



Spring Term 2026 Newsletter 3  
Friday 13th March 2026

# MOUNT CHARLES SCHOOL

## HEADTEACHER UPDATE



What an amazing start we have had to the new term! It has been wonderful to see the school buzzing with energy, enthusiasm and a real love of learning.

A particular highlight this week was World Book Day. It was absolutely fantastic to see so many children taking part and celebrating their favourite stories. We had an entire pack of Dog Man characters roaming the corridors, alongside an incredible range of other literary favourites. From Alice in Wonderland to Lyra from The Golden Compass, from Mr Men to Paddington, and from Harry Potter to the Lorax — the creativity and effort that went into the costumes was truly brilliant. Thank you to families for helping make the day such a success.

Reading plays such an important role in children's learning and development. A love of reading opens doors to imagination, curiosity and knowledge across every subject. When children read regularly, it strengthens vocabulary, comprehension and confidence, helping them succeed throughout their education.

It was also incredible to see so many families join us for the reading breakfasts. Sharing a book together is a magical experience. Stories have the power to transport readers to new worlds, introduce new ideas and create special moments between children and the adults who read with them. Thank you to everyone who came along and helped make these events so special.

This term is already shaping up to be a busy and exciting one. Year 1 and Year 2 have had a fantastic trip to Pendennis Castle this week, bringing their learning to life. Reception will soon be visiting the local library, while Year 5 are preparing for their upcoming camp adventure — something they are very excited about!

We also have some wonderful events coming up. We are looking forward to an exciting assembly from Active Cornwall, and Cornish Caretakers will be performing a belated St Piran's Day performance for the children on the 24th March.

The PTA will be hosting a school disco on the 20th March — always a highlight for the children — and in the final week of term pupils will be taking part in a sponsored jump to raise funds.

As Easter approaches, there will be some seasonal fun too. Key Stage 1 will be taking part in an Easter egg hunt (and we have heard a rumour that the Easter Bunny might even make an appearance!). Meanwhile, Key Stage 2 will be putting their problem-solving skills to the test with an orienteering-style Easter egg hunt.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are looking forward to a fantastic term ahead filled with learning, adventure and plenty of memorable moments.

Mrs Simpson



# SAFEGUARDING

## Safeguarding at Mount Charles

At Mount Charles School, the safety and wellbeing of our pupils is always our highest priority. Safeguarding means ensuring that children are protected from harm, feel safe, and have the support they need to thrive both in school and at home. Our safeguarding team works closely with families and external services to provide guidance, early support, and advice whenever it is needed. We encourage parents and carers to reach out if they have any worries about their child's wellbeing, behaviour, or safety to contact us at [DSL@mcs.celtrust.org](mailto:DSL@mcs.celtrust.org).

## Family Support Worker Drop-In – Returning to Mount Charles

We are pleased to announce that our **Family Worker Drop-In sessions are returning** to Mount Charles School.

These sessions will be run by **Jackie Chillingworth, Senior Family Worker**, and provide an opportunity for parents and carers to receive friendly, confidential advice and support.

Jackie can offer support with:

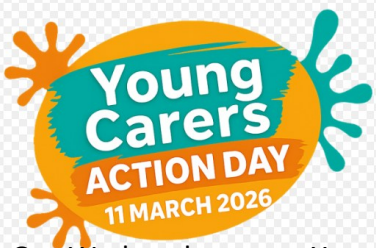
- Understanding your child's needs and behaviours
- Advice on positive parenting and keeping your child safe
- Support with budgeting and debt advice

Guidance on the importance of routines for your family

### Drop-in sessions (no appointment needed):

**Thursday 26th March | 08:45 – 10:00**

If you would prefer to make an appointment, please speak to the office and they will be happy to arrange this for you. These sessions are a great opportunity to access early support and advice in a relaxed and supportive environment. We encourage any parents or carers who feel they may benefit from support to come along.



On Wednesday, our Young Carers enjoyed a lovely afternoon with Mrs Hann as part of our celebrations for Young Carers Day, recognising the incredible commitment they show every day as young carers. It was a special opportunity to acknowledge the kindness, responsibility and resilience they demonstrate both at home and at school.

During the afternoon, the children had the chance to share their own stories and experiences with one another, creating a supportive and understanding space where everyone felt heard and valued.

Of course, there were also some sweet treats to enjoy! The children worked in pairs to decorate Easter biscuits, showing fantastic teamwork and creativity as they designed colourful and imaginative treats.

It was a wonderful afternoon of celebration, conversation and fun. We are extremely proud of our young carers and all that they do, and Young Carers Day was a perfect opportunity to recognise and celebrate the important role they play.



**FRIDAY 20 MARCH**

**Get Ready to Go Red for Comic Relief!**

We're delighted to share that our school will be taking part in **Comic Relief's "Wear Red" Day** on **Friday 20th March**! This nationwide event raises vital funds for charities supporting people in need, and we're proud to join in this fun and meaningful cause.

**What's happening?**

On the day, children are invited to come to school dressed in **red** to show their support for Comic Relief. It could be a red t-shirt, jumper, dress, socks, or fun accessories—let's fill the school with a sea of red!

Children are also welcome to wear the **official Comic Relief merchandise – the famous RED NOSES!**

**How to take part**

To join our **"Wear Red" Day**, we simply ask for a **voluntary donation via ParentPay**. There is **no set amount**—please feel free to donate whatever you wish. Every contribution will go directly to **Comic Relief**, helping to support people who need it most.

We can't wait to see our school community come together for a **bright, cheerful day of red** while supporting a fantastic cause.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the **school office**. Thank you for your support!

Information Classification: PUBLIC

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# Family Worker Drop In Mount Charles School

**These sessions will be run by Jackie Chillingworth Senior Family Worker**

Do you need some support and advice to understand your child's needs and behaviors?

Advice on positive parenting and how to keep your child safe?

Support with budgeting and debt advice.

To understand the importance of routines for your family?

We are running a drop-in session with no appointment necessary  
on:

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 08:45– 10:00

If you would like to make an appointment, please speak with  
Reception.

**Please sign in at the school Reception and you will be shown  
through to the meeting room.**

**For more information please contact:**

Email: [Restormel.Familyhubs@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:Restormel.Familyhubs@cornwall.gov.uk)

Call: 01872 324929



Together   
for Families



[www.cornwall.gov.uk](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk)

# BRITISH VALUES

This week we have been learning about how building resilience can help us overcome problems and challenges.

## BUILDING RESILIENCE THROUGH BRITISH VALUES



Democracy

Share ideas • Work together



Rule of Law

Fair rules • Responsibility



Individual Liberty

Make positive choices



Mutual Respect & Tolerance

Value differences • Support others

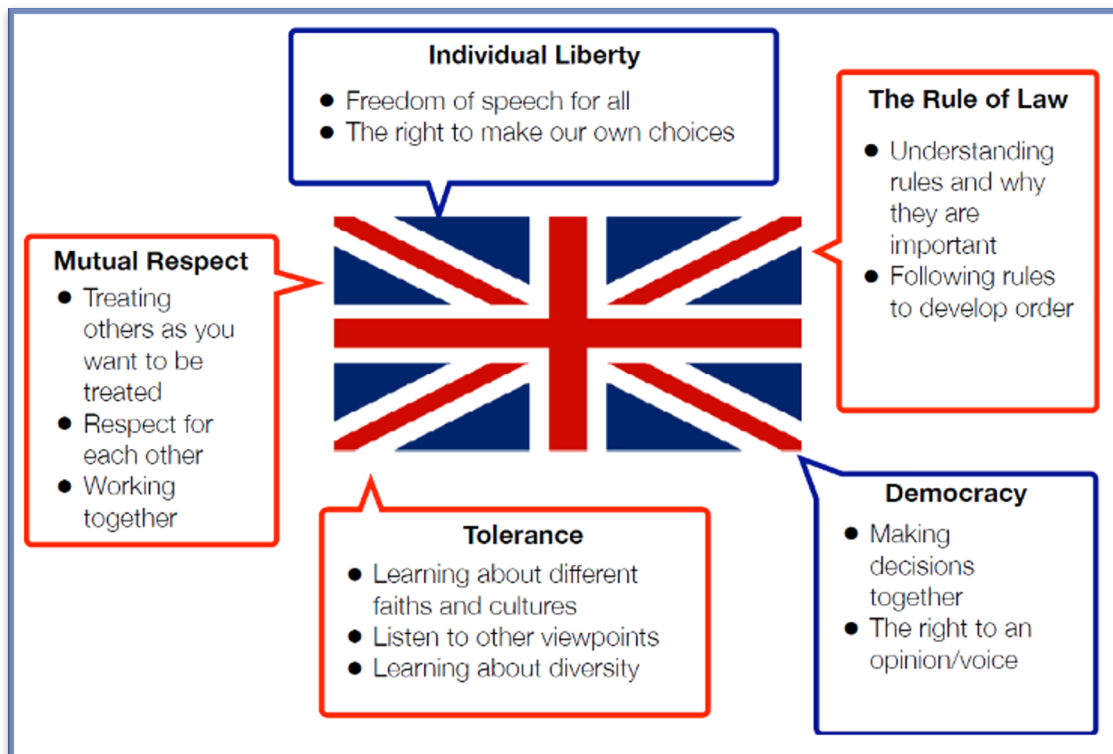
THIS LEADS TO



RESILIENCE

Confidence • Adaptability • Strength

We learned that to best solve a problem, we need to stay calm and be kind to ourselves. Mistakes show that we are learning and trying.



# ATTENDANCE



## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

### LISTENING TO OUR LEARNERS

#### UNDERSTANDING BARRIERS TO ATTENDANCE

At **Mount Charles**, we want every child to feel happy, confident, and ready to learn. Good attendance supports wellbeing, friendships, and progress, so we want to understand the reasons some children may find it difficult to attend school regularly.

We use a short, child-friendly survey. It gives children a gentle way to share how they feel about school and helps us spot any worries or barriers. This way we can offer the right support.

#### **The aim of the survey isn't about blame or worry.**

It's to make sure we are seeing attendance in a positive way and learning how to create the best possible school experience for every child.

By understanding the perspective of our learners, we are better able to work together with families to support every child to feel safe, supported, and ready to learn.

We truly value your children and the unique contributions they bring to our school community. Together, we can make sure every child has the best possible experience at **Mount Charles**.



## ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Lost minutes = Lost learning



Every school day counts BUT every minute is equally important!

# ENRICHMENT SPORTS

## Monday 23rd February – Cross Country Race 3 at Poltair

Children from Years 4, 5 and 6 competed in Cross Country Race 3 at Poltair in very muddy and wet conditions. All runners showed fantastic effort and determination. Congratulations to our medal winners: **Jack (Year 6) – 1st place, Teddy (Year 6) – 2nd place, and Theia (Year 5) – 2nd place.** A great achievement by all involved.

## Tuesday 24th February – Football Cup Fixture (Away) vs Nansledan – Year 5/6 A Team

Mt Charles exited the Diamond Shield after a **7–3 defeat** away at Nansledan. After a slow start, the team improved in the second half and showed great determination. **Tommie scored twice and Teddy added one.**

## Monday 2nd March – Year 5 Tag Rugby Festival at Poltair

Year 5 pupils attended a Tag Rugby festival at Poltair, taking part in warm-ups, skills activities and mixed-school matches. The children were fantastic throughout and represented the school brilliantly.



## Tuesday 3rd March – Football & Netball Fixtures (Away) vs Charlestown

The Year 3&4 football team battled well but lost **6–1**, with **Buddy scoring from the penalty spot.** The Year 5&6 B Team continued their strong form with a **3–1 win**, with goals from **Harley, Tommie and Jenson.**

The Year 6 A Team drew **1–1**, keeping their unbeaten league run going.

In Netball, the **A Team won 4–3**, while the **B Team narrowly lost 4–3.** Miss Cocks was very pleased with both teams' performances.



## Monday 9th March – Year 3 Tag Rugby Festival at Poltair

Year 3 pupils enjoyed a Tag Rugby festival at Poltair, practising skills and playing mixed-school matches. All pupils showed great enthusiasm and teamwork.

## Tuesday 10th March – Football & Netball Fixtures (Away) vs St Mewan

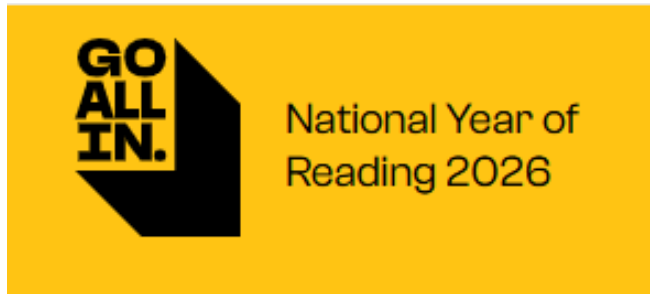
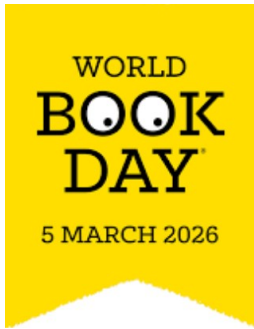
The Year 3&4 football team worked hard against the league champions in difficult conditions.

The Year 5&6 B Team made it **four wins from four** with an impressive **7–1 victory**, with goals from **Tommie (3), Alex (2), Jenson and Oliver.**

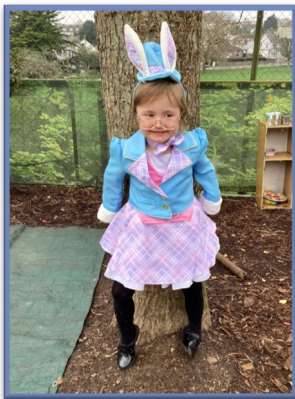
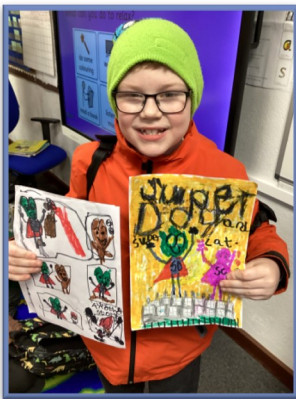
The Year 6 A Team lost **2–1** in a close match, with **Teddy scoring.**



In Netball, both teams faced strong opposition but showed excellent effort and gained valuable experience.



What a fantastic day we had celebrating World Book Day at school! The corridors were filled with amazing characters, creative costumes, and a shared love of reading. From classic storybook heroes to modern favourites, it was wonderful to see so many pupils bringing their favourite books to life. Throughout the day, students enjoyed a range of activities including story time, book sharing, and exploring new authors. Each class also had a surprise reader join them to share a story, which made the day even more exciting!



# EYFS NURSERY

The children in Nursery have become gardeners this half term to welcome the new season of Spring! They have been inspired by our many key stories to plant their very own cress and beanstalks. The children have learnt how seeds travel, and that they need water, sunlight, and a whole lot of patience to be able to grow. We are so excited to watch these grow over the next few weeks!



# EYFS RECEPTION

Seahorse class read the story 'Jack and the Beanstalk', and this inspired them to plant their own beanstalks. Together, they followed a set of instructions to plant a beanstalk. They have learnt that plants need sunlight and water to help them grow so the children are watering their beanstalks daily and have placed them by the window in the classroom.



# YEAR 1 & 2

Year 1 & Year 2 really enjoyed their visits to Pendennis Castle this week - for some children, this was their first visit to a castle so it was very exciting! The children walked around the grounds and spotted St Mawes Castle on the other side of the estuary. They talked about why Henry VIII had these two castles built and used their history knowledge to discuss why he needed to defend England from invaders. They then dressed up as some of the people that might have lived in the castle during Tudor times and handled some objects to find out more about how they lived. The children also explored the Tudor castle and really enjoyed looking at the cannons and the view from the battlements. What a brilliant day to help them learn about our local history!



## YEAR 3

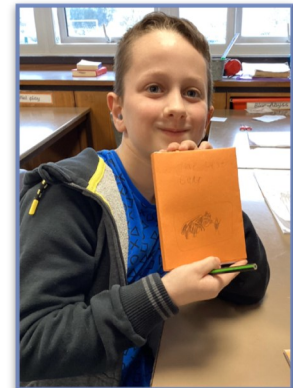
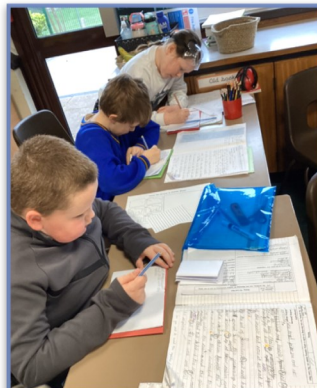
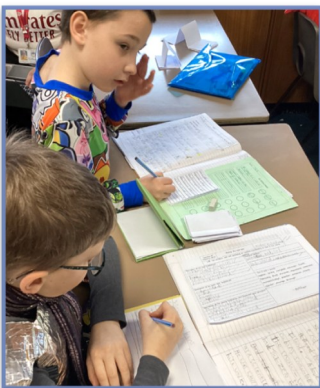
Year 3 recently enjoyed an exciting Design and Technology day exploring ancient civilisations. Working in teams, the children designed and built their own Indus Valley cities using clay. After learning about key features of Indus Valley cities, such as straight streets, baked brick buildings and drainage systems, pupils carefully planned their layouts before bringing them to life with clay. The classroom was filled with creativity, teamwork and problem-solving as each group constructed their model city.

Year 3 had a fantastic day and were very proud of the impressive cities they created.



## YEAR 4

The children really enjoyed making books for World Book Day. They then worked as writers, illustrators and publishers to fill the pages based on their Last Bear writing. There was a brilliant buzz around the room as they made their stories come to life.



## YEAR 5

In Science, Year 5 are learning about how animals and plants reproduce, as well as the habitats that help animals grow and survive. To support this learning, the children created a wormery. Throughout this half term, the children will regularly check on the worms by measuring them and counting how many there are.



# YEAR 6

Year 6 have begun their new science topic on light this week. In their first lesson, the children investigated how light travels in straight lines and started to build their understanding of how this links to shadows and reflections. They look forward to developing this learning further over the coming weeks



# ARB

This half term we have been exploring the book *The Lion Inside* by Rachel Bright. The children have enjoyed learning about the events in the story and have been using sequence words to help retell it in the correct order. Cooking activities continue to be a favourite in our class. Recently, the children have made cheese and cucumber sandwiches as well as delicious cupcakes. We also celebrated Saint Piran's Day by learning about Cornwall. The children tasted traditional pasties, made jam and cream scones, and created their own Cornish flags.

One of the highlights so far has been our accessible cycling session at Par running track. The children had a wonderful time whizzing around the track and trying out a variety of different bikes.



# CELEBRATION

## Celebrating



**Yr1/2**— Davina-Freya, Livi, James, Kain, Jacob,  
Leon, Rory

**Yr 3**— Lucy, Marley, Hailey, Rosie, Florence

**Yr4**— Isabelle, Shelby, Archer

**Yr5**— Harper, Matthew, Luyanda, Mollie, Theo B,  
Collins

**Yr6**— Lily, Riley, Cobie-Jane, Evie, Jose

## Success

Our attendance trophy was won by:

27th **Sunfish 98.2%**

6th Feb **Dolphin 100%**

13th March **Seals 98.5%**

**Perfect Attendance!**



## British Values

Celebrating our British Values Champions :

Year 1/2: Henry, Ophelia, Ella, Ellie, Jacob, William, Ben. Albie

Year 3: Nevaeh, Toby, Mason, Tommy, Valerie

Year 4: Lily, Evelyn, Tabitha

Year 5: Azra, Brax, Jack, Toby, Freddie, Riley S-M

Year 6: Otto, Riley, Sophie, Theo, Nolah-Rose

# 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.

## Uniform expectations

We have seen an increase in the number of children not wearing correct uniform or PE kit. Please find below a reminder of what your child should be wearing in school. If you need help with providing the correct uniform, please do not hesitate in contacting the school office.



### UNIFORM

Grey trousers/Skirt/Pinafore

White polo shirt KS1 White shirt & tie KS2

Summer Term—Blue/white checked dresses KS2 white polo shirt or shirt & tie

Mount Charles jumper/cardigan only available from Cornwall Screen print

**Black** Shoes ONLY no trainers

### PE KIT

**Black** shorts/**black** jogging bottoms/**black** leggings

White Mount Charles logo t shirt

Mount Charles jumper or cardigan **NO** hoodies

Please remember to write your child's name in all items of clothing, especially coats and jumpers. We are frequently finding coats with no names so are unable to return them to their rightful owner.



## Contacting the school

Our enquiries email is monitored intermittently during the school hours, 08.00-15.30 Monday to Friday. We aim to get back to you within 48 hours. If the matter is urgent, please call the school office directly.

If you have a problem you would like to discuss regarding your child, in the first instance, please contact your class teacher at collection/drop off times or by calling/emailing the office.

**Email: [enquiries@mcs.celtrust.org](mailto:enquiries@mcs.celtrust.org) Phone: 01726 73911**

# Diary Dates

March	April
16th EYFS Parents Evening	2nd
17th EYFS Parents Evening	1st Treasure Island performance
18th Farm & Country trip, Yr3	3rd Good Friday—school closed
20th Rescheduled NCMP, Yrs R & 6 PTA Spring Disco	6th—17th Easter holidays—school closed
20th Red Nose Day—wear red	24th Reception vision screening
24th Belated St Piran's Day celebrations! Cornish Caretakers, KS2 PTA, Easter Crafts KS2	30th Year 4, Porthpean Residential
25th Year 5, Okehampton Residential	<b>May</b>
26th Family Worker Drop-In, (no appointment needed)	4th Bank Holiday - school closed
27th Multiplications Workshop for Parents & Camp meeting Yr4 8:30am Stay and Play for new Nursery intake, 1:15pm	11th Year 6 SATS week
30th Sponsored Leap (during the week)	25th Half term week—school closed
31st PTA, Easter Crafts KS1	<b>June</b>
	3rd School photographers, groups
	4th Year 5 Egyptian Day
	12th PTA Summer Disco
	15th—17th Year 6 London Residential
	<i>Advanced notice: Sports Day is booked for Wednesday 1st July!</i>

## TERM DATES

2025-2026

**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 DAY:** 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

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Be part of Cornwall's most colourful 5k fun run this summer

Rainbow Run returns to RAF St Mawgan Newquay on **Saturday 20 June 2026** and is open to anyone aged 5 years old and over.

You can run, walk, or jog whilst being showered in powder paint at 8 different colour stations.

Included in the price is a bespoke 2026 Rainbow run medal, an event village full of stalls, games, food vendors and entertainment and 8 colour stations.

As well as making memories on this fun-filled day out, you will be raising vital funds for Children's Hospice South West.

By taking part you're pledging to raise £35 as an individual or £93 as a family. Last year £107,000 was raised!

The earlier you sign up, the more you save! **Our Super-duper early-bird, saving 30% is on sale until 2 April.**

Sign up at: [Rainbow Run Cornwall 2026 | Children's Hospice South West](https://www.chsw.org.uk/rainbow)

Sponsored by:



**The brightest fun run for everyone!**

Saturday 20 June 2026 at RAF St Mawgan, Newquay

Sign up today [chsw.org.uk/rainbow](https://www.chsw.org.uk/rainbow)

**rainbow RUN**

Registered Charity No. 1003314



Cornwall  
Wildlife Trust

NHS

Cornwall Partnership  
NHS Foundation Trust



# MHST Wild Wellbeing



MHST, in collaboration with Natural England, Cornwall Wildlife Trust and National Trust, would like you to join us on a FREE Wild Wellbeing session in Cornwall.

This is for parents and children aged 5-12 in Cornwall to help understand and support emotional and mental wellbeing.  
Please book EACH child on to a session

**EXTRA SITES!!!**

Each session will last approx. 2 hours

**ALERT!**

## Locations and dates:

07 April - Golitha Falls

07 April - The Gardeners House, Penzance

07 April - Lanhydrock House

14 & 15 April - Penrose Estate

16 April - St Ives Community Orchard

16 April - Tehidy Woods

To request a place, complete the online form

<https://forms.office.com/e/CdbKBnMH0q>



Scan to sign up

All sessions will begin at 10am. Please wear weather appropriate clothing!



Please be aware that spaces are limited and assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. If you cannot attend after being allocated a place, inform us so we can give your spot to someone else.

Follow us on Facebook for updates and upcoming events:

[Cornwall Mental Health Support Team \(MHST\)](#)



**TRURO  
SCHOOL**

# **YEAR 5 MATHS MASTERCLASSES**

Truro School warmly invites Year 5 pupils from across Cornwall to join them for their Year 5 Maths Masterclasses. Pupils can sign up to attend, one, two, or all three masterclasses.

Saturday 25 April - Probability

Saturday 9 May - The Mobius Strip

Saturday 16 May - Tactics in Games

Session time: 10.00am – 12.00pm

Location: Truro School (Senior School) TR1 1TH

There is no charge for the event and all Year 5 children are welcome.  
Spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first-come basis.

Please sign up here >

<https://forms.office.com/e/qfLDthBQ16>

Any questions?

Please email [admissions@truroschoo.com](mailto:admissions@truroschoo.com)



# TIME MOVE

Holiday Programme



## EASTER 2026

- 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 Easter holidays from 6<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Scan here  
to book!



[www.activecornwall.org/T2MHolidayProgramme](http://www.activecornwall.org/T2MHolidayProgramme)

[Time2Move.HolidayProgramme@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:Time2Move.HolidayProgramme@cornwall.gov.uk)



Funded by  
 Department  
for Education





@

**Mount Charles Methodist Church  
Victoria Road, St Austell, PL25 4QF**

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March  
3 15pm – 5 15pm**

*Come and  
join us for:*



**All ages welcome.**

[www.mountcharleschurch.com](http://www.mountcharleschurch.com)



# Support Organisations



**In an emergency,  
call 999**



## Worried about a child?

Multi-agency Referral Unit (MARU)  
0300 123 1116

Out-of-hours number 01208 251300  
[multiagencyreferralunit@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:multiagencyreferralunit@cornwall.gov.uk)



Support for children and young people is available from

## Cornwall's Early Help Hub

(01872) 322 277

[earlyhelpclub@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:earlyhelpclub@cornwall.gov.uk)

**NSPCC**  
0808 800 5000



Cornwall



Citizens Advice Cornwall who will be able to issue you with a **food bank voucher** - call **0800 144 8848**

Financial support or advice on care and support services for families

0808 208 2138

[www.supportincornwall.org.uk](http://www.supportincornwall.org.uk)



## YOUNGMINDS

Support young people with the tools to look after their mental health

Parents helpline -

0808 802 5544

Young person -

Text SHOUT to 85258



free, safe & anonymous advice at [kooth.com](http://kooth.com)

**shout**

**85258**

"It's alright to ask for help"

**SAMARITANS**

116 123



0800 58 58 58  
Helpline for men  
[www.thecalmzone.net](http://www.thecalmzone.net)

HOPELINE247  
0800 068 4141

TEXT: 07860 039 967



Support for young people aged 11 to 25

[youngpeoplecornwall.org](http://youngpeoplecornwall.org)

**SAFER**

**FUTURES**

Ending Abuse in Cornwall & Isles of Scilly

0300 777 4777

Mon-Fri 9am-9pm

Sat- 9am-5pm



LEARNING TOGETHER  
CORNWALL EDUCATION LEARNING TRUST