



This week our Reception children have been learning about hedgehogs as part of their Autumn 2 topic, 'Why do squirrels hide their nuts?'. The children have learnt hedgehog facts and worked together with their friends to create an information poster. They have also had fun reading hedgehog stories, making hedgehogs out of playdough and playing a game of 'Prickly Pileup'. The children especially enjoyed giving a hedgehog its prickles on the Funky Fingers table, to help develop their fine motor skills.



In 7JC, our children are enjoying their topic, Dinosaur Planet. They have made dinosaur stomp sounds in music, been 'archaeologists' and uncovered dinosaurs from a whole range of sensory mediums and enjoyed lots of art based activities. The children have also enjoyed listening to stories about dinosaurs as well as learning about people who discovered them.



*It's*  
beginning to  
look a lot like  
*Christmas*

### PTA Update

With the 1st December fast approaching we are starting to get festive at Mount Charles! Our Christmas tree has arrived and it is enormous!

Our children have begun to decorate their wooden decorations in class and will be able to hang them on the tree on Tuesday. Thank you to those who have already paid for your child's decoration and Christmas craft through ParentPay.

### 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 Dinner

This year, Chartwell's Christmas dinner menu is, Roast Turkey or Quorn Roast, with stuffing balls, pork sausages, roast potatoes, carrots, peas and gravy.

Iced shortbread biscuits with orange slices or vanilla ice cream for pudding.

This year, KS1 and 7JC will have their Christmas dinner on Wednesday 16th December, (pasties for years KS2 on this day) and KS2 will have their Christmas dinner on Thursday 17th December, (pasties for KS1 on this day).

Please complete the Christmas dinner choices link by Wednesday 2nd December so our catering team can plan their ordering.

### Christmas diary dates:

- 11th Dec** Save the Children—Christmas Jumper Day. Our children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper with their school uniform, for a suggested donation of £1, paid directly to Save the Children.
- 16th Dec** School Christmas Dinner Day, KS1
- 17th Dec** School Christmas Dinner Day, KS2
- 18th Dec** Last day of term, 1:30pm finish



### Reverse Advent Calendar

Last year our Trust's central team created a reverse advent calendar at head office which produced a very generous donation to St Austell Foodbank. This year, our Trust Lead has introduced a competition across the schools within our Trust to make a creative Christmas reverse advent box for staff to contribute to. Mrs Rosario and a small group of children



worked together to make this fantastic sleigh themed entry for Mount Charles! We think they have done an amazing job!

Our entry will be judged on Wednesday 9th December, wish us luck!



Over the autumn half term break a number of local businesses offered support for children in receipt of free school meals as a result of the Government not funding school meals over the break. Shaun Hooper - The Cornish Cricket Company organised an event to raise money. Shaun raised over £100 and offered to donate the contribution to Mount Charles School. We know that a number of our families most in need have used the food bank regularly during the pandemic. Therefore, we asked for the money raised to be donated to the St. Austell Food Bank. Thank you so much Shaun and all at The Cornish Cricket Company.



Year 5 have been investigating saturation, hydration and cause and effect in science this week as part of their topic, Alchemy Island! They have also written their Latin motto, "Signa summa semper", inspired by Hogwarts from their class novel, Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. The children have also had LOADS of successes this week— full marks in spellings tests, moving up in 99 Club and writing some amazing book reviews!

Our Year 6 children have been busy designing and making mini Anderson shelters as part of their topic 'A Child's War.' The children wrote instructions using coordinating conjunctions to add clauses and colons to their writing. They then designed paper models before working on their cardboard constructions.



## Digital Inclusion



'Learn My Way' is an online platform with courses on everything from using a keyboard and mouse to internet banking and video calls, Learn My Way is a good place to start for those wanting to build their digital skills and confidence.

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

The government have collated some free courses to support people wanting to learn new skills or those changing jobs. These include both general skills that apply to all sectors and more specialised skills. The courses fall into the following categories:



Practical Maths, Computer Essentials, Personal Growth and Wellbeing, Professional Development, Business and Finance, Digital Design and Marketing, Computer Science, and Coding. Please visit their website for more information:

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/find-a-course/the-skills-toolkit>



**YOUTH  
SPORT  
TRUST**

The Youth Sport Trust (YST) have taken the step to deliver a free virtual after school club. The 30-minute club will take place at 5pm each weekday and be led by a different member of the YST's athlete mentor network. The After School Sport Club is running until December 18 and children can take part live by visiting the YouTube channel - <http://www.youtube.com/user/YouthSportTrust>

Aimed mainly at primary-aged children, a different theme has been assigned for each day of the club - Adventure Monday, Tuesday Play, Wild Wednesday, Thinking Thursday and Fun Friday. The YST hope that this will provide support, capacity and inspiration to sit alongside the other great work and offers that are available for schools and children to engage in.



Over the last couple of weeks, our children have been taking part in the Cornwall Schools Winter Games Virtual competitions! The children have been fantastically enthusiastic and have achieved some great scores to submit to compete against other schools. They have taken part in various events including relay, slalom, body management, gymnastics and speed bouncing. KS2 achieved 4953 speed bounces - that is amazing! All of our children will receive a certificate in the coming weeks.



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 you 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).



**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

## Celebrating



ARB— Mariette, Tilly

Yr1— Alfie,

Yr2— Annabelle, Esmae, Sophia

Yr3— Willow, Lacey, Thea, Ella

Yr4— Charlie, Alexis, Freddie

Yr5— Noah, Jaden, Anh, Isobel, Amelie

Yr6— Casey, Jess A, Charlee

## 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:

RSH last week with 100% !

4RW this week with 100% !



# Attendance!

## Diary

## Dates

### Dec

- 1st Flu immunisations
- 11th Save the Children,  
Christmas Jumper Day
- 16th Christmas Dinner Day, KS1
- 17th Christmas Dinner Day, KS2
- 18th Last day of term , 1:30pm finish

### Jan

- 4th First day of Spring Term

### Feb

- 12th INSET DAY—School closed to children
- 5th—19th Spring half term break





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**CORMAC**

**School Crossing Patrol vacancies in this area**

Do you have time to spare or know someone that does?  
Concerned about children's safety, and would like to do your bit for the community?

Then becoming a School Crossing Patrol may be for you!

For more information please email  
[schoolcrossingpatrol@cormactd.co.uk](mailto:schoolcrossingpatrol@cormactd.co.uk)  
Tel: 01872323313

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