St Germans - School News

Date: 13/11/2026 Edition: 9

To Parents and Carers,

Thank you once again to all the families who joined us for yesterday's Harvest Festival. With that wonderful celebration behind us, our Christmas plans are already underway! This week, we welcomed Mrs Oldfield into school to help the children begin crafting ceramic decorations for one of our Christmas trees. Everyone stamped and decorated their own unique designs, which are now ready to be fired and glazed in our school kiln - we can't wait to see how they turn out!

Our littlest learners have been busy showing Open Day visitors around their classroom and outdoor spaces, modelling their very best 'Bring It' behaviour throughout. We are always keen to welcome new families into our school community, so please continue spreading the word about us!

Today, we were joined by Jonathan Dart from Humanists UK, who led a fascinating assembly on Humanist beliefs. The children asked plenty of insightful questions and engaged brilliantly with the ideas he shared - be sure to ask them what they learnt!

Looking ahead to next week: on Monday, Years 3-6 will enjoy an archery adventure with Outdoor Dave and Adventure James. Monday is also Odd Socks Day, marking the start of Anti-Bullying Week. It's a fun opportunity for everyone to express themselves and celebrate what amakes us all unique, so please encourage your children to wear their odd socks with pride!

Finally, our Year 2 pupils are heading off on their very first school residential next week - don't forget to pack those bags!

Have a wonderful weekend,
Clare Townsend

#Bring Friendship #Bring Courage #Bring Creativity

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#Bringit!

Our week in pictures: courage, creativity and friendship!















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Class News

Cygnets and Swans

We have officially completed our Curious Quest with Christopher Pumpkin! Year 1 have been learning how to add the suffixes -ed and -ing to words, while Year 2 have been practising using contractions (such as don't, can't, and isn't) to create a sense of urgency in their writing, taking care to place apostrophes where the missing letters belong.

In maths, Reception have been busy exploring 3D shapes through hands-on stacking, rolling, and printing! Meanwhile, Year 1 have continued building their confidence with doubles and near doubles, and Year 2 have been creating fact families, discovering how they can use one number fact to unlock related calculations.

Finally, in computing, the children have been developing their keyboard skills by creating their very own 'About Me' pages to practise their typing. Well done for another brilliant week of learning!

Mrs Townsend

Avocets

What a busy and enjoyable week we have had in Avocets Classes!

In English, the children created wonderful poetry for both Harvest and Remembrance, and their Harvest Festival performance was truly fantastic. In reading, we have been captivated by our class novel, *The Wild Robot*. We are following the main character, Roz—a newly manufactured robot who becomes stranded on an uninhabited island after a hurricane sinks her transport ship. In maths, we have been working at pace on our number sense and we are getting really speedy with our times tables. We have also been honing our multiplication skills. In our main maths lessons.

Finally, we were very lucky to welcome Mrs Oldfield into school this week. She kindly helped the children craft beautiful decorations for the upcoming Christmas Tree Festival.

Well done to everyone for their hard work and enthusiasm this week!

Mrs Redgrove

Kingfishers

What a busy and enjoyable week we've had in Kingfisher Class!

In maths, Year 6 have been working at pace on their arithmetic techniques, while the whole class has been honing their skills with prime, square, and cube numbers. In reading, we have delved deeper into Michael Morpurgo's *Private Peaceful*, exploring the characters and discovering how hard life was in the early 1900s. In English, I have been blown away by the wonderful, inspiring poetry the children created for both Harvest and Remembrance—and their Harvest Festival performance was truly fantastic!

To round the week off, we were very lucky to welcome Mrs Oldfield into school. She taught Kingfisher Class a variety of pottery techniques, helping them sculpt rainforest animals alongside unique clay decorations for the upcoming Christmas Tree Festival.

I look forward to seeing you all on Monday for our archery adventure!

Mrs Smith

St Germans - School News

Date: 13/11/2026 Edition: 9

Let's celebrate!



Moksha

For sharing her wonderfully creative and thought-provoking homework.

We've loved hearing about her pets and all the vegetables she's growing!

Quentin

For writing a truly innovative, creative, and unique Harvest poem, packed with vivid figurative language, and for performing it to an audience with remarkable confidence and expression.



Rose

for approaching all her activities with a big smile and wonderful curiosity.

KS 2

For an excellent performance and speaking/singing clearly and bringing fantastic energy to our Harvest Festival Performance.

Attendance	93.6%	92.7%	83%

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Dates for the Diary

16th November - KS2 Archery Adventure Day
16th November - Odd Socks Day
17th & 18th November - SOA Y2 Residential
18th November - Gymnastic Festival (selected children)
18th & 19th November - KS2 Parents' Evening
24th & 26th November - Swans Parents Evening
2nd December - Rock Steady Concert - 9:30 am
2nd December - Christmas Craft Day
4th December - Christmas Bake-Off and Light Switch On
8th December - Theatre Royal Pantomime trip
10th December - Y5/6 Mountain Biking Adventure
11th December - School Christmas Lunch
14th December - KS1 Dodgeball Event (selected children)
15th December - KS2 Netball tournament (selected children)
14th - 18th December - NO CLUBS
19th December-3rd January - Christmas Holiday

Please note that due to staffing next week, after-school club on Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th November will finish earlier than usual. All children will need to be collected by 4:15pm. We're really sorry for any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your understanding!

Monday 16th November 2026





We raised £53.70 today for Children In Need.

Thank you for your support.



Mrs Smith and Miss Redgrove will be holding parents evenings on Wednesday and Thursday. If you have not yet booked a time slot, these can be found and booked on your MCAS app.

St Germans - School News

Date: 13/11/2026 Edition: 9





Every year, our whole school comes together to enjoy a special Christmas Dinner, complete with festive decorations, crackers, and Christmas music. It is always one of the highlights of the season!

This year, the dinner will take place on **Friday, 11th December** . To help our kitchen team prepare, please book your child's meal via **MCAS** by **Friday, 27th November** .

Thank you for your continued support!

caterlink
feeding the imagination

Parent & Pupil Survey

As part of their commitment to continually improving their catering service, Caterlink would be grateful for your support by completing a **Parent & Pupil Survey.**

It takes approximately 9 minutes to complete and will provide us with valuable feedback on what they are doing well and, importantly, where they can improve their service.
Please use the link or QR code below.

Link

KS2 Parents -
On the 6th November, your child came home with a letter from Mr Barker detailing a 'sporting' residential trip taking place next year in Birmingham. If your child was interested in taking part, today is the deadline for completing the 'Expression of Interest' form. Please see the link below:
Birmingham Residential Survey

ST GERMANS PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS EVENT

Friday 4th December | From 2:45pm | School Hall

Christmas Bake-Off



Christmas Tree Light Switch On



Toys & Book Sale



Christmas Games - Tombola & Lucky Dip



To make this event a success we need your help. We are looking for donations of good-quality books or toys. Please bring these into school during the week of 30 November to 4 December.
All money raised from this event will be divided between St Luke's Hospice and the purchase of new equipment for playtimes.

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Attendance

Weekly Whole School Attendance

90.4%

Statutory Attendance Notice

IMPORTANT UPDATE FOR PENALTY NOTICE CHANGES FROM AUGUST 2024

If your child is absent from school without authorisation, you will be committing an offence under the Education Act 1996. We may submit a request to Cornwall Council for a Penalty Notice to be issued, in accordance with Sections 444A and 444B of the said Act. Penalty Notices are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £80 if paid within 21 days or £160 if paid after this but within 28 days.

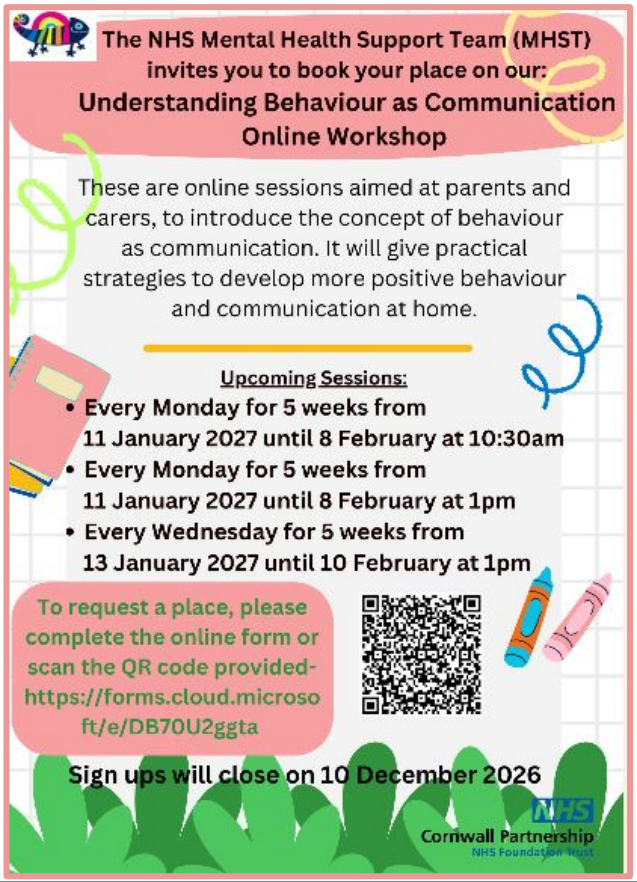
If your child is further absent from school without authorisation within any 3-year period, you will be committing a further offence under the Education Act 1996. We may submit a request to Cornwall Council for a Penalty Notice to be issued, in accordance with Sections 444A and 444B of the said Act. Penalty Notices for a second offence are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £160, payable within 28 days.

Importantly, fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other actions such as a parenting order or prosecution will be considered.

Failure to pay the Penalty Notice may also result in legal action. If you are prosecuted and attend court because your child has not been attending school, you could get a fine of up to £2,500. Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs.

Absence not authorised by the school may also result in a prosecution in the Magistrates' Court under Section 444(1) or Section 444(1A) of the Education Act 1996, leading to a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a custodial sentence. Again, Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs.

Money raised from fines is only used by the local authority to cover the costs of administering the system, and to fund attendance support. Any extra money is returned to the government.





CORNWALL COUNCIL
one and all • onen hag oll

Together for Families

Update for Parents and Carers

Together making Cornwall be a brilliant place to be a child and grow up

Link

Welcome to our November newsletter for parents/carers in Cornwall

Parent Childcare Survey 2026-27

In Cornwall we want to know about your childcare needs, what choices you have and what provision you are choosing. We want to understand whether or not you are able to find the childcare that you need for your children. We also want to hear your thoughts about the quality of the childcare you are choosing. You can share your thoughts about childcare in Cornwall through our annual parent childcare survey at:

Parent Survey - Childcare Needs - Let's Talk Cornwall

Free Webinar: From Blame to Unmet Needs

Tuesday 17 November, 4.00-5.00pm (GMT), free to attend

When something goes wrong, it can be tempting to look for someone to blame, whether that's a child, parent, professional or even ourselves. In this free webinar, **Pooky Knightsmith and Ian Hunkin** will explore a different approach, focusing on understanding and responding to unmet needs rather than assigning fault. The session will share practical strategies that can be applied straight away, helping professionals and families better support both children and adults when things become difficult.

The webinar includes 30 minutes of taught content followed by a live Q&A session. A recording will also be available to everyone who registers.

Register for the free webinar

St Germans Priory Christmas Fayre

Friday 27 November • 5–8pm
Saturday 28 November • 10am–4pm



Community

Downderry & Seaton Youth Hub

Friday 20th November
6:30–8:30

The Zone, Downderry

For ages 9–16

Food included

Come and have your say in shaping your new Friday night youth hub.

Partnering with Young People Cornwall

Friends of St Germans School

Charity Number: 287041

Support Our School just by shopping online!

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Shop with your favourite brands through easyfundraising and they'll donate a percentage of what you spend to Friends of St Germans School – at no extra cost to you!

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