



ST PIRAN'S
CROSS
MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST

"Learning that lasts a lifetime"

Newsletter

Welcome back to a new academic year! It was a miserable start weather-wise but pupils have come back full of smiles and have settled back in to their learning well. Our Reception children in particular have made a fantastic start—they seem very much at home and enjoying their first few days of school life. The year 3 and 4 superheroes looked suitably awesome too!

Thank you for ensuring your children arrived back at school looking so smart in their uniform and correct footwear. Please support us in maintaining this high standard of presentation. Please remember that girls' hair should be tied back and skirts should not be too short—touching the knee is a good rule of thumb!

We want to ensure that this positive start continues and good attendance at school is so important to ensure progress in all areas. We have therefore put together some information and guidance about statutory expectations, which accompanies this newsletter. Please take the time to read this important information!

This newsletter is an important part of our communication with you. It will contain dates, advice, updates as well as news about what goes on at school. Please note that we do not usually print and send home paper copies (for many reasons, not least in an attempt to save some trees!) but we email it out every Friday. If you are not signed up to this service, please provide an up-to-date email address via our School Office staff. You will find this is a vital way of keeping abreast of everything going on in school.

In addition, we text reminders and urgent news to parents so please ensure the mobile numbers we hold are current! Last, but not least, our website provides a huge bank of information about our school as well as a weekly class blog—a great way of prompting conversations about the week with your child! Good communication is important and we will be asking for your views on how you think this can be improved. Watch this space!

Have a great weekend!

Mrs Carmichael

MEET THE TEACHER SESSIONS.

We are holding informal 'drop-in' sessions if you have any questions for your child's new class teacher.

Tuesday 12th Sept 3.30pm—4.15pm **KS1**(Doves, Fish & Lambs)

Wednesday 13th Sept 3.30pm—4.15pm **LKS2** (Peacocks, Phoenix & Pelicans)

Thursday 14th Sept 3.30pm-4.15pm **UKS2** (Angels, Faith & Hope)

We hope to see as many of you as possible.

Parents we need you!

We are looking for volunteers to come into school and hear children read on a weekly basis. If you are able to spare an hour, an afternoon or a whole morning please let us know by speaking to your child's class teacher. As part of this you will be required to complete a free volunteer DBS check that will allow you to work across our school. Thank you.



BBeebies Toddler Group

Stimulating play in a safe environment

Creative activities

Every Wednesday in term time at 1.45pm - 3pm.

£1 per family. All ages welcome. Snacks, tea/
coffee

Autumn Term after school clubs: Please note we do not use the Parentsevening Booking system any longer, please see letter on how to book your child's place.

Diary Dates:

Parent Forum—12th October at 2pm

Poltair Taster day for Yr 6 — 13th September

Baby & Toddler group—Wednesday 13th September at 1.30pm

Friends Meeting—20th September at 2pm

Penrice Year 6 Taster Day/Evening—Thurs 21st
September.

Year 3 Bible Presentation—19th September at 2pm

School Office

Please note: to avoid queuing in reception, we have a post box available for any letters you need to drop in.



Our BBFriends are on the look out for more recruits to help with fundraising for our school. If you would like to come and find out what it entails they are holding a meeting on Wednesday 20th September at 2pm at school.

As the Early Years Team are continuing to develop their outdoor area, we would be really grateful if anyone would be willing to donate some plants which could be added to our Sensory Garden! Many thanks in advance! Miss Jane and Miss Oliver.

Secondary School Applications

Children in year 6 will soon receive a leaflet for school admissions in September 2018. The online application system is now open and detailed information about the admissions process is available online at www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions or on request from the School Admissions Team.

When completing your application, please ensure you identify more than one preference. This WILL NOT lessen the chance of securing a place at their preferred school.

If you need support with the application process, please speak to our office staff or PSA or you can contact the Family Information Service (0800 587 8191) or School Admissions Team (0300 1234 101).

Applying for a reception place for September 2018

If your child was born between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014 you will need to apply for a reception class place. Please visit www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions to complete the online application form. This will need to be completed by 15th January



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DISCOVERING GOD'S KINGDOM
GROWING THE CHURCH

**Invitation to the
Education Sunday Service
At Truro Cathedral
Sunday, September 17, 2017, from 2-3pm**

A service by children and young people, for children and young people on the theme of Community

**We would love to see each of Cornwall's schools represented by children and adults.
Please come along! All are welcome!**

General Attendance Expectations

Bishop Bronescombe School's gates open at 8.30am and children can enter classes from 8.45am for Early Morning Maths. Your child should arrive in the classroom no later than 9.00am as a register will be taken at this time. Absences and late marks will be recorded on the register and entries of this kind will be closely monitored to ensure that poor punctuality and attendance percentages are kept to a minimum.

Reporting Absences

If your child will not be attending school, please inform us by phone on the day of illness by calling 01726 64322. A message can be left before 8.30am, or you may wish to speak to the school receptionist from 8.30am onwards. We expect a phone call for any and each day of absence, unless a medical professional has recommended a specific number of days off. If a reason isn't given for your child's absence, the absence will be marked as unauthorised.

Appointments

If you need to take your child to the doctors or dentist, please try to arrange an appointment before or after school. We understand that this isn't always possible, so, if they are attending an appointment, please ensure they return to school promptly. We ask, if possible, that you provide appointment letters/cards to the school receptionist as this will support the recording of the absence as a valid medical appointment.

Going Away?

Due to government legislation, holidays can no longer be authorised when taken in term time across England. From 2013, schools have been unable to authorise requests for a child to be taken out of school, except when circumstances are deemed exceptional (see below). We expect parents to support us in scheduling holidays in the 175 days of the school holidays. In very exceptional circumstances, requests may be authorised but your child must be in receipt of an excellent attendance record (96% or over) before the request will be considered.

Exceptional circumstances could include:

1. Service personnel returning from a tour of duty abroad where it is evidenced that the individual will not be in receipt of any leave in the near future that coincides with school holidays.
2. Where an absence from school is recommended by a health professional as part of a parent or child's rehabilitation from a medical or emotional issue.
3. The death or terminal illness of a person close to the family.
4. To attend a funeral of a person close to the family.

Please note: Evidence may be requested to support your reasons for leave.

To request an authorised absence, please obtain a form from reception or print a copy from the school website where it can be found under the 'parents' tab.

Communication with parents

We closely monitor absences and if the school is concerned about your child's attendance, the following will happen:

A letter will be sent informing you that their attendance is below 95%

If their attendance doesn't improve, a letter will be sent inviting you into school to discuss your child's attendance if they fall below 90%

When attendance falls below 90%, your case will be shared with the EWO and he may visit you to discuss future actions and assess your commitment to improving your child's future attendance

The Educational Welfare Officer (EWO)

Half termly meetings with our EWO are held with the school's attendance lead and the Head of School. If there is a concern regarding your child's attendance, it will be discussed and you may be referred to the EWO who will decide what action to take. A family can be referred to the Education Welfare Service at any time but we do try to use this as a last resort. If a referral is sent, the EWO will meet with the family to discuss your legal responsibility as a parent to ensure regular attendance. Together, an action plan will be put in place and legal proceedings may follow if rapid improvements aren't seen in your child's attendance and/or punctuality.

Most importantly, we share with you the concern and duty of care for your child's wellbeing whilst they are in school. We will contact you if your child becomes ill during the school day and it is, therefore, very important that personal, and work phone numbers, are kept up to date. We encourage you to send your child into school if they are feeling 'under the weather' or are suffering from a cough or a cold. In our experience, we find that immersion in the school day helps to perk them up. Please let our staff know if you are concerned your child is unwell and we will monitor them closely; we will not hesitate to call if we feel they need to go home.

If at any point throughout the year you would like to discuss the attendance of your child, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Parry or Mrs Carmichael.

We thank you for your cooperation and support in ensuring your child's good attendance which we know will positively impact on their wellbeing and progress at school.