



Mawnan CE VA School Newsletter

Using our God-given talents to let our light shine



Our core Christian Values: *Compassion, Hope, Peace, Perseverance, Respect, Trust*

Friday 12th December 2025

Secret Santa

Our school was full of festive cheer today as the children enjoyed our much-loved annual Secret Santa Shop. The excitement and joy it brings never fails to make the day a special one, and this year was no exception.

A huge thank you goes to our fantastic PTA for all their hard work in making this event happen. Their dedication to creating memorable experiences for our children is greatly appreciated. We are also very grateful to the WI for their kind support, and to everyone in our school community who donated so generously. £500 was raised in total!

Thanks to your kindness, this lovely tradition continues to put smiles on faces of all ages. As Christmas Day approaches, we hope the carefully chosen gifts bring plenty of happiness and festive cheer





Thank you Asda!

A heartfelt thank you to Asda for so kindly donating the delicious mince pies for our Nativity refreshments. Your generosity added an extra touch of warmth and festive cheer to our celebration.

Thank you for spreading Christmas spirit in our school community!

Everyone Loves a Baby

Oppie and Topper Class were absolutely wonderful in their performance of this year's infant nativity, *Everyone Loves a Baby*!

The children were a joy to watch, confidently showing off their many talents and filling the hall with smiles, laughter and festive spirit.

Their enthusiasm was infectious, and it was clear how much effort and care had gone into every song, line and action. Watching the children perform with such pride and enjoyment was a real highlight for everyone.

Huge congratulations to all of the children for such a lovely performance, and a big thank you to the teachers and support staff who worked so hard behind the scenes to make it all happen.

It was a truly special nativity and thoroughly enjoyed by all.



Squash Box

The children thoroughly enjoyed a wonderful visit from Squashbox Theatre on Thursday afternoon. Their Christmas show was full of laughter and festive fun, keeping everyone entertained from start to finish.

We are very grateful to our PTA for kindly treating the children to this delightful experience. Their continued support helps to create special moments like these, adding to the joy and excitement of the Christmas season for all.



Christmas Dinner – Wednesday 17th December

Our school Christmas Dinner will be served on **Wednesday, 17th December**. You can now book this festive meal through ParentPay. Please book as soon as you can so our kitchen team knows how many children to cater for. Thank you! Many children are still not booked on for the Christmas Dinner. **The booking deadline is Friday 12th December**. Please do double check, as many bookings got wiped of the system due to the Firework menu change.

Sparkle Day

Our final day of this half term is always a special one and is fondly known as *Sparkle Day*. We would love all children to come into school wearing their **sparkliest** clothes to help us celebrate the end of term in style.

We will begin the day with a Sparkle Day fashion show, followed by a cheerful Christmas sing-song to set a festive tone. The children will then enjoy their class Christmas parties, making the most of this fun and joyful occasion together.

We are also delighted to share that Father Christmas has confirmed he will be visiting the best school in the South West on Friday afternoon. It promises to be a magical end to a wonderful term. ✨ 🎄

Key Stage 2 Candlelit Carols at St Mawnan Church

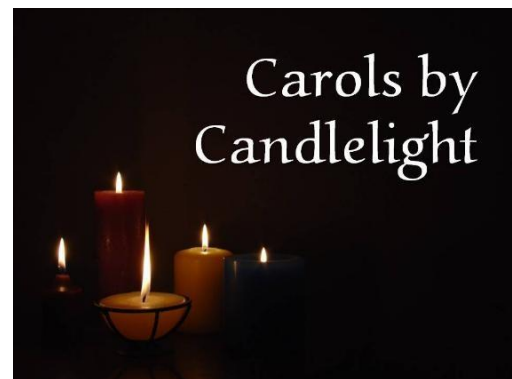
We are delighted to let you know that on **Tuesday 16th December**, our Key Stage 2 children will be presenting their annual **Carol Service at St Mawnan Church (the old church)**. This much-loved candlelit

celebration will begin at **6pm**, and we kindly ask that children arrive from **5:45pm**, dressed in their Christmas jumpers to add to the festive cheer.

Due to the church's limited capacity, this event is reserved for **Key Stage 2 families (Pico, Fusion, and Dart)**, with a maximum of **two tickets per family**. These tickets will be sent home on Monday with your KS2 children. We are sorry for the restriction, but the combination of our larger cohorts and the intimate size of the church makes this necessary. Thank you for your understanding.

As parking at the church is extremely limited, we strongly encourage **lift sharing** wherever possible to help ease congestion.

We are very much looking forward to a joyful and uplifting evening together.



Dart Class Victorian day

This week, our pupils stepped back in time for Victorian Day. Dressed for the era, they began with traditional handwriting practice and tackled their times tables the Victorian way. The morning continued with vocal gymnastics and drill, which soon had everyone standing a little straighter, followed by a lesson on the creation of the Union Flag. At break time, everyone warmed up with a cup of hearty Victorian broth before trying their hand at classic playground games.

In the afternoon, pupils learned about the vast reach of the British Empire, raised their voices in a rousing rendition of God Save the Queen, and finished the day by practising Victorian-style embroidery. It was a memorable journey into the past and a fantastic way to bring history to life!



Swimming Gala



Some of our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils attended a Swimming Gala at Ben Ainslie today, competing against six other teams who all swam to a very high standard. We are thrilled to share that Noah won **1st place** in the boys' breaststroke, and Alice achieved **1st place** in the girls' freestyle. Many of our other pupils also secured podium finishes.

The level of competition was exceptionally strong, and we are incredibly proud of our swimmers, who finished **third overall!** Well done to everyone who took part for their fantastic effort, teamwork, and dedication.



Tuesday 16th December	Key Stage 2 Candlelit Carols at St Mawnan Church (old church).	This candlelit service will start at 6pm and arrival will be from 5:45pm. We would like the children to wear their school uniform. Due to limited capacity, this event is exclusively for Key Stage 2 families (Pico, Fusion, and Dart), with a maximum of two tickets per family. We strongly recommend lift sharing as the parking at the Church is <u>very</u> limited.
Wednesday 17th December	Christmas Dinner 	You can view the menu and book this on parent pay TODAY IS THE FINAL DAY to book. Please make sure you select a pudding before checking out or it doesn't save the booking.
Thursday 18th December	The Masked Teacher 	
Friday 19th December		For our last day of term, we would like all of the children to come into school in their sparkliest clothes (non-uniform). We will also be having our class parties on this day and a special visitor will be coming to join us!

Top Tips for a Tech-Free Christmas for Children

With Christmas right around the corner, millions of families are excitedly anticipating the chance to spend some quality time with each other over the festive season. When everyone's engrossed in their phones or glued to their games consoles, however, genuinely meaningful moments with loved ones can often be difficult to orchestrate.

Our Christmas #WakeUpWednesday guide will lend a hand: providing some advice on helping young people to set aside their devices for a while and live in the moment. Even if going full tech cold turkey feels unrealistic, implementing just a few of these tips could still decrease the amount of screen time in your home this festive season – enabling everyone to make the most of it.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

12 Top Tips for Children & Young People to Enjoy a TECH-FREE CHRISTMAS

The Christmas holidays are tailor made for families to enjoy relaxed quality time in each other's company – but with distractions like pinging phone notifications, the lure of games consoles and online Boxing Day sales, that can be more difficult than it sounds. Staying off our phones, laptops and tablets, however, can really help us to appreciate the things that genuinely matter at this special time of year. Follow our 12 top tips for a tech-free festive season – Yule be glad you did! Merry Christmas!



- CHRISTMAS CRAFTING**
Get out the paper, glue and scissors and have a go at hand-making cards or gift tags. You could also create your own decorations to add a uniquely personal touch to the Christmas tree.
- NATURE QUEST**
Try a scavenger hunt in the garden or your local park. Challenge yourself and your family to find natural treasures that are symbolic of this time of year – like holly or pinecones, say.
- CAROL KARAOKE**
Sing your hearts out with a Christmas carol karaoke night. Pick out your favourite tunes and enjoy a musical celebration with family and friends.
- WANDER DOWN MEMORY LANE**
How about making a scrapbook filled with your favourite memories from Christmas gone by? Unleash your creativity while you enjoy reliving those magical holiday moments.
- TRY REFLECTIVE JOURNALING**
Jot down your thoughts, feelings and reflections on the holiday in a notebook or diary – you could also list some of your main goals for the new year.
- WRAP IT UP**
Take time to get inventive with some luxurious gift wrapping. Break out the wrapping paper, ribbons and bows to make parceling up those presents into a creative adventure.
- WALK IN A WINTER WONDERLAND**
Delight in the great outdoors with some gentle walks over the holiday. The family can all wrap up warm as you add to your step count and savour the crisp winter air together.
- BE A SEASONAL CHEF**
Get the whole family working together in the kitchen for some Christmas cooking. Choose a recipe and whip up a festive feast that all of you can enjoy.
- ENJOY A CHRISTMAS STORY**
Christmas is a perfect time for sparkling stories. Get cosy and lose yourself in a brilliant book. From Dickens to Dr Seuss or a more modern favourite by Chris van Allsburg or Tom Fletcher.
- SNOWY SCULPTURES**
If we're fortunate enough to get a white Christmas this year, make the most of the opportunity by having a family snowman-building competition!
- GAMES NIGHT GALA**
Dive into some old-school fun with a tech-free games night. Classic board games and card games have stood the test of time for a reason!
- GOODWILL TO ALL**
You and your family could spend a day volunteering – perhaps at a food bank or helping a local charity. After all, kindness and thinking of others are part of what Christmas is all about.

Meet Our Expert
Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.

#WakeUpWednesday The National College

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Christmas Services at Mawnan 2025:

Wednesday 17th December

10am Celtic Christmas at St Michael



Sunday 21st December

10.30am We join with the Methodists for a Carol Service with Nativity Tableaux, at St Michael



Wednesday 24th December – Christmas Eve

Carols by Candlelight 5pm at St Mawnan

The Church looks wonderful when all the candles are lit. Join us for this celebration with carols and readings for Christmas Eve, suitable for all the family.

Thursday 25th December

10.00 Christmas Day Celebration Communion at St Michael