



23rd January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a week it's been at Chacewater School! Before anything else, a little reminder that [Monday next week is an INSET day, so school will be closed to children](#). This is a trust-wide training day where all teachers across our academy trust will be coming together to keep strengthening our teaching and pedagogy. Our EYFS team will also be joining colleagues from other schools to explore how we can give our youngest children the very best start in communication and language. We're really looking forward to it.

It's also been one of those weeks where the weather and circumstances have been determined to get in the way of our plans! Unfortunately, our football matches at Richard Lander had to be postponed because the school was closed due to a flood, and the swimming gala was also delayed as a number of schools weren't able to attend. We know the children were disappointed, but both events will be rearranged, and we'll share new dates as soon as we have them. On a positive note, we were still able to get Mighty Oaks to Richard Lander this morning for a brilliant language workshop, which the children really enjoyed.



Around school this week we've been thinking lots about reading—especially as this year is the National Year of Reading. To celebrate, we're launching a monthly reading challenge, along with lots of other lovely activities planned across the year. This month the challenge is simply: read something that will make you laugh. In our whole-school assembly I read an extract from Roald Dahl's The BFG—yes, including Frobscottle and Whizzpopping—which caused plenty of giggles! It was such a lovely moment to share together. We've also had some wonderful learning experiences this week, including a very exciting visit from the Fire Service to see Acorns, although it was much shorter than planned as they had to respond to an emergency!

We've also been reviewing attendance this week, and I want to thank families for their support with this. As part of our policy, we keep an eye on the number of broken weeks a child has had. When a child reaches three broken weeks within a rolling term, this triggers a letter just to make parents aware. If the pattern continues, we'll get in touch so we can work together to support improved attendance. Our aim is always to be helpful and proactive, making sure every child is in school as much as possible so they can enjoy their learning and make great progress.

Have a lovely, restful weekend, and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday after the INSET day.

Mr Hick

PARKING

Sadly, unsafe parking around the school is still an ongoing issue, and I do need to remind everyone how important it is that we keep the area outside Chacewater safe for our children. Parking on the zig-zag lines is not permitted at any time — these markings are there to protect visibility and ensure children can enter and leave school safely.

Over the past few weeks, I have met with both local traffic enforcement and our community support officers. **Where cars continue to park in unsafe (and illegal) places, we will now be sharing registration numbers with them so they can take the appropriate action.** This is not something we want to do, but children's safety has to come first.

If we are teaching our children to be kind, thoughtful and considerate, then as adults we need to model those behaviours too. A few extra minutes of careful parking makes all the difference and helps us keep everyone safe at the start and end of the school day.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Drop in sessions – with our Family Support Worker - Anne-Marie Fern.

Information Classification: PUBLIC

Family/Parenting Worker Drop In

Chacewater Primary School

These sessions will be run by Annie Fearn, Family Worker, from the Family Help Team.

Do you need some support and advice to understand your child's needs and behaviours?

Advice on positive parenting and how to keep your child safe?

Support with budgeting and debt advice?

To understand the importance of routines for your family?

We are running drop-in sessions with no appointment necessary.
Next date is 27/1/26
1:30-3:30

Please sign in at the school Reception and you will be shown through to the meeting room.

For more information please contact:
Email: carrickfamilyhubs@cornwall.gov.uk
Call: 01872 322661

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Neverland

Good luck to everyone in our school who is involved Chacewater Players production of Neverland. We know you will be brilliant.



Attendance

We would like to once again remind everyone about the **importance of school attendance**. Achieving high school attendance is a national priority. Chacewater school data clearly shows a correlation between high attendance rates and high achievement. We want our children to achieve excellent attendance in line with national average. Illness usually appears as a block of time off school. We review attendance patterns each week and look for unbroken and broken weeks as a key indicator. We would not usually expect that children would have more than one or two broken weeks in the course of an academic year. Regular broken weeks are a cause for concern and we will offer support to families where there are more frequent broken weeks, in line with our attendance procedures. The impact broken weeks and missed learning can have on a child's education (taken from national data) is illustrated below for guidance:

If your child misses...	That equals at least...	Which is the same as....	And over 13 years of education that's...	Or at least...
1 day a fortnight	80 lessons per year	4 whole school weeks per year	Nearly 1.5 whole years	1040 lessons
1 day a week	160 lessons per year	8 whole school weeks per year	Over 2.5 whole years	2080 lessons
2 days a week	320 lessons per year	16 whole school weeks per year	Over 5 whole years	4160 lessons
3 days a week	480 lessons per year	24 whole school weeks per year	Nearly 8 whole years	6240 lessons

As a school we follow the Truro and Penwith Academy Trust policy which can be found [HERE](#). You will be aware that there have been a number of changes to the issuing of penalty notices and there is little or not discretion for headteachers regarding these. Attached with this newsletter is a leaflet about penalty notices but it is important to note:

What is a Penalty Notice?

A penalty notice is a fine that can be issued under section 444A and section 444B of the Education Act 1996. The fine is issued per parent, per child for:

- Leave of absence of 10 school sessions/5 days or more within any rolling 10 school week* period during term time, without authorisation from the school. This can include unauthorised absence for a holiday.
- Unauthorised absence of 10 or more sessions/5 days within any rolling 10 school week* period where a parent fails to provide an explanation for the absence, or where an explanation is provided but the school consider it insufficient to authorise the absence.
- Unauthorised lateness of 10 school sessions within any rolling 10 school week* period, whereby a child arrives at school after the registers have closed.

NB a penalty notice can be issued for any combination of the above reasons where there are 10 sessions/5 school days or more of unauthorised absence within any rolling 10 school week period. The unauthorised absence can be consecutive or non-consecutive and can span over two terms (including between academic years).

Please also be aware of the below:

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.

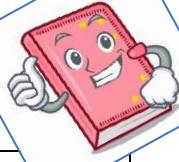
If your child is further absent from school without authorisation within any 3-year period, you will be committing a further offence under the Education Act 1996. We may submit a request to Cornwall Council for a Penalty Notice to be issued, in accordance with Sections 444A and 444B of the said Act. 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.



Dates For Your Diary

26.1.26	Inset Day - School Closed to Children
16.2.26 – 20.2.26	Half Term
23.2.26	Start of 2 nd half term
2.3.26 and 9.3.26	Year 5 swimming block
2.4.26	End of term – 1pm finish

PE Days

PE days for this term are as follows:

- Acorns – Monday
- Seedlings – Monday and Friday
- Buds – Monday and Friday
- Young Oaks – Thursday and Friday
- Bur Oaks – Tuesday and Friday
- Red Oaks – Tuesday and Wednesday
- Mighty Oaks – Wednesday and Thursday

Term Dates

Chacewater 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					

January 2026

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
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
29	30					

March 2026

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

April 2026

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Chacewater School INSET Days (highlighted in Yellow) school closed:

- Mon 1st Sept 2025
- Mon 20th – Fri 24th Oct 2025
- Mon 26th January 2026
- Fri 24th July 2026

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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)

Term Dates 2026/27

Our term dates for the next academic year can be seen below. Please note that following consultation, all schools in our academy trust will be continuing with a two week half term in October 2026.

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29	30	31				

April 2027

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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May 2027



GOLDEN AWARD WINNERS

ACORNS	Ayva & Ivy-Grace
SEEDLINGS	Paisley & Alice
BUDS	Tina & Jidenna
YOUNG OAKS	Lacey & Alfie
BUR OAKS	Sienna & Jessie
RED OAKS	Elijah & George
MIGHTY OAKS	Benny, Keaton & Evelyn



Signposting

