



Friday 19th September

Halwin Headlines

It has been a busy and inspiring week at Halwin! Children across the school have been working incredibly hard on their independent writing. Both classes have published their work, which is proudly displayed on their classroom writing clipboards. I was so impressed with the rich vocabulary, handwriting and creative ideas on show – their enthusiasm for writing is wonderful.

Just like the children, our teachers have also been learning. Mrs Carr completed her annual DSL training, ensuring we continue to keep children safe at school. Mrs Ellis took part in Mastering Number training and is looking forward to implementing new strategies with Kingfishers this year. Mrs Tamblin received training to deliver de-escalation support and will be sharing this with all staff back in school to further strengthen our approaches. Our TAs are also busy with phonics and first aid training – we are proud to be a school where everyone is always learning and growing.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who has already donated through our Amazon Wishlist. We have already started receiving packages, which is both exciting and very kind. Your support makes a real difference. Thank you also to those who have offered help or donated resources for our working party on October 4th – your generosity and time are greatly appreciated.

If you have a child due to start school in September 2026, applications are now open. Please also spread the word to friends and family who may be looking for schools – I am always happy to offer personal tours at a time that suits. For parents of our Year 6 children, please remember that secondary school applications must be submitted before 31st October.

This week, Robins Class enjoyed an afternoon making apple crumble at Forest School, linked to their text *The Gruffalo*. High winds meant it wasn't safe to cook over the open fire, so the children relocated to the Discovery Den. Mrs Ash was very impressed with how carefully they used the tools for peeling and cutting, as well as the kindness and teamwork they showed towards each other.

In school, spellings are taught daily, with a new rule introduced each Monday. Children can also practise these spellings at home via Spelling Shed. In Kingfishers Class, the children are tested through dictation each Friday, and their results are recorded in their reading records.

Finally, we would greatly appreciate parents' support in encouraging children to read regularly at home. Research shows that children who read daily are exposed to up to 1.8 million more words per year than those who do not – and this exposure has a huge impact on vocabulary, comprehension, and overall academic progress. Some evenings you might like to ask your child about their favourite part of the book so far, or discuss what they think might happen next.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Have a great weekend.



Next weeks lunch is **week 2**



Get in touch

You can contact us via phone or email.

01209 860329

halwinsecretary@croftymat.org

Wrap-Around Care Link

<https://forms.gle/urzq4Znzucm9CgBf8>

Attendance

We aim for all our children to have at least 97% attendance throughout the year.

Overall attendance for this week was 95.53%

See below for the attendance for each class last week.

Robins: 94.67%


Kingfishers: 96.09%

Confidence Aspiration Resilience Enjoyment

Halwin Heroes



Confidence **Aspiration** Resilience Enjoyment

	Star of the Week
Robins	Chari
Kingfishers	Mason

Confidence	Arlo
Aspiration	Bryn
Resilience	Aimée
Enjoyment	Paisley

Team Points		
Weekly		Total
88	Blue	252
93	Red	247
96	Green	239
75	Yellow	266



Maths-**Whizz**®

Hall of Fame

Robins: Aimée

Kingfishers: Amber, Amelia, Benjamin, Eli, Ethan, Kai, Marley, Mason, Rupert HM, Nick

Diary Dates



Wednesday 1st Oct	Wellbeing Wednesday
Thursday 2nd Oct	National Poetry Day—Parents are invited to our poetry recital at 2.45pm
Friday 3rd Oct	Individual School Photos
Monday 6th Oct	Barnardo's Healthy Relationships Workshop—Y6 (part 1)
Wednesday 8th Oct	Flu Immunisations (EYFS-Y6)
Friday 10th Oct	Parent Assembly including Harvest collection for the food bank
Monday 13th Oct	Assembly visitor—Rice & Peas Community
Monday 20th Oct	Barnardo's Healthy Relationships Workshop—Y6 (part 2)
Tuesday 21st Oct	5 aside Football Competition—KS2 @ Trannack TBC
Wednesday 22nd Oct	Star Plan reviews—parents with children on the Record of Need will receive individual invites FoH Halloween Disco
Thursday 23rd Oct	History trip to Pendennis Castle TBC
w/c Monday 27th Oct	Half Term
Monday 3rd Nov	Crofty INSET Day—school closed to Pupils
Monday 17th Nov & Tuesday 18th Nov	Parent Evenings
Thursday 20th Nov	World Children's Day—Non School Uniform
Wednesday 26th Nov	Wellbeing Wednesday
Thursday 27th Nov	FOH Wreath Making 6.30pm—8.30pm

Diary Dates



Friday 5th December	FOH Sponsored Santa Run FOH Christmas Fayre 3.15pm—4.30pm
Wednesday 10th Dec	Christmas Performance 6pm
Wednesday 17th Dec	Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day TBC
Friday 19th Dec	Break for Christmas
Monday 5th Jan	INSET DAY
Tuesday 6th Jan	Return to School

Notices & Events



First Lego League – Expressions of Interest

We are excited to be entering the **First Lego League (FLL)** again this year! Last year, at our very first competition at Culdrose, our team was proud to bring home the Core Values Award – a fantastic achievement.

Many people think the FLL is all about building Lego models, but that's just a tiny part of it. The majority of the club, which will run from October through to March on Wednesday afternoons after school with Mrs Ellis and Mrs Carr, involves:

- Researching and developing an idea to answer the annual challenge question.
- Designing, building, and coding a robot to complete a series of challenges.
- Exploring a real-world problem, asking experts, and coming up with creative solutions.
- Evaluating and iterating ideas to make them better.
- Presenting findings confidently to a panel of judges in an engaging way.

This year's theme is **Unearthed** – exploring archaeology and how people, working together with technology, uncover clues about how past generations lived, learned, and celebrated.

To take part, children will need an interest in learning new coding skills, teamwork, problem-solving, and creative thinking. The FLL embodies our school values of confidence, aspiration, resilience and enjoyment.

If your child in Year 5 or Year 6 would like to join, please ask them to let Mrs Carr or Mrs Ellis know. If more than 8 children express an interest, names will be drawn from a hat to make it fair.





CAN YOU HELP?

Are you available to lend a helping hand as we tidy up the school grounds?

**SATURDAY 4TH
OCTOBER
(9.30-11.30AM)**

- ☒ Gardening or donations of top soil / plants etc.
- ☒ Developing the forest school space
- ☒ Cleaning / Improving the outdoor areas
- ☒ Tidying the sheds

Unfortunately, we are unable to have children on site.

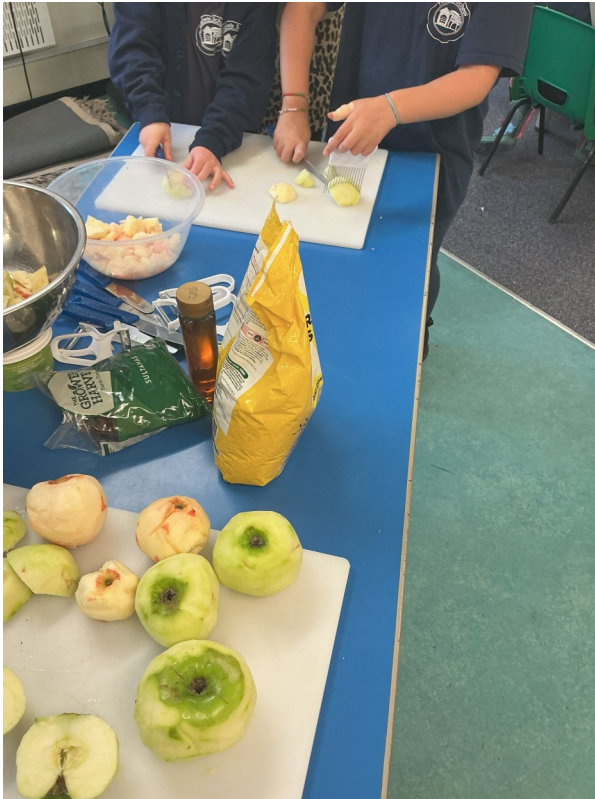
School Amazon Wishlist

<https://tinyurl.com/HalwinWishList>



Any donations would be most appreciated

Halwin Celebrations



Robins—Forest School—Apple Crumble

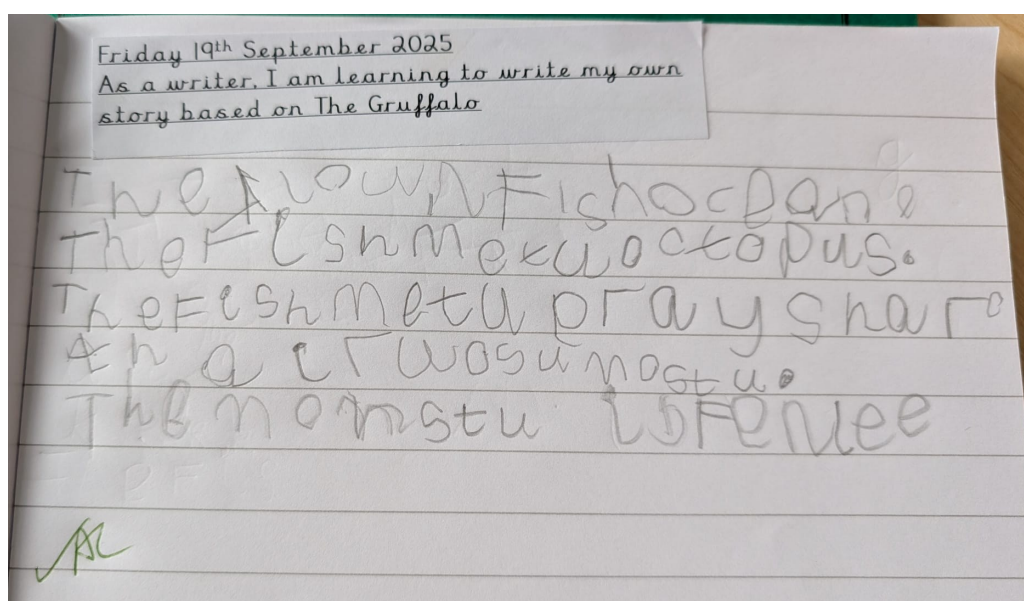
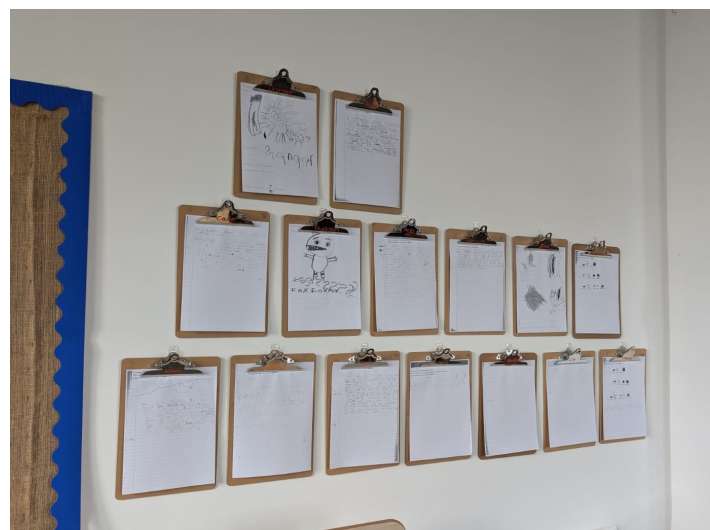




Halwin Celebrations



Independent Writing



Halwin Celebrations



Journey — A setting description

Thursday 18th September 2025

As she slithered along the swaying river she noticed a star gazing up at her. The water was wavy but firm it pushed her further into the depths of crystal clear water (like really clear). It seemed to know where it was going (but where was it going?).

Towers stood confidently, grasping for the sun above. The ancient walls only tell stories from long ago, if you look closely you can see the walls creaking, cracking.

The soldiers are friendly as they waved at me as I went past. Their uniform was smart but they were wearing all green especially their hats, it seemed that they liked my red boat.

Journey - A setting description

18/9/25

From her small crimson boat, she watched a magnificent, ancient fort rise in the distance, its massive aqueduct a visible scar running through the stone.

The colossal castle (with intricate design throughout) was maze-like. It was almost like a water city. There were gleaming gold domes atop dizzyingly colossal towers and smaller towers with beautiful statues on top.

Through a swirling crowd of warm-hearted onlookers, she was ushered toward an alley. The deeper she went, the more the surrounding walls seemed to press in, their ebony paint peeling under her fingertips. The air, once filled with the cheerful din of the castle, grew stale and quiet, trapping her. Before long, the passage became so narrow she was forced to move sideways, her shoulders scraping against the claustrophobic darkness until she could move no more.

Friday 19th September 2025

As a writer, I am learning to write my own story based on The Gruffalo

A crown fish was swimming through the water. The crown fish met a parrot the crown fish was having lunch with a sea beast and the parrot was always the crown fish was saying there's no such thing as a sea beast. The crown fish swam on and came across an octopus the octopus asked if it could come have tea in my house the crown fish said no I'm having lunch with a sea beast and the octopus sped off. and then the fish met a shark with sharp teeth but the fish scared it off. oh oh a sea beast! but it was kind.

WEEK 2

W/C: 28/04/2025, 19/05/2025, 09/06/2025, 30/06/2025, 21/07/2025, 01/09/2025, 22/09/2025, 13/10/2025

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT DISHES	OPTION 1	Macaroni Cheese 🌱 🍷	BBQ Chicken Pizza Served with Potato Wedges	Roast Gammon Served with Mashed Potato and Gravy	Beef Bolognese Served with Wholewheat Pasta 🍷 🍷	Southern Fried Chicken Served with Chips 🍷
	OPTION 2	Sweet and Sour Vegetables Served with Wholegrain Rice 🍷 🍷	Meatless Feast Cheesy Pizza Served with Potato Wedges 🌱 🍷	Sweet Potato, Chickpea and Herb Roast Served with Gravy 🌱	Tex Mex Vegetable Fajita Wrap 🌱 🍷 🍷	Veggie Fingers Served with Chips 🌱 🌱 🍷
	OPTION 3	Tomato Pasta Fresh, Homemade Tomato Sauce with Pasta 🌱 🍷	Tomato Pasta Fresh, Homemade Tomato Sauce with Pasta 🌱 🍷	Tomato Pasta Fresh, Homemade Tomato Sauce with Pasta 🌱 🍷	Tomato Pasta Fresh, Homemade Tomato Sauce with Pasta 🌱 🍷	Tomato Pasta Fresh, Homemade Tomato Sauce with Pasta 🌱 🍷

HOT DISHES ARE SERVED WITH TWO VEGETABLES AND FRESHLY BAKED BREAD

DELI DISHES	OPTION 4	Ham Baguette	Ham Baguette	Cheese Wrap 🌱	Ham Baguette	Ham Wrap
	OPTION 5	Cheese Wrap 🌱	Tuna and Sweetcorn Wrap	Egg Mayo Baguette 🌱	Cream Cheese and Cucumber Wrap 🌱	Cheese Baguette 🌱

DELI DISHES ARE SERVED WITH MIXED SALAD

DESSERT	Caramel Mousse	Chocolate Brownie 🌱	Flapjack Served with Fruit or Apple Wedges 🌱	Lemon Emerald Cake	Chocolate Ice Cream
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BAKED POTATOES SERVED DAILY

With a choice of toppings 🌱 🐟



AVAILABLE DAILY

Fresh fruit, salad, yoghurt and water



Vegetarian



Vegan



Oily Fish



Wholegrain



Fruity!



Nutritionist's Choice

Our menu is subject to change. Please be assured that all notified medical diets and allergy requirements will be safely catered for



Parent Governor Election Announcement

Do you want to help improve the life chances of every child in your school?

Do you want to help make a difference?

Are you looking for a new challenge?

Can you spare some time to help us?

We are looking for one parent to join our Local Governance Committee.

As a governor you can help make a difference to every child in the school – by being a critical friend and both supporting and challenging the school's leadership team to drive school improvement.

You do not need previous experience of governance or education – *just the motivation to make a difference and the willingness to commit your time and energy.*

The Local Governance Committee meets every half term on a Tuesday at 5:30pm

If this sounds like **you**, please request a nomination form from the school office, and submit this by **Friday 26 September 2025**.



The
deadline for
applications is
**31 October
2025**

Transfer to secondary school

September 2026

Applying for a place
in year seven at a
secondary school



Information and guidance

Application form and information: www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions

Telephone: **0300 1234 101**



scan me

www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions



Secondary School Applications are open now

Open Evenings:

Helston— Wednesday, September 24th, 2025, 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Camborne Science Academy — Wednesday, September 24, 5:30–8:00 PM

The
deadline for
applications is
**15 January
2026**

Do you have a child born **between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022?**

If so, you will need to apply
for a place in a reception
class in September 2026 for
your child by the deadline
of **15 January 2026**.



Please note: you will need to apply even if your child attends a school's nursery or pre-school class. If a school is oversubscribed the fact that a child attends a school's nursery or pre-school, or a local nursery or pre-school, does not automatically guarantee a place at that school. The school's oversubscription criteria will be used to allocate places. Visit our website or contact us for more information.

Visit www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions for more information and to access the online application system.



scan me





Halloween Themed Holiday Club

Tuesday 28th October

9:30 - 3:30
£35 per child

 campfire snack
 den building
 flora and fauna ID
 real tool use
 woodland craft
 child led play



Join us on



@cornwallsnatureplayground



naturesplayground@hotmail.com



Adventure childcare and family days out at Via Ferrata Cornwall!

Are your children aged 6-13, up for fun outdoor adventures and ready to learn new skills and make friends? Check out our [Adventure Holiday Club](#)! This is available for the next school holiday.

Choose from **climbing, archery, canoeing, adventure quarry games, giant catapults and zip-lining**! You can simply drop your children off and leave them with us for an epic adventure to remember! We offer flexible options to fit around your working day, so you can treat your child to half a day or a full day with us.

We also offer family days out: there's the chance to take on the [Via Ferrata](#), the ultimate high wire adventure with zip wire, as well as the [Zip Wire Safari](#)! There's also a Cafe, free nature trails and a wild play area for under 10's. Check out our [website](#) for more.



MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM - MHST Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

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

Monday 22 September - 9.30am & 1pm
 Tuesday 23 September - 11am & 4pm
 Wednesday 24 September - 9.30am & 1pm
 Thursday 25 September - 10.00am & 4pm

This workshop provides parents with practical strategies to foster positive behaviour and communication at home.

To book a place please complete the online form
<https://forms.office.com/e/gA2jNGbZ4F> or scan the QR code

This workshop is open to parents/carers of school aged children enrolled in Reception to Year 7 in any school in Cornwall

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM - MHST Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

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

Monday 8 September - 9:30am & 1pm
 Tuesday 9 September - 10am & 4pm
 Wednesday 10 September - 9:30am & 1pm
 Thursday 11 September - 11am & 4pm

This workshop aims to provide psychoeducation on "What is worry?" and "Why does my child worry?" Also includes practical strategies for helping children manage their worries.

To book a place please complete the online form
<https://forms.office.com/e/hkyaFeuY1Z> or scan the QR code

This workshop is open to parents/carers of school aged children enrolled in Reception to Year 7 in any school in Cornwall

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM - MHST Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

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

Monday 29 September - 11am & 4pm
 Tuesday 30 September - 9.30am & 1pm
 Wednesday 1 October - 9.30am & 1pm
 Thursday 2 October - 10am & 4pm

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
<https://forms.office.com/e/6cJiu8PaRV> or scan the QR code

This workshop is open to parents/carers of school aged children enrolled in Reception to Year 7 in any school in Cornwall

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM - MHST Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

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

Monday 15 September - 9.30am & 1pm
 Tuesday 16 September - 10am & 4pm
 Wednesday 17 September - 11am & 1pm
 Thursday 18 September - 9.30am & 4pm

This workshop aims to talk about the meaning of resilience, explore building resilience and look at how and when a young person should ask for help.

To book a place please complete the online form
<https://forms.office.com/e/260T74xF2v> or scan the QR code

This workshop is open to parents/carers of school aged children enrolled in Reception to Year 7 in any school in Cornwall

Attendance



Attendance

The updated attendance policy is available on the school website: <https://halwin.croftymat.org/>

There are 175 non-school days in a year and 190 school days each year.						
Absence in terms of days	190 school days in each year	7 days absence 183 days in school	10 days absence 180 days in school	19 days absence 171 days in school and the equivalent of a month not in school that year	28 days absence 162 days in school If it 85% each year, your child is missing the equivalent of a year of education over their time at primary school	47 days absence 143 days in school
	190 days for your child's education					
percentage	100%	96%	95%	90%	85%	75%
	Good -Best chance of success -Gets your child off to a flying start -Helps their confidence, social development as well as their academic progress -Over 97% is considered excellent attendance		Some Concern -Harder for your child to make progress -School starts tracking your child's attendance closely, <u>Medical</u> evidence may be required to authorise further absences linked to illness	Worrying -Your child is now classified as a 'persistent absentee' - Education Welfare Officer involvement is likely	Serious Concern -Having a significant impact on your child's education and well-being -Legal Action may be taken	

Attendance



School doors open at 8.40am and registration is taken at 8.45am. Children who arrive after the registration period has closed (9.05am) may be recorded with an unauthorised absence mark for the morning session.

The Government does not support parents taking children out of school, unless the school agrees this is appropriate under 'exceptional circumstances'. The DfE does not consider a need/desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure/recreation to be an exceptional circumstance. If you consider that your request for absence is exceptional you will need to complete the 'Leave of Absence Exceptional Circumstances' request form. Letters will not be accepted. This form should be returned to the school office at least 15 school days before the start of the absence. A response will be sent to you as soon as possible. If leave is not authorised and you nevertheless withdraw your child from school, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised absence. There is now a national threshold of 10 unauthorised sessions (equivalent to 5 school days) within a rolling 10 school week period for when a penalty notice must be considered. Under the new rules, taking your child out of school for a one-week holiday will now mean that a penalty notice must be considered. Please note the legal information 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.

'Parent' as set out in Section 576 of the Education Act 1996, defines parent to include: natural parents, whether they are married or not; any person or body who has parental responsibility for a child (as defined by the Children Act 1989) and; any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child. Having care of a child means a person with whom a child lives and who looks after a child, irrespective of what their relationship is with said child.

How is a Penalty Notice paid?

Penalty notices can be paid by card by calling the office on 01872 324201. If the 21st/ 28th day for payment falls on a weekend or bank holiday, payment will be accepted at the same rate on the following working day.

What happens if a Penalty Notice is not paid?

If a Penalty Notice is not paid within the 28 days of issue (as per the dates listed on the Penalty Notice), Cornwall Council will progress the matter to the Magistrates' Court, for the offence of failing to ensure regular attendance, NOT for failure to pay the fine.

If found guilty:

- under section 444(1), it can result in the parent being fined up to £1000
- under section 444(1A), it can result in the parent being fined up to £2,500 and/or receiving a custodial sentence of up to 3 months

Cornwall Council may also apply for costs incurred in taking the matter to court.

Contact us

Education Welfare Service, New County Hall, Treyew Road, Truro, TR1 3AY

educationwelfare@cornwall.gov.uk

01872 324298

If you would like this information in another format or language please contact:

Cornwall Council, County Hall,
Treyew Road, Truro, TR1 3AY

e: customerservices@cornwall.gov.uk

t: 0300 1234 100



Sept 2024 jn5-4975
Photo © iStockphoto.com



Together
for Families

Penalty Notices

A guide to Education Welfare Services
for parents and carers



www.cornwall.gov.uk/togetherforfamilies

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).

Or when

- A pupil is observed in a public place during school hours in the first five school days of a period of exclusion from school, without reasonable justification.

* a school week is any week in which a school meets at least once.

Who can be issued with a Penalty Notice?

Parents and carers of a child can be issued with a Penalty Notice. The definition of a 'parent' as set out in section 576 of the Education Act 1996: By virtue of this section 'parent' includes: all natural parents, whether they are married or not; any person or body who has parental responsibility for a child (as defined by the Children Act 1989) and any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child. Having care of a child means a person who lives with and looks after a child, irrespective of what their relationship is with said child.

How much is a Penalty Notice fine?

As of the 19th of August 2024, a penalty notice is £80 if paid within 21 days. If the fine is not paid in 21 days, it will rise to £160 if paid within 28 days of being issued.

If a second penalty notice is issued to the same parent for the same child within a three-year rolling period, the fine will automatically rise to £160 with no option to pay the lower rate of £80.

If a parent then commits a third offence in a three-year rolling period, Cornwall Council will need to consider other enforcement options available. This could include prosecution under section 444(1) or section 444(1A) of the Education Act 1996. If found guilty a parent would receive a criminal record and substantial fine.

Penalty Notices are issued per parent, per child.

Therefore, if there are two parents and two children, the fines will total £320 if paid within 21 days or £640 if paid after 21 days but within 28 days (or for a second offence).

Can a Penalty Notice be paid in instalments?

No. Penalty Notices must be paid in full, within the designated dates. However, if a parent has more than one child and is therefore issued with more than one fine, they can pay the fines separately if they wish.

Who is responsible for issuing Penalty Notices?

It is a Headteacher's decision whether or not to authorise an absence and, if their decision is not to authorise, they have the right to request a Penalty Notice in line with their attendance policy process. Cornwall Council's role is to check that the evidence submitted is compliant with Cornwall Council's Code of Conduct for Education Related Penalty Notices and, if so, to issue as appropriate.

Can a parent appeal a Penalty Notice?

There is no statutory right of appeal once a Penalty Notice has been issued. If you believe that the Penalty Notice should not have been issued, you should make contact with the school or academy that your child attends at your very earliest convenience after receiving the Penalty Notice. If you wish to discuss the Penalty Notice procedure, you can contact Cornwall Council's Education Welfare Service on **01872 324298**, or email educationwelfare@cornwall.gov.uk