

THE ST. UNY—VERSE

'Let your light shine before others.' Matthew 5:16

ISSUE 861 VOLUME 24

Friday 19 October 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your support for the school this first half-term. I really enjoyed the recent FOSUA AGM and was impressed at their ambition and imagination for activities and resources for the school.

Some parents have asked questions over the first few weeks about aspects of school life, such as sport, school dinners and reading and the information we have given might be of interest to more parents so there will be a 'Did you know?' section in each newsletter from now on. If you would like to know more about something, email the 'enquiries' email address.

We are still adding to our website and will gradually add more information about the curriculum. We are not finding time to add to our Facebook page at the moment, but I am sure this is something that Mr Hoskins, the new Head of School will develop next term.

I am not a great social media user myself but accept that these days, rather than just grumbling to each other in person, people will have a moan about all sorts of things via the internet. I mostly don't take any notice. Personally, if I have a concern about something I raise it constructively with the right person, so it can be addressed.

For a school, however, complaining on Facebook is obviously much more public than a grumble at the gate and can undermine the school's reputation. I am told there has been some recent grumbling by a few of our parents.

I haven't been here long, but I feel very protective of our school. It has been through some difficult times but is emerging stronger, happier and more effective. We won't always get everything right or be able to please everybody, but we will always listen if you have a grumble, concern, question or complaint and do our very best to make things better. So please talk to us and thank you to everyone who has done so. We value your constructive feedback in order to provide the best possible education for all our children.

I wish you all a very happy half-term!

Jo Osborne,

Acting Head of School

Attendance—our target for overall attendance is 96%

Carn Brea	96.6
Tehidy	98.5%
Poldark	98.6%
Kynance	95.7%
St Ives	94%
Godrevy	98.7%
Mousehole	93.6%
Ding Dong	98.6%
Wheal Dream	96.3%
Whole School	96.7%

DATES FOR THE DIARY

22nd October-26th October - HALF TERM

Monday 29th October

- Inset day (school closed for staff training)

Thursday 8 November

- Poppy Workshop 1.30pm. All welcome!

Friday 30th November

- FOSUA Christmas Fayre 4-6pm

Week beginning 3rd December

- Assessment week

Monday 10th December

- Parents Evening 3.30—6pm

Tuesday 11th December

- Parents Evening 3.30—6pm

Friday 14th December

- EYFS Nativity (time tbc)

Tuesday 18th December

- KS1 Nativity (afternoon time tbc)

Wednesday 19th December

- KS1 Nativity (afternoon time tbc)
- KS2 Carol Service (evening time tbc)

Thursday 20th December—END OF TERM

- Christmas jumper day and finish early at 2pm.

Monday 7th January

- Inset day (school closed for staff training)

Tuesday 8th January

- Spring term begins

The Friends of St Uny Academy had a very successful AGM on Monday and our team has grown in numbers.

Our new core committee team now includes:

Secretary: Kate Perkin

Vice Secretary: Helen Adams

Co-Chair: Sarah Robinson

Co-Chair: Lisa Smith

Treasurer: Cora Newton

We are looking for some parent representatives for each class so please message us if you would like to know more.

We are also in need of prizes/vouchers for the Christmas Raffle, if you have anything you would be willing to donate please get in touch

friendsofstuny@hotmail.com

We look forward to the next few months getting to know you all more at our events, The Friends Of St Uny Academy



Come, with your family and friends, and help us to 'Remember' 100 years of sacrificial giving



When?
11th November
9 a.m.

Where?
St Uny School

*Breakfast first
Refreshments afterwards*

Everyone welcome!

We aim to be a positive, loving school where children are equipped to live well with Jesus Christ and with others.



Piano Lessons

If anyone is interested in piano lessons at school, please contact Lisa Smith on 07921 787 129 or email



lsmith@cornwallmusicsericetrust.org for more details.

Or you can simply sign up

at: www.cornwallmusicsericetrust.org

You can also use this contact information for saxophone lessons.

Attendance

I am glad to see that overall, our school attendance is improving. There are only a few persistent absentees (pupils with attendance below 90%) with no valid reason for this absence. Thank you for keeping us informed of the reasons for your child's absence. We will let parents know each month in writing if their child's attendance is a cause for concern.

Having given it a great deal of thought, we do want to continue to support parents who work in the tourist industry to have holidays with their families but need to reduce the amount of time children are missing from school so that they can make more progress. 10 days absence from school means missing nearly 50 hours of lessons. We therefore need to work towards changing the way that leave is requested by those that qualify for exceptional circumstances by gradually reducing the amount of leave that we will authorise.

From January 2019, we will only authorise 7 days holiday under our 'exceptional circumstances' rule and strongly encourage parents to use a few days of a school holiday if they want a longer break. We are going to have curriculum enrichment weeks at the end of each half-term and term and encourage parents who need to take holiday in term-time to use these weeks when pupils will miss less new learning.

The law allows schools and local authorities to issue fixed penalty notices if a pupil has 10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absence in 100 days (10 weeks.) Their overall attendance would also be considered.

We will not be providing education packs but in order to authorise exceptional circumstance holiday, require each child to keep a diary or scrapbook about their travels which we will put on display in our 'Where in the world?' section in the library.

We regret that we are unable to authorise absence for birthday treats, family visits or other special occasions unless there are extenuating compassionate reasons. We will consider each request for absence individually but will be unlikely to authorise any leave if the child's attendance is below 96%.

Leave already requested and approved will not be affected by the new policy.

Debts

Unfortunately, a small but significant number of parents are not paying for school meals regularly or settling their breakfast or after school club bills.

We will be sending written reminders about clearing debts. We can arrange payment plans if needed. We regret that if bills are not paid after two reminders, we will be unable to provide further meals or a place in breakfast or after school club until the debt is settled.

We understand that parents sometimes experience financial hardship and can make allowances if we are kept informed but cannot cover the amount of unpaid bills that are currently outstanding.

Luke in St Ives class has recently been awarded his first trophy for his achievements whilst participating in the local H.E.C. (Halsetown Equestrian Club) competitions held throughout May-September. This was for the category 'First Novice Competitor' and was completed on his own horse Mai. Luke is looking forward to next years competitions and hopes to win more trophies and rosettes. Well done Luke!



Scotts Sports Half Term Football Fun Day!



Friday 26th October 2018

11am—3pm

Ages 5-14 years

£10 per child

Ludgvan Lions TR20 8ES

Please bring football kit, boots, packed lunch and plenty of drinks. Registration from 10.30am.

To book, ring or text Scott Goodchild with your child's name and age to 07763171524

Year 1 and 2 Football Club.

After half term the Y1 and Y2 football club will change from Thursday to Fridays, run by Go-Active.

A big thank you to Celtic Fish and Game for providing beautiful fish for the children to learn about with Chef Andrew for our Harvest of the Sea celebration.