

Newsletter

Everyone matters, everyone succeeds, every moment counts

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Dear parents and carers,

It has been a busy and exciting first week of 2025!

Stunning Starts have involved children dressing up as kings and queens, exploring mystery animal tracks, embarking on a Darwin Discovery Day and learning about mining with a visit from Geevor Tin Mine. Children have also learnt their new storytelling stories, developed skills in the sport for this half term which is hockey, built dens and even had time to play in the snow at the end of the day on Wednesday!

Cwiwer Class were thrilled to receive a letter from Buckingham Palace and this can be read in this week's newsletter.

On Monday at 0900, we have the ASD in Schools Team in for an Autism Parent Café, where they will share a short talk on structure and routine and be on-hand to chat and answer any questions you may have over a cuppa and biscuits. Please just come to the main entrance after drop-off.

Hope you have a great weekend,

Mrs Cathy Brokenshire (Headteacher)

We are looking forward to...

Week beginning: Monday 13th January

Nursery - Oula	We are looking forward to a visit from a surprise pet. I wonder, what could it be?
Reception - Kroenek	As scientists, we are looking forward to learning about the different pets people have and what they need to be happy and healthy.
Year 1 - Sort	As historians we are looking forward to learning who Grace Darling was.
Year 2 - Cwiwer	As historians, we are looking forward to learning more about The Great Fire of London.
Year 3 - Brogh	As scientists, we are looking forward to starting our forces topic and comparing how things move
Year 4 - Lowarn	As geographers, we are looking forward to locating countries and capital cities.
Year 5 - Godh	As creative artists, we are looking forward to our MADE sessions starting up again.
Year 6 - Pedrevan	As scientists, we are looking forward to discovering more about the unusual species discovered by Darwin on the Galápagos Islands.
The Nest	We are looking forward to cooking burgers in forest school!

St Dennis Stars



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



Oula	Luka	Brogh	Lexi
Kroenek	Jacob	Lowarn	Holly
Sort	Arabella	Godh	Kaiden
Cwiwer	Imogen	Pedrevan	Luke



Come and sing with us!

FREE for all 7-11 years old children in
The Clays area

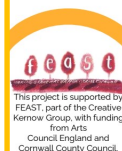
From 10 - 11:15am

Sat 11th Jan @ Clay TAWC

Sat 8th Feb @ Clay TAWC

Sat 15th March @ St Stephen Community Centre

TEXT LEANNE on 07733888641 to sign up



This project is supported by FEAST, part of the Creative Kernow Group, with funding from Arts Council England and Cornwall County Council.



Attendance

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

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



Kroenek	91.4%
Sort	95.6%
Gwiwer	87.7%
Brogh	91.3%
Lowarn	94.7%
Godh	95.1%
Pedrevan	94.5%

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

Lunchtime Awards

Nylah, Trystan and Ethan received Lunchtime Awards this week for being polite and using good manners and showing responsibility.



Growth Mindset Awards

Our Growth Mindset certificates were awarded to Ivy, Myles, Kasper, Piran, Kye, Alanna and Amelia 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!

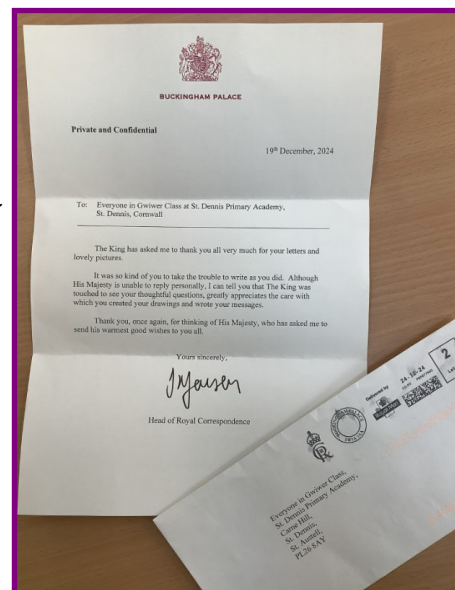
Key Dates - Spring Term 1

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

- 13.01.25 0900 Autism Parent Café - School hall
- 20.01.25 PSHE Drugs and Alcohol Education Week
- 07.02.25 NSPCC Number Day
- 10.02.25 0900 Brogh (Y3) Fabulous Finish
- 11.02.25 Safer Internet Day
0900 Lowarn (Y4+) Fabulous Finish
1500 Sort (Y1) Fabulous Finish
- 12.02.25 0900 Godh (Y5) Fabulous Finish
1500 Kroenek (Rec) Fabulous Finish
- 13.02.25 Kroenek/Pedrevan (Rec/Y6) visit to Newquay Zoo
Godh (Y5) visit to Cornish Lithium
1500 Gwiwer (Y2) Fabulous Finish
- 14.02.25 0900 Pedrevan (Y6) Fabulous Finish

Royal Letter

Gwiwer Class were thrilled to receive post from Buckingham Palace this week! At the start of their 'Who were the great monarchs?' topic last half term, they wrote letters to King Charles. They hoped to get a reply and are so delighted that one arrived!



Autism Parent Cafe

Monday 13th January 9am



Come along for a coffee and chat with the Autism in Schools Team, a short talk about structure and routine and time to ask questions.

FROM BEGINNER TO SWIMMER

Better Swim School is dedicated to not only teaching vital swimming skills for life, but also creating a lifelong passion for the water. Here's how it happens:

- Accredited teaching programme tailored to children aged 4-16 years
- Interactive lessons designed to boost water confidence and skills
- Swimming teachers committed to your child's safety and development
- Ability-based lessons for children to progress at their pace
- Consistent lesson day and times for uninterrupted progress
- Free public swim access outside of lessons for extra practice and fun

Better Swim School is committed to your child's swimming success. If your child has been in lessons for at least two years and hasn't met the swimming standards by age 10, we will provide free lessons until they can. That's the Better Swim School Guarantee.



Scan the QR code or search Better Swim School to join and find out more.

To be eligible for the Better Swim School Guarantee, pupils must attend and complete a minimum of 75 programmed lessons within two years before turning ten years old. Better Swim School Guarantee full terms and conditions available at better.org.uk/offer-terms. Better is a registered trademark and trading name of GLL (Greenwich Leisure Limited), a charitable social enterprise and registered society under the Co-operative & Community Benefit & Societies Act 2014 registration no. 27793R. Registered office: Middlegate House, The Royal Arsenal, London, SE18 6SX. Inland Revenue Charity no. X943398.

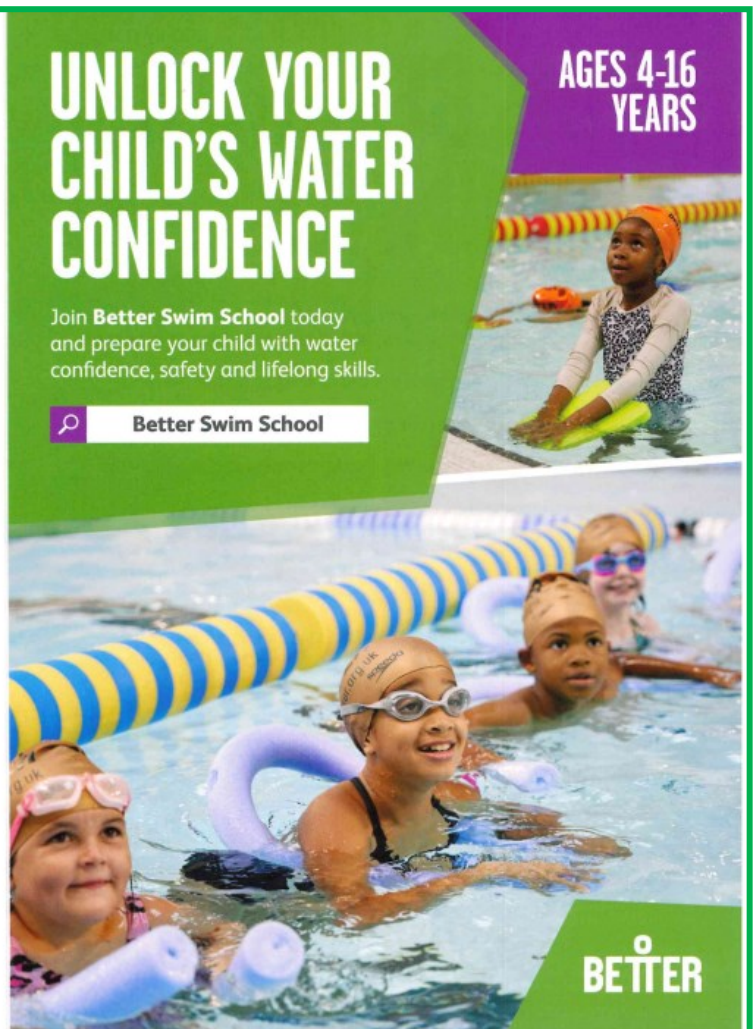
UNLOCK YOUR CHILD'S WATER CONFIDENCE

AGES 4-16 YEARS

Join **Better Swim School** today and prepare your child with water confidence, safety and lifelong skills.



Better Swim School



BETTER

To access links within this newsletter, please access it through our website <https://primarysite-produced.s3.amazonaws.com/st-dennis-primary-academy/UploadedDocument/5a782e5f-3525-4e6a-a63f-7c6fdc0ead9c/online-safety-newsletter-january-2025.pdf>



Online Safety Newsletter

Jan 2025

Social Media Influencers

What is an Influencer?

An influencer is somebody on a social media platform such as YouTube and Instagram, who have a high number of followers. Influencers share their opinions/ideas and may be paid to advertise/promote products through their account.

What should I be concerned about?

Whilst there are some great influencers, there are some that choose to share content that is for example, misogynistic, racist or misleading. These opinions can be expressed or interpreted as fact, so it is important to talk to your child and encourage them to fact check and critically analyse what they see and hear online.

What we see on social media

What we see is influenced by algorithms, which predict what type of content we are most likely to interact with. Whilst there are benefits of algorithms, it can mean that once we start looking at certain content, our social media feed can become more aligned with that opinion, creating an echo chamber and therefore we do not see a balanced picture. Find out more here: <https://www.childnet.com/blog/algorithms/>

What can I do to help my child?

Talk to your child about social media and who they follow. If there is anybody that you are unsure of, then check their feed and discuss with your child if you find anything worrying.

Further information

<https://swgfl.org.uk/topics/social-media/>

Fortnite Battle Royale



Fortnite Battle Royale is rated PEGI 12 due to moderate violence, meaning it is not suitable for children under the age of 12.

What is Fortnite?

There are different versions of Fortnite, including Fortnite Battle Royale, which is free to play (although it contains in-app purchases). In Battle Royale, up to one hundred players compete against each other until one winner remains.

What do I need to be aware of?

- **Chatting and inappropriate language:** Fortnite includes voice and text chat, which may mean your child encounters strangers and may hear inappropriate language. Ensure your child knows how to report/block any players that make them feel uncomfortable.
- **In app purchases:** Players can purchase V-Bucks so make sure you restrict purchases and do not store your card details.

Parental Controls

Fortnite provides several parental controls in your child's Epic account to help you create a safer environment for your child. The controls allow you to:

- disable voice chat
- filter language
- manage which experiences your child can access based on their age
- set a PIN to add friends
- set a PIN for purchases
- set time limits
- set appropriate privacy settings.

Also, remember to set up age-appropriate parental controls on the device your child is playing on.

Reporting/Blocking Features

As always, ensure your child knows how to use the reporting and blocking features and that they know they should talk to you or another trusted adult if anything concerns them.

Further information

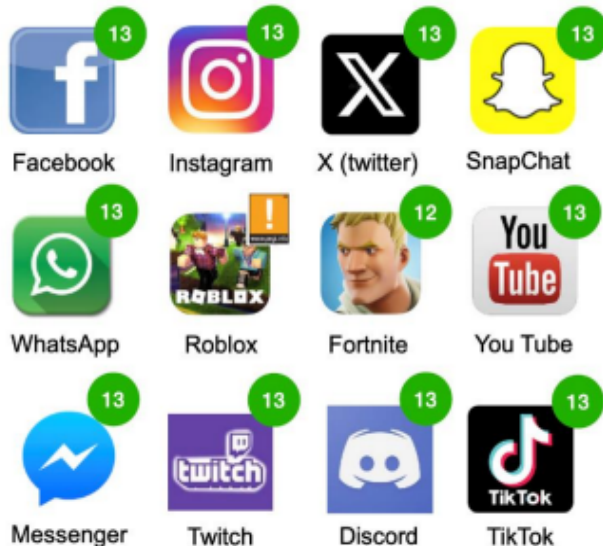
You can find out more here:

- <https://safety.epicgames.com/en-US/parental-controls>
- <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/fortnite>

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into.
Current as of the date released 01.01.25.

Get to know age ratings

Age ratings exist to help protect your child, so we thought we'd provide you with a little reminder of how important it is to check the age ratings of what your child is accessing online. Here are the age ratings of some of the more popular apps that young people are accessing.



Whether your child is viewing films, accessing apps, playing games online or using social media – make sure you check the age rating first to see if your child is old enough. In addition, the likes of PEGI (Pan European Game Information) provide further content descriptors, which will give you an indication of the type of content that your child might view e.g. violence or bad language.

What else should I review?

It is important to note that whilst age ratings do allow you to see if something may be appropriate for your child, it is also important to review the content yourself. This will allow you to make an informed decision as to whether it is suitable for your child to access and if it would be beneficial to apply further parental controls. For example, does it include the ability to communicate with others and are in game/app purchases available?

What else can I do?

- Explain the importance of age ratings to your child and how they protect them.
- Go online together to see what your child is accessing.
- Set up parental controls on your broadband, devices and on any individual apps that your child is using. This will reduce the chances of them accessing or viewing anything unsuitable.
- Chat to your child regularly about what they are doing online and as always, remind your child that if anything is worrying them then they should talk to you or another trusted adult.

Further information

You can find out more here:

<https://eegamesmart.co.uk/articles/how-age-ratings-help-families/>

Smartphone Free Childhood



Smartphone Free Childhood is a parent-led movement whose mission is to protect children from the dangers of using smartphones too young.

The premise behind this movement is that all parents/carers of a class all agree not to give their children smartphones (therefore the level of peer pressure is reduced) for a set time or until a specific age. Are you ready to join? Find out more here:

<https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk>

Digital differences between men and women revealed

Ofcom have released their annual report into our daily habits. The findings show that women and teenage girls are more worried about online harms. You can read the full report here:

<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/media-use-and-attitudes/online-habits/digital-differences-between-men-and-women-revealed/>

X (Twitter) Checklist

You should be at least 13 years of age to have a Twitter account. The SWGfL have created a free Privacy and Security checklist for you to download. The resource is available here:

<https://swgfl.org.uk/magazine/introducing-the-x-checklist-keeping-your-profile-under-control/>

NHS Cornwall Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM - MHST

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

Monday 27th January - 9.30am & 2pm
 Tuesday 28th January - 11.30 am & 4pm
 Wednesday 29th January - 9.30am & 1.30pm
 Thursday 30th January - 11.00am & 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 [HERE](https://forms.office.com/e/1PwGDXSQ40) <https://forms.office.com/e/1PwGDXSQ40> or scan the QR code

This workshop is open to parents/carers of primary aged children enrolled in Reception to Year 6 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 3rd February - 11am & 4pm
 Tuesday 4th February - 9.30am & 2pm
 Wednesday 5th February - 9.30am & 1.30pm
 Thursday 6th February - 11am & 1.30pm

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 [HERE](https://forms.office.com/e/7ac7qHLPfc) <https://forms.office.com/e/7ac7qHLPfc> or scan the QR code

This workshop is open to parents/carers of primary aged children enrolled in Reception to Year 6 in any school in Cornwall.

Information Classification: PUBLIC

St Dennis Family Hub

What is happening in the Family Hub and Local Community?

For more information scan the QR codes!

FAMILY HUB ACTIVITIES

WEDNESDAYS

Child Health Clinic & Infant Feeding Support

10.00am – 11.30am

FRIDAYS

Homestart Kernow regularly run play sessions on a Friday morning please call **01872 324772** for more information



Home-Start is a local community network of trained volunteers and expert support helping families with young children through their challenging times. We are there for parents when they need us the most because childhood can't

wait.



eden project

Eden's gardens provide rich opportunities to learn and explore and a diversity of experiences. We've developed a programme of activities for under-fives and their families, to help them connect with Eden's living collection and the natural world.



For information on your local foodbank and what support they can provide visit the QR code or call your Local Family Hub on **01872 324772**.



ClayTAWC

ClayTAWC offers a range of services including courses, social groups, various recreational activities, Community Support and Information.



Our parenting support focuses on child development, building positive relationships with children and creating opportunities to join parenting communities, have fun and access peer support from other families.

Sign up here to our monthly update for parent and carers newsletter-

<http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/tffnewsletter>

Visit the link below to Cornwall's Family Information Service where you can find more information for children & families!

[Family Information Service Cornwall](https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/family-information-service)



Together for Families