



Spring Term 2026 Newsletter 4
Friday 27th March 2026

MOUNT CHARLES SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER UPDATE



Wow – what a term it has been!

As we come to the end of a busy and successful term, we hope you can all take some time to rest, enjoy the sunshine over the holiday, and reflect on all that has been achieved. It has been wonderful to read through the incredible pupil reports – you must be so proud of everything your children have accomplished.

This term has been full of exciting opportunities and memorable experiences. Year 3 had a fantastic trip to the Royal Cornwall Showground, and the PTA disco was a real highlight, bringing lots of fun and energy for everyone involved.

Seahorse class had the incredible honour of meeting Their Majesties the King and Queen during a very special visit to St Austell. Seahorse class enjoyed a magical encounter with Her Majesty at St Austell Church. They presented a thoughtfully handmade bouquet inspired by their favourite books, a wonderful celebration of reading and creativity, and delighted everyone by singing "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star". The children proudly represented Mount Charles School on this special day and made everyone very proud.



A big thank you, as always to our amazing PTA for organising a wonderful Easter Bunny visit. KS1 pupils had great fun during their Easter egg hunt, while KS2 pupils enjoyed an exciting orienteering Easter Egg Hunt.

Looking ahead, next term is set to be just as busy, with Sports Day, more trips, the Year 4 camp, and the much-anticipated Year 6 visit to London.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

We wish you all a happy, restful holiday.

Mrs Simpson



To celebrate St Pirans Day the children were utterly captivated as The Cornish Caretakers brought the magic of Cornish folklore vividly to life, with the wonderfully charismatic Kernow King delighting audiences throughout. It was a truly enchanting experience, filled with humour, storytelling, and moments that left the children wide-eyed with amazement.



Our children were also treated to a spectacular performance of *Treasure Island*, brought to life by the incredibly talented cast of M&M Theatrical Productions. From the very first moment, the hall was filled with excitement, adventure, and a touch of swashbuckling magic!

The energy, creativity, and humour of the performers completely captivated the audience. The children were enthralled as the classic tale unfolded before their eyes, with vivid characters, lively storytelling, and plenty of surprises along the way. Laughter, gasps, and wide-eyed wonder could be seen throughout, as the story carried them on a thrilling journey across the high seas. When asked about their favourite part the children said :

“ They did lots of songs & were great actors “ Isabelle Year 4

*“When there was fire coming out of the gun—it was wow! I like it when the actors made us laugh”
Luyanda Year 5*

“The sword fighting scenes were exciting! There were lots of funny bits like Ben Gun being stuck on the island for 4 years” Charlie Year 6

It was a fantastic opportunity for the children to experience live theatre in such an engaging and memorable way. A huge thank you to M&M Theatrical Productions for delivering such a brilliant and inspiring performance—one that will no doubt be talked about for a long time to come!



SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding at Mount Charles

At Mount Charles School, the safety and wellbeing of our pupils is always our highest priority. Safeguarding is at the heart of everything we do, it means making sure children feel safe, protected from harm, and supported to thrive both in school and at home. Our safeguarding team works closely with families and external services to offer guidance, early help, and support whenever it is needed.

We always encourage parents and carers to get in touch if they have any concerns about their child's wellbeing, behaviour, or safety. You can contact our safeguarding team at DSL@mcs.celtrust.org.

We have recently been made aware of some antisocial behaviour involving a small number of our pupils at Mount Charles Park. We would really appreciate your support in speaking with your children about playing safely, showing kindness, and behaving respectfully within the community.

It has also been lovely to see so many children riding their bikes and scooters to school, especially as the weather improves. To keep everyone safe, please remind children about the importance of road safety, being considerate to pedestrians, and always wearing a helmet. Helmets are required for children to bring bikes or scooters onto the school site.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep all of our children safe.

Thank you, Rebecca Kevill **Operational Designated Safeguarding Lead & Trauma Informed School Practitioner**

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



Support for children and young people is available from
Cornwall's Early Help Hub
(01872) 322 277
earlyhelpclub@cornwall.gov.uk

NSPCC
0808 800 5000



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



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

"It's alright to ask for help"

SAMARITANS

116 123

shout
85258

SAFER FUTURES

Ending Abuse in Cornwall & Isles of Scilly

0300 777 4777
Mon-Fri 9am-9pm
Sat- 9am-5pm



0800 58 58 58
Helpline for men
www.thecalzone.net

HOPELINE247
0800 068 4141
TEXT: 07860 039 967



Support for young people aged 11 to 25
youngpeoplecornwall.org



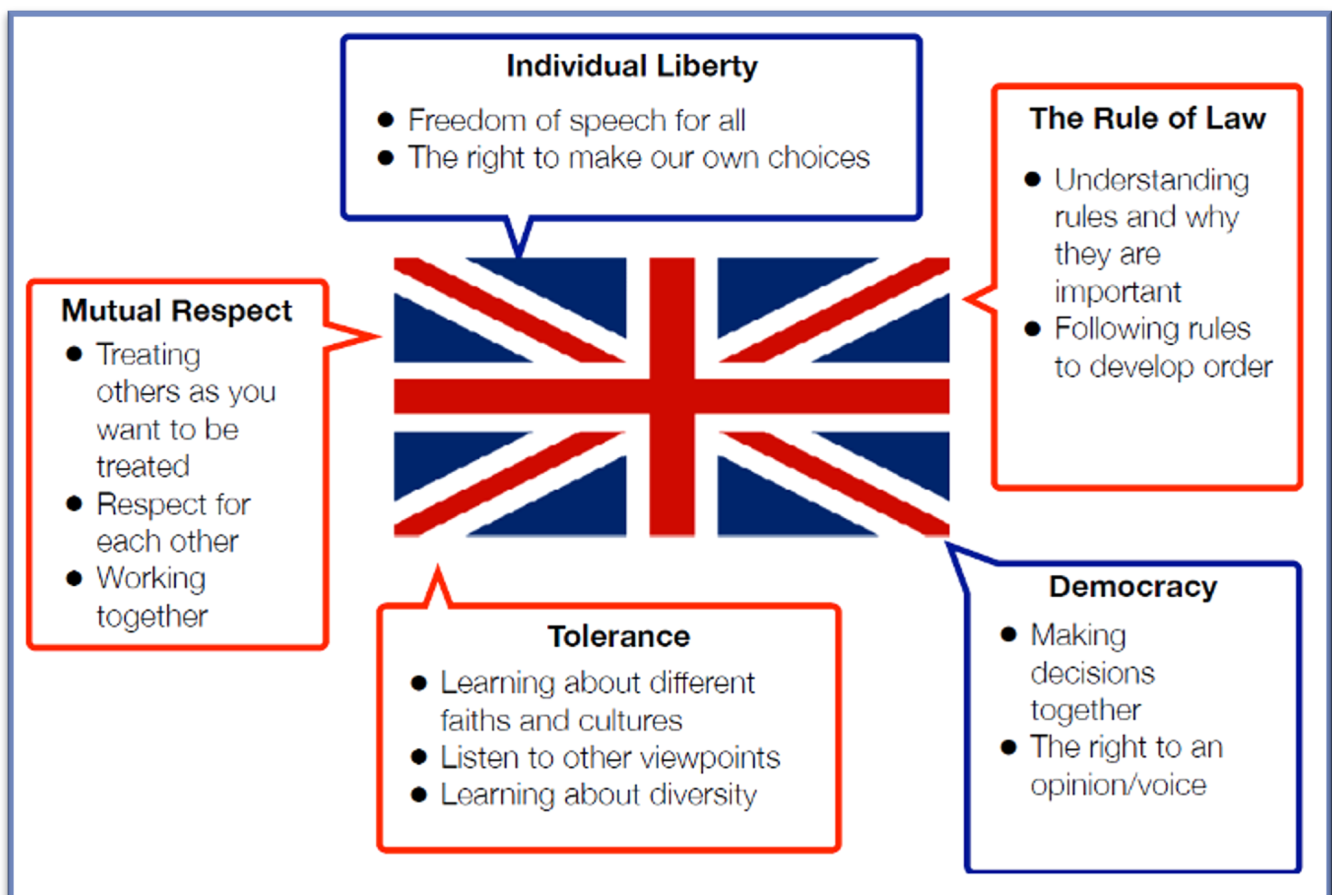
BRITISH VALUES

At our school, we have been learning about the British value of **Individual Liberty** and what it means in our everyday lives. Individual liberty is all about having the freedom to make our own choices, express our opinions, and be ourselves, while still respecting the rights and freedoms of others.

We have been thinking carefully about how this value applies both in and out of school. For example, we understand that we have the freedom to choose our interests, share our ideas in class, and take responsibility for our own actions. At the same time, we know that our choices should not negatively affect other people. This helps us to create a safe, respectful, and supportive environment for everyone.

Learning about individual liberty also helps us to grow in confidence and independence. It encourages us to think for ourselves, make positive decisions, and understand the importance of fairness and responsibility. By exploring this value, we are becoming more aware of how we can contribute to a community where everyone feels valued and respected.

We are proud to be developing our understanding of individual liberty and will continue to think about how we can show this important value in our daily lives at school.





ATTENDANCE



We are delighted to celebrate our strong whole-school attendance, which currently stands at an impressive 95.5%, above both the national (94.9%) and local authority (94.6%) averages. This is a fantastic achievement and reflects the commitment of our pupils, families, and staff to making every school day count.

While we are proud of this success, we remain focused on reaching our school target of 97%. Thank you for your continued support in prioritising attendance—together, we can achieve even more and ensure every child has the best opportunity to succeed.

Why attendance matters:

- Builds positive learning habits and routines
- Supports academic progress and achievement
- Helps children feel confident, included, and part of the school community
- Reduces gaps in learning that can be difficult to catch up on

Prepares children for future education and employment

The impact of missed learning:

100% Attendance	0 Days Missed
95% Attendance	9 Days Absence 1 week & 4 days of learning missed
90% Attendance	19 Days Absence 3 weeks & 4 days of learning missed
85% Attendance	28 Days Absence 5 weeks & 3 days of learning missed
80% Attendance	38 Days Absence 7 weeks & 3 days of learning missed
75% Attendance	46 Days Absence 9 weeks & 1 day of learning missed

*Based on a typical 190-day school year and 5.4 learning hours per day.

Every day really does count—small improvements in attendance make a big difference over time!

EASTER ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE!

100%

A huge congratulations to the **143 children** who have achieved 100% attendance over the last 9 days, what a fantastic accomplishment! Your commitment to being in school every day is something to be really proud of and sets a brilliant example for others. We would also like to celebrate our class winners, who have shown outstanding dedication:

- Seahorse: Goodluck
- Angelfish: Aaliyah-Faith
- Jellyfish: Henry
- Starfish: Skylar R
- Sea Turtle: Charlotte
- Seals: Beryl
- Narwhal: Harlen
- Dolphin: Logan
- Orca: Kasper
- Sunfish: Amyrah
- Manta-Ray: Sophie S



Well done to all of you—keep up the amazing effort and let's continue striving for excellent attendance across the whole school!

WELL DONE!

ENRICHMENT

We kicked off Spring 2 with a real sense of buzz and excitement as our brand-new playground routines and activities were introduced. This has all been made possible thanks to your match funding donations at Asda, organised by our PTA. We know the children will want to join us in saying a huge THANK YOU for helping to fund this idea and bring it to life.

We're delighted to share that pupils can now enjoy a wide range of fresh activities, both active and social, across all our yards (blue, lower, middle and upper). With a new weekly rotation in place, children have the chance to explore something different each day, keeping playtimes fun, varied and engaging.

It's been fantastic to see how positively the children have embraced these changes. They've already started sharing ideas and working together to suggest ways to make things even better, so keep watch this space to find out for what's coming next!



ENRICHMENT SPORTS

Monday 16th March – Year 1 Tag Rugby Festival (Poltair)

Year 1 pupils had a fantastic time at the Tag Rugby Festival, taking part in warm-ups, skill sessions, and friendly matches with other schools. Their enthusiasm, teamwork, and behaviour were excellent throughout—well done to all involved.

Tuesday 17th March – Football & Netball vs Biscovey

The Year 5/6 B football team delivered an outstanding 7–0 win, continuing their unbeaten run. The Year 6 A team also impressed with a strong 4–1 victory, showing great passing and teamwork. In netball, both teams faced tough opposition. The A team showed great progress, while the B team gained valuable experience, with many pupils playing their first match.

Monday 23rd March – Cross Country (Poltair)

Pupils from Years 4–6 showed fantastic determination and running ability. Special congratulations to Jack (1st), Teddy (2nd), and Theia (2nd), with Jenson also performing brilliantly and qualifying for the Mid Cornwall finals.



Tuesday 24th March – Football & Netball vs St Stephen

The Year 3/4 football team celebrated their first win of the season with a 5–0 victory. The Year 5/6 B team remained unbeaten and were crowned league champions—an incredible achievement. The Year 5/6 A team also impressed with an 8–1 win.

In netball, both teams continued to develop well, with many players gaining valuable match experience. Staff are very proud of all pupils' effort and progress.



ENRICHMENT SPORTS

Monday 30th March – Mid Cornwall Cross Country Finals at Par Track

After school on Monday, our four qualifiers from the Poltair races proudly represented the school at the Mid Cornwall Cross Country Finals at Par Track.

From Year 5, Theia and Jenson competed brilliantly in a strong field of 70 runners. Theia finished in an impressive 26th place, while Jenson secured 38th—both fantastic achievements in a highly competitive race against some of the best runners from across Mid and East Cornwall.

In Year 6, Teddy and Jack also put in outstanding performances. Teddy finished 26th and Jack placed 43rd out of 70 runners, demonstrating great determination and resilience.

These are excellent results, and the event provided a valuable and enjoyable experience for all our cross-country runners. Mr Yelland was extremely pleased with the effort and commitment shown by all four pupils.

Tuesday 31st March – Year 5 & 6 (A Team) Football Cup Fixture (Away vs St Mewan)

Mt Charles were narrowly beaten 2–1, with St Mewan scoring a late winner. Malachy gave Mt Charles the lead with a superb long-range goal, before St Mewan equalised to make it 1–1 at half time. Despite a strong performance and further chances, Mt Charles were unable to find a second goal. Mr Yelland and Mr Grigg were very proud of the team's efforts.



Football Friendly – Year 5 & 6 (Away vs St Mewan)

A mixed Year 5 and 6 team played a friendly, with several pupils featuring in their first match. Riley scored twice and Jack added another in a 3–1 win. Daniel made some excellent saves in goal, and Mr Davey was very impressed with the team's performance.



EYFS NURSERY

Nursery have enjoyed learning all about St. Piran's Day and celebrating all things Cornwall. The children particularly enjoyed baking their very own scones and putting jam and clotted cream on, jam first of course! The children thought about measuring the ingredients, mixing, and using the cutters to create the classic scone shape. These tasted absolutely delicious!



EYFS RECEPTION

Seahorse class couldn't believe how much their beanstalks had grown! After following a set of instructions to plant their beanstalks, the children took great care of them, keeping them by the window in the sunlight and watering them each day. Together, the children measured how tall their beanstalks had grown using a ruler and compared the different heights of these. The tallest beanstalk was 20cm tall! The beanstalks are now continuing to grow at home and the children are excited to discover what might be at the top of their beanstalk.



YEAR 1 & 2

As part of our Healthy Me topic in PSHE, Year 1 and Year 2 have thought about foods that are healthy and unhealthy and designed their own fruit skewers. We linked this to our science knowledge this term when we have been thinking about healthy foods in each of the food groups. We then made the skewers and really enjoyed eating them! Lots of us want to try making these at home and have discovered a new healthy snack.



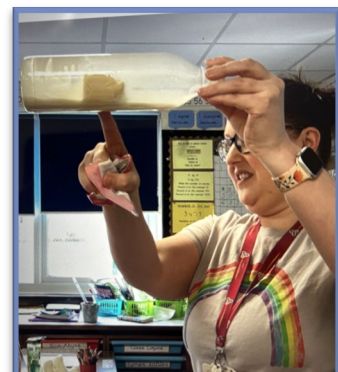
YEAR 3

Year 3 had an exciting day at the Farm and Country Day at the Royal Cornwall Showground, joining several other schools from across the South West. The trip was a wonderful opportunity to support the children's learning about agriculture in geography. They got first-hand experience of where our food comes from, how it is processed, and how animals are raised. The children loved seeing machinery such as combine harvesters, getting up close to lambs, cows, and pigs, and even having a go at making food including flour, bread, and eggy bread. They also discovered how ice cream is made and enjoyed a delicious ice cream treat themselves! Throughout the day, they watched demonstrations of milking, ploughing, harvesting, auctioneering, planting, and butchery. It was a jam-packed day, full of learning and fun, and the children had a fantastic time exploring the farm and countryside.



YEAR 4

Year 4 have been exploring states of matter in science, learning about solids, liquids and gases. They enjoyed turning cream into butter by shaking it and then tasting it on crackers. The class also investigated density by making lava lamps, discovering that oil is less dense than water and separates from it. It's been a fun and engaging half term of science!



YEAR 5

Mrs Waugh's crew had a super three days at school. There were lots of highlights, including using the PE equipment. Lots of bravery and teamwork shown.

We learned how to play games, follow rules and then designed and made our own games, which we had fun playing together. 'My Minecraft game is the best thing I've made' (Logan).

We learned about the artist David Hockney and produced a landscape in his style. Libby and Freddie received a Simpson's star for their great work.

Friday was spent in the kitchen making bread and spaghetti bolognese. We worked as a team to chop up all of vegetables and made a delicious meal. All the children took home their food to share.



YEAR 5 CAMP!

Year 5 had an unforgettable time on their camp trip to Okehampton, bursting with adventure from start to finish! The children cycled nearly four miles to a stunning viaduct, tried their hand at axe throwing, sped downhill on grass sledges and braved the high ropes. On the final day, they even went weaselling through rocky gaps on the moor—made even more memorable by the rain. Their first evening included a twilight walk across the moor, hoping to catch the sunset and walking amongst wild sheep and ponies. With a lively disco, delicious food, and plenty of laughter, the children threw themselves into every activity and thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience.



YEAR 6

In Geography, Year 6 have been learning about different climate zones and making comparisons between our locality and the wider world. In our most recent lessons, we have been exploring the impact of plastic pollution on our planet. This week, we undertook a litter survey of our school grounds. From this, we will be analysing the data collected and putting together an action plan to prevent plastic pollution in our school.



ARB

We have started to enjoy the warmer weather and the children have really enjoyed using the outside climbing equipment again. The cycling sessions at Par running track have continued and we have also spent a day at Pencalenick, enjoying their grounds and participating in a dance therapy session.

We have started to think about Easter and the children have enjoyed taking part in a variety of activities, they particularly enjoyed our Easter Egg hunt and also investigating which egg rolls the furthest down a slope. We are now preparing for our open afternoon on Thursday where we look forward to inviting parents into the classroom to complete activities with their children.



CELEBRATION

Celebrating



Yr1/2— Eli, Pearl, Ellie, Marceline, Stefan, Bryan,
Henry, Ralph, Bryan

Yr 3— Reuben, Filip, Annabelle, Jonny,

Yr4— Archer, Tabitha, Rupert

Yr5— Leo, Esmae, Brax

Yr6— Skylar, Henry, Aila, Jacob, Broklyn

Success

Our attendance trophy was won by:

20th Sunfish 98.3%

27th Orca 99.3%

2nd Narwhal 98.3%

Perfect Attendance!



British Values

Celebrating our British Values Champions :

Year 1/2: Harley-James, Jacob, Logan, Alex, Albie, Louella,
Phanuella, Ellis, Esme

Year 3: Tommy, Cerys, Evie, Eli

Year 4: Archer, Poppy, Haadiyah

Year 5: Inti, Brody, Brax,

Year 6: Harley-jai, Billie, Riley, Leila

REMINDEERS

ParentPay Lunches

The menus for next term are now on ParentPay, and you are able to book right through to the end of Summer Term. We would encourage you to make your choices with your child over the Easter Holidays to ensure your child is picking something they will enjoy.

We would also like to remind you to send your child with a healthy snack each day.

Uniform

Summer Term

Grey trousers/Skirt/Pinafore

White polo shirt KS1 & KS2 can wear white polo shirt or shirt & tie

Blue/white checked dresses 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

The school is now closed for the Easter Holidays, and we return on Monday 20th April 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>

Diary Dates

April		June	
3rd	Good Friday—school closed	1st	**no clubs or Charlies Wraparound today**
6th—17th	Easter holidays—school closed	3rd	School photographers, groups
24th	Reception vision screening	4th	Year 5 Egyptian Day
28th	Dance Club, mop-up session	8th	Phonics Screening Check week
30th	Year 4, Porthpean Residential	12th	PTA Summer Disco
May		15th—17th	Year 6 London Residential
4th	Bank Holiday - school closed	25th	Year 3 Pizza and Film evening
5th	Dance Club, mop-up session	26th	Year 3 BF Adventure Day
11th	Year 6 SATS week— ALL Yr 6 MUST be in school	29th	Parent Pop-Up Event, 2pm—4pm
19th	Year 6 trip to St Ives	July	
20th	Year 5 Lifeskills Workshop	1st	Sports Day
25th	Half term week—school closed	2nd	Sports Day reserve date

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

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 6th - 17th April 2026

Scan here
to book!



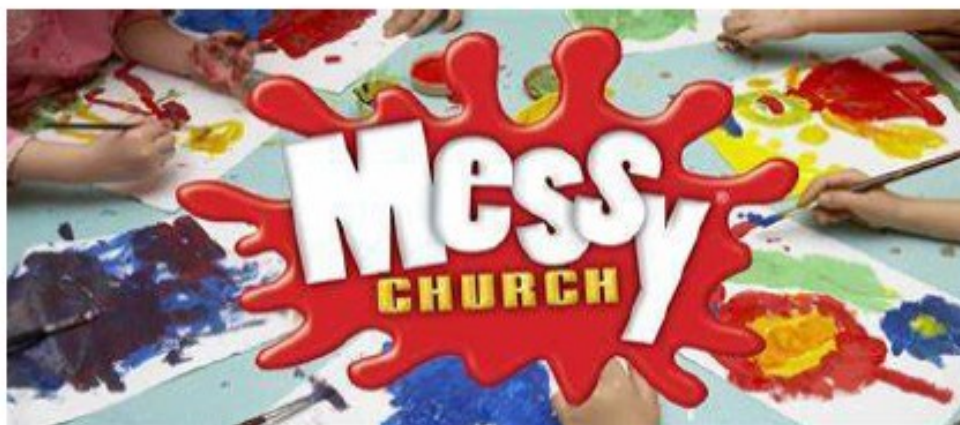
www.activecornwall.org/T2MHolidayProgramme

Time2Move.HolidayProgramme@cornwall.gov.uk



Funded by
 Department
for Education





@

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

**Thursday 23rd April
Thursday 21st May
Thursday 25th June
3 15pm – 5 15pm**

*Come and
join us for:*



All ages welcome.

www.mountcharleschurch.com



YOUTH CLUB

Friday 24th April.
Friday 8th May and Friday 22nd May.
Friday 5th June and Friday 19th June.
Friday 10th July and Friday 24th July.

@

Bethel Methodist Chapel, Brockstone Road, St
Austell PL25 3DW

6pm – 7 30pm.
£1 per child.
Ages 7 years and up.

Team games, crafts, game consoles, tuck shop and time
to be with you friends in safe and friendly environment.

Contact Laura Mitchell to book in:
lauranewman89@hotmail.com or Facebook 'Youth Club
at Bethel Chapel'.

2PM TO
4.00PM

FREE

EASTER FUN DAY

SAT 4TH APRIL

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

BOUNCY CASTLE
CRAFTS
BISCUIT DECORATING
CAKE!

