



## 12<sup>th</sup> September 2025

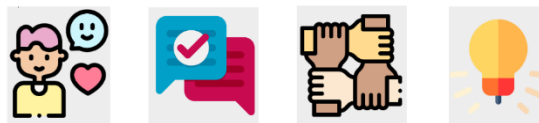
Dear Parents/Carers

What a jam-packed first full week back it's been! The school has been buzzing with energy, learning, and lots of brilliant moments.

A huge well done to our youngest superstars in **Acorns**, who have now stepped up to full days in school. It's been wonderful to see their confidence grow—and we suspect there might be a few sleepy faces by Friday afternoon (staff included!).

We were absolutely thrilled to welcome PC Rees and PC Best to Chacewater this week. They've been working closely with our Red Oaks (Year 5) children on the *Mini Police* project, diving into important topics like online safety and anti-social behaviour. The children were engaged, thoughtful, and full of great questions—WELL DONE Red Oaks.

Across the school, we've been celebrating our core behaviour values: **be kind, be honest, be respectful, and be brilliant.**



And let me tell you, the children have really risen to the challenge. Headteacher stickers have been flying out, and brilliant tokens are popping up everywhere. It's lovely to see such positivity and pride in our school community.

Thank you to everyone who came along to this week's class meetings. It was great to see so many of you, and we hope you found the sessions helpful. If you weren't able to attend, don't worry—the key information is now available on the class pages of our website [HERE](#).

Looking ahead, next week is shaping up to be just as exciting. We're kicking things off on **Monday** with a full day of **fun science workshops** to celebrate this half term's science focus. Expect bubbling experiments, curious minds, and lots of "wow" moments!

Wishing you all a restful and happy weekend. Let's do it all again next week!

Mr Hick

### Science Day



On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September the whole school will be taking part in a STEM/Science day. The theme is 'ROCKETS AND ROBOTS'. Throughout the day each year group will take part in fun science workshops. We are all very excited and can't wait! Many thanks to the PTA for organising this and particularly Mrs Bearham, who has been very resilient in securing this amazing experience for our children.

### Clubs

A reminder that clubs will start in the week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> September. We are just finalising our offer for this term and we will send this out early next week.

### Harvest Festival



On the 15<sup>th</sup> October we will be holding two short harvest celebrations in Chacewater Church. One for reception and **key stage 2** at 1.30pm and one for **key stage 1** at 2.15pm. Parents and carers are welcome to attend these but please be mindful of available space in the church. During this week we will be taking a collection of goods for Truro Foodbank.

### Labels

It begins, as all good mysteries do, with a playground. A sea of children. A flurry of identical navy blue jumpers. And one forlorn child holding up a sleeve and asking, "Is this mine?"

Welcome to *The Great Jumper Mix-Up*, now in its 1,284th season.

Every year, our lost property box becomes a woolly Bermuda Triangle. Jumpers go in, but they rarely come out. Some say they migrate. Others believe they form a secret society and plot their escape during PE.

But there is a solution. A hero. A beacon of hope in the form of... **a name label**.

Yes, dear parents, guardians, and laundry warriors: labelling your child's jumper is the single most effective way to prevent it from vanishing into the abyss. Whether it's stitched, ironed, or scribbled in permanent marker with the flair of a Banksy tribute—any name is better than none.

So, as the autumn breeze rolls in and sleeves are tugged on once more, we kindly ask: label it like you mean it. Your child's jumper will thank you. And so will the staff member currently knee-deep in a pile of unclaimed knitwear, whispering "Why, oh why..."

## Attendance Update

### Did You Know?

Children who attend school regularly are more likely to achieve better grades and build stronger friendships. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/link-between-attendance-and-attainment>

### Academic Achievement:

- Pupils with 95–100% attendance at Key Stage 2 were 1.3 times more likely to meet expected standards in reading, writing, and maths than those with 90–95% attendance
- At Key Stage 4, students with 95–100% attendance were 1.9 times more likely to achieve a Grade 5 in English and Maths GCSEs
- Missing just 10 days in Year 6 can reduce the chance of meeting expected standards by 25%, and in Year 11, it can cut the likelihood of achieving a Grade 5 by 50%

### Social and Emotional Development:

- Regular attendance helps students build stronger friendships, develop better communication skills, and feel a greater sense of belonging in school

### Long-Term Life Outcomes:

- Each additional day of absence in secondary school is linked to a £750 reduction in future earnings
- Higher absence rates increase the likelihood of long-term unemployment and benefit dependency by age 28

### Spotlight on Punctuality

Did you know?

Being 10 minutes late every day = 33 hours of lost learning per year!

Let's aim to be on time, every time.

#### Top Tips for Better Attendance

- Set a consistent bedtime and morning routine
- Prepare school bags and uniforms the night before
- Do not book holidays during term time

### DfE Statutory Guidance

DfE statutory guidance is clear: holidays during term time will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Unavoidable leave of absence requests for school-aged children are generally related to one off events that are rare, significant, unavoidable, and short in duration. Family holidays are not considered unavoidable

Taking your child out of school without permission may result in a Penalty Notice being issued.

What this means:

- A Penalty Notice may be issued if your child has unauthorised absences, including holidays.

- The fine is £80 per child, per parent if paid within 21 days, rising to £160 if paid within 28 days.
- Failure to pay may result in prosecution.
- There is no right of appeal—if you believe a notice was issued in error, you must contact the school directly.

We understand that holidays are important for family time, but we are legally required to prioritise your child's education and wellbeing. Every school day counts.

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.

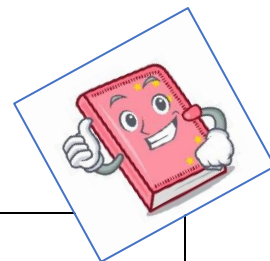
Failure to pay the Penalty Notice may also result in legal action. If you are prosecuted and attend court because your child has not been attending school, you could get a fine of up to £2,500. Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs.

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.

If you have any questions or need to discuss exceptional circumstances, please contact the school office.

Thank you for your continued support.



### **Dates For Your Diary (More coming soon!)**

w/b 22.9.25	Clubs Begin
8.10.25	Nasal Flu Vaccinations
15.10.25 (pm)	Harvest – Chacewater Church
20.10.25 – 31.10.25	Half Term – two weeks
3.11.25	Start of second half of term
19.12.25	End of Term – 1pm Finish



### **GOLDEN AWARD WINNERS**

ACORNS	Everyone for a fabulous week
SEEDLINGS	Amelie & Shiloh
BUDS	Mary & Ivy
YOUNG OAKS	Analyn & Riley
BUR OAKS	Lily & William
RED OAKS	Ethan & Gabe
MIGHTY OAKS	Millie & Dawson

