.
- Exposure to inappropriate content.
- Privacy/data risks.
- Misinformation as not all information shared is correct and can be biased.

How can I protect my child?

- Check age ratings of any apps or websites that your child accesses.
- Discuss the risks of AI chatbots with them and have open conversations about why they may be using them.
- 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

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/newsroom/blogs/ai-chatbots-and-companions-risks-to-children-and-young-people>

New Technology

As some children may be receiving new technology or related games at Christmas, here is a quick reminder of the importance of setting up appropriate parental controls.



Games/Consoles

- Check age ratings: look at the PEGI rating of any new games. *Remember, PEGI rates the gameplay so whilst it is important to review age ratings, you must also check to see if it has any communication elements.*
- If a game does allow your child to communicate with others, then adjust or disable the settings as appropriate to your child.
- On the device itself, set up applicable controls such as restricting spending limits. Follow the links below to find out how to set up Parental Controls for popular devices here:

Xbox: <https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/family-hub>

PS5: <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/support/account/ps5-parental-controls-spending-limits/>

Nintendo Switch: <https://www.nintendo.com/en-gb/Hardware/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls/Nintendo-Switch-2-Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls-2873385.html>

Tablets/Smart phones

Set up parental controls on the device to prevent purchases, restrict content viewed and adjust privacy settings. Furthermore, remember to check any apps your child requests to check that they are suitable for their age. Follow the links below to find out more:

iPhones/iPad: <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/105121>

Android Device: <https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/1075738>

Further information

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

The Safety-First Smartphone

The Other phone is a new smartphone, which includes "SafetyMode" software. The software automatically blocks nudity, profanity, and bullying language in real time. You can find out more here: <https://otherphone.co.uk/>.

Smart Phone Free Childhood also list some alternatives that you could consider here: <https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/alternatives>.

Please note, that the inclusion of these models does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation. While these devices may provide a 'safer' alternative to traditional smartphones, there are still potential risks associated with children using any type of phone.

Roblox

Following a recent ITV investigation*, which found extremist content on Roblox, we thought we would provide a reminder of what you need to be aware of. Roblox is a platform consisting of a collection of games. Players can either create games or play games that other users have created. It is free to download (however subscription options and in game/app purchases are available) and can be played across numerous devices. **A lot of the content is user generated, which means not all games will be suitable for your child to view/play.** If your child is playing Roblox, it is important to monitor what your child is accessing and set up appropriate parental controls. **PEGI rate Roblox with a Parental Guidance label, this is because it is considered a platform with a huge level of user generated content.**

What should I be aware of?

Game content – as mentioned, users create games so the content/themes may not be appropriate for your child. Roblox label content based on the type of content rather than by age. The labels are Minimal, Mild, Moderate and Restricted.

Chat Facility - Players can chat with each other (users under the age of 13 need parent permission to access certain chat features though). You can turn communication off completely or add restrictions, such as only able to communicate with friends.

Virtual Currency - Players can buy Robux (their virtual currency) to buy in-game upgrades or accessories.

How do I report abuse and block users?

This article outlines the different reporting facilities:

<https://en.help.roblox.com/hc/en-us/articles/203312410-How-to-Report-Rule-Violations>

What else can I do?

Chat to your child regularly about what they are doing online and remind your child that if anything is worrying them, then they should talk to you or another trusted adult.

Further information

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/roblox>

[*Source: <https://www.itv.com/news/2025-11-14/mosque-attacks-and-far-right-skins-roblox-teens-exposed-to-extremist-content>]

Signal Private Messenger

Signal is rated as 13+ on the App store. It is a messaging app, where users can text, send voice messages and photos plus participate in group chats and calls. There are no parental controls currently available. As with all messaging apps, the risks can include bullying and viewing inappropriate content. Find out more here: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/chat-apps/>

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Discord

Discord is a social networking app originally designed for gamers but is now used by lots of different people to **chat to each other online**. The minimum age to access Discord is 13. The App store rates it as 17+.

Discord is made up of servers, which are spaces for groups to chat, upload files and share images etc. Anybody can set up a server, and they can either be public or private. Users can video call and send direct messages to other individuals or groups. Children who play online games such as Fortnite may use Discord to chat whilst playing the game (**rather than using the game's own chat facility**). In-app purchases are available through Discord's subscription service called Nitro.

How can I make it safer?

Discord have created a Family Centre, which provides further information about what Discord is, as well as information about different safety settings available:

<https://discord.com/safety-family-center>

As always, we would encourage you to chat to your child to see why they use Discord and ensure that they know how to block users and what to do if they see any inappropriate content. It is important to be aware that Discord does include video/voice calling which cannot be filtered. **Discord is used by an array of users and therefore adult content can be found on Discord as well as inappropriate language.** Discord have produced this article, which answers frequent questions:

<https://discord.com/safety/360044149591-answering-parents-and-educators-top-questions>

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version: <https://www.knowsleyclcs.org.uk/deceMBER-2025-primary/>