



Friday 5th December

Halwin Headlines

What a lovely start to the week we had with our whole-school visit to Trinity Church. The children enjoyed meeting the new Reverend, listening to an *Open the Book* story, learning about Advent and the Christingle, and then making one to bring home. It was a wonderful way to begin the festive season together. Halwin is now looking beautifully Christmassy—thank you to the Suksta family for donating our lovely Christmas tree. Our cheeky elf has returned and is enjoying playing hide and seek around the school! Each class has begun opening their special book advent calendar, sharing a new story every day in the lead-up to Christmas. Don't forget, Christmas cards can be posted in the post box in the front lobby and will be delivered during our card sharing morning on the final day of term. Our Christmas show rehearsals are well under way. If your child is still gaining confidence with their lines, we would really appreciate your support in helping them practise over the weekend as we head into our final rehearsals next week. We look forward to welcoming you to our Christmas performance on Wednesday 10th December. Please ensure children arrive back at school for 5.45pm.

- KS2 children should come dressed in Christmas party outfits or a Christmas jumper.
- KS1 costumes will be provided by school.

Learning continues across both classes—and for our staff too! Miss Williams has now completed her Fun Fit training, Mrs Carr has successfully passed her paediatric first aid refresher, and Mrs Ellis has finished her Crofty leadership course. After presenting her action research project on Thursday to headteachers and future leaders, she was awarded a Crofty Learning badge by Crofty CEO Mr Hague. We are incredibly proud of her achievement!

Today, Halwin became part of history as we joined the first ever assembly broadcast live from Antarctica! The children listened to Robert Swan OBE, who shared stories from the ice and spoke passionately about protecting this unique environment. Kingfishers also took part in a rail safety assembly as part of their PSHE curriculum. Well done to all pupils for superb listening and thoughtful questions in both special assemblies this week.

A huge thank you to the Friends of Halwin, everyone who helped, contributed or attended our Christmas Fair this afternoon. It was a truly lovely community event and raised over £350! Due to the heavy rain, the Santa Run has been postponed to Thursday 18th December, giving everyone plenty of time to complete sponsorship forms or encourage friends and family to donate online: <https://gofund.me/165b120a2>. Don't forget, the Friends of Halwin have also kindly organised the 'Elfridges' shop on Monday afternoon. Children will be able to choose gifts for loved ones, which will then be wrapped ready for collection on Wednesday evening. Please ensure gifts are paid for in advance.

Finally, a small request from Robins Class: they will be making boats in Science next week and would be very grateful for any small tinfoil trays, plastic tubs, or small cardboard boxes.

Wishing you all a restful weekend as we continue our festive countdown!



Next weeks lunch is **week 3**



Get in touch

You can contact us via phone or email.

01209 860329

halwinsecretary@croftymat.org

Wrap-Around Care Link

<https://forms.gle/iDYHrzQJWC3wVD1E7>

Attendance

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

Overall attendance for this week was 92.97%

See below for the attendance for each class last week.


Robins: 89.33%

Kingfishers: 95.45%

Halwin Heroes



Confidence **Aspiration** Resilience Enjoyment

	Star of the Week
Robins	Ella
Kingfishers	Marley

Confidence	Maddison
Aspiration	Faith
Resilience	Ruby
Enjoyment	Amber

Team Points

76	Blue	339
94	Red	310
72	Green	276
55	Yellow	319



Maths-**Whizz**®

Hall of Fame

Robins: Aimée, Arlo, Harrison
Kingfishers: Amelia, Harry, Eli, Kai,
Marley, Rupert

Whizz of the Week

Amelia

Diary Dates



Monday 8th December	FOH Elfridges
Wednesday 10th Dec	Christmas Performance 6pm
Tuesday 16th Dec	Kingfishers—Pantomime at Helston CC
Wednesday 17th Dec	Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 18th Dec	FoH Sponsored Santa Run. End of Term treat—Inflatable Snow Globe
Friday 19th Dec	Break for Christmas
Monday 5th Jan	INSET DAY
Tuesday 6th Jan	Return to School
Monday 12th Jan	Robins Trip to Helston Library
Wednesday 4th Feb	Wellbeing Wednesday Swimming - Robins fun session
Friday 6th Feb	Parent Assembly
Thursday 12th Feb	Farm and Country Roadshow
Friday 13th Feb	Whole School visit to Trebah Gardens
w/c 16th Feb	Half Term
Monday 23rd Feb	INSET DAY
Tuesday 24th Feb	Return to School

Diary Dates



Wednesday 25th Feb	Swimming starts for Y3/4 (5 sessions during Spring 2)
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day
Tuesday 10th March	Y5/6 Careers Event @ Helston CC
w/c 23rd March	Parents Evenings
Wednesday 11th March	First Lego League @Culdrose
Wednesday 25th March	Wellbeing Wednesday Swimming - Robins fun session
Tuesday 31st March	Songfest 2026—Kingfishers
Thursday 2nd April	End of Term
Monday 20th April	Return to School
Wednesday 22nd April	KS2 trip to King Edward Mine
Wednesday 29th April	KS2 Hall for Cornwall



SPACE

Supporting Parents And Children Emotionally

SPACE is a **free** programme for **any parent or carer** who wants to better understand and support their children's emotions, as well as their own.

Each SPACE course is 5 sessions long and will cover:

- Understanding what is meant by a Trauma Informed approach
- Understanding toxic stress and the flight/fight response
- Practical approaches to support children to regulate their emotions
- Healthy coping strategies for dealing with stress
- Managing different emotions
- Understanding behaviour
- Building resilience in ourselves and our children
- Adopting appropriate expectations of children
- Enhancing your ability to provide nurturing care

MHST has several upcoming 5 session SPACE courses as follows:

Every Monday from 12th January -9th February 2026 - 13:00-14:30
FACE TO FACE at Helston Family Hub, Bulwark Road, Helston, TR13 8JF

with ONLINE programmes on:

Every Friday from 9th January-6th February 2026 - 09:30-10:30

or

Every Monday from 12th January-9th February 2026 - 09:30-10:30



To request a place, complete the online form or scan the QR code provided **BY 19th DECEMBER 2025:**
<https://forms.office.com/e/rrUONGgLMv>

These courses are for parents/carers of children 5-11 yrs only

Spaces are limited (Max 8 per session); if you cannot attend, please notify us ASAP - 01726 873204



**HEADSTART
KERNOW**



**Together
for Families**



Halwin Celebrations



Advent visit
to Trinity
Church to
make a
Christingle
decoration.



Halwin Celebrations



Robins and Kingfisher Advent calendars



Antartica Live Assembly



KS2 Rail Safety Talk



Halwin Notices

As you may be aware, the UK has seen a fall in birth rates over recent years. Cornwall, particularly in some rural areas, is experiencing lower pupil numbers as a result.

Cornwall Local Authority, alongside schools and trusts across the county, is reviewing pupil places to ensure that the number of school places matches the number of children in each area. One of the ways this is managed is through the *Pupil Admission Number (PAN)* for each school.

Crofty Education Trust is therefore running a consultation on proposed PAN changes for several of its schools. For Halwin, we are proposing to set our PAN at 7 for children joining from September 2027 onwards. This proposal does not affect any current year groups.

Setting our PAN at 7 will help us maintain a stable class structure and continue to offer a high-quality curriculum as pupils move through the school. As a small school, Halwin has many strengths that larger settings cannot offer, and this change will help us preserve and make the most of those strengths.

It's also important to note that PAN changes are not permanent. When pupil numbers rise again in future, the PAN can be increased to meet demand.

If you have any questions, please feel free to catch me for a chat, or you can take part in the consultation via the Crofty Education Trust website: <https://croftymat.org/information/admissions/>

I know parents may have questions about the proposed PAN change that I shared earlier this week, so I've put together a brief FAQ to explain what it means for our school and why it's a positive, sensible step.

Why is the PAN being set at 7 from 2027? This proposal reflects the lower birth rates locally and nationally. By aligning our PAN with our community's needs, we can plan our class structure effectively and continue providing the best possible learning experience in a setting where children feel cared for, supported, and able to thrive.




























Will this change affect my child or any current year groups? No. This proposal only applies to children joining from September 2027 onwards. All current pupils, classes, and year groups remain exactly as they are.

How will setting the PAN at 7 benefit the school? A stable, realistic PAN helps us maintain strong class structures and protect the strengths that make Halwin special. A stable intake means we can maintain our strong curriculum, small-class feel, and personalised support for every child. It ensures we can continue making the most of the advantages of being a small school.

Can the PAN increase again in the future? Yes. PAN changes are flexible. If pupil numbers rise in the coming years, the PAN can be raised to meet that demand. This proposal simply helps us stay aligned with the current picture while keeping the school strong and stable.



WEEK 3

W/C: 17/11/2025, 08/12/2025, 19/01/2026, 09/02/2026, 02/03/2026, 23/03/2026

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT DISHES	OPTION 1	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges 	Beef Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Wholewheat Pasta 	Roast Gammon with Mashed Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken and Sweetcorn Pasta Bake	Battered Pollock with Chips
		OR	OR	OR	OR	OR
	OPTION 2	Veggie Meat Feast Pizza with Potato Wedges 	Veggie Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Wholegrain Pasta  	Quorn Roast with Mashed Potato and Gravy 	Macaroni Cheese 	Veggie Fingers with Chips 
		OR	OR	OR	OR	OR
	OPTION 3	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta  	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta  	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta  	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta  	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta  
HOT DISHES ARE SERVED WITH TWO VEGETABLES AND FRESHLY BAKED BREAD						
DELI DISHES	OPTION 4	Cheese and Tomato Wrap 	Tuna Wrap	Ham Wrap	Cheese and Tomato Wrap 	Ham Wrap
		OR	OR	OR	OR	OR
	OPTION 5	Egg Mayonnaise Sandwich 	Ham Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich 	Tuna Mayonnaise Sandwich	Cheese Sandwich 
DELI DISHES ARE SERVED WITH MIXED SALAD						
DESSERT		Chocolate Marble Cake 	Orange Glazed Sticky Sponge Cake with Custard 	Lemon Cookie 	Crunchy Chocolate Mousse	Fruits of the Forest Jelly 






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.



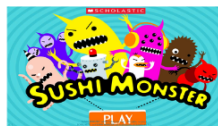
TOP TIPS FOR MATHS AT HOME

EVERYDAY MATHS

- Count together: steps, stairs, cars, fruit — anything!
- Spot numbers: on doors, clocks, receipts, or buses.
- Compare and estimate: "Which pile looks bigger?", "Will it fit?"
- Talk about time: use clocks, timers, and daily routines.
- Shopping maths: ask your child to find prices, count coins, or compare costs.
- Cooking and baking: measure, weigh, and talk about halves, quarters, and sharing.

FUN AND GAMES

- Play board games, dominoes, or card games to practise counting and adding.
- Roll dice and add or subtract numbers.
- Build towers or patterns with LEGO or blocks — talk about height, size, and shape.
- Try maths apps, online maths games and songs



bbc.co.uk/supermovers

REMEMBER

Little and often is best!
Short, playful maths moments help your child see that maths is useful, fun, and all around us. Praise effort and thinking, not just right answers.



School aged vaccinations

Did you know children will be offered these routine vaccinations at school?

- ✓ **FLU** - Reception - Year 11
- ✓ **MMR** - Catch-up
- ✓ **HPV** - Year 8 - Year 11
- ✓ **Meningitis ACWY** - Year 9 - Year 11
- ✓ **Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio (DTP)** - Year 9 - Year 11

FLU

MMR

HPV

**MENINGITIS
ACWY**

**DIPHTHERIA
TETANUS
POLIO (DTP)**

Did you miss us?

We also have community clinics across Cornwall for:

- ✓ Home educated children
- ✓ Anxious children
- ✓ Children who missed the session at school

Call us on

01872 221105

Kernowhealthcic.schoolimmunisation@nhs.net

CDDG
THE
PIED PIPER
OF HAMELIN

Pantomime fun for all the family!



ticketsource.co.uk/cddg

22nd - 25th January 2026

The Perranwell Centre, TR3 7JU



Want to play drums?



Learn your favourite songs!

**SCAN ME TO
SIGN UP!**



Fun lessons from beginner to pro!

Lessons available now!

More information visit: www.cmst.co.uk/music-lessons

Casey Goes Christmas Crackers



Throughout December Casey Carrot is going to be causing chaos in the school kitchen.

Dine with us daily from December 2nd to see if she has been naughty or nice.

Will you get an additional treat with your lunch? Look for the lucky sticker under your plate.



Chartwells

Bike Library



crosscountry 



Hire a bike for FREE for 24 hrs or a whole week!



Free basic bicycle service and safety check to get your own bike road worthy



Cycling tips and confidence building sessions available - just ask



TUESDAYS

9:00 - 10:30am & 3.00 - 4.00pm



TRELYA

The Luscudjack Centre, Penmere Close, Penzance TR18 3PE

Contact - Dave

ridewithus@thecornwallbicycleproject.co.uk

07749 474 118

TIME MOVE

Holiday Programme



CHRISTMAS 2025

Free Family Led Cycle Rides at:

- Bissoe Trail
- Seaton Country Park
- Pentewan Trail

Meet time is 1000
Bike check optional
For all ages & abilities

Rides are taking place
across Cornwall during
the Christmas holidays
between 22nd Dec and
2nd Jan

Scan here
to book!



www.activecornwall.org/T2MHolidayProgramme

Time2Move.HolidayProgramme@cornwall.gov.uk





EXPLORE AUTISM, THE 4 AREAS OF DIFFERENCE AND THE PDA PROFILE

19TH JANUARY 2026
10.30AM -12.30PM
HAYLE FAMILY HUB

To book your place email:
laurenlpcc@outlook.com

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	10 days absence	19 days absence	28 days absence	47 days absence
	190 days for your child's education	183 days in school	180 days in school	171 days in school and the equivalent of a month not in school that year	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	143 days in school
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