



The festive spirit is in full swing here at Mount Charles. The children have been enjoying decorating their Christmas tree charms and creating their class Christmas crafts. There is a real buzz in the air today for Christmas jumper day, with children and staff looking very festive indeed. We are all looking forward to our Christmas lunch and pasties next week—yummy! We would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### The 5 Days of Covid Christmas 2020

*by Michael in year 3*

On the first day of Christmas Santa gave to me, some hand sanitizing jelly...

On the second day of Christmas Santa gave to me, two rubber gloves...

On the third day of Christmas Santa gave to me, three Covid Signs...

On the forth day of Christmas Santa gave to me, four disposable masks...

On the fifth day of Christmas Santa gave to me, five virtual hugs.



# It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas

## Christmas cards and gifts.

Under our Covid risk assessment we need to minimise, as much as possible, the number of items being brought into school. This means that we are unable to allow our children to exchange Christmas cards in school this year. We have also received queries regarding children bringing gifts for staff. Whilst we hugely appreciate this generous thought, we are unable to accept gifts this year. In lieu of gifts, we would welcome donations direct to St Austell Foodbank on our behalf as a thank you for the crucial support they have given to some of our families during this difficult year.

## Christmas diary dates:

**16th Dec** School Christmas Dinner Day, KS1

**17th Dec** School Christmas Dinner Day, KS2

**18th Dec** Last day of term.

## Collection times, Friday 18th December

ARB+	RSH +	RSW +	1LAH +	1SC +	Year 2 +	Year 3 +	Year 4 +	Year 5 +	Year 6
all older siblings	all older siblings	all older siblings	all older siblings	all older siblings	all older siblings	all older siblings	all older siblings	all older siblings	
1:40pm	1:25pm	1:30pm	1:25pm	1:25pm	1:25pm	1:25pm	1:35pm	1:35pm	1:30pm
Main Gate Left	Middle Yard Gate	Middle Yard Gate	Wesley Gate	Wesley Gate	Main Gate Left	Swimming Gate	Wesley Gate	Swimming Gate	Swimming Gate



This week, as part of the innovate section of our autumn theme, EYFS are making winter muffins to feed the hungry squirrels. We began by exploring the different foods we could include in our muffins. We also wrote a list of ingredients so we all knew what we needed. The children were delighted to have a real squirrel eating nuts in their outdoor area— check out our Facebook page to see the photo!

Year 3 have been enjoying their Imaginative Learning Project, (ILP), Gods and Mortals. They have been learning about ancient Greek home-life, battles and soldiers. Evie created this incredible Trojan horse complete with Greek soldiers inside as part of her home-learning task. Well done, Evie— what an incredible piece of work!





# READING SUCCESS



We were delighted to welcome colleagues from across Cornwall Education Learning Trust (CELT) earlier this week to come and see some of the fantastic work that we do to ensure our children become avid readers. Here are some snapshots of reading in action at Mount Charles and some quotes taken from what our visitors had to say.

'It is very apparent that the young people of MC is being well served by a team of skilled, dedicated and diligent staff.'



'There is a genuine sense of community that is obviously flourishing in the school.'



'It's fair to say that the learning climate and environment of the school is superb, this is not just a reflection of the buildings, displays, etc but something palpable in feeling you get from the staff and the pupils.'



'Teachers expertise was clearly evident and the engagement of pupils was driven by strong Teaching and learning routines.'

As we enter the winter months, with the possibility for a school closure due to severe weather or building issues, (snow, flooding, loss of heating or power), I would like to remind you of the procedure for closing the school:

**Closure before School begins (before 8am):** A text message will be sent to all parents, a post will be updated on our social media pages and our website flash will be updated. Information will also be broadcast on Radio Cornwall, Pirate FM and Heart FM.

**Closure during the School day:** A text message will be sent to all parents, a post will be updated on our social media pages and our website flash will be updated. Information will also be broadcast on Radio Cornwall, Pirate FM and Heart FM. Children will be collected from their current pick up gate and signed out to parents by the teacher. If you are happy for your child to walk home alone, or if your child will be collected by someone else, please send a message to the teacher through Class Dojo. Any student who cannot return home, will be looked after at the school until the parents or carers can be contacted.

**Please ensure we have your most up-to-date contact details!!**

**Emergency  
Closing  
Information**

### Pupil Premium & Free School Meals

Sadly, many families across the country are reaching crisis point financially due to the Covid-19 pandemic. If your circumstances have changed, your child may be entitled to Free School Meals. Please follow this link and complete an online application form. [Free School Meals Application Form](#) If any of our families are in need of a food bank voucher, (whether you are entitled to free school meals or not), please email [enquiries@mount-charlessch.org](mailto:enquiries@mount-charlessch.org) and a member of our team will be in touch with you.

Unfortunately we are still receiving complaints regarding parking. Please:



- Do not park in front of the school gates or on the yellow zigzags.
- Do not park in our disabled bays unless you are a blue badge holder.
- Please do not double park adjacent to the disabled bays as it obstructs access.
- Do not block the driveways of residents on Woodland Road or the business park on Morven Road.
- Use the car parks available to us at B&M, the church on Victoria Road, and the church on Woodland Road



### CHARLIES AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Charlie's After School Club will not be running on the last day of term, Friday 18th December.

Breakfast club will run as normal.

### Christmas Free School Meal Vouchers

As per the recent Local Authority update, all children currently in receipt of free school meals will receive two £15 ASDA vouchers for the Christmas holidays.

Eligible families will receive their vouchers via email today.

Please note, this applies only to children in receipt of benefits-related free school meal, not the infants' universal free school meals. Please email [enquiries@mount-charlessch.org](mailto:enquiries@mount-charlessch.org) if you have any questions.





**If your child has:  
a high temperature  
a new, continuous cough, or  
a loss of, or change in, sense of  
smell or taste**

**This could be a sign of  
coronavirus**

**Book a test**

**If your child has:  
a runny nose, is sneezing or  
feeling unwell  
But they don't have:  
a high temperature  
a new, continuous cough, or  
a loss of, or change in,  
sense of smell or taste**

**These are  
not normally symptoms of  
coronavirus**

**Seek advice from a pharmacy, dial  
111 or see your GP**



We have noticed an increase in the number of children bringing snacks to school that are not in line with our healthy eating policy. Ideas for healthy snacks:

Fruit, Vegetable sticks, Cheese,  
Crackers, Yoghurt, Breadsticks,  
Raisins, Rice cakes

**internet  
matters.org**

Please click this link for some really useful advice on how to

safely set children up on laptops, phones and online games.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/setupsafe/>

Within this link is a section where you can enter details of the devices you have for a step by step guide on how to secure them with parental controls.



**Looking for a Reception school place in September?  
Come and join the fun at Mount Charles!**

Children born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017 can join Mount Charles in September 2021.

Apply for a place online at [www.cornwall.gov.uk/admission](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/admission). If you need help with your application, please do not hesitate to contact us. For more information on joining our Reception classes next year, please see the 'Starting School—Sept 2021' tab on our website, [www.mount-charlessch.org](http://www.mount-charlessch.org).



## Celebrating

ARB - Isaac and Sophia

Year 1 - Leo, Nolah-Rose, Leland  
and Aaron

Year 2 - Jayden-James, William  
and Maisie

Year 3 - Tallulah, Zoe and Oliver

Year 4 - Alisha, Abby and Oscar

Year 5—Tylor

Year 6 - Callum and Sofia

## Success

### Medical Conditions

*Please ensure your child's medical  
record held by the school is up to date.*

*We need to be informed if your child  
develops a new condition, temporary  
or long-term, and details of any  
medication they take at home,  
or may need to take in school.*

*This includes allergies and  
dietary needs.*

*Please contact the school office if  
you need to make changes to the  
data we hold.*

Our attendance trophy was won by:

2LH last week with 99.29%

2LH this week with 99.54%



## Attendance!

## Diary

### Dec

16th Christmas Dinner Day, KS1

17th Christmas Dinner Day, KS2

18th Last day of term , early finish—Please  
see above for staggered finish times.

## Dates

### Jan

4th First day of Spring Term

### Feb

12th INSET DAY—School closed to children

15th—19th Spring half term break



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Raise festive cheer in your Christmas gear!

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[www.chsw.org.uk/santas](http://www.chsw.org.uk/santas)

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## Mount Charles Methodist Church.



**Nativity open church.**

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

**10am – 12pm**

Come and see the Nativity scene and have some quiet reflection time at this special time of year.

Gifts will be given to all the children.

Please wear a face mask and adhere to social distancing guidelines.

**WHEAL MARTYN** CLAY WORKS

**This December**

**Festive events at Wheal Martyn**

Join us throughout December for some festive family activities in the woodlands! Booking essential.

- **Reindeer Hunt: 3 - 23 December**  
Find all the reindeer hiding in the woods!
- **Elves and Rein-dog Weekend 12 - 13 December** - Dress up your children and dogs in festive gear!

Charity No. 1001838 St Austell PL26 8XG

[www.wheal-martyn.com](http://www.wheal-martyn.com)