

CARDINHAM SCHOOL



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**CARDINHAM, BODMIN,
CORNWALL,
PL30 4BN**

Newsletter: 7

January 27th 2024

Part of Truro & Penwith Academy Trust

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Dear Cardinham Families,

I hope this message finds you well. As we reach the midway point of the half-term, I wanted to take a moment to share how proud we are of the wonderful progress being made across the school. It's always such a pleasure to see the children's enthusiasm for learning and the care they show for one another.

Across the school, the children are working hard in their lessons and showing great perseverance in tackling new challenges. Whether it's developing their reading and writing skills, deepening their understanding in maths, or exploring creative ideas in art and design, their positive attitude and commitment to learning are clear to see.

As always, we remain committed to ensuring every child feels supported, happy, and safe in school. If there's ever anything you'd like to discuss, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher or the school office.

Best wishes,

Dave Jones
Headteacher

Term Dates 2025 - 2026

You should have received an update regarding our term dates for next academic year. If you haven't, we have included a calendar at the end of this newsletter after the attendance message. Please don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions.

Spring Term Dates

We have also updated some of our dates for the Spring Term on the next page. More dates are sure to be added when finalised and more information will be provided for each nearer the time.

Online Safety

Attached to this email you would have received a copy of this month's online safety newsletter. We hope you find this newsletter helpful. It's packed full of all the latest information regarding keeping safe online.

Here's another link you may find useful: [Is WhatsApp safe for my child? | NSPCC](#)

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Our Spring Term clubs are now in full swing. We hope children have enjoyed the first week of clubs. Just as a reminder, clubs will finish on March 28th. They will not run during our last week of term.

Family Forum

Our Family Forum returns next week on Tuesday 4th February. As a reminder, it is an opportunity to meet with school staff, have a cup of tea/coffee and discuss general matters. We hope to see you there. Please meet by the school office at 3:25pm.

Diary Dates: Cardinham School 2024/2025	
Fri 31st Jan	Little Fawns Toddler Group
Tues 4th Feb	Family Forum. Meet in school office @3:25pm.
Weds 12th Feb	St. Wenn Cross Country for Cross Country Club Runners.
Weds 26th Feb	Scholastic Book Fair After School
Half Term: Mon 17th February to Fri 21st February	
Fri 28th Feb	Little Fawns Toddler Group
Thurs 6th March	World Book Day
Fri 21st Mar	Landrake Cross Country for Cross Country Club Runners.
Fri 28th Mar	Little Fawns Toddler Group
Fri 4th April	Spring Term ends. 2pm collection. No ASC.
Mon 21st April	Summer Term begins. All pupils return to school.
Mon 5th May	Bank Holiday. School Closed.
w/b Mon 12th May	Key Stage 2 SATs Week
Half Term: Mon 26th May to Fri 30th May	
Mon 2nd June	Tempest Whole School Photograph
Fri 6th June	INSET Day. School Closed.
Fri 18th July	Summer Term ends. 2pm collection. No ASC.
Mon 21st July, Tues 22nd July & Weds 23rd July are INSET Days. School Closed.	

Attendance Message

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 action 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.

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE LAW REGARDING PENALTY NOTICES FOR UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE

A new National Framework for Penalty Notices for school absence, including unauthorised holiday absence, is being introduced following changes to the law. These new Government regulations will come into effect from 19 August 2024 and will affect when penalty notices are issued in Cornwall.

What are the changes?

1. There will be a new national threshold of 10 unauthorised sessions for any reason (equivalent to 5 school days) within a rolling 10 school week period for when a penalty notice must be considered.
2. The new rules mean you will no longer be able to take your child out of school for one week's holiday without the consideration of a penalty notice being issued.
3. There will be an increase in the penalty fine from £60 to £80 if paid in 21 days. If the fine is not paid by the first 21 days, it will rise to £160 if paid within 28 days of being issued.
4. If a second penalty fine is issued to the same parent for the same child within a 3-year rolling period, the fine will automatically rise to £160 with no option to pay the lower rate of £80.
5. If a parent then commits a third offence in a 3-year rolling period, the local authority will need to consider other enforcement options available to them. This could include prosecution.

FAQs

If I have been issued with a penalty notice before 19 August 2024, will this be counted if I am issued with another penalty notice from September onwards? No, the new limits come into effect from 19 August 2024.

If I have already booked a holiday for next year, could I receive a penalty fine at the new higher rate? Yes, absence from school can only be agreed when the explanation of the leave of absence is considered as exceptional circumstance by the Head Teacher.

Who can be issued with a penalty notice? Each parent can receive a fine for each child who has had unauthorised absence from school. In education law, anyone who lives with a child and who has day-to-day care of the child is also considered to be a parent whether they are the biological parent or not. This will include step-parents and partners.

Do the new rules only apply to holidays during term time? No, it applies to all unauthorised absence from school including holidays. Unauthorised absence includes other absence that has not been agreed such as truancy, arriving late after the register has closed and failing to provide acceptable reasons for absence.

How do I request for my child to have leave granted during term time? You must submit a Leave of Absence Request form to the Head Teacher before the proposed absence (a minimum of 15 days before the Leave of absence is due to commence). Each request will be considered on its own merit, but where the leave of absence could be taken outside of the school term the absence will not be authorised. Do not assume that the absence will be granted until you have received confirmation from the school.

Do the 10 sessions of unauthorised absence have to be taken all at the same time before a penalty fine is issued? No, a penalty fine can be issued for any combination of absences over a 10-week rolling period. They can be consecutive or non-consecutive and can span over two terms (including between academic years).

What happens if I am issued with a penalty fine and I don't pay it? Unauthorised absence from school is an offence under S444 of the Education Act 1996. A penalty fine is an opportunity for you to settle out of court. If you don't take this opportunity, you can be prosecuted for the offence of failing to ensure your child's regular attendance.

What should I do if I am worried about my child's attendance? Please contact us to arrange a meeting to discuss how we can support you to improve the situation.



Sleep



Workshop with Julie

The workshop includes

- Introduction to Neal's Yard Remedies
- Refreshments provided
- A goodie bag to take home
- A selection of items will be available to buy during the evening. A donation of 10% of the proceeds will go to the PTA.

There will be a raffle with a selection of fantastic Neal's Yard prizes to be won!



7pm
13th March
Cardinham
School

Tickets to be bought in advance
via bank transfer or cash

**£7 a
ticket**

Treasurers Account
30-99-08 23033660



Cornwall Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM - MHST



Parents and Carers -
please join us at our
1hr online
Sleep Workshop

Monday 3rd February - 11am & 4pm
Tuesday 4th February - 9.30am & 2pm
Wednesday 5th February - 9.30am &
1.30pm
Thursday 6th February - 11am &
1.30pm



*This workshop aims to provide
psychoeducation on sleep hygiene
and sleep routines. Also includes
practical strategies for helping
children*

To book a place please complete
the online form [HERE](#)

<https://forms.office.com/e/7ac7qHLPhc> or scan the QR code



This workshop is open to parents/carers of
primary aged children enrolled in Reception
to Year 6 in any school in Cornwall

Cardinham School Calendar 2025/26

September 2025						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October 2025						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November 2025						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2025						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

January 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

April 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



School holidays

Bank holidays

Christmas Day	25 December 2025
Boxing Day	26 December 2025
New Years Day	01 January 2026
Good Friday	03 April 2026
Easter Monday	06 April 2026
May Bank Holiday	04 May 2026
Spring Bank Holiday	25 May 2026
Summer Bank Holiday	31 August 2026

Bank Holidays highlighted in pink

Autumn Term

1st September – 19th Dec 2025
(Half Term 20th – 31st Oct)

Spring Term

5th January – 2nd April 2026
(Half Term 16th - 20th Feb 2026)

Summer Term

20th April – 24th July 2026
(Half Term 25th – 29th May 2026)

Cardinham School INSET Days (highlighted in **Yellow**) school closed:

- Mon 1st Sept 2025
- Mon 20th – Fri 24th Oct 2025
- Mon 24th Nov 2025
- Fri 5th June 2026