



Newsletter 26th June 2020

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Looking ahead...

I'm pleased to be writing to you today in the old, traditional St Minver newsletter way. It has been just over 3 months since the school closed its doors and since then we've all navigated completely uncharted waters, an ever-changing landscape and every accompanying emotion, too!

We are now at school every day with our priority year groups and while school is a happy place which brings fulfilment and a sense of joy to those of us who are here, we remain sad that Team St Minver is not complete.

We were pleased to hear the government's announcement that all year groups will return in September and await guidelines on how to put that into practice. Meanwhile, while social distancing rules have been relaxed from 2m to 1m, educational guidelines about pod sizes and restrictions on which medically

vulnerable groups can return to work remain the same. This means that while we would love to invite more children back before the end of July, it is very unlikely there will be any changes before the new term. Of course we will let you know if things do change.



So what are our three wishes for September? We know that children will return to us with wide-ranging new abilities, gaps and emotional needs. We will work together to build from these. What WE need is happy children, children who have a sense of routine and children who are able to show some independence and resilience. So, whatever your experience of learning at home right now, however much you are or are not able to do, we believe it would be so valuable for you to concentrate on those three things. Avoid confrontation and stress about home learning by keeping it as simple as you need to; keep your children in a good routine of getting up, getting dressed, eating on time and going to bed on time; and show them through your praise and the responsibility you give them that you are proud of what they can do without any help and without giving up.

What should your learning priorities be? As ever, **read and talk**—don't forget to change your reading book at school as necessary. Ensure mental arithmetic is on the tip of the tongue. Knowing your times tables is SO important and by upper Key Stage Two (the beginning of Y5) we need to assume children have those facts under their belts in order to access the whole maths curriculum at that stage. TT Rockstars is just one of many fun ways to build speed and accuracy with number facts. Please look at the box to the right for the National Curriculum expectations in this regard.

I hope we'll all be able to avoid the storms this weekend and enjoy some fresh air, along with perhaps a little virtual 'Garden Glastonbury' - have a lovely weekend everyone.



Kind regards,

Mrs J Rodwell

Summer reading challenge

We're hoping as many children as possible will take part in the library service's Summer Reading Challenge again this year.

The theme for 2020 is 'The Silly Squad' and the challenge can be done completely online or using books you already have at home. The theme will celebrate funny books, happiness and laughter—wonderful! The challenge has opened a little earlier this year, as so many children are not at school, so let's see how many we can get signed up.

Please look at the link to find out more and to register—a great motivator to encourage reading at home and all free!

<https://>

summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/



National Curriculum Times Table Expectations

Year 1 count in multiples of 2s, 5s and 10s

Year 2 recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables, including recognising odd and even numbers

Year 3 recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 multiplication tables (plus $\times 2$, $\times 5$ and $\times 10$)

Year 4 recall multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12×12

Year 5 and 6 drawing upon known facts, with number fluency, to solve multi-step problems in context

We will produce home learning packs each week for everyone who asks for one. Please let us know if you no longer require one so we don't waste paper. Thank you.

The school is proposing to sell a small area of unused land within the science garden which is outside the existing fence line. This will provide essential funding to allow us to develop our existing facilities and provision. We invite any comments regarding this by Friday 17th July. Further information can be obtained from the school office.



Internet safety

We were concerned to take a call from a member of the community this week who had received an Instagram follow request from a current pupil at our school. She obviously refused this request, but was worried and surprised enough to ring us. If your children are taking an early dabble into social media, please consider the potential safeguarding dangers of you not having total access and control of their online interactions.





Stars of the week!

We are delighted to confirm that the following children were awarded Star of the Week today!

Class R: *Digory Williams and Arthur Webster*—Awesome participation in the Cornwall Virtual School games.

Class 1: *Otis Cresswell*—Sharing play equipment with his friends and *Ava Bolton*—Getting through lots of reading books at home.

Class 2: *Willow Thomson*—Wonderful writing about Viking Explorers and for writing and performing a super poem called "Little Duckling" and *Indie Thomson*—Excellent writing about Ada Lovelace and for writing and performing a super poem called "Little Duckling".

Class 3: *Ayla Carter*—Being such a wonderful brave superstar and *Clara Marshall*—Completing the Google Classroom quizzes so well.

Class 4: *Kiara Credland*—Creative story writing with a heart warming conclusion and *Esme Rigby*—A committed attitude to the virtual challenges—super impressive!

Class 5: *Daisy Mellowship*— for making so many contributions on Google Classroom and scoring lots of points for the Cornwall Virtual School Games and well done for writing lots of encouraging comments about other people's work and *Reuben Couch*—for sharing his excellent work on Google Classroom, Class 5 have loved seeing your videos, photos and reading your poems. Well done for also developing so many new skills during lockdown.

Class 6: *Alfie Meneer*—Showing a conscientious attitude, *Lowenna Watts*—Always producing work of a high standard and *Jay Dingle*—An awesome contribution to the time capsule

Key Worker Group: *Honey Hutley*—Great effort in the Cornwall Virtual School Games events and setting high expectations for herself and making a huge jump to meet them, literally a super long jump and *Claude Hutley*—Pushing himself to go faster and further during the morning mile run. What a fantastic effort!



Home Learning antics!



Cornwall Council 2020/21 school term dates for community and voluntary-controlled schools											
Autumn Term (2020)			Spring Term (2021)			Summer Term (2021)			Autumn Term (2021)		
Mon	1	7	14	21	28	Mon	1	8	15	22	29
Tue	2	8	15	22	29	Tue	2	9	16	23	30
Wed	3	9	16	23	30	Wed	3	10	17	24	31
Thurs	4	10	17	24		Thurs	4	11	18	25	
Fri	5	11	18	25		Fri	5	12	19	26	
Sat	6	12	19	26		Sat	6	13	20	27	
Sun	7	13	20	27		Sun	7	14	21	28	
Total: 26 days			Total: 26 days			Total: 26 days			Total: 26 days		
School holidays: 10 days			School holidays: 10 days			School holidays: 10 days			School holidays: 10 days		
Bank Holiday (1st Nov)			Bank Holiday (1st Nov)			Bank Holiday (1st Nov)			Bank Holiday (1st Nov)		
Christmas Day			Christmas Day			Christmas Day			Christmas Day		
Boxing Day			Boxing Day			Boxing Day			Boxing Day		
New Year's Day			New Year's Day			New Year's Day			New Year's Day		
Good Friday			Good Friday			Good Friday			Good Friday		
Easter Monday			Easter Monday			Easter Monday			Easter Monday		
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TERM DATES

195 days are included on the school calendar. Schools will be open to pupils for 190 days. The 5 additional days are allotted for In-Service Training.

SPRING TERM (99 days)
4 January - 31 April 2021
(HALF TERM 15-19 February 2021)

SUMMER TERM (64 days)
19 April - 23 July 2021
(HALF TERM 31 May - 4 June 2021)

AUTUMN TERM (72 days)
3 September - 18 December 2020
(HALF TERM 26-30 October 2020)

