



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 6th February 2026

Children's Mental Health Week

This year, Children's Mental Health Week 2026 is next week!

The official theme for Children's Mental Health Week 2026 is "This is My Place." This theme focuses on helping children and young people feel a sense of belonging, whether that's in their friendships, at school, within their families, or in their wider communities and highlights how important feeling included and supported is for their mental health and wellbeing.

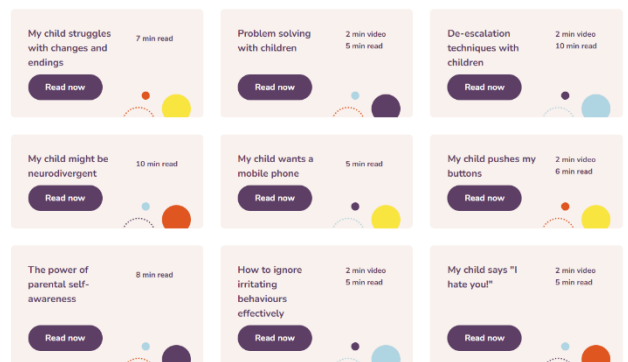


To support Children's Mental Health Week, we will be holding a **'Dress to Express' Day on Friday 13 February** to raise money for Place2Be.

Children and staff are invited to wear an outfit that expresses who they are. This could be a favourite outfit, bright colours, traditional clothing that celebrates culture, or something that reflects a much-loved hobby. We would love to see everyone's creativity shine. Cash donations will be greatly appreciated, and there will be a collection at the school gate.

Place2Be offers a wide range of helpful resources to support parents and carers to support their children. These can be accessed here:

<https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>



World Book Day 2026

We are really excited to remind you about a very special event coming up – **World Book Day 2026!**

This year, we will be celebrating on **Friday 6th March**. This is a change from Thursday 5th March, as it clashes with **St Piran's Day**.

At Mawnan School, though, we like to think that every day is World Book Day! We are passionate about putting high-quality books at the heart of everything we do, helping our children develop a genuine love of reading from an early age. Reading really is the key that unlocks learning across the whole curriculum.

To help us celebrate, we would love children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. Costumes do not need to be complicated, we encourage simple, creative ideas using things you already have at home.

Thank you so much for all the support you give your children with reading at home. It truly makes a huge difference to their confidence, progress and enjoyment of learning. We are so lucky to have such supportive parents and carers who share our passion for reading and learning. Together, we can help every child develop a love of reading that lasts a lifetime.

Our staff team are already busy devising an exciting plan for this year's celebrations. While we are keeping some surprises for the big day, here is a reminder of what we did last year – it was absolutely epic!



Gool Peran Lowen

on **Thursday 5th March**, we are looking forward to celebrating **St Piran's Day** in school!

To mark the occasion, our special lunch menu will include a delicious **Cornish pasty Pie** (steak or cheese and onion), followed by traditional **Hevva Cake** for pudding.

Please remember to book your child's meal in advance to avoid disappointment, as we cannot guarantee pasties will be available for any additional meals not pre-booked.

PLEASE NOTE: The meal has been changed from a Pasty to Pasty Pie and as a result all previous bookings for this day appear to have been cancelled from Parent Pay. Please do check your bookings and re book where necessary!

Thursday 5th March
St Piran's Day

CORNWALL

Homemade
Steak Pasty Pie

Homemade
Cheese & Onion Pasty Pie

DID YOU KNOW?
Cornish Hevva Cake is a traditional treat made by Cornish fishermen's families following the sighting of fish that they called 'huer' or 'hevva'.

Chartwells
So much more than Fantastic Food

Year 4 Swimming – A Fantastic Term of Progress!

We wanted to take a moment to celebrate just how amazing swimming lessons have been this term for our Year 4 pupils.

The children have made incredible progress, supported by learning in a calm and wonderful pool environment. We are extremely grateful to Maenporth Estate for generously allowing us to use this incredible facility.

The quality of teaching has been exceptional. We are very fortunate to have Len Hatcher, who is renowned locally for his outstanding swimming instruction. Alongside this, our staff team attending the sessions are also working with Len to gain their own swimming qualifications, helping to strengthen our provision even further.

A huge thank you must also go to Mick for safely transporting the children each week, and to Mylor School for kindly lending us their minibus. We would also like to thank our parent volunteers for their ongoing support, and a very special thank you to Mrs Watson for helping to make all of this possible.

Year 3 – you're up next!



Punctuality

Our school gates open at 8:35am and close at 8:45am, with classroom doors opening at 8:40am. All children need to be in class by 8:45am so they can settle in and start their learning calmly with their class.

We have noticed that a small number of children are arriving after 8:45am, which means they miss the beginning of the lesson. We would really appreciate your support in helping your child arrive on time and ready for the day ahead.

Classroom doors close promptly at 8:45am. If your child arrives after this time, they will need to enter the school via the school office so they can be registered.

Parent Teacher Meetings

Our second round of Parent Teacher Meetings for this academic year will take place during the week beginning **Monday 23rd March**.

After half term, you will receive a Google Form to book an appointment at a time that works best for you.

This is a very important week in our school calendar. During this time, we cancel all professional meetings and make personal arrangements to ensure we can meet with every family. It is really important that you book a meeting, as we value the opportunity to talk with you about your child's progress and development.

School Disco – Coming Soon!

Get ready... the school disco, one of the absolute highlights of the school year for our children, is coming very soon!

This is always a fantastic evening filled with music, dancing, laughter and lots of fun with friends.

We will send the google form and payment link next week.

neon!

MAWAN PTA

SCHOOL DISCO

**FRI 27TH
FEB 2026**

Professional DJ!

KS1: 15.15-16.30

KS2: 16.45-18.15

Sweet treats & Crisps

**Suggested donation/child
£6
All incl.**

Key Dates to remember 2025/2026

Important Dates	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Friday 13 th Feb	Dress to Express – non uniform day.
16 th – 20 th Feb	Half Term
Friday 27 th Feb	School Disco
Friday 6 th March	World Book Day – dress up day .
23 rd – 27 th March	Parent Teacher Meetings
Friday 27 th March	PINs coffee morning
3 rd – 17 th April	Easter Holidays
Mon 4 th May	Bank Holiday – school closed
Mon 1 st June	Inset Day 3 – school closed
17 th – 19 th June	Year 4 & 5 Camp to BF Adventure
24 th -26 th June	Year 6 Camp to Porthpean
Friday 3 rd July	Sports Day
Friday 10 th July	Sports Day (reserve day)
22 nd -23 rd July	Inset days 4 & 5 – school closed
24 th July	Summer Holidays

Top Tips for Parents & Educators: Supporting Safe Use of AI

Artificial intelligence is becoming a familiar part of young people's online experiences, with a myriad of school tools and entertainment platforms in use. This #WakeUpWednesday guide breaks down what AI really is, helping adults explain it clearly and realistically so children don't overestimate its abilities or trust it unquestioningly. It explores how AI systems work, where they appear online, and why understanding them matters.

The guide also highlights key online safety considerations, including misinformation, data privacy, bias and over-reliance on AI tools. With practical advice on setting boundaries, choosing age-appropriate platforms and encouraging ethical, creative use, it empowers parents and educators to build digital literacy while keeping children safe, curious and critically engaged.

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, links and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SUPPORTING SAFE USE OF AI

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasingly woven into young people's digital lives. It can offer some educational benefits and day-to-day assistance; however, it also raises concerns about misinformation, privacy, fairness, and safety. This guide provides parents and educators with practical strategies to support young people to navigate AI tools responsibly, and to use them safely and with discernment.

- 1 DEMYSTIFY WHAT AI REALLY IS**

Children encounter AI in most online places, including games, streaming platforms, and school tools. Explain that AI uses patterns from past data to make decisions, but it doesn't think or feel like humans. Use age-appropriate examples, like how recommendations on YouTube or Netflix work, to build understanding and prevent false beliefs about AI being all-knowing or alive.
- 2 TALK ABOUT RISKS OF MISINFORMATION**

AI can create convincing false information, including deepfakes, videos, photos, and fake facts. Encourage children to think critically about what they see and read. Teach them to double-check information using reliable sources, to look at images and videos carefully, and to ask an adult if something doesn't seem right.
- 3 DISCUSS DATA AND PRIVACY**

Explain that AI systems learn by analysing lots of data, sometimes including personal information. Help young people be mindful of what they share online and why protecting personal data matters. Model good habits like reading app permissions together or reviewing what's collected by voice assistants like Alexa or Siri.
- 4 ENCOURAGE CREATIVE USE OF AI**

Support children, when using AI tools, to explore ideas, make art, or build projects. This boosts confidence, imagination, and independent thinking. When children use AI creatively, rather than just passively consuming it, they are more likely to stay engaged and make thoughtful choices.
- 5 USE AGE-APPROPRIATE AI TOOLS**

Not all AI platforms are suitable for children. Choose tools designed for education or creativity, with clear safety policies. Review terms of use and privacy settings, and help children use them in age-appropriate ways. For example, some chatbot tools mimic conversation but should only be used with guidance and boundaries in place.
- 6 USE AI TOGETHER**

Exploring AI tools together can help adults understand how they work and spot potential issues. Try co-writing a story with an AI writing assistant or experimenting with an AI art tool. This encourages curiosity, helps you stay informed about the latest AI tools, and allows you to reinforce safe and respectful use while modelling critical thinking.
- 7 SET BOUNDARIES FOR AI USE**

Establish when, where, and how AI tools can be used, just as you would with any digital technology. For example, you might agree not to use AI tools to complete school assignments without permission, or to avoid unsupervised use of voice assistants. Consistent boundaries help manage overuse and misuse.
- 8 WATCH FOR OVERRELIANCE**

Some AI tools, like homework help apps, may be tempting shortcuts. Encourage children to use AI to support their thinking, not replace it. Celebrate effort and process over perfect answers. Reinforce that mistakes are part of learning and that relying too heavily on AI can limit our understanding.
- 9 TEACH DIGITAL ETHICS AND LITERACY**

Help children explore how AI works, where it might be biased, and why ethical training matters. Building digital literacy alongside ethical awareness ensures children engage with AI critically, not just conveniently. Help young people to understand that not all people use AI for legitimate purposes: some use it for malicious reasons. Encourage questions about fairness, representation, and who benefits from certain tools: talk about algorithms, who chooses, and the impact of automation on daily life.
- 10 STAY CURIOUS AND INVOLVED**

AI is developing rapidly, and staying informed helps you support the young people in your care. Follow trusted sources for updates and keep the conversation going. If a child brings up a new AI trend or tool, take the opportunity to learn about it together. Showing interest builds trust and strengthens digital resilience.

Meet Our Expert
Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education professionals go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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EdVenture- Penryn College

The half term holidays are fast approaching and Penryn College will be hosting our very successful Edventure holiday programme once more.

Parents can book spaces using our website

- www.myedventure.co.uk. Parents can also pay using childcare voucher schemes if they contact us directly.

If anyone has any questions or queries please do contact us.

Edventure Holiday Activities @ Penryn College

01326 372379

CHILD CARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

EDVENTURE
PENRYN COLLEGE
HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

FEB HALF TERM SUPERCAMPS

Come and take part in our EdVenture holiday provision, offering children a fantastic opportunity to build friendships through team sports and outdoor adventures, and explore their creativity with themed group games and arts & crafts.

FEBRUARY HALF TERM: FEB 17TH – 19TH
3-DAY SUPERCAMPS
5-7 YEARS | 8+ YEARS

- DODGEBALL, DEN BUILDING, GYM,
- PAPER PLANE FLYING, ARTS & CRAFTS,
- DANCE OFF, FOOTBALL GOLF,
- CAPTURE THE FLAG, BOARD GAMES,
- FILMS, TEAM CHALLENGES & LOTS MORE!

£90 FOR 3 DAYS OR **£35 A DAY**

FOR MORE DETAILS & TO BOOK:
WWW.MYEDVENTURE.CO.UK
01326 372379

Flu
Vaccination

School Age
Reception -
Year 11

Drop In Clinic

Saturday 7th February 2026

10:30 - 13:30

Redruth Family hub

Drump Road

Redruth, TR15 1LU

10.30-13.30

For more information
please speak with a
member of the team

Call us on

01872 221105

kernowhealthcic.schoolimmunisation@nhs.net