



# Porthleven School & Pre-School



## Newsletter

Friday 10th November 2023

Dear Parent and Carers

This week I would like to share with you the Nursery's fantastic day out to Helston. Staff and children took the bus to Helston, which for some children was their first time travelling on public transport. Next stop was Helston's library, where children looked through picture books, learnt how it was organised and staff were able to share lots of stories. A short walk down to the sweet shop was taken to where the children were going to learn the important math skills of spending money, counting out coins in return for sweets. The children even had time to have a snack at the boating lake and work on their physical development at the park.

Throughout the day children were encouraged to communicate, develop their curiosity of the world, and do things that are different to the everyday routines they are used to. These positive early childhood experiences are so important in setting a child on the path to success and they are generally the ones that children will remember for a long time to come.

Have a good weekend,

Dan Clayden

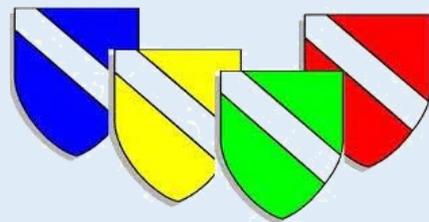
Acting Head of School

## Attendance

| Class          | Attendance<br>This week | Late Marks |
|----------------|-------------------------|------------|
| Rainbowfish—YR | 93.87                   | 2          |
| Seahorses—Y1   | 94.84                   | 16         |
| Jellyfish—Y2   | 95.79                   | 3          |
| Narwhals—Y3    | 97.32                   | 2          |
| Swordfish—Y4   | 92.59                   | 1          |
| Manta Rays—Y5  | 97.10                   | 2          |
| Dolphins—Y6    | 98.41                   | 2          |
| WHOLE SCHOOL   | 95.70                   | 27         |

Well done to **Narwhals** class for the best attendance this week!

## House Points



### Running Totals This Term

Cookworthy: 3

Penrose: 7

Gibson: 6

Methleigh: 5

Our winners this week are the

**METHLEIGH TEAM!**

**Well done!**

## EYFS & KS1 TEAM

This week we hear from Mrs Blandford and Mrs Wood!

Year 2 have had a great start to the new half term. They are excited to be learning some football skills in PE and did a great job learning to dribble the ball this week. They even dribbled the ball in and out of each other's legs as an extra challenge.



In history we have started a new topic comparing toys from the 1960's to those we have today. So far we have been learning about significant events in the 1960's such as the moon landing, England winning the world cup and the introduction of colour TVs. The children enjoyed discussing the various photographs and ordering them on a timeline. Next week we will begin looking at old toys and comparing them to the toys we have today. In order to do this we would like to use toy catalogues to cut out pictures of new toys. If you have any at home from toy stores or supermarkets or could collect some over the weekend ready for next week then we would be very grateful.

In literacy the children wrote firework poems last week and have used their best handwriting skills to write them up very neatly, I'm sure you will enjoy looking at these at parents evening.



This week we hear from Mr Goward!

## KS2 TEAM

This week Swordfish Class were lucky enough to have a visit from the Kernow King (sometimes known as Ed) who spoke to us about mining and a brief history of Cornish mining. We played a really exciting board game that had us competing in teams to move through mine shafts, avoiding dangerous falls and finding ladders for quick escapes. The game brought out our competitive fires maybe a little too much at times! After that, the whole of KS2 were treated to an assembly/show from the Kernow King and friends, which was in one word *explosive!* Thanks so much to Ed and co. for the exciting afternoon. It was interesting to learn new facts about Cornwall's history and mining in general.



# Accelerated Reader Champions!



| Jellyfish  | Narwhals                               | Swordfish | Manta Rays | Dolphins  |
|--|--|-----------|------------|-----------|
| <b>Class Weekly Word Count</b>                         |  |           |            |           |
| 20,697   | 187,107                                | 94,333    | 128,714    | 142,648   |
| <b>Highest Pupil Weekly Word Count</b>                 |  |           |            |           |
| Noah   | Sam                                    | Edie      | Joe        | Annabelle |
| 8,957  | 34,474                                 | 33,469    | 53,758     | 52,780    |
| <b>100% achievers - Who has achieved their target?</b> |  |           |            |           |
|  | Esmay, Evie,<br>Gracie, Lily,<br>Lydia |           |            | Annabelle |

## Recommended reads

**KS1 Book of the week - Trumpet: The Little Elephant with a Big Temper**

**Author: Jane Clarke AR Book Level: 2.3**

It's Trumpet's birthday, but he is feeling rather out of sorts.... and soon a bit of bickering with his sister Tilly escalates into a giant tantrum! "Calm down, Trumpet!" everyone cautions him, and his mother teaches him to count to ten. Eventually, Trumpet manages to tame his temper. But when his mum loses her own temper, it's Trumpet and his friends who get the last laugh!



**KS2 Book of the week - Alex Sparrow and the Really Big Stink**

**Author: Jennifer Killick, AR Book Level: 5.2**

Alex Sparrow is a super-agent in training. He is also a human lie detector. Working with Jess - who can communicate with animals - they must find out why their friends, and enemies, are all changing into polite and well-behaved pupils. And exactly who is behind it all.



## Maths Whizz Winners

Below is our weekly progression for each class!

**Jellyfish: 1**

**Narwhals: 1.8**

**Swordfish: 1.5**

**Manta Rays: 5.3**

**Dolphins: 3.3**

Well done to Manta Rays class for winning the Maths Whizz trophy this week!



**Maths-Whizz®**  
by whizz EDUCATION

# Important Messages

## **Anti – bullying week - Monday 13th - Friday 17th November.**

The theme is 'Make A Noise About Bullying'. This Anti-Bullying Week we'll have discussions about what bullying means to us, how banter can turn into something more hurtful, and what we can do to stop bullying. Together, we can make a difference and take a stand against bullying. From the playground to Parliament, and from our phones to our homes, we need to make a noise about bullying.



Throughout the week, the children will have an assembly, listen to books and discuss their thoughts and feelings about the characters and their own views on bullying. They will also complete a kindness activity throughout the school.

On **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November**, we would encourage everyone to wear mismatched socks as a way of celebrating diversity and promoting inclusion. It is a reminder that being different is something to be proud of.

## **Attendance and late arrival**

As a reminder, the expected attendance for a child is **95%** or above. Please ensure all absences are emailed or left on the absence phonenumber by 9am each day.

## **Hair**

We would please encourage all children, if they have long hair, to ensure that it is tied back for school. This will help to reduce transmission headlice and also ensure that long hair does not get in the way of learning! Many thanks for your cooperation.

## **Breaktime snacks**

We ask that children please have a healthy snack during break times and avoid snacking on items such as chocolate or crisps.

## **Information sent home this week:**

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## **School Facebook**

Please follow the schools face book page for school updates - Porthleven School

Porthleven PTA page is not run by the school, if you have any questions about school please ensure you send them to [porthlevensecretary@croftymat.org](mailto:porthlevensecretary@croftymat.org) or call the school office.

## **National Child's Measurement Program Reception & Year 6 Wednesday 29th November**

### **Reception vision check on Wednesday 6th December**

The school nursing team will be in school soon to see Reception and Year 6 to take their measurements. Please find information below for each year group including how to opt out.

**Reception:** <https://www.healthycornwall.org.uk/make-a-change/child-health-programme-reception-year/>

**Year 6:** <https://www.healthycornwall.org.uk/make-a-change/child-health-programme-year-6/>

If you would like an opt out form printed please let the school office know.

## **Flu Vaccinations**

The school nursing team are due to visit your child's school on **Thursday 16th November 2023**. In order to access the online consent form, please enter or click on the following link: <https://www.kernowimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu>  
PLEASE ENSURE YOU ENTER THE FULL UNIQUE SCHOOL REFERENCE CODE.

The code for Porthleven school is: **EE143996**

The vaccine is for children in Reception to year 6.

# SPORTS AT PORTHLEVEN



## Football league

On Monday, a team of Year 5 and 6 children took part in the football league, competing against four other teams in dark, rainy conditions!

They played brilliantly as a team, winning their first match 5-0 and then drawing on the subsequent three matches.

Well done to all the players!



## Cross Country

Cross country was at Mullion School this time we only had a few runners from Porthleven school but they all did amazing which will go towards the whole school total



# Diary Dates

(additions in red)

| Date                      | Event  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Friday 10th November      | Sponsored fun run  |
| Monday 13th November      | Odd Socks Day  |
| Monday 13th - Friday 17th | Anti-Bullying week                                       |
| Wednesday 15th November   | Anti-Bullying awareness event at HCC 2.30-3.30pm         |
| Thursday 16th November    | Nasal Flu Immunisations year R – year 6                  |
| Monday - Friday 20th—24th | Parent meetings  |
| Wednesday 29th November   | Year 6 & Reception Height & Weight check                 |
| Tuesday 5th December      | EYFS Nativity 1.30pm- more info to follow                |
| Tuesday 5th December      | KS1 Christmas play 5.30pm - more info to follow          |
| Wednesday 6th December    | Reception class vision check                             |
| Wednesday 6th December    | Bags2School collection                                   |
| Wednesday 6th December    | EYFS Nativity 4.30pm - more info to follow               |
| Wednesday 6th December    | KS1 Christmas play 1.30pm - more info to follow          |
| Friday 8th December       | Whole school trip to the Hall for Cornwall for Peter Pan |
| Thursday 14th December    | Christmas school Lunch                                   |
| Friday 15th December      | Christmas Fair - Volunteers needed                       |
| Tuesday 19th December     | Last day of school                                       |
| Thursday 4th January      | INSET Day  |
| Friday 5th January        | First day of the Spring term                             |
| Monday 19th February      | INSET Day  |
| Wednesday 8th May         | INSET Day  |

# Parent Meeting Booking Forms

Please find below each class link to book parents meetings for the week beginning Monday 20th November.

There will be no after school clubs this week

Seahorse

<https://forms.gle/1TwpYqfHCX2KRjY9>

Jellyfish

<https://forms.gle/sVbDtPerAAHS9mVs7>

Narwhals

<https://forms.gle/R946tjMGSUUvf2Ah6>

Swordfish

<https://forms.gle/mBBTZajRYRPqVsnA6>

Manta Rays

<https://forms.gle/rqa3psv1Kf8VNBmg7>

Dolphins

<https://forms.gle/My3VcGGFC6UZmdTw5>



There's a very good chance you've heard of Fortnite, but what exactly is it? And why is it so popular amongst young people? Fortnite is an online multiplayer "battle royale" game developed by Epic Games, and is playable on Playstation 4, Xbox One, Nintendo Switch, PC and mobiles. It gained popularity in late 2017 and has since become the biggest game in the world, thanks to its rapid and engaging gameplay. As with most games, Fortnite itself is a highly enjoyable and safe experience, but it pays to be vigilant, as the safety is not water tight.



# What parents need to know about FORTNITE BATTLE ROYALE



### BATTLE ROYALE

Battle Royale games have become very popular over the last couple of years, and most tend to follow a very similar setup. Taking Fortnite as an example, 100 players drop into a map, loot buildings for weapons and armour and attempt to beat all the other players to be crowned victor at the end. If you've ever seen the Hunger Games movies, you'll have an idea of what this entails. Each game can take up to 20 minutes (assuming you last to the end) and can be restarted relatively quickly once 100 free players have been found.

### IS FORTNITE ADDICTIVE?

Fortnite is at the forefront of gaming addiction discussions because it is so popular with young people. But whether it actually contributes to gaming addiction is up for debate. WHO (World Health Organisation) have classified gaming as a legitimate addiction, but this is not solely a concern with Fortnite. Signs of addiction can include irritability when not playing, lying about the amount of time played and a preoccupation with thoughts of the next gaming session. Realistically, it must be down to parents and carers to recognise these symptoms and act accordingly if they think they are developing.

### FREE TO PLAY... OR IS IT?

While Fortnite is technically free to play (in that you can download and play it without paying) it does come with the caveat that spending money on things like skins and emotes in-game is heavily pushed to players. The currency used in-game is called 'V-Bucks' and can be bought with real money through the game's online store. It's worth remembering that these purchases are absolutely not necessary, are cosmetic only and that V-Bucks can be earned in-game with enough play time.

### SEASONAL UPDATES

Every 10 weeks or so Fortnite is updated with a new season. This essentially adds new things like skins and emotes to the game, while also sometimes changing up the game map in interesting ways. These seasons are free to everybody and don't require additional money to play, though battle passes for each season can be bought with V-Bucks. A battle pass will typically allow a player to earn experience faster and gain fun in-game items by completing a host of daily challenges.

### CROSSPLAY IS AVAILABLE

One of the wonderful things about Fortnite is that it can be played cross-platform. This means that no matter what platform a person plays on (PC, PlayStation 4, Xbox One etc) they can play with friends who own the game on a different platform. To do this, an Epic Games account must first be created online (which is free) and then linked with your platform account. Doing this removes the age-old boundary of not being able to play together because you don't have the same console and opens up a whole new world of playing online with friends.

### IS FORTNITE VIOLENT?

Fortnite has been rated by the ESRB (Entertainment Software Ratings Board) as teen, as it contains cartoony violence and the weapons and acts depicted in the game are some way removed from their real life inspirations. Characters don't draw blood when shot and instead of dying, they are simply beamed up off the map. Naturally, players younger than the recommended age limit will want to play the game and that should be at the discretion of parents and carers.



## Top Tips For Parents

### BUYING V-BUCKS

As mentioned, Fortnite does contain in-game purchases and microtransactions in the form of V-Bucks which can be bought with real money. If you do decide to let your young one spend money in the game, be sure to delete your card information afterwards as it can be very easy to purchase more items at the press of a few buttons. It's important to set a limit on any purchases (as mentioned they are absolutely not necessary to play the game) and a suggestion would be capping the spending at around £50 - this is the normal retail price of a game.

### GAMING WITH STRANGERS

Fortnite Battle Royale is an online game, and as such, there is a chance that young children could come into contact with strangers who are randomly placed into their groups in a game. It's difficult to predict what another person might say or do in a game, so it's a good idea for friends playing together, to be grouped together. The only real countermeasure to interacting with strangers offered by Fortnite is to turn off all mic communications, which can be done in the game's settings. Using outside chat apps, like Skype or Discord while playing, is a great way to make sure you know who you're talking to and that nobody else is listening in.

### LIMIT TIME, BUT BE FLEXIBLE

A game of Fortnite can last up to 20 minutes, so be flexible when it's time to put it away. The approach of 'one more game' as opposed to '10 more minutes' will stop any complaints that a match is still ongoing. Better still, play with your child and take it in turns; that way you're helping control the time played and can keep an eye on what they're experiencing.

### TALK TO OTHER PARENTS / CARERS

If you're concerned about play time or spending money in the game, talk to other parents and carers of your child's friends. If you approach as a collective, it will be easier to know when their friends are online and you don't have to worry about who they're playing with. It can also help curb expectations on spending money on battle passes and skins if you stick together.

### CAN DEVELOP SOME IMPORTANT SKILLS

It's often overlooked just how good gaming can be for young people. Fortnite encourages team play, quick and complex problem solving and communication; that's not to mention the lightning fast reflexes gamers can develop. While taking breaks to do other activities is of course important, there are benefits to screen time which might not be immediately obvious.

### PLAY THE GAME YOURSELF

There's no substitute for sitting down and playing the game yourself to learn all about it. Fortnite is available for free on almost anything you can imagine, even your smartphone, so there's never been a better time to get involved and see what all the fuss is about. You never know, you might even be able to impress your children when you show them your impressive Victory Royale tally!

### Meet our expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGbible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



<https://www.theguardian.com/games/2018/mar/07/fortnite-battle-royale-parents-guide-video-game-multiplayer-shooter>, <https://www.psychguides.com/behavioral-disorders/video-game-addiction/>, <https://www.polygon.com/2018/3/23/17146848/cross-platform-crossplay-ps4-xbox-pc-switch-ios-mobile-enable-friends-compatible-matchmaking?70IE7d>, <https://www.esrb.org/ratings/34948/Fortnite/>

# WEEK 3

W/C: 13/11, 04/12, 15/01, 05/02, 26/02, 18/03

|  | MONDAY   | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY  | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY   |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|
| HOT MAINS  | <b>Cheese and Tomato Pizza</b> 🌱<br>Served with Potato Wedges                  | <b>Cottage Pie</b> ❤️<br>Served with Gravy                                  | <b>Roast Pork</b><br>Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy                          | <b>Chicken and Vegetable Korma</b> 🌱❤️<br>Served with Wholegrain Rice | <b>Southern Fried Chicken</b><br>Served with Chips                   |
|  | <b>Chilli No Carne with Crispy Tortilla</b> 🌱❤️<br>Served with Wholegrain Rice | <b>Cauliflower Macaroni Cheese</b> 🌱❤️<br>Served with Garlic and Herb Bread | <b>Sweet Potato and Chickpea Roast</b> 🌱❤️<br>Served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy | <b>Sweet and Sour Vegetables</b> 🌱❤️<br>Served with Wholegrain Rice   | <b>Crispy Quorn Nuggets</b> 🌱<br>Served with Chips                   |
| JACKET POTATO  | <b>Jacket Potatoes</b> 🌱❤️<br>with a choice of hot and cold fillings           | <b>Jacket Potatoes</b> 🌱❤️<br>with a choice of hot and cold fillings        | <b>Jacket Potatoes</b> 🌱❤️<br>with a choice of hot and cold fillings               | <b>Jacket Potatoes</b> 🌱❤️<br>with a choice of hot and cold fillings  | <b>Jacket Potatoes</b> 🌱❤️<br>with a choice of hot and cold fillings |
| <b>Tomato Pasta</b> Fresh, homemade tomato and basil sauce with penne pasta 🌱🌿 |  |   |  |   |  |
| All main meals are served with two vegetables                                  |  |   |  |   |  |
| DESSERT  | <b>Magic Apple and Cinnamon Bake</b> 🌱   | <b>Strawberry Jelly</b>   | <b>Orange Drizzle with Fruit</b> 🌱   | <b>Pineapple Upside Down Cake with Custard</b>                        | <b>Chocolate Ice Cream with Shortbread Biscuit</b>                   |

**PACKED LUNCH AVAILABLE**  
 Ham and Cheese sandwich available daily with veg sticks and fresh fruit or dessert of the day



REDRUTH  
WINTER  
WOODLAND

FREE CHRISTMAS GROTTO

SATURDAY  
25TH  
NOVEMBER

SATURDAY  
2ND  
DECEMBER

SATURDAY  
9TH  
DECEMBER

10:30AM-12:30PM AND 1PM-3PM

Come and meet Father Christmas at the  
Community Centre, Redruth, TR15 1AN with  
activities for all the family.

[discoverredruth.co.uk](http://discoverredruth.co.uk)  
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REDRUTH TOWN COUNCIL