



Friday 16th January

# Halwin Headlines

Thank you once again for your support and understanding following the storm-related school closures at the start of term. We have passed on our sincere thanks to the Crofty Shared Services team, who truly went above and beyond to support the affected schools. While the full clean-up and repairs at Halwin will take some time, an incredible amount has already been achieved, and we are extremely grateful for the dedication, hard work and long hours that have gone into restoring our school. **From Monday, we will be able to use our normal front playground entrance again.** Please note that the side of the building remains closed, so children must be supervised when moving through the car park. Photos of the storm damage and the subsequent clear-up and repair work can be found later in the newsletter.

Thank you also for the many kind words and messages following the announcement of my upcoming move to Portreath School. Mr Riches, Halwin's new Headteacher, is very much looking forward to visiting Halwin and getting to know our wonderful community — you can find more information about him later in the newsletter. His poster has also been displayed in classrooms to help the children begin to get to know him. Please keep an eye out for a Halwin Hive Family session later this term, when Mr Riches will be keen to meet as many families as possible.

We have been incredibly proud of the Halwin children over the past two weeks. Despite the unusual start to term, they have settled back into school beautifully, are working hard, following *The Halwin Way* (Ready, Respectful, Safe), and consistently demonstrating our school values. We are excited to share our plans for *The Year of Reading 2026* and have rescheduled our launch assembly for Monday 19th January. We hope many of you will be able to join us.

In Robins Class, the children have been busy writing a recount of the day Storm Goretta came to our school — a memorable experience for everyone! They have also begun a new history unit learning about significant explorers, including John Cabot and Isambard Kingdom Brunel, and their seafaring explorations. In Maths, Year 2 are learning their 2, 5 and 10 times tables this week, and any practice at home would be greatly appreciated. Year 1 have been naming 2D and 3D shapes and exploring their properties. Robins are also very excited to start their new DT topic, where they will be designing and making their own vehicles with working axles.

Kingfishers Class have started their new class text, *The Boy at the Back of the Class*. We are hoping to visit the Hall for Cornwall to see the stage production in April and would appreciate parents making payment via ParentPay so tickets can be finalised. In Science, new units are underway: Years 5 and 6 are exploring light, while Years 3 and 4 are investigating circuits. The first swimming sessions for Years 5 and 6 have gone well—please remember that swimming goggles are recommended for every session. Kingfishers have also begun their new writing unit and will be creating a balanced argument text in their upcoming English lessons.

Finally, please ensure you check the updated diary dates later in the newsletter. We hope everyone is safe and well following the recent storms and wish you a lovely weekend.

## Get in touch

You can contact us via phone or email.

01209 860329

[halwinsecretary@croftymat.org](mailto:halwinsecretary@croftymat.org)

## Wrap-Around Care Link

<https://forms.gle/yoHKU29zB9kqUVxj8>

## Attendance

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

Overall attendance for this week was 97.29%

See below for the attendance for each class last week.

Robins: 100%

Kingfishers: 95.45%

## Congratulations

ROBINS




Next weeks lunch is **week 3**



# Halwin Heroes



Confidence **Aspiration** Resilience Enjoyment

	Star of the Week
Robins	Valencia
Kingfishers	Alfie

Confidence	Ruby
<b>Aspiration</b>	Hudson
Resilience	Paisley
Enjoyment	Lukas

## Team Points

207	Blue	207
104	Red	104
135	Green	135
126	Yellow	126



Maths-Whizz®

## Hall of Fame

Robins: Aimée,  
Kingfishers: Amelia, Eli, Rupert

## Whizz of the Week

Aimée

# Diary Dates



Monday 26th January	Y1 Hearing screening checks
Wednesday 4th Feb	Wellbeing Wednesday Swimming - Robins fun session
Friday 6th Feb	Star Plan reviews—parents will receive invites Parent Assembly
Tuesday 10th Feb	Safer Internet Day Height & Weight checks for EYFS and Year 6
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
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
Wednesday 11th March	First Lego League @Culdrose (Y5/6 team)
w/c 23rd March	Parents Evenings
Wednesday 25th March	Wellbeing Wednesday Swimming - Robins fun session
Tuesday 31st March	Songfest 2026—Kingfishers

# Diary Dates

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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 theatre show
Monday 4th May	Bank Holiday
Friday 8th May	Inset Day (Flora Day)
Friday 15th May	Whole School Trip Geevor Mine
Friday 22nd May	End of Term
Monday 1st June	Return to School
Monday 22nd June	Inset Day
Wednesday 1st July	Wellbeing Wednesday Elemental—Swanpool Beach
Wednesday 22nd July	End of School Year
Thursday 23rd July	Inset Day—school closed



## MEET MR RICHES



### ABOUT ME

My name is Daryl Riches and I am thoroughly looking forward to joining Halwin in the near future.

I live with my wife, two children (Patrick & Lillian) and my red-fox labrador (Oliver).

I have been lucky enough to teach and lead in a number of settings both in Cornwall and in other parts of the country. Prior to Halwin, I have recently been Head of School at Pennoweth Primary in Redruth.

### HOBBIES

- I love to read and discovering new authors. Something that I share with the children in my setting regularly.
- I have a passion for sports and have played rugby since I was able to walk!
- I love to spend time at weekends walking Oliver on the beaches and exploring the countryside.



### CONTACT INFORMATION

You can contact me via the School Office or through Arbor. Please feel free to message me should you wish to share anything.

Please catch me on the door if you have any further questions or queries once I start!

### MORE ABOUT ME

- Playing board games is something I love to do to help me relax - especially when it is wet and raining outside!
- Lego and Harry Potter are also a favourite to help pass the time!
- I love to think differently and to innovate where possible. People, places and children all need individual approaches.
- I hope that during my time at Halwin, I can continue to build on the brilliant work that has come before and nurture links in the community to further broaden and enrich our childrens horizons.

### Favourite Quote

"Small improvements in everything you do can lead to big gains."  
- Sir Dave Brailsford, former Performance Director of British Cycling





# Storm Goretti damage





# Storm Goretti repairs





# 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 ✓
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**BAKED POTATOES SERVED DAILY**

With a choice of toppings ✓ ➡



**AVAILABLE DAILY**

Fresh fruit, salad, yoghurt and water



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](http://www.cmst.co.uk/music-lessons)

CMST AND ASONE  
MUSIC

## Learn The Ukulele With Us

ST. MICHAELS  
SCHOOL  
SATURDAY  
MORNINGS  
10:30-12

**LET'S LEARN  
AND PLAY!**

**LEARN:**

- 🎵 How to play ukulele
- 🎵 Ukulele chords
- 🎵 Basic strumming patterns

For more information, please contact:  
[SSCOTT@CMST.CO.UK](mailto:sscott@cmst.co.uk) OR [VWATKISS@CMST.CO.UK](mailto:vwatkiss@cmst.co.uk)



# HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUB

CARWYNNEN, CAMBORNE

MONDAY 16TH FEBRUARY

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





# Pop up Food Hub

See our Facebook Page

## Helston

**Pre-Order Only – payment on the day**

**Last order 4 days prior to event**

**To guarantee your bundle please contact**

**Debbie on 07880 835 331**

**For £30, which helps to keep the charity running, you will receive a trolley load containing:**

Tea or coffee  
Pasta or rice  
A selection of tins and cereal  
Bag/box of Crisps  
A box of pasties or pies  
A bag of frozen items  
A bag of fresh fruit/veg  
A bag of household toiletries  
Bread/rolls/cakes  
Pet Food  
Other extra items as available



**All welcome. No referral needed  
We look forward to seeing you there**

**Remember to bring a trolley or plenty of strong bags**

**Saturday 17th January      10:00 – 11:00**

**Please use the link to book or scan the QR code**

**<https://forms.office.com/e/MgmBfCGVaw>**

Devon & Cornwall Food Action  
PRE-ORDER Form



# 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  190 days for your child's education	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
		96%	95%	90%	85%	75%
percentage	100%	96%	95%	90%	85%	75%
	<b>Good</b> -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	<b>Some Concern</b> -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	<b>Worrying</b> -Your child is now classified as a 'persistent absentee' - Education Welfare Officer involvement is likely	<b>Serious Concern</b> -Having a significant impact on your child's education and well-being -Legal Action may be taken		



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](mailto: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](mailto:customerservices@cornwall.gov.uk)

t: 0300 1234 100



Sept 2024 jn54975  
Photo © iStockphoto.com



Together  
for Families

## Penalty Notices

A guide to Education Welfare Services  
for parents and carers



[www.cornwall.gov.uk/togetherforfamilies](http://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 optional 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](mailto:educationwelfare@cornwall.gov.uk)