

# PORTHLEVEN NEWS



Friday 5th December 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

What an eventful week it has been! Many of you likely saw the fire engines at school on Thursday morning or heard from your children about the small fire we experienced. A malfunction in one of the boiler motors in our boiler room caused the fire, which resulted primarily in smoke damage. Thankfully, all mechanical safety procedures were activated, isolating the fire and sounding the alarm, and a staff member promptly alerted the fire brigade. While the room will need a thorough clean and the boiler electrics replaced, we are fortunate that the damage was not more severe.



On Monday, Key Stage 2 classes visited Culdrose to watch the film Wild Robot, a story that most children will encounter as part of our reading curriculum. It was a fantastic experience for everyone involved!

On Friday, the school enjoyed a lively performance from our 'Rock Steady' bands. It's been wonderful to see how much the children's musical skills and confidence have grown.

Looking ahead, next week brings the foundation stage and KS1 nativity performances, as well as our whole school trip to Truro for the pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Mr Clayden

Headteacher



## Christmas Fair

Don't forget our Christmas Fair on Thursday 12th December. Bring in an item for Christmas jumper day



## INSET DAY

Reminder that Monday 6th January is a staff training day. The school is closed to pupils.

# CLASSROOM

## News

### Year 2

We've had an exciting and busy week in class! The children have had great fun experimenting in science. The children worked in small groups building houses made of different materials. We were testing how suitable they were for the three little pigs. We looked at how strong and sturdy they were and if they were waterproof. The children also enjoyed learning all about fire safety, gaining important knowledge that we hope they'll remember for years to come.

In literacy, the children have been hard at work writing instructions for their independent writing project. It's been wonderful to see their creativity and attention to detail.

And, of course, we're starting to get into the festive spirit! The children have been busy preparing their Christmas crafts and practising for their Christmas show.

Thank you for your continued support!



### Year 6

We were transported back in time as we welcomed The Lady Time Traveler, who brought history to life with a fascinating exploration of World War II. Through an engaging mix of storytelling and hands-on activities, we gained insight into life on the home front and the resourcefulness of those who lived through wartime challenges.

We examined a collection of authentic artefacts, including a German compass, a darning mushroom, and even a button polisher. Everyday items like a chamber pot gave us a glimpse into the practicalities of daily life during the 1940s. To explore what the children used to play, we tried our hand at vintage games, including pick-up sticks, spinning tops, and snakes and ladders. These simple yet entertaining toys highlighted how children found joy even in tough times.

The highlight of the day was the Make Do and Mend session, where we learned to craft rag rugs using old clothes and potato sacks, just as families did during the war. This creative activity gave us an appreciation for how people reused materials to meet their needs.





# Attendance

Class	Attendance this week
Rainbowfish — YR	100
Seahorses — Y1	98.7
Jellyfish — Y2	95.4
Narwhals — Y3	99.2
Swordfish — Y4	99.2
Manta Rays — Y5	95.1
Dolphins — Y6	99.5
WHOLE SCHOOL	96.72

Well done to the  
**Rainbowfish  
Class**  
for the best  
attendance this  
week!

## Team Points

Running totals

Penrose: 12

Gibson: 13

Methleigh: 13

Cookworthy: 12

Our winners this week are the  
**Cookworthy TEAM!**

**Well done!**



# ACCELERATED READER CHAMPIONS!

Jellyfish	Narwhals	Swordfish	Manta Rays	Dolphins
<b>Class Weekly Word Count</b>				
314,921	50,182	419,852	639,827	18,380
<b>Highest Pupil Weekly Word Count</b>				
Charlie	Madeline	Esmay	Sophia	Ava
<b>100% achievers – Who has achieved their target?</b>				
Charlie, William, Chloe P	Dougie	Lottie, Fern, Lowen, Evie, Esmay, Eden, Rupert, Alana,	Ivy, Ayva, Lowenna, Abigail, Max, Sophia,	Tobias, John

$$y = mx + b$$

## Maths Whizz

Below is our weekly progression for each class!

**Jellyfish:** 42%

**Narwhals:** 78%

**Swordfish:** 100%

**Manta Rays:** 96%

**Dolphins:** 83%

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

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

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







# *Portlleven* **Christmas** RAFFLE



Tickets on sale from 8.30am  
on  
Thursday 12th December  
Draw will take place at 4pm





# School Messages

## **Christmas Jumper Day**

On Thursday 12th December we will have a school Christmas Jumper day in return for donations for the Christmas fair tombola stalls.

Years 1, 2, Reception and Nursery - we would like you to bring a chocolate item for the chocolate tombola e.g. chocolate orange, multi pack of bars, selection box...

Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 - we would like you to bring donations of bottles for the bottle tombola e.g. drinks, bubble bath, sauce, squash... (please drop any alcoholic bottles to the school office).

## **Christmas Songs & Carol Concert**

Once again this year we will be holding a Christmas Carol Concert at St. Bartholmew's Church.

This will take place at 1.30pm on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December. Classes will be performing carols and songs, which will be interspersed with Christmas readings from Year 6. It would be lovely to see you there.

## **Porthleven Charity Shop**

We would like to say a huge thank you to the Celler Charity Shop in Porthleven for donating £500 towards wooden furniture for EYFS. Thank you so much!



## **National Childs Measurement Program Reception & Year 6**

The school nursing team will be in school On Monday 13th January to see Reception and Year 6 to take their measurements.

Please find information below for each year group including how to opt out.

**Reception:** <https://www.healthycornwall.org.uk/make-a-change/2024-child-health-programme-reception-year/>

**Year 6:** <https://www.healthycornwall.org.uk/make-a-change/2024-child-health-programme-year-6/>

## **Lost Property**

We have a lot of lost property at the moment all items left after Wednesday 11th December will be recycled or added to the school sale rail and Christmas fair second hand table.





# School Messages

## Reindeer Roundup!

On Friday 20th December the last day of the term, we will be raising money for Cornwall Hospice Care with a Reindeer Roundup!

Sponsorship forms have gone home with information on the run. The top 3 children that raise the most on their sponsor forms will get a Santa outfit to chase all the reindeer. Parents are welcome to join us for the run from 1.30pm.

If you would like to donate, we also have the link below.

[https://www.justgiving.com/page/porthleven-school-1731931804359?utm\\_medium=fundraising&utm\\_content=page%2Fporthleven-school-1731931804359&utm\\_source=copyLink&utm\\_campaign=pfp-share](https://www.justgiving.com/page/porthleven-school-1731931804359?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fporthleven-school-1731931804359&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share)



## Panto Trip

On Friday 13th December, we will be heading to the Hall for Cornwall to see Jack and the Beanstalk as a whole school trip. If you have not yet paid for your ticket please see Mrs Blight in the school office as soon as possible or log onto ParentPay to make payment.

We would like every child to come in their school uniform with their school hoodie on top. KS2 and nursery please remember to bring a packed lunch.

Everyone will be sat together with their friends and we hope everyone will enjoy this years family show.



## Everyone Loves A Baby

On Tuesday 10th December EYFS will have their first show at 2pm and their second show on Wednesday 11th at 5.30pm. Each child will receive 2 tickets per show. More information to follow.

## Christmas Karaoke

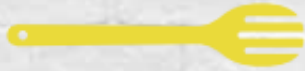
On Tuesday 10th December KS1 will have their first show at 5.30pm and their second show on Wednesday 11th at 2pm. Each child will receive 2 tickets per show. More information to follow.



# Next Week's Menu

## WEEK 3

W/C: 18/11, 09/12, 20/01, 10/02, 03/03, 24/03



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>HOT MAINS</b>	Macaroni Cheese	Pork Sausages Served with Mashed Potato and Gravy	<p><b>Christmas meal day.</b></p> <p>If you have not pre-ordered a Christmas lunch please bring in a packed lunch from home</p>	Chicken and Vegetable Korma Served with Wholegrain Rice	<p><b>Panto Day</b></p> <p>Please bring in a packed lunch from home.</p> <p>Reception, year 1, Year 2 and free school meal children have pre-ordered a school packed lunch.</p>
	BBQ Quorn Fillet Served with Wholegrain Rice	Quorn Sausages Served with Mashed Potato and Gravy		Tomato and Sweetcorn Pasta	
<b>JACKET POTATO</b>	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		Pasta with penne pasta and two vegetables		
<b>DESSERT</b>	Chocolate Beet Brownie with Orange Slices	Bread and Butter Pudding with Custard	Jam and Coconut Sponge with Custard		

### PACKED LUNCH

Ham and Cheese sandwich available daily with veg sticks and fresh fruit or dessert of the day



# Diary Dates

Date	Event
Tuesday 10th December	EYFS performance afternoon
Tuesday 10th December	KS1 Performance 5.30pm
Wednesday 11th December	KS1 Performance Afternoon
Wednesday 11th December	EYFS performance 5.30pm
Thursday 12th December	School Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 12th December	Christmas Fair
Friday 13th December	Jack and the Beanstalk trip
Friday 20th December	Reindeer Fun Run
Monday 6th January	INSET DAY
Monday 24th February	INSET DAY
Tuesday 25th—28th Feb	Parents evenings– more info to follow
Thursday 8th May	INSET DAY
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
14th July - 18th July	Year 6 Residential



Porthleven School PTA



# CHRISTMAS FAIR

Thursday



## 12TH DECEMBER

2.30-4.15pm

Craft Stalls | Gifts  
Games | Tombola  
Entertainment  
Refreshments

Everyone welcome





Part of our Online Information Series



What you need to know about ...

# FAKE NEWS



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## WHAT IS FAKE NEWS

Parven Kaur, Kids N Clicks Founder

Fake news can be false information, photos or videos purposefully created to confuse or misinform. It can also be genuine information that has been manipulated to deceive. It is important that children learn how to distinguish between real news and fake news, so that they don't inadvertently share something which isn't true or believe something which could be misleading.



### FAKE NEWS ALERT!

For details, see page 13 ...



## KNOW THE RISKS

### SHOCK VALUE

Fake news can cause upset or shock to readers or viewers. Many fake news stories are written with appealing headlines and have content designed to create 'shock value', so the news spreads rapidly (common examples include the 'death' of a celebrity, company giveaways, news relating to supernatural events, or terror-related posts that provoke reactions).

### EMBARRASSMENT

Fake news is often deliberately created to misinform people – whether for fun, out of malice or to support an ideological or political agenda. As it's often difficult to tell the difference, young people can easily believe what they see and then share something which is a hoax or a joke, leading to embarrassment or ridicule.

### INFLUENCE BEHAVIOUR

Ultimately, fake news is designed to shape people's beliefs, thoughts and decisions: influencing them into believing something which has been misrepresented or which simply isn't true. This can shape how children think, behave or act in real life. It can especially affect their trust in the media or even in democracy itself.

## FURTHER SUPPORT

### REPORT THE CONTENT

Google and many social media platforms now have dedicated methods for fake news stories to be reported to them. This can range from sending a feedback message to Google via the page itself to the 'Report Post' buttons on Facebook and Twitter.

### PROVIDE REASSURANCE

If your child feels as though they have been negatively impacted by a fake news story, or has suffered some form of embarrassment because of fake news, it's important to be supportive and reassuring. Discuss with them how not everything that's posted online is true.

### IMPROVE THEIR DIGITAL LITERACY

If your child has been tricked by a fake news story, try to encourage them to think more rationally about what they see and hear on the internet. Advise them to question the motivation behind a story – such as why it's been written, and if it's trying to make them form a specific opinion or influence their actions.



## HOROSCOPES

New to page 18 ...  
Find out what's in your future!

## SPOT THE SIGNS

### CONSIDER THE SOURCE

Fake news stories can sometimes be identified simply because they are too ridiculous or outrageous to believe. Make sure that the website that published the story is a credible source, like a major news network or local paper which has the resources to fact-check published stories.

### CHECK THE URL

Does the website address at the top of the page look real? An easy way to spot suspect stories is if they're located on a news site with an odd domain name. So check the URL. Some shady websites try to incorporate a legitimate news source into their URL (such as [www.therealbbc.co.uk](http://www.therealbbc.co.uk)) or will slightly misspell a popular domain name.

### VERIFY FACTS AND IMAGES

Authentic news is usually backed up by official data or surveys and previous, similar instances of the occurrence being reported. Similarly, fake news stories often include photos which have been manipulated. Perform a Google reverse image search to see if the picture has been stolen from another source and doctored.

### RESEARCH THE WEBSITE

Be wary when a big story comes from a news organisation that you've never heard of. Some hoaxers will quickly set up a website just to spread fake stories and so-called 'breaking news'. Use the internet archive to research how long a site has been running – and check if the same story is being reported by more credible news outlets.

## ARE ALIENS HARVESTING OUR WIFI?!



Supposed footage of alien craft

Our groundbreaking exposé on page 4 ...

## OUR EXPERT PARVEN KAUR



Parven Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.



# Managing Stress

Stress is an uncomfortable experience of pressure or worry caused by problems in your life. Stress can cause many different symptoms and may affect how we feel physically, mentally, how we behave and make choices. It is not always easy to recognise when stress is the reason you are feeling or acting differently.

This guide will give you some top tips so that you can take action to reduce the symptoms of stress in your life.

## 1. WARNING SIGNS, PART 1

Warning signs of stress include emotional symptoms such as anxiety, fear or loss of confidence and cognitive symptoms such as poor concentration, poor memory or repetitive thoughts.



## 2. WARNING SIGNS, PART 2

Warning signs also include physical symptoms such as excessive sweating, racing heart rate, headaches and muscle tension. Behavioural symptoms might include, poor sleep, irritability, drinking excessive amounts of coffee or alcohol or losing your temper.



## 3. UNDERSTAND YOUR TRIGGERS

Take time to reflect on situations which may be causing stress. Once you know what they are, you can begin to reduce your exposure to the stressors and/or manage the causes.



## 10. PRIORITISE WELLBEING

As a way of preventing stress, you should prioritise your wellbeing and be consistent about it. A one-off activity will have some impact, but it won't help you manage stress or maintain wellbeing in the long term.

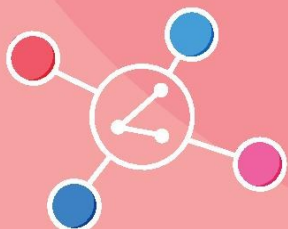
## 9. MANAGE YOUR TIME

Prioritising tasks, including emails and wellbeing activities, will be a crucial first step to change and taking control. Get someone to help you to keep on track with the change.



## 8. CHANGE YOUR PERSPECTIVE

Amend your thinking and expectations of what is possible or doable. Reduce the pressure on yourself by reframing the problem or accepting that not everything will be finished or perfect. Most of the time, good enough is ok.



## 7. USE YOUR SOCIAL NETWORK

Plan opportunities for fun and enjoyment with people you care about and who care about you. This could be sharing a new experience or an activity you enjoy doing together. Share and talk about your feelings too, sometimes that is all that is needed to cope.

## 4. TAKE CONTROL

Often stress symptoms are caused by feeling out of control. Not doing anything about the stress triggers or symptoms will make things worse, so start by understanding what you can and what you can't control.

## 5. MAKE HEALTHY CHOICES

Plan regular, healthy activities which will reduce stress symptoms. These will be a non-negotiable part of your week and a regular antidote to stress.

## 6. INDUCE CALM

Activities known to help induce calm range from deep breathing, meditation and mindfulness to walking, outdoor exercise or gardening.



The National College®

This guide is part of The National College staffroom poster series  
A collection of information posters for your school staffroom.



### Meet the Expert: Anna Bateman

Anna Bateman, subject matter expert on mental health & wellbeing and school improvement adviser

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# 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>.