



16th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we were delighted to welcome the children back after what was a rather hectic start to the new year last week. Things weren't completely plain sailing on Monday, with ongoing power issues and no internet or phone lines, but as always, our wonderful community showed incredible patience and understanding. Thank you to everyone for your support—it really does make all the difference.

Throughout the week, our whole-school assembly focused on Storm Goretta and the impact it has had locally and nationally. We also explored our learning behaviours—**resourcefulness, resilience, reciprocity, and reflectiveness**—using the fun example of squirrels navigating an obstacle course to reach their walnuts! It's been a great way to help children think about how these behaviours help them overcome challenges.

We ended the week with a girls' football tournament on the astro turf at Truro College. At the time of writing, we don't yet know the results, but we are certain they played brilliantly and represented Chacewater with pride!

Looking ahead to next week, our after-school clubs will begin. As always, allocating places fairly within the capacity we have is a challenge, but we're pleased that everyone has been able to get their first-choice club. A huge thank you to our teachers who generously give their time to make these opportunities possible.

Have a fantastic weekend, and thank you for your continued support.

Mr Hick

Learning Focus

Y3 Young Oaks have been learning about magnets in science this week. They have been learning that magnets attract and repel some metals. They explored this using a range of magnetic toys. Thank you to Stepping Stones Preschool for lending some lovely resources to support this learning.

BRILLIANT Learning Young Oaks!



After School Clubs



As mentioned above our after school clubs will begin next week. They will run from 3.30pm until 4pm. They will run over this half term and over the next half term.

PE Days

PE days for this term are as follows:

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

From the PTA

- Our first PTA meeting of 2026 will take place next [**Weds 21st Jan at 1:30pm at Lucy's Lattes**](#) in the village and everyone is welcome!!
-
- Pop along and join us for a coffee and a catch up while we discuss fundraising ideas for this year!!

Attendance

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

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

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

What is a Penalty Notice?

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

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

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

Please also be aware of the below:

If your child is absent from school without authorisation, you will be committing an offence under the Education Act 1996. We may submit a request to Cornwall Council for a Penalty Notice to be issued, in accordance with Sections 444A and 444B of the said Act. Penalty Notices are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £80 if paid within 21 days or £160 if paid after this but within 28 days.

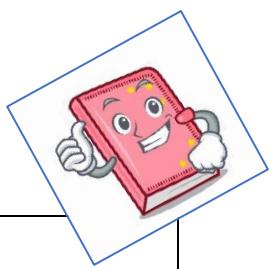
If your child is further absent from school without authorisation within any 3-year period, you will be committing a further offence under the Education Act 1996. We may submit a request to Cornwall Council for a Penalty Notice to be issued, in accordance with Sections 444A and 444B of the said Act. Penalty Notices for a second offence are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £160, payable within 28 days.

Importantly, fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action such as a parenting order or prosecution will be considered.

Failure to pay the Penalty Notice may also result in legal action. If you are prosecuted and attend court because your child has not been attending school, you could get a fine of up to £2,500. Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs.

Absence not authorised by the school may also result in a prosecution in the Magistrates' Court under Section 444(1) or Section 444(1A) of the Education Act 1996, leading to a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a custodial sentence. Again, Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs.

Money raised from fines is only used by the local authority to cover the costs of administering the system, and to fund attendance support. Any extra money is returned to the government.



Dates For Your Diary

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

Term Dates

Chacewater School Calendar 2025/26

September 2025

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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October 2025

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November 2025

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December 2025

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January 2026

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February 2026

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March 2026

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April 2026

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May 2026

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June 2026

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July 2026

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August 2026

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CORNWALL COUNCIL  **Together for Families**

School holidays

Bank holidays	
Christmas Day	25 December 2025
Boxing Day	26 December 2025
New Years Day	01 January 2026
Good Friday	03 April 2026
Easter Monday	04 May 2026
May Bank Holiday	25 May 2026
Spring Bank Holiday	31 August 2026

Bank Holidays highlighted in pink

Autumn Term

1st September – 19th Dec 2025
(Half Term 26th – 31st Oct)

Spring Term

5th January – 2nd April 2026
(Half Term 16th - 20th Feb 2026)

Summer Term

20th April – 24th July 2026
(Half Term 25th – 29th May 2026)

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

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

Term Dates 2026/27

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

Chacewater School Calendar 2026/27											
September 2026											
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December 2026											
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January 2027											
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February 2027											
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March 2027											
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April 2027											
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May 2027											
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June 2027											
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August 2027											
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30	31										

 Cornwall Council *we all... we england* Together for Families

School holidays

Bank Holiday	2026	2027
Christmas Day	25 December 2026	
Boxing Day	26 December 2026	
New Years Day	01 January 2027	
Crossing Day	26 January 2027	
Easter Monday	29 March 2027	
May Bank Holiday	03 May 2027	
Spring Bank Holiday	31 May 2027	
Summer Bank Holiday	30 August 2027	

Bank Holidays highlighted in pink

Autumn Term

1st Sept – 18th Dec 2026
(Half Term 19th – 30th Oct)

Spring Term

4th Jan – 25th Mar 2027
(Half Term 26th – 9th Apr 2027)

Summer Term

12th Apr – 23rd Jul 2027
(Half Term 31st May – 4th Jun 2027)

INSET Days (highlighted in yellow) school closed:

• Mon 1st Sept 2026

• Mon 4th Jan 2027



GOLDEN AWARD WINNERS

ACORNS	Penelope & Astrid
SEEDLINGS	Olivia & Florence
BUDS	Ava & Jack
YOUNG OAKS	Gregory & Connie
BUR OAKS	Thomas & Pippa
RED OAKS	Stanley & Ivy-Rose
MIGHTY OAKS	Zachary, Ruby & Jackson



Signposting

Chacewater Players

NEVERLAND

FRIDAY 23RD JANUARY 7PM

SATURDAY 24TH JANUARY 2PM & 7PM

FRIDAY 30TH JANUARY 7PM

SATURDAY 31ST JANUARY 2PM & 7PM

PERFORMING AT CHACEWATER VILLAGE HALL

FOR TICKETS

EMAIL: info@chacewaterplayers.co.uk

FIND ON OUR WEBSITE: www.chacewaterplayers.co.uk