



Autumn Term 2025 Newsletter 4
Friday 19th December 2025

MOUNT CHARLES SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER UPDATE



Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow – what a truly magical few weeks we have shared, filled with Christmas joy and festive cheer across the school!

At the start of December, our KS1 children enjoyed learning about and making Christingles, alongside a special visit to the church which helped bring their learning to life. Our Reception class had an unforgettable experience visiting Father Christmas and taking a wonderful train ride to the North Pole at Bodmin Railway – the excitement and smiles said it all!

A huge thank you to our fantastic kitchen staff and Caterlink for providing such a delicious Christmas dinner. The range of festive jumpers on display was incredible and really added to the fun and colour of the day.

Once again, our amazing PTA proved they are truly Christmas elves in disguise. The children thoroughly enjoyed the Christmas crafts, tree decoration making, and the wonderful Winter Fayre. The Christmas Grotto was absolutely magical, and the children were so excited and happy to meet Father Christmas. A heartfelt thank you to the PTA for all the time, effort, and care they put into making these experiences so special.

Our choir sounded like a host of angels as they welcomed the Christmas tree, filling the school with festive spirit. Meanwhile, our KS2 children were full of awe and wonder as they retold the Christmas story through carols at St Augustine's Catholic Church – a truly moving and memorable celebration.

Now it is a time to reflect and to spend time celebrating the joy of Christmas – being with friends and family, remembering the moments that make us smile, fill us with pride, and looking to next year with hope and the promise of all that is yet to come.

Finally, a very special thank you to all the staff and helpers who worked so hard behind the scenes to make this Christmas season so magical for our children, and to Pengelly Garden Centre for kindly donating our beautiful Christmas tree.

We wish you all a joyful Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Warmest wishes,

Mrs Simpson



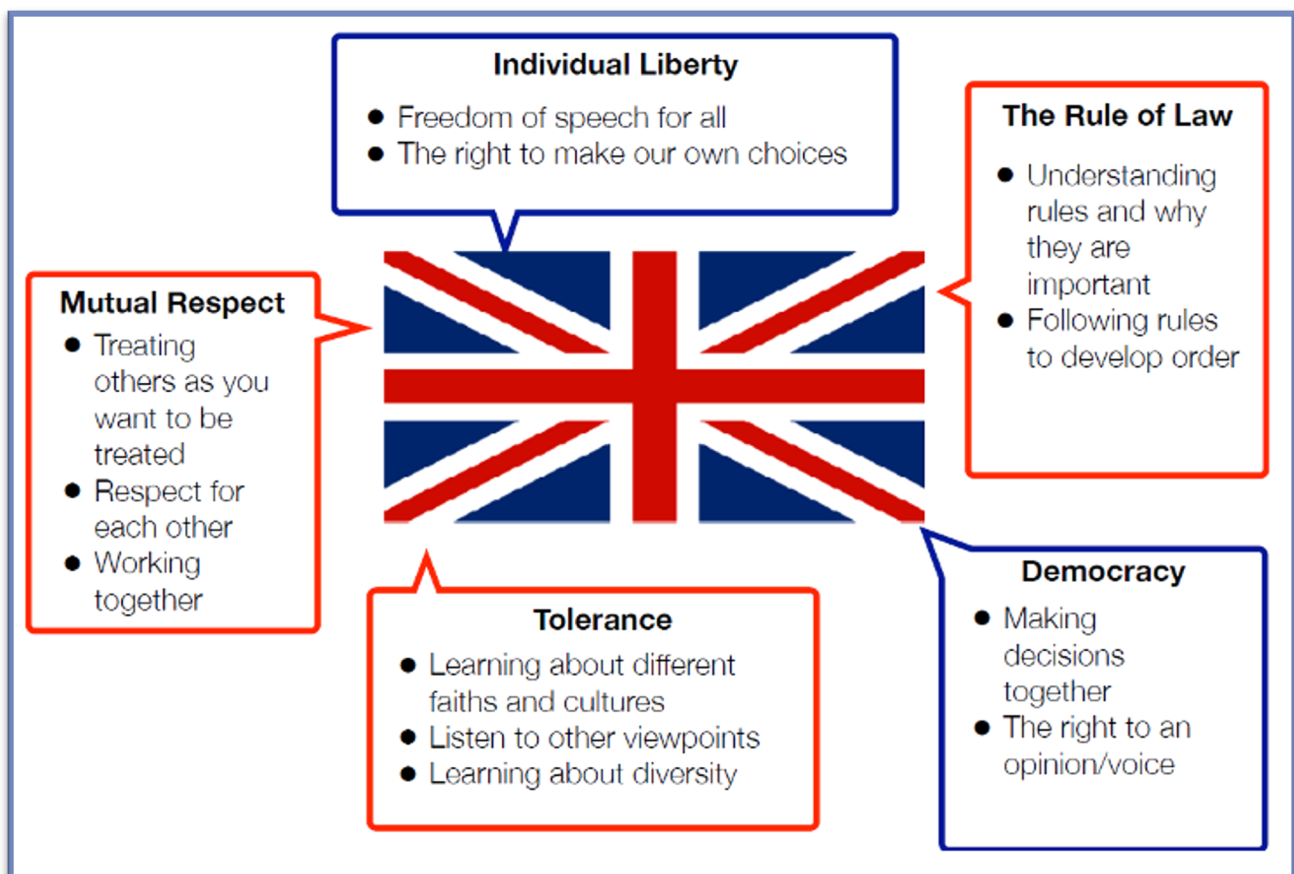
BRITISH VALUES

We have been focusing on the values of 'Respect and Tolerance', in line with our PSHE jigsaw piece 'Celebrating Difference'.

In assembly we talked about what Racism is: When people are treated unfairly because of the colour of their skin, their religion, their language or their values.

At Mount Charles School, we believe in equality for all. It means treating everyone as individuals, with respect and consideration. It is about acknowledging and appreciating diversity and difference.

Well done to this week's certificate winners for showing great examples of this.



SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding and Wellbeing at Mount Charles School

As we approach the festive season, everyone at Mount Charles School would like to wish our children and families a joyful and peaceful Christmas. This time of year brings excitement, celebration, and togetherness, but it is also an important moment to reflect on the wellbeing and safety of our children.

At **Mount Charles School**, the safety, wellbeing, and happiness of every child remain at the heart of everything we do. We are fully committed to providing a secure, nurturing environment where all children feel safe, supported, and able to flourish not just during term time, but throughout the holidays as well.

Working Together at Christmas

We greatly value the strong partnership we have with our parents and carers. Your continued support helps us maintain a safe and positive community for all our children. During the festive period, routines can change and emotions can run high, so staying connected and communicating openly is especially important.

Sharing Concerns

If you have a safeguarding concern during the school holidays that requires an urgent response, please reach out to the relevant organisation for support, details are on the CELT website. Safeguarding cover has been arranged to ensure any urgent concerns are managed appropriately. For any safeguarding matters, please contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead team via dsl@celtrust.org.

All concerns are taken seriously and are handled with care, sensitivity, and confidentiality.

A Festive Message

As we celebrate Christmas, we encourage families to enjoy this special time together while continuing to prioritise kindness, listening, and wellbeing. Thank you for your ongoing trust and support.



Parents' Pop-Up Event!



A relaxed, drop-in event designed to support our families and celebrate our community.

We'd love to see you there!

We're bringing together a range of fantastic local organisations to offer friendly, practical support for families. Whether you're looking for advice, ideas, or simply want to see what's available in our community, everyone is welcome.

Come and chat to:

*Monday 26th January
2:00pm - 3:30pm*

Southwest Water – Information on water bills, ways to reduce costs, and support schemes available.

Employment Plus – Help with CVs, job searching, training opportunities, wellbeing support and confidence building.

The Salvation Army – Guidance and support for families, including practical help and community connections.

Healthy Cornwall – Advice on healthy eating, stopping smoking and making positive lifestyle changes.

Social Prescriber – Linking you to local activities, groups and services that support wellbeing.

Family Support – Friendly guidance for a wide range of family needs, from routines to relationships.

Kernow Young Carers – Support for children and young people who help care for someone at home.

Plus: **Pre-loved uniform & coat stand** – donate, swap, or simply take what you need.



...and many more local organisations!

ATTENDANCE



Friendly reminders from our Attendance Policy

- Aim for **every day in school**. Every lesson counts.
- If your child is unwell or unable to attend, please **contact us promptly EVERY DAY of absence**.
- If a child arrives more than 30 minutes late, they will be marked as late, which may affect their attendance record. Regular lateness can make it harder for children to keep up with learning, we appreciate your help in getting them to school on time.
- We're here to support. Please reach out early if you need help with routines or challenges. We believe in working closely with families as our first priority.

Together, we can keep building on this success and give every child the best chance to thrive.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Lost minutes = Lost learning



Every school day counts BUT every minute is equally important!

ENRICHMENT SPORTS

Tuesday 2nd December – Year 5 & 6 Football Cup (Away v St Mewan)

Our Year 5 and 6 team travelled to St Mewan for the first round of the Diamond Shield Cup. Tommie scored to give us a 1–0 lead at half-time. After St Mewan equalised, the match went to extra time where goals from Tommie and Teddy secured a 3–2 win. Well done to the team on reaching Round 2.

Tuesday 2nd December – Year 3 & 4 Football Friendly (Away v St Mewan)

A group of Year 3 and 4 children played their first ever matches for the school in a friendly against St Mewan. Although the result didn't go our way, the children played with enthusiasm, tried different positions and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Mr Yelland was very pleased with their effort.



Monday 8th December – Year 3 Christmas Inclusion Multi-skills Festival

Year 3 children attended the Christmas Inclusion Multi-skills Festival at Poltair, taking part in a range of fun, Christmas themed activities. The children had a lovely time and behaved excellently throughout the afternoon.



Tuesday 9th December – Year 5 & 6 Football Cup (Away v St Stephen)

Our Year 5 and 6 team travelled to St Stephen for the first round of the Rosewarne Shield. Teddy scored twice to secure a 2–0 victory in difficult conditions. The team now progress to the next round, where they will play Sandy Hill after Christmas. Mr Yelland and Mr Grigg were very proud of the team.



Monday 15th December – Year 4 Christmas Inclusion Multiskills Festival

Year 4 children attended the Christmas Inclusion Multiskills Festival at Poltair, enjoying a variety of festive activities. The children were wonderfully behaved and had a fantastic afternoon.

EYFS NURSERY & RECEPTION

Our EYFS superstars shone on the stage for their 'Warm and Fuzzy Christmas Story' Nativity performance. The children worked so hard to prepare for their special performance and their big smiles and super singing showed us that they enjoyed performing just as much as we loved watching. We could not be prouder of our EYFS children.



YEAR 1 & 2

Key Stage 1 are very proud of their performances of "Knock, Knock- The Nativity". They have practised their songs in their music lessons this term and learnt seven songs all off by heart with actions - what an achievement! Year 2 took the speaking roles and everyone had a line that they practised and spoke with confidence and expression. We all enjoyed the Knock, Knock jokes and the children even conquered speaking in limericks which took real dedication and lots of concentration. The children loved dressing up in traditional nativity costumes in Year 2 and Year 1 looked extremely festive in their Christmas jumpers and party clothes. Year 1 even made the stars for the stage backdrop. What an incredible Key Stage effort!

Knock, Knock Who's there? Mary Mary who? Mary Christmas everyone!



YEAR 3

Year 3 have been enjoying a festive and creative lead-up to Christmas. The children have been busy making reindeer Christmas crafts and decorating their bauble for the Christmas tree. In preparation for the carol concert, they have been enthusiastically practising the songs *Away in a Manger* and *Starry Night*. We hope you will agree that they sounded excellent last Thursday! In English, we have written independent letters to Father Christmas, thoughtfully asking for a special gift for our friend Monty the penguin. It has been wonderful to see their creativity, kindness, and Christmas spirit shine through in all of these activities.



YEAR 5

Year 5 spent a wizarding Christmas at Hogwarts this year. They enjoyed a day packed full of magic and fun- designing their own magical creatures and settings, working out some quidditch maths, as well as a fun afternoon of quizzes, drama and potion making. Happy Hogwarts Christmas from all of Year 5!



YEAR 4 & YEAR 6

Our Year 4 and Year 6 pupils took part in a wonderful carol concert at the church, which truly showcased their hard work and talents. The narrators read confidently and clearly, the tableau actors brought the scenes to life and all the singing was joyful and uplifting.

The atmosphere throughout the concert was warm, calm and celebratory. The children showed great respect for the setting and performed with pride, creating a memorable occasion for everyone who attended. Merry Christmas everyone.



ARB

Mount Charles ARB have had a lovely few weeks preparing for Christmas. We had an amazing open afternoon where many parents joined us to take part in Christmas activities with their children. We have been busy writing letters and cards, have made lots of yummy treats to eat and have enjoyed lots of Christmas craft activities.



CELEBRATION

Celebrating



Yr1/2— Leon, Lanora-Rose, Logan L, Othillie, Bradley, Alffi

Yr 3— Stanley, Eli, Holden, Freddie

Yr4—Ayaz, Ella-May

Yr5—Amazing, Riley, Brynley, Toby, Amelia

Yr6— Ben, Aaron, Berty, Lewis

Success

Our attendance trophy was won by:

5th Seals 98.1%

12th Seals 98.1%

19th Seals 97.3%

Perfect Attendance!



British Values

Celebrating our British Values Champions :

Year 1/2: Kain, Ralph, Marcie, Ophelia, Tommy, Edith

Year 3: Aldianna, Florence W, Amla, William

Year 4: Matilda, Leo

Year 5: Sophie, Ollie, Hettie, Olli, Harley

Year 6: Skylar, Pearl J, Jose

REMINDEERS

What should my child bring every day?

A **named** coat—the weather can be changeable

Water bottle

A fruit snack is provided for all KS1 children.

KS2 should bring a **healthy snack** - for example fruit, cereal bar, yogurt, houmous & veg sticks, cheese & crackers.

School Lunches

We are still seeing a number of children arriving without a school lunch ordered, or with choices that do not suit their preferences. Please ensure that **all school lunch orders are placed by midnight on Sunday evening**. Lunches can be ordered in advance right up to the end of term.

Please remember that lunches **must be ordered via ParentPay**, even if your child is entitled to infant free school meals or free school meals. If a lunch has not been ordered, you may be asked to provide a packed lunch for your child.

Parking

A reminder to families: when dropping off children in the car park, please avoid using staff parking spaces. Some staff members start slightly later and need access to these spaces to park and enter the school promptly.

The disabled spaces are to be reserved for those with disabled passes only.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Contacting the school

The school is now closed for the Christmas Holidays, and we return on Monday 5th January 2026.

If your concern is regarding safeguarding and requires an urgent response, please reach out to the relevant organisation for support, details are on the CELT website. Throughout the break there will be a member of the team triaging the dsl@celtrust.org mailbox. Please note this will not be every day and if it is not urgent, we will contact you on our return.

The holidays can be tough, it is important to know there's always someone you can talk to further information can be found on the CELT website: <https://www.celtrust.org/web/safeguarding-support/664918>



Join Our PTA – Make a Difference in Our School Community

Our PTA is looking for **parents and carers** to join our friendly group of volunteers!

The PTA plays a vital role in supporting our school by:

- Organising fun events for children and families
- Raising funds for extra resources and experiences
- Building a strong, connected school community

You don't need special skills or lots of free time — every little bit helps.

Whether you can:

- Help at the odd event
- Share ideas
- Support behind the scenes
- Or get involved more regularly

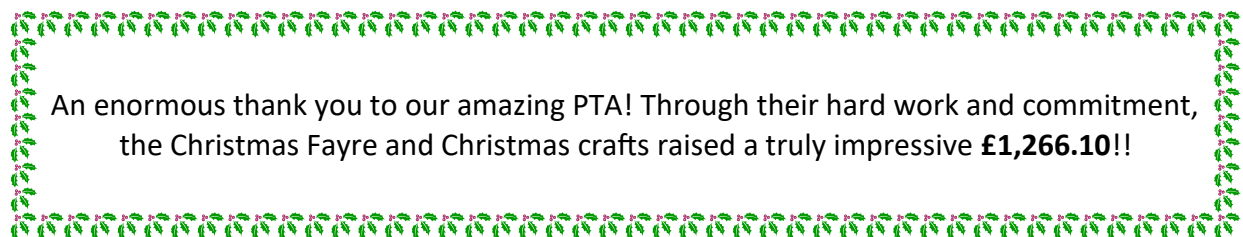
...we'd love to have you on board. We meet every 6 weeks for an hourly meeting.

Being part of the PTA is a great way to:

- Meet other parents and carers
- Support your child's school experience
- Have fun while making a real impact

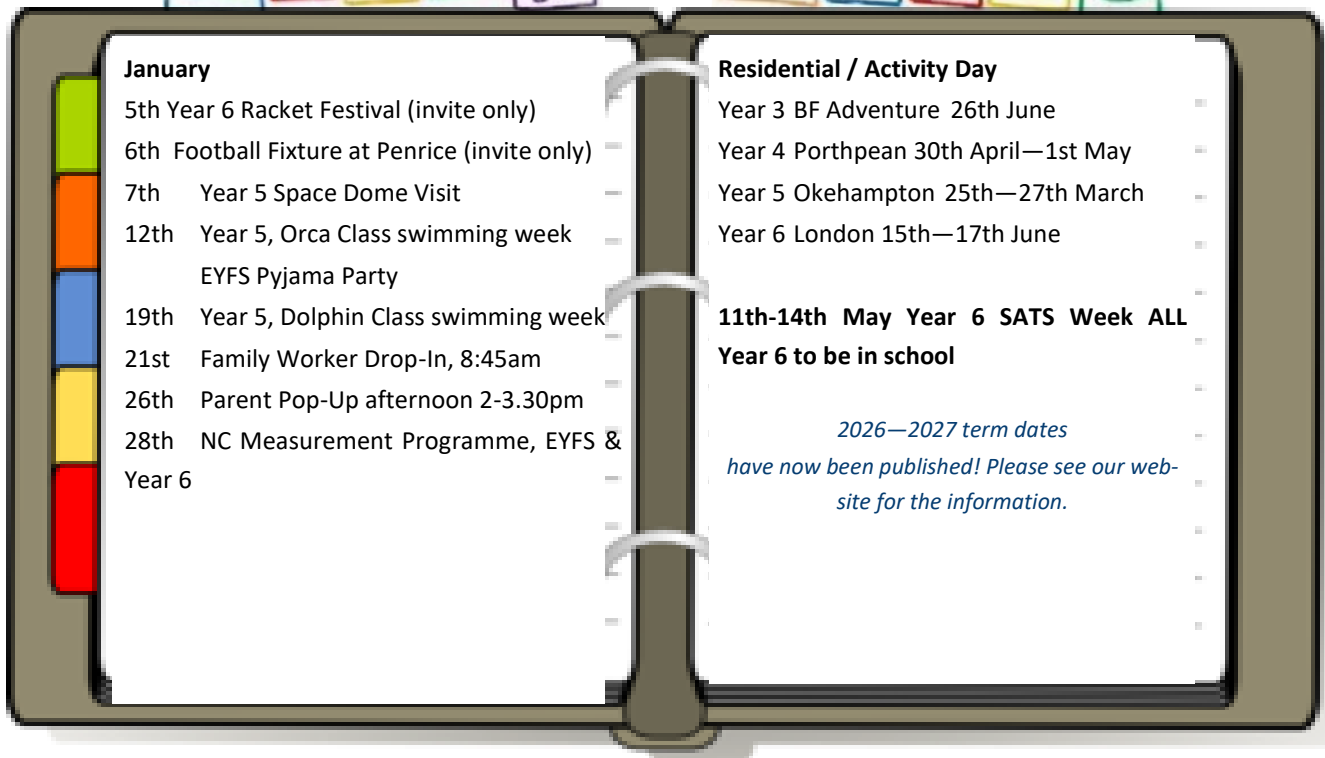
If you are interested, please contact the school office via email enquiries@mcs.celtrust.org

Join us and be part of making our school an even better place for our children—every contribution makes a difference.



An enormous thank you to our amazing PTA! Through their hard work and commitment, the Christmas Fayre and Christmas crafts raised a truly impressive **£1,266.10!!**

Diary Dates



TERM DATES

2025-2026

- Autumn term 2 2025:** Monday 3rd November 2025 - Friday 19th December 2025
- Spring term 1 2026:** Monday 5th January 2026 - Friday 13th February 2026
- Spring term 2 2026:** Monday 23rd February 2026 - Thursday 2nd April 2026
- Summer term 1 2026:** Monday 20th April 2026 - Friday 22nd May 2026
- Summer term 2 2026:** Monday 1st June 2026 - Friday 24th July 2026
- INSET DAYS:** Friday 17th October and Friday 3rd July

2026-2027

- Autumn term 1 2026:** Thursday 3rd September 2026—Friday 16th October 2026
- Autumn term 2 2026:** Monday 2nd November 2026 - Friday 18th December 2026
- Spring term 1 2026:** Monday 4th January 2027 - Friday 12th February 2027
- Spring term 2 2026:** Monday 22nd February 2027 - Thursday 25th March 2027
- Summer term 1 2026:** Monday 12th April 2027 - Friday 28th May 2027
- Summer term 2 2026:** Monday 7th June 2027 - Friday 23rd July 2027
- INSET DAYS:** Tuesday 1st & Wednesday 2nd September 2026



CORNWALL
DINING CLUB



JOIN US FOR A

Jingle & Mingle

WED **24** DEC.

5:00 PM - 6:45 PM

FREE FOOD

FREE DRINKS

FESTIVE MUSIC AND CHEER

EVERYONE WELCOME!

ST AUSTELL MARKET HOUSE

Market Street, St Austell





CHRISTMAS SUPPORT HUB

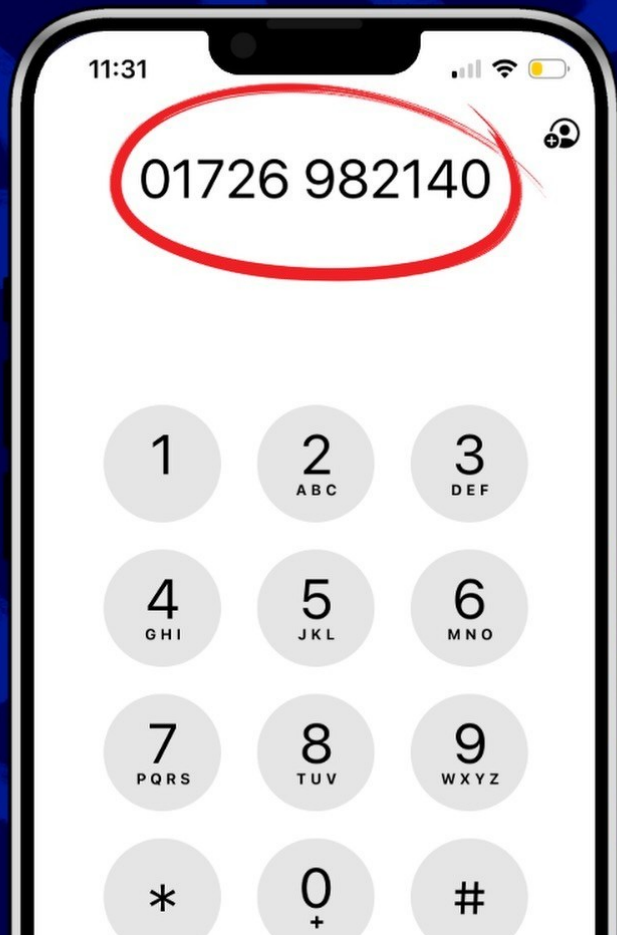
FREE PHONE LINE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FOR YOUNG
PEOPLE ACROSS CORNWALL THIS FESTIVE SEASON

DECEMBER:
MON 22ND
TUE 23RD
WED 24TH
MON 29TH
TUE 30TH
WED 31ST
JANUARY:
FRI 2ND

3 - 6PM

SPEAK TO ONE OF OUR TEAM
IF YOU'RE STRUGGLING!

*NOT A CRISIS LINE





TIME MOVE

Holiday Programme



CHRISTMAS 2025

- Activities including water sports, forest schools, circus skills, day trips and lots more – for children aged 5 to 16
- Every session includes a healthy meal for all children
- Funded places for ALL children eligible for benefits related free school meals

Activities are taking place across Cornwall during the Christmas holidays on 22nd Dec, 23rd, 29th, 30th, 2nd Jan

Scan here
to book!



www.activecornwall.org/T2MHolidayProgramme

Time2Move.HolidayProgramme@cornwall.gov.uk

active
CORNWALL 

Funded by

Department
for Education


CORNWALL
COUNCIL

You're warmly invited to join us this festive season!

Every Sunday morning 10.30 -12.00pm
FAMILY SERVICE - KIDZONE & LITTLE FISHES

Friday 5th December 6.30pm
CHRISTMAS FANTASIA MUSIC CONCERT
refreshments & coffee shop treats from 5.45pm
BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL @ Eventbrite.com

Sunday 7th December 3.00 - 5.00pm
'Count Everyone in' Christmas Service
A service tailored for those with additional needs
<https://www.counteveryonein.org.uk/>

Sunday 21st Dec 10.30am - 12.00
FAMILY NATIVITY SERVICE (Scratch Nativity)
All children can join in, dressed as any
character from the Christmas story

Sunday 21st December 6.00 - 7.30pm
CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT
(with Christingle-making!)

Thursday 25 December 10.30am - 11.30pm
CHRISTMAS DAY FAMILY SERVICE

Trinity Street, St Austell, PL25 5BQ
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1199453

Christmas

by Candlelight

Enjoy an Evening of
Christmas Carols &
Christingle making



Sunday 21st December

White River Community Church
Trinity Street, St Austell

6:00pm-7:00pm



Scratch Nativity

A family event-All welcome
**Children dress as any character
from the nativity**

Mince pies

Refreshments



DEC 21ST 10.30AM

AT WHITE RIVER COMMUNITY CHURCH