



PORTHLEVEN NEWS

Friday 7th February 2025

Daffodils

On Friday every child went home with a bunch of daffodils to give to someone special at home. We would like to thank Matt Penrose for donating the flowers to the school, they were lovely.

THANK YOU!



Easter Raffle

On Friday 4th April The School Lego Team will be selling raffle tickets to raise money for new Lego kits to support the teams over the next couple of years and build on their coding. Tickets will be available from the school office on Friday and the team will also go around to all the classes selling tickets. Tickets are £1 each and we can only accept cash.

Last Day of Term

Friday 4th April

Return to school on Tuesday 22nd April

PE Days

YR Rainbowfish - Monday

Y1 Seahorses - Tuesday

Y2 Jellyfish - Thursday

Y3 Narwhals - Monday

Y4 Swordfish - Wednesday

Y5 Manta rays - Thursday

Y6 Dolphins - Friday





Classroom News



Nursery

Week of Growth and Excitement: Ready, Steady, Grow!

It's been another busy and exciting week for the children in Angelfish as we continue with our "Ready, Steady, Grow!" topic. From planting seeds to watching tadpoles wiggle around, it's been full of hands-on learning and lots of surprises!

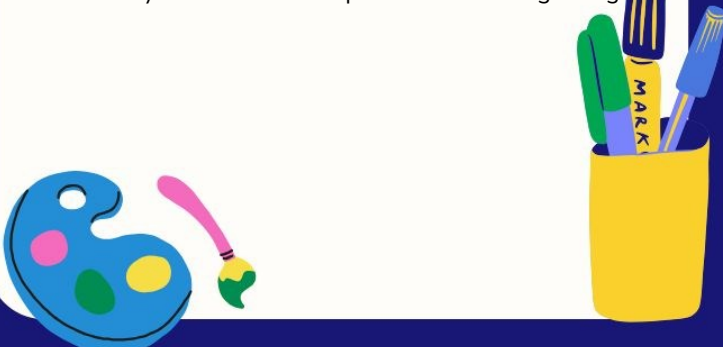
The beans we planted at the start of the term are now growing strong, and it's almost time to pot them on into bigger pots. The children have loved seeing them grow, and it's a perfect opportunity to talk about how plants need space to thrive.

Our sunflowers, which we planted during our visit to the garden centre, are sprouting too! Everyone's excited to see how tall they'll get, and we're all looking forward to watching them bloom as the weeks go on.

And, of course, our frogspawn is keeping us all on the edge of our seats. The tadpoles are growing quickly, and every day the children rush over to see if they can spot any tiny legs starting to form. It's amazing to see this little piece of nature in action and watch the transformation from tadpoles to frogs!

This week, our children have been busy crafting special surprises for their Mums in celebration of Mother's Day. While we won't spoil the surprises just yet, we can say that a lot of love has gone into each project.

We've loved hearing the children share what makes their Mummy so special, from kindness to the stories they read. Happy Mother's Day to all the wonderful Mums – we hope you feel the love your children have put into their thoughtful gifts!

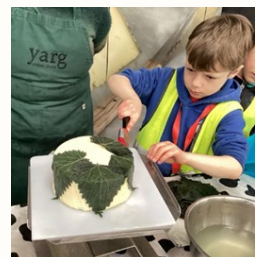


Year 3

We have been busy the last few weeks with lots of enriching experiences outside of school!

Two weeks ago, we attended the farm and country show at the Royal Cornwall showground. There were so many different things to see and do. We got to learn about the farming community around us, the products they make (which some we got to try making ourselves and taste!) and the impact they have on our lives. We were able to see different farming equipment in action, how farms help to provide us with the food we eat and how they plant them, we met pigs, sheep, newborn lambs, a cow and her calves and a ram and learn about their life cycles and diet.

This week we got the chance to visit CAST in Helston to attend a workshop on light and shadows. We learnt about how day and night occur and how shadows are formed, and the children used that knowledge to make their own shadow puppets and act with them in the black box room. We learnt about the change of seasons and watched a show puppet story all about the seasonal changes. We are starting our light and shadows unit next half term in science, so this was a great way to get us started!





Attendance

Class	Attendance this week
Rainbowfish — YR	91.2
Seahorses — Y1	95.6
Jellyfish — Y2	100
Narwhals — Y3	98.6
Swordfish — Y4	100
Manta Rays — Y5	93.5
Dolphins — Y6	90.4
WHOLE SCHOOL	96.51

Well done to the
**Jellyfish &
Swordfish
Class**
for the best
attendance this
week!

Team Points

Running totals

Penrose: 13

Gibson: 9

Methleigh: 13

Cookworthy: 15

Our winners this half term are the
Methleigh TEAM!

Well done!



ACCELERATED READER CHAMPIONS!

Jellyfish	Narwhals	Swordfish	Manta Rays	Dolphins
Class Weekly Word Count				
80,499	45,503	62,896	53,199	252,188
Highest Pupil Weekly Word Count				
William	Noah	Keira	Fflur	Tobias
100% achievers – Who has achieved their target?				
Charlie, Chloe, Chloe P, Elsie, Ocean	Dougie	Lowen, Fern, Lottie, Jago, Rupert, Evie, Lydia, Keira, Lily,	Ivy, Evelyn, Fflur, Ayva, Sienna, Daisy, Sophia, Ezmai, Rob- bie, Ezra, Coral, Fleur, Bertie, Evie, Robin, Merryn, Abigail, Kyla, Rose, Tommy	Tobias, Linnea,

$$y = mx + b$$

Maths Whizz

Below is our weekly progression for each class! ◆

Seahorse: 2/27

Jellyfish: 17/24

Narwhals: 18/27

Swordfish: 27/27

Manta Rays: 25/28

Dolphins: 21/24

Well done to Swordfish class for winning the Maths Whizz trophy this week!

$$-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}$$

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0$$



News

Cross Country Race 5

On Tuesday 29th April race 5 will take place at Helston School North site at 4pm. Please click the link below to let us know you are going. This race is for all year groups.

<https://forms.office.com/e/c2G3AskH1W>

School Communications

We are now ready to start using the Arbor Parent Portal and Parent App. Initially, we will use this for communicating with you through in-app messages and emails. You will also be able to update the data we hold on you through the App instead of having to communicate directly to the school office. In the future, we will look at other areas that we can use e.g. booking parental consultations.

Your accounts have already been created for this system. To finish creating your account, you just need to set a password. Your username is the email address we've sent this email to.

Go to <https://porthleven-school.uk.arbor.sc/> and click **Forgot your password?** to finish setting up your account.

The Parent App can be downloaded from either the Playstore on android phones or the Apple Store on iPhones. Arbor have a 'Getting started' page on their website for the Parent Portal that will help you familiarise yourself with the app here:

[Getting started - Log into the Parent Portal and the Parent App](#)

If you have any queries, please contact the school office.

As a reminder to parents about attendance

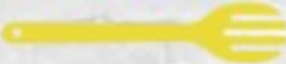
















If you book a holiday in term time which is 5 days or more, and is not approved as an exceptional circumstance, our policy - in line with DFE guidance, is to refer this to the local authority for a fine to be issued. Please also be aware that schools need to consider fining if a child has 10 unauthorised sessions in a rolling 10 week period. Please do contact the school if you have further questions.



Diary Dates

Date	Event
Monday 7th –21st April	Easter Holidays
Tuesday 29th April	Cross Country race 5 - Helston North Site
Thursday 8th May	INSET DAY
Monday 26th - 30th May	Half Term
Friday 6th June	INSET DAY
Monday 7th July	INSET DAY
18th - 20th June	Year 3 Residential
2nd - 4th June	Year 4 Residential
9th - 11th June	Year 5 Residential
Thursday 12th June	KS1 & EYFS Sports Day AM
Friday 13th June	KS2 Sports Day all day
Tuesday 1st July	Year 6 Transition to Helston School
Wednesday 2nd July	Year 6 Transition to Helston School
14th July - 18th July	Year 6 Residential
Wednesday 23rd July	Last day of School

Next Week's Menu

<div> WEEK 1 <div>W/C: 04/11, 25/11, 16/12, 06/01, 27/01, 10/03, 31/03</div>  </div>					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT MAINS	Macaroni Cheese 	Classic Beef Burger Served with Potato Wedges	Roast Gammon Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	BBQ Chicken Pizza  Served with Pesto Pasta	Fish Fingers Served with Chips
	Cheesy Bean Burrito  	Quorn Burger  Served with Potato Wedges	Roast Quorn  Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Meatless Feast Cheesy Pizza   Served with Pesto Pasta	Veggie Fingers  Served with Chips
JACKET POTATO	Jacket Potatoes   with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes   with a choice of hot and cold fillings including Salmon Mayonnaise 	Jacket Potatoes   with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes   with a choice of hot and cold fillings	Jacket Potatoes   with a choice of hot and cold fillings
Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade tomato sauce with penne pasta  					
All main meals are served with two vegetables					
DESSERT	Flapjack with Fruit 	Apple Crumble with Custard 	Rice Pudding with Jam or Chocolate Spread	Raspberry Jelly	Chocolate Brownie
PACKED LUNCH Ham and Cheese sandwich available daily with veg sticks and fresh fruit or dessert of the day					

Lego League



Egg Raffle

On sale from the school office

on Friday 4th April, 8am

**The Raffle will be
drawn during The
School Assembly**

on

Friday April 4th

£1 a ticket



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about BLUESKY SOCIAL APP

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

With an App Store rating of 17+ & Google Play rating Mature

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

NO PRIVATE ACCOUNTS

While most social networks allow accounts to be private, at the time of writing, all Bluesky accounts must be public. The development team has indicated this might change in the future, but the app is built on a public-first protocol. If private accounts are ever introduced, it may only be in a limited way – such as through the implementation of group chats.

INTERACTIONS WITH STRANGERS

Every account being public means that anyone can be contacted by anyone else. While users don't have to respond and can easily block people and move on, it does mean that youngsters are at particular risk of being conned by scammers, messaged by predatory adults or exposed to others with ill intentions. These hazards can be compounded by the fact that Bluesky doesn't require its users to provide their real name.

TROLLING AND BULLYING

While Bluesky currently feels a lot friendlier than X seems to have become, its lack of private accounts means that there's nothing to stop users from trolling and cyberbullying younger people. While accounts can be blocked and reported, a persistent bully could simply create a new profile, potentially making their victims feel unsafe in continuing to use the app.

DANGEROUS MISINFORMATION

Established news organisations have fact-checking and editing processes, but social networks have no such controls and can often serve as breeding grounds for misinformation and disinformation. Bluesky will possibly be no different once it reaches a certain size, and children may not have the critical thinking skills to tell fact from fiction – or to discern an informative, honest user from a malicious one.

ADULT TARGET AUDIENCE

Bluesky isn't designed with children in mind, and there aren't many parental controls on the platform. In an interview with the BBC, Bluesky's CEO originally said that the app would only allow users aged 18 and above to sign up, but a spokesperson later clarified its age restriction as 13+. This could imply the app was originally meant for an adult audience and suggests that making the platform more child-friendly might not currently be a priority.

RAPID GROWTH

At the time of writing, Bluesky seems calm in comparison with other social networks where moderation is lax and the atmosphere toxic – but that's due at least in part to its smaller community. The app has recently been adding as many as a million users per day, and if that continues, there'll be more unpleasant users to handle, and moderators could struggle to maintain the pleasant environment Bluesky is currently known for.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE THE ADULT CONTENT FILTER

Bluesky doesn't have much in the way of parental controls, but there are content filters which can hide sexual and graphic imagery. These are enabled by default for underage accounts but can be manually turned on in the 'Moderation' section of the app's settings. The 'advanced' Bluesky Moderation Service lets you restrict content even further, hiding – for example – self-harm content, extremist rhetoric, and even rude posts.

ENCOURAGE BLOCKING AND REPORTING

Another tool that Bluesky uses to ensure a decent experience is muting and blocking accounts. The former prevents you from seeing a specific user's content, while the latter stops them from seeing yours. If a child is encountering trolls or bullies on the platform, encourage them to use this function, while also reporting the offenders to help make the platform a nicer place for everyone.

LOOK OUT FOR FAKES

Impersonation is a problem on all social networks. While the consequences are usually benign, imposters sometimes attempt to scam or groom children by pretending to be a popular influencer or online personality. Bluesky is unique in that it can be connected to official domains, with users' handles linking to other sites; while this isn't widely used right now, it could be a reliable way to verify celebrities and public figures in future.

KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

As with all social media platforms, moderation and content filters can only do so much; it's highly likely that a child will eventually face something unsavoury. For that reason, it's important to make sure that young people are aware of the risks and know how to handle the technology if anything they see on the app makes them feel unsafe or uncomfortable.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/bluesky-app>

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UK Health
Security
Agency

NHS

Should I keep my child off school?



Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minftec>.