

Newsletter

Everyone matters, everyone succeeds, every moment counts.

www.stdennis.academy

office@stdennis.tpacademytrust.org

01726 822546



Dear parents and carers,

It's been an action-packed week! The children have developed their balancing skills in PE, made delicious pizzas and explored new techniques while creating Christmas decorations in art. They also enjoyed a fantastic workshop during a visit to the Cornwall Museum and showed great teamwork while developing new skills in tag rugby.

Thank you for your support with Thursday's snow closure - we really appreciate it!

Hope you have a great weekend!

Mrs Cathy Brokenshire (Headteacher)

St Dennis Stars

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



Nursery	Elowyn	Year 3	Mia
Reception	Stanley	Year 4	Mia
Year 1	Elijah	Year 5	Rohan
Year 2	Bailey	Year 6	Annabelle



School Council

One of the ideas suggested by School Council was to visit the Cornwall Council offices to meet councillors in the community.



As a council, they are busy arranging this by writing to local MPs, organising transport and deciding what questions to ask.

There will be lots of planning taking place in the next few weeks and the children can't wait to share details of their visit with the rest of the school soon.

We are looking forward to...

Week beginning: Monday 24th November

Nursery	We are looking forward to finding out all about how a dentist helps us look after our teeth.
Reception	As writers, we are looking forward to completing fine motor challenges and competitions
Year 1	As theologians, we are looking forward to learning more about the Christmas story.
Year 2	As theologians, we are looking forward to visiting the church to find out more about why prayer is important to Christians.
Year 3	As artists, we are looking forward to experimenting with mosaic techniques.
Year 4	As writers, we are looking forward to inventing our own rags to riches tales in English.
Year 5	As artists, we are looking forward to making our lanterns for the village light parade.
Year 6	As writers, we are looking forward to writing our own stories based on the events of D-Day.
The Nest	We are looking forward to another session with Cornwall Youth Choir

Attendance

Attendance for this year is now **94.2%**
This week, the class with the winning attendance is **Year 2**



Reception

Year 1	88.7%
Year 2	95.0%
Year 3	88.1%
Year 4	92.8%
Year 5	96.5%
Year 6	90.2%

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

Growth Mindset Awards



Our Growth Mindset certificates were awarded to Daniel, Jacob, Myla, Lilo, Myles, Ronnie and Corey



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

Lois, Rosie and Watson received Lunchtime Awards this week for being polite, using good manners and showing responsibility.



Key Dates - Autumn Term 2

- 28.11.25 Non-uniform day for a tombola prize
- 01.12.25 Festival of Trees Visit to St Denys Church
- 04.12.25 Santa's Grotto
- 05.12.25 14:00 finish for FOSDA Christmas Fayre
- 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

Non-Uniform Day

On Friday next week (28th), we will be having a non-uniform day in return for bringing in a bottle for the tombola stall at the FOSDA School Fayre on 5th December at 14:00.



In addition, we are welcoming soft toys for the teddy tombola as well.

Please bring these to the School Office at any time.

Thank you for your support.





"Geography is a subject which holds the key to our future." - Michael Palin

Welcome to the Autumn Term 2025 Geography Newsletter!

This academic year, geography has taken our pupils on exciting journeys, from exploring the local area in Year 1, to discovering hot and cold places in Year 2, and investigating volcanoes and earthquakes in Year 6. While following the National Curriculum, our aim goes further: to spark a love for the world around us. We're weaving geography into real-life experiences, encouraging oracy, and focusing on community and environmental well-being, making learning meaningful and memorable.

All curriculum information is available on the school website <https://www.stdennis.academy/geography/>.

Whole school focus on fieldwork!

At St Dennis we believe that geography is best learned not just in the classroom, but out in the world! Whether it's a walk around the school grounds or a trip to a local river, fieldwork helps our pupils see the world through a geographer's eyes



'It was great to see the river and think about what we had been taught about; things like erosion and the different stages of the river'. Alice

We are focused on developing our fieldwork experiences. Children will explore places using all their senses, helping them connect more deeply with their surroundings. They'll be interviewing members of the public to gather real opinions and using the data they collect in meaningful ways, such as writing to the Parish Council to share their findings and ideas.

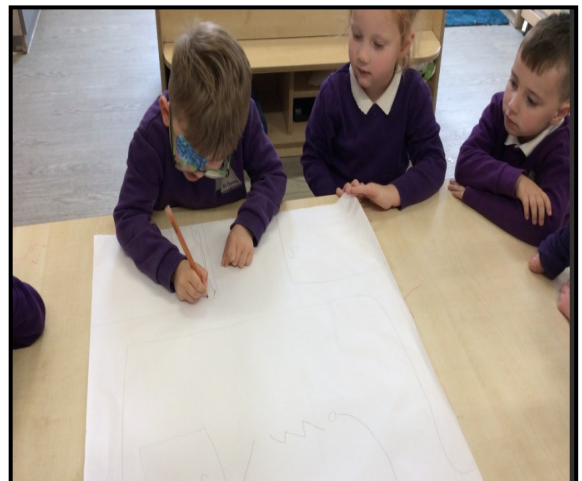
Map work from Nursery to Year 6!

Geography starts in the EYFS. Our youngest children from the Nursery are exposed to maps and have opportunities to create their own.



Journey map using natural materials.

'I liked making a map of, 'We're going on a Bear Hunt.' It shows where they went.' George



Collaborative map making with a key after looking at human and physical features around school.

Upcoming Events

- EYFS – Traffic survey around the village
- Year 1 – Virtual visit to London!
- Year 2 – Fieldwork around St Dennis to support their learning when comparing St Dennis to a village in Zambia
- Year 3 – Practising using 8 points of a compass to locate different areas
- Year 4 – Mapping skills around St Dennis
- Year 5 – Fieldtrip to a local river
- Year 6 – Fieldtrip to local harbour to study the impact of fishing on the local geography

What is my Child Learning?

We aim to develop the children's love of the world around them through geography and inspire curiosity and fascination for the planet, and their place in it, for many years to come.

We aim to do this through developing knowledge of the location of globally significant places, including their physical and human characteristics. We also aim to ensure that children understand the geographical processes that bring about physical and human features of the world, how these are interdependent and how they bring about change over time. Whilst observing and studying these, we aim to ensure children are competent in the geographical skills needed to collect, analyse and communicate with a range of data gathered through experiences of fieldwork, interpret a range of sources, and communicate geographical information in a variety of ways.

Visit the school website to discover which topics each year group are taught in geography.

<https://www.stdennis.academy/geography>

Geography Learning at Home

The best way to support your child with their geography learning at home is through practical, hands on experiences.

If you are out walking, look at an OS map together. If you are planning a journey, look online at the route using a mapping tool such as Google Maps. Play games with your children – how many capital cities of the world do you know? Can you name and locate a country for each letter of the alphabet?

There are lots of great websites which have content and activities to explore with your child:

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/>

https://world-geography-games.com/en/countries_world.html

<https://www.playgeography.com/games/countries-of-the-world/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zcdqxn>

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