



Thursday 4th April 2026

Halwin Headlines

As I write my final newsletter for Halwin, it is really hard to put into words just how special these last few years have been.

This final week has truly encompassed everything that makes Halwin such a unique and wonderful school — from the small, everyday learning moments and children proudly sharing their successes, to the community coming together to build tables so kindly donated by the Brennan family, and to the big shared experience of Song-fest at the Hall for Cornwall.

It has been lovely to take time this week to reflect on some special memories together: making pasties for St Piran's Day and being filmed for the local news; our whole-school visits to the Eden Project, Pendennis Castle and Trebah Gardens—there is something extra special about taking trips with all the children from EYFS right through to Year 6. Elemental—an amazing opportunity for our children to be confident, aspirational and resilient, whilst having fun. Taking part in Lego competitions, singing with Will Keating, Wellbeing Wednesdays, Christmas performances, Sports Days and so much more.

Our final assembly was incredibly special and, as you might expect, there were more than a few tears. It was a chance for me to say thank you to the amazing Halwin community, to celebrate the children, and to recognise the kindness, resilience and joy that they bring to Halwin every single day. I could not be prouder of them.

Being Headteacher of Halwin has been a privilege. The children are at the heart of everything, and they are what make this school such a remarkable place. Their enthusiasm, care for one another, and determination to do their best is something I will carry with me. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our staff, families and wider community for your unwavering support. It has been a pleasure to work alongside such dedicated and committed people.

Although it is time for me to move on, Halwin will always hold a very special place in my heart. I leave knowing that the school will continue to thrive, and that the children are in excellent hands.

Thank you for making my time at Halwin so memorable.

With very best wishes,
Alex



Next week's 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/s5Kgm5ZZuohUDzvM8>

Attendance

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

Overall attendance for this week was 88.9%

See below for the attendance for each class last week.

Robins: 89.7%

Kingfishers: 87.6%

Congratulations

ROBINS

Diary Dates



Monday 20th April	Return to School
Wednesday 22nd April	KS2 trip to King Edward Mine
Wednesday 29th April	KS2 Hall for Cornwall—The Boy at the Back of the Class
Monday 4th May	Bank Holiday
Friday 8th May	Inset Day (Flora Day)
Monday 11th May	SATS Week (including Y6 Breakfast Club)
Friday 15th May	Whole School Trip Geevor Mine
Monday 18th May	Biffa Workshop—Kingfishers
Tuesday 19th May	Dodgeball Festival—Y3/4—TBC
Wednesday 20th May	Star Plan Review Meetings—Invite only
Friday 22nd May	Wellbeing Day 2.30pm Colour Run End of Term
Monday 1st June	Return to School
Friday 19th June	School Group Photographs
Monday 22nd June	Inset Day
Thursday 25th June	Sports Day—whole school
Wednesday 1st July	Wellbeing Wednesday Elemental—Swanpool Beach—whole school
Wednesday 22nd July	End of School Year
Thursday 23rd July	Inset Day—school closed

Trinity Church Visit



Songfest 2026



Robins

Learning about trees and the local environment



A Message from the Friends of Halwin:

We are excited to share some wonderful news with all of you! Thanks to the generous donations made in memory of Carole, beloved Granny to Amelia and Aimee, we have been able to purchase two beautiful 8-seater benches for Halwin Primary School. What a fitting tribute to a wonderful woman who loved spending time with her family!

These benches will not only bring joy to the children at school but will also provide a perfect spot for them to sit and chat with friends during break and lunch. It's a fantastic way to encourage social interaction and foster friendships among our students. Additionally, these benches will offer excellent seating for outdoor learning, allowing our children to enjoy lessons in nature and collaborate in a comfortable setting.

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to the Brennan family for their continued support and for helping us honor Carole's memory in such a meaningful way. It's amazing to see how a community can come together to create positive changes for our children. We hope these benches will bring many smiles and memorable moments for years to come.

A huge thank you to Sophie and Peter for helping put the benches together.



Non-Uniform & Mrs Carr's Last Day

Donations to Penhaligon's Friends:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/crofty-trust-council>



New Summer Menu from Chartwells

SPRING/SUMMER 2026 MENU

WEEK 2

W/C: 20/04/2026

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT DISHES	OPTION 1	Cheese & Tomato Pizza 	Beef Burger 	Roast Gammon 	Tandoori Chicken 	Fish Fingers 
	OPTION 2	Tex Mex Vegetable Fajita 	Beany Vegetable Burger 	Roast Quorn 	Macaroni Cheese 	Spanish Omelette 
	OPTION 3	Tomato Pasta Or Jacket Potato 	Tomato Pasta Or Jacket Potato 	Tomato Pasta Or Jacket Potato 	Tomato Pasta Or Jacket Potato 	Tomato Pasta Or Jacket Potato 
HOT DISHES ARE SERVED WITH TWO VEGETABLES AND FRESHLY BAKED BREAD						
DESSERT	Chocolate Cookie 	Sticky Oat Slice 	Caramel Mousse 	Chocolate Brownie 	Strawberry Ice Cream 	



BAKED POTATOES SERVED DAILY
With a choice of toppings



AVAILABLE DAILY
Fresh fruit, salad, yoghurt and water



✔ Vegetarian
 ✔ Vegan
 ✔ Oily Fish
 ✔ Fruity!
 ✔ Wholegrain
 ✔ 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.

SPONSORED COLOUR RUN
Get Ready to RUN
RUN & SHINE!



Friday, May 22nd 2026



Halwin School



Fun, Friends & Rainbow Powders!





MHST Managing Worries

TIPS AND SUPPORT WITH MANAGING YOUR CHILD'S WORRIES



**Take Deep
Breaths**



Write it Down



Talk to Someone



**Do Something
You Enjoy**

To request a place, fill out the online form or scan the QR code: To request a place, fill out the online form or scan the QR code:

<https://forms.office.com/e/SiqzWJJAdP>

**Tuesday 12
May 2026
9.30am or
1.30pm**



NHS
Cornwall Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust



MHST

NHS

Cornwall Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust

RESILIENCE

Bounce Back, Stay Strong!

- ✓ *Overcome Challenges*
- ✓ *Adapt & Grow*
- ✓ *Keep Moving Forward*

**Tuesday 12 May 2026
10.30am or 12pm**

To request a place, fill out the online form or scan the QR code: To request a place, fill out the online form or scan the QR code:

<https://forms.office.com/e/sQk8MJ0mJ>



MHST SLEEP

Rest, Recharge, Reset!



Get Plenty of rest



Feel better & think clearly



Boost your health

Monday 11 May 2026
9.30am or 1.30pm

To request a place, fill out the online form or scan the QR code: To request a place, fill out the online form or scan the QR code:

<https://forms.office.com/e/M3QjgQggLT>





NHS

Cornwall Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust

MHST MANAGING BEHAVIOUR

TIPS & SUPPORT WITH MANAGING YOUR CHILD'S BEHAVIOUR



STAY
CALM



LISTEN & TALK



HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE

To request a place,
fill out the online
form or scan the
QR code:
<https://forms.office.com/e/2W5GhsT9>
HK

Tuesday 12
May 2026
9.30am or
1.30pm





MHST

NHS

Cornwall Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust

Transitions

From Primary School to Secondary School



To request a place, fill out the online form or scan the QR code: To request a place, fill out the online form or scan the QR code:
<https://forms.office.com/e/cCg2VFeQDj>

Monday 11 May
2026
9.30am or
1.30pm





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	47 days absence 143 days in school
	190 days for your child's education				If it 85% each year, your child is missing the equivalent of a year of education over their time at primary 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	



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 jn54975
Photo © iStockphoto.com

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 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