



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Club Info

Clubs will start on Monday 13 January. Please ensure your clubs list has been sent in.

Trip Letters and Consent Slips

Please check bags regularly for trip letters and make sure consent slips are returned – these are to confirm that you're aware your child will be offsite.

Orchestra

Letters came home before Christmas about the orchestra going out on Friday 10 January – please return consent slips.

Monday 6th

• INSET DAY

Tuesday 7th

• Yr 3: Swimming

Wednesday 8th

• Yr 3: Swimming

Thursday 9th

• Yr 3: Swimming

Friday 10th

• Yr 3: Swimming
• Orchestra playing at St Dominic and St Mellion

- Please ensure that swimming lessons have been paid for on ParentPay.

Happy New Year and Thank You

On behalf of the school staff a huge thank you for all the cards, best wishes and gifts that were sent to us this Christmas. They are greatly appreciated.

We hope everybody feels refreshed and ready for another learning journey this term.

School Admissions – September 2020

The deadline for applying for a school place is Wednesday 15 January, so if you have not filled in the County Council online form for places for children starting school in September 2020, please make sure you do this. Please remind others that this is necessary and if you know anybody who wants to look around this can still be organised.

Pantomime

The KS2 visit to the pantomime takes place on Thursday 16 January. To collect at the end of the day, we ask parents to come in the main door and then wait for pupils inside the hall. Their bags will be left around the outside of the hall so help yourself to your child's if you are waiting. We then ask for you to leave via the fire doors to reduce congestion. Children will be travelling on two buses and will be brought to the hall to be returned! As it is dark we have found this is the safest way to do it.

Staff Training

On the inset day, the staff all had chance to find out more about current good practice related to motivating reluctant readers and writers

Staffing updates

We welcome Laura O'Keeffe and Susan Evans to our apprentice scheme. Susan will be working in the office as Sharna has successfully achieved her apprenticeship and Laura as a teaching assistant

This term Charlie will be at St Mellion getting some swimming experience and so Shannon will be joining us as our sports apprentice.

Reading

Please do keep an eye on how much reading your child is doing. The more they read the better and the bigger the impact will be on their literacy work. Do read to them and share discussions about books.

KS1 will be sent home with Bug Club reading book logins so that they can read online as well.

A date for your diary...

Landrake School Run is being held on Friday the 13th March 2020 at 1.30pm. This annual 2.5 mile run is a great event for the school calendar and is renowned as the hardest, dirtiest and best cross country course in the County. Large numbers of children are expected (500 to 600 from over 30 different schools). Last year we had 80 children from the school taking part. To make it a success, particularly for the health and safety of the children, I am asking for as many adults as are able to marshal the course, help with car parking and provide refreshments to all the runners and spectators. In order to make this event work, help is needed from at least 40 adults. A separate letter will be sent out to parents shortly about this asking for your help.

Attendance

All children's attendance data will be sent home this week. This is something we have to share and follow up.

Every child is tracked on the computer and attendance figures recorded and analysed weekly. Then school census information is sent nationally every term.

It is good to see that many of our children have excellent attendance and only a few are late.

Thank you as it makes our work easier and prevents many hours of unnecessary follow up and discussions. Some schools have huge issues to face and then there is less time to spend on learning and the curriculum development.

We need to make all parents/carers aware of the following:

It is the law that all parents make sure that their children attend school. The government have now stated that children who attend for less than 90% of the sessions are classed as persistent absentees. The expectation has moved to at least 95% attendance.

If you had a holiday last term and your child was ill as well, it is possible that they fell into this group. Please make sure you look at it and query it if you think it is not right. We will be uploading this on as part of the census in the next few weeks.

These things are what we have to analyse and make parents aware of:

Patterns in attendance

Most worrying are the pupils who have a regular day off – not that there are many in our school compared to most, but a few are showing. This means that children may have the same day off each term or a different one regularly over the weeks. There are days when any one of us feel tired or would prefer to be doing something else, but it is amazing how much learning takes place every day. Children with gaps in learning are often those who miss days. They feel as though others are ahead because they have missed the day before sessions. Parents who do not send their children to school when they are fit enough, can actually cause their child to lose confidence and self-esteem unnecessarily. Whereas we do not want sick children at school, some children do seem to miss quite a few sessions, please make sure they are in school whenever possible. An Education Welfare Officer (EWO) may request a report from the GP or the school nurse may make contact if a child's attendance is causing concern.

Lateness

A few children are missing the first few minutes of maths and causing disruption by being late into sessions. Please can the collective New Year's resolution be to make sure all children are in for registration by 8.40am at the latest. Remember doors open at 8.35 and the registers taken at 8.45.

Unauthorised absences

Without a reasonable explanation, children will not have a code that will record a reason that will authorise absence. The EWO monitors children with these. Please inform the office on the morning of absence and if letters are sent home requesting the information, please return to update our systems. Apologies if you think you have already given a reason, we do try to make sure that information is recorded immediately, but there will be times when systems do not work.

Thank you for all your help with this and I hope that be the end of this term nobody will be under 90% attendance!

Health and Safety Fire drills

We are doing these when the children are in different places and at different times this term. Safety of children is paramount and it is important that everybody is aware of what to do and their role should there be a fire.

Census Day – 16 January 2020

We receive all our funding for the KS1 dinners based on the dinners taken on two days. One of these is in October and the other 16 January. Chartwells have a special meal on that day as a celebration and incentive. It would be really helpful even if your child does not usually have a dinner on that day and they are in Reception, Year 1 or 2 that they have one booked. It is a silly system but if they do not take it on that day we have no funding for all the others they take. This means that we have to take money out of the budget to cover this instead of it being given from a different pot. Last year it cost us several thousand as not everybody who had meals did sign up. If your child does not like the menu on the day sign up and provide an extra snack box for lunchtime as well

PLEASE, PLEASE HELP BY BOOKING A DINNER ON THAT DAY AND PASS THE MESSAGE ON AS NOT EVERYBODY READS THE NEWSLETTER

Landrake Messy Church

Saturday 11th January
4-6pm at Landrake Chapel

We hope you can join us for a new year of crafts, games, fun and a shared meal (please bring some food to share).

DATES FOR THE DIARY:

Mon 13 Jan	Yr : Apple Store visit (music)
Wed 15 Jan	Yr : Apple Store visit (music)
Thu 16 Jan	KS2 Panto – Theatre KS1 Cricket comp
Fri 17 Jan	League Run – Cotehele
Mon 20 Jan	Yr : Apple Store visit (music)
Thu 23 Jan	Cake Sale (Hillside)
Mon 27 Jan	Yr : Apple Store visit (music)
Thu 30 Jan	Yr : Apple Store visit (music)
Tue 4 Feb	Able Writers – Bishop Cornish
Fri 7 Feb	League Run – Lanhydrock
17-21 Feb	Half Term
Thu 27 Feb	Cake Sale
Tue 3 Mar	Grass Track Cycling (practise)
Wed 4 Mar	Grass Track Cycling (comp)
Fri 6 Mar	League Run – Bake Lakes
Tue 10 Mar	Touch rugby – Bishop Cornish
Fri 13 Mar	Landrake Run
Fri 20 Mar	Friends' Family Quiz Night
Wed 25 Mar	Songfest
Fri 27 Mar	Easter Service
30Mar-10Apr	Easter Holidays
Mon 13 Apr	Inset Day
25-29 May	Half Term
Thu 23 Jul	Inset Day
Fri 24 Jul	Summer Holidays