

Newsletter



Everyone matters, everyone succeeds, every moment counts

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Dear parents and carers,

As we reach the end of this term, I'd like to wish you all a very happy Easter! It's been a wonderful final week, and it's been so lovely to see the sunshine again!

This week, children have visited Clay's Kitchen, created hot-air balloons, made dioramas for their clay creatures, learnt how to use running stitch, created non-fiction texts about Iron Age jobs, played in cricket matches, learnt about seed dispersal in science, learnt new songs with Mr Hawken, created 'wanted' posters, took part in a history debate and also had a focus on online safety.

I also want to say a big thank you to all the parents who joined us for our Fabulous Finishes this week.

Have a wonderful and relaxing Easter break, and we look forward to welcoming children back on Wednesday 23rd April.

Best wishes,

Mrs Cathy Brokenshire (Headteacher)

We are looking forward to...

Week beginning: Wednesday 23rd April

Nursery - Oula	We are looking forward to finding out all about different types of transport.
Reception - Kroenek	As scientists, we are looking forward to finding different ways vehicles can travel.
Year 1 - Sort	We are looking forward to decorating plant pots and planting seeds to launch our topic of 'How does your garden grow?'
Year 2 - Cwiwer	As historians, we are looking forward to a visit from Spaceport Cornwall to launch our new topic 'Who were the first explorers of space?'
Year 3 - Brogh	As geographers, we are looking forward to starting our learning about the Rocky Mountains.
Year 4 - Lowarn	We are looking forward to discussing useful items for survival.
Year 5 - Godh	We are looking forward to starting our new topic about the Ancient Greeks and taking part in an Olympic Games day!
Year 6 - Pedrevan	As historians, we are looking forward to exploring our new topic about the Titanic.
The Nest	We are looking forward to visiting the soft play after Easter.

St Dennis Stars



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



Oula	Charlie	Brogh	Lucy
Kroenek	Alexander	Lowarn	Holly
Sort	Willow	Godh	Ellie
Cwiwer	Cwiwer Class	Pedrevan	Luke



Attendance

Attendance for this year is now **93.5%**

This week, the class with the winning attendance is: **Cwiwer Class.**



Kroenek	88.5%
Sort	85.5%
Cwiwer	96.0%
Brogh	32.7%
Lowarn	89.6%
Godh	85.2%
Pedrevan	90.5%

They will enjoy an extra special playtime next week, for being the best attending class!

Lunchtime Awards

Olivia-Grace, Tyler and Effy received Lunchtime Awards this week for being polite, using good manners and showing responsibility.



Growth Mindset Awards

Our Growth Mindset certificates were awarded to Luke, Poppy, Kobe, Mia, Myles, Amber-Leigh and JK this week.



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!

Key Dates - Summer Term 1

We endeavour to keep these dates the same, but will inform you of any changes at the earliest opportunity.

- 22.04.25 INSET Day
- 23.04.25 Back to School!
Spaceport Cornwall visiting Cwiwer Class (Y2)
Brogh Class (Y3) visit to Discovery 42
- 25.04.25 0900 London Residential Meeting for parents and carers
- 28.04.25 Brogh Class (Y3) Swimming all week
Sort Class (Y1) visit to The Eden Project
RNLI Assembly for Year 5 and 6
- 29.04.25 Cwiwer Class (Y2) planting at ClayTAWC
Smarter Smiles in Reception and Year 1
- 05.05.25 Bank Holiday
- 06-07.04.25 Lowarn Class (Y4) Porthpean residential
- 09.05.25 Squashbox Theatre visiting
- 12.05.25 SATs Monday to Thursday
Y6 to come at 0830 through Main Reception
- 19.05.25 Y5 and Y6 London Residential
0900 Lowarn Class (Y4) Fabulous Finish
1500 Cwiwer Class (Y2) Fabulous Finish
- 20.05.25 0900 Brogh Class (Y3) Fabulous Finish
1500 Sort Class (Y1) Fabulous Finish
- 21.05.25 0900 Kroenek Class (Rec) Fabulous Finish
1500 The Nest Fabulous Finish
No Fabulous Finish for Year 5 or 6 due to London residential
- 22.05.25 Godh Class (Y5) Life skills at St Austell Fire Station

If you have any safeguarding concerns over the holiday, please phone the MARU on **0300 123 1116.**

Curriculum Topics



Oula
Are we there yet?



Kroenek
What's the best way to travel?



Sort
How does your garden grow?

Cwiwer
Who were the first explorers of space?



Godh
Where can we see the influence of Ancient Greece today?

Pedrevan
Who was really responsible for the sinking of The Titanic.



Brogh
What is there to discover in North America?

Lowarn
How does the Amazon Rainforest matter to us?



Our 'Big Questions' after Easter!



EASTER ACTIVITIES

at St Dennis Primary Academy



Across the sessions we will be running our traditional & alternative sporting activities, from Basketball, Football and Rounders to Laser Tag, Archery & Crossbow and Kin Ball.





Mon 7th & Tues 8th April 2025
Mon 14th & Tues 15th April 2025

12:30pm - 4:30pm

£20.00 per session
with multi-booking discounts available



TIME MOVE
Holiday Programme

Funded for those eligible for Free School Meals, with a hot lunch included!



For ages: 5 - 16 years

Bookings can be made via **Playwaze** or by visiting the DT Coaching website: www.dtcoaching.co.uk
Please contact us for further details or for help booking:
Email: clubs@dtcoaching.co.uk
Phone: 01872 306730








Free Easter Family Craft Session

Come and join us for some free family Easter themed craft sessions in our family hub.

Join us for tea, coffee and cake and the opportunity to speak to our friendly parenting team, who can offer support, advice and information. It will also be a chance to meet and chat with other parents whilst your children are entertained.

When?
Tuesday 8th April 2025 10am – 12noon

Where?
St Austell Family Hub
Woodland Road
St Austell
PL25 4RA

To reserve a place please email : carrickfamilyhubs@cornwall.gov.uk





CORNWALL COUNCIL
one and all · oves hay oll

Together  for Families

 www.cornwall.gov.uk

Please follow this link to the school website to access the links on this newsletter <https://primarysite-produced.s3.amazonaws.com/st-dennis-primary-academy/UploadedDocument/b0faa39b-f6a2-47fe-9b63-923198812db7/online-safety-newsletter-april-2025.pdf>



Online Safety Newsletter

April 2025

Screen Time

Screen time is classed as any time spent in front of a screen, so it includes everything from watching tv to completing homework on a laptop. Whilst there is no recommended screen time (except for under two, which is zero), it is important that we find a balance.

Screen time can obviously be beneficial, both for educational and entertainment purposes, however it is important to be aware of the risks, such as:

- Eye strain.
- Disrupted sleep.
- Less time for other activities and being outdoors.
- Affects our attention span.

Further information

Childnet discuss what is screen time and how much screen time is enough in this useful article:

<https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/screen-time-boundaries-parents/>



Social Media Concerns

Most social media apps have a minimum age rating of 13+. Whilst there are benefits, this article discusses some of the potential risks of using social media.



Risks of Social Media

- **Inappropriate content** – social media may expose children to content that is not appropriate for their age, including sexually explicit content or content that promotes harmful behaviours such as self-harm.
- **Cyberbullying** – this can take many forms, including sending nasty or hurtful messages, leaving unkind comments, sharing photographs of somebody else without their permission or impersonating somebody with a fake account.
- **Excessive Screen time/Addiction** – too much time online can affect mental health and disrupt sleep patterns.
- **Contact from strangers** – there is a risk of stranger contact, which can lead to an increased risk of grooming.
- **Challenges** - children may not have developed the skills and ability to critically analyse what they see online. Whilst some challenges are fun and provide no risk, there will be challenges online that are risky/dangerous.
- **Sharing too much information** – children may share personal information e.g. their phone number, school name or inappropriate photos of themselves.
- **Algorithms** – algorithms influence what we see on social media platforms to keep us engaged on the platform. This can lead to 'echo chambers' where users are only seeing content that relates to their opinion rather than seeing a balanced viewpoint. It can also lead to a user being exposed to large amounts of content about one topic/theme, which may not be helpful if it is negative.

How can I help make it a safer environment?

- Check the age rating of each app and restrict access until they reach that age.
- Set up age-appropriate parental controls, for example set content restrictions and screen time limits.
- Chat to your child about what they are doing online, including who they are following and interacting with online.
- Restrict devices in their bedrooms.
- Show your child how to use any reporting and blocking tools.

Further information

You can find out more from the following:

- <https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/social-media-smarts.html>
- <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/social-media/#Talkingaboutcyberbullying>

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Group Chats

Is your child part of any group chats? This could be on social media, for example on WhatsApp or within games such as Fortnite. If so, it is important that you are aware of the potential risks, which include:



- **Inappropriate content** – there is often a lack of moderation within chat facilities so users could be exposed to content/language that is not suitable for their age.
- **Bullying** – there are many instances where inappropriate/hurtful comments are shared within groups, this could take the form of name calling or body shaming. Bullying can also be in the form of excluding others from the group. These issues often overspill into 'real life'.
- **Strangers** – your child could be added to groups with people they do not know or even with someone that they have previously blocked.
- **Conversations can be shared/screen shot** – make sure your child is aware that anything they share within a group can be shared with others outside the group.
- **Sharing personal information** – remind your child to be aware of the information they share with others including images and location.

How can I help make group chats safer?

- Check the recommended age rating and adhere to them. If we all did this, peer pressure would be reduced.
- Set up age-appropriate parental controls and set screen time limits.
- Show your child how to use any reporting and blocking tools.

What else can I do?

- It is crucial to have regular conversations with your child about the risks outlined above and about what they are doing online.
- Talk about who they are chatting with, encourage them to think carefully about the messages they send and how they might be perceived by others. Talk about positivity and not saying anything hurtful. Ask them to think about whether they would say what they are messaging, face to face.
- Devices should be used in family rooms so you can monitor what they are doing and who they are interacting with.
- Finally, make sure to model good digital behaviour yourself, as children often learn by observing the adults around them.

Further information

Childnet have created a Group Chat Guide for parents following consultation with the Childnet Youth Advisory Board and Digital Champions: <https://www.childnet.com/resources/cheat-sheet-group-chats/>

Did you know some Emojis have a double meaning?

For those that have watched Adolescence, you will know children and young people may be using emojis to mean something completely different. For example, the kidney bean emoji may be used to identify as an incel. It is important that you are aware of how emojis can be used and keep up to date with the way in which they can be used as their meanings are changeable. You can find out further information here:

<https://www.bark.us/blog/emoji-slang-guide/>

Vodafone: The Rise of the Aggro-rithm

Vodafone released a short video last year, titled 'The Rise of the Aggro-rithm'. It highlights the harmful algorithms targeting young boys. It's certainly worth a watch as well as learning about the terrifying statistics accompanying it:

<https://www.vodafone.co.uk/newscentre/press-release/ai-aggro-rithms/>

3 things to consider before giving your child a smartphone

Wayne Denner has published a blog discussing the three things that parents wished they had considered before giving their child a phone. You can read the article here:

<https://www.waynedenner.com/3-things-parents-wish-they-had-considered-before-giving-their-teen-a-smartphone/>