

Mullion Community Primary School



We have made it to our final week of the autumn term, and what a term it has been! We have had more sporting events than we can count, two half terms of successful after school clubs, a relaunch of our school vision and aims and quite a few new friends joining the school. There have certainly been challenges for us as a school this term—staffing being one of these. There is a national staff shortage in schools and supply agencies have also been struggling to provide cover for the demands of schools. We are continuing to improve behaviour and safety across school whilst ensuring that we are meeting the needs of all pupils with our determination to create an inclusive primary school setting. In January, we will be taking this further with our lunchtime provision by grouping eating and playtimes. We have already begun to involve the children in choosing lunchtime games and activities that will be used to create a more structured environment.

This week we have celebrated the festive season with a delicious Christmas lunch and three performances. Thank you to our families for understanding with the performance by Pebbles and Shells. Although they didn't make it to the Chapel, they showed how resilient they are and did themselves proud in the hall. For Key Stage 2, it was an absolute delight to be warmly welcomed back at Mullion Methodist Chapel for the first time in 3 years. A huge thank you to the Chapel for hosting us once again. We hope all of our families enjoyed the performances—the first of many for a lot of our children.

You may remember that I shared the news that our SENDCO, Mrs Fazakerley-Owen, will be moving on at the end of this term. We wish her the best in the future. We are however pleased to share that we have successfully appointed a new SENDCO in Mrs Joanne Moseley. She will be joining the team in January and will be getting to know the school, children, families and staff.

There are few key messages within the newsletter this week that I need to draw your attention to. Please discuss these at home as a family;

- **attendance (page 2)**
- **uniform. (page 4)**
- **Support, 'roasting' or 'banter' (page 3) and attached online safety newsletter**

Finally, apologies for my absence this week. After two and a half years of avoiding Covid, it finally got me and I have been rather unwell. Miss Hayhurst and Mrs Morgans have kept me informed as much as possible. I am so sorry that I missed the children's performances—it is always such a highlight. From myself and the team here, may we wish you all a very merry and safe Christmas. See you in 2023! Best wishes, Mrs Read



Attendance

All children will have days when they're not able to go to school, whether that's due to illness, holiday or a family emergency, and the occasional day off is unlikely to affect their education. However, missing too much school can be seriously detrimental.

A child who misses school just two days per month will lose out on 18 days' education across the school year – that's nearly four weeks.

Arriving late can also have a huge detrimental impact on your child's learning. If your child is just 10 minutes late each day that equates to 50 minutes of lost learning time a week which is the same as 12 hours a term- 2 school days. Being late causes anxiety to the child that is late and disrupts their learning and the class.

Missing a few days of school here and there or arriving at school a few minutes late may not seem a big deal, but research shows that it can have a significant impact on children's learning. Children who miss a substantial amount of school fall behind their peers, and struggle to catch up.

Most of the work they miss is never made up, which can lead to big gaps in their learning.

Poor attendance often starts at primary school, and children who fall into this pattern are likely to underachieve at secondary school. Pupils who miss between 10-20% of school (that's 19 to 38 days per year) stand only a 35% chance of achieving five or more good GCSEs, compared to 73% of those who miss fewer than 5% of school days.

Friendships can also be affected by persistent absence, too: it can be hard for a child who misses lots of school to form relationships with their classmates.

We want all children here all of the time! From January, we will be running a weekly interclass competition to see which class has the best attendance; the winning class each term will have a treat e.g. a non-uniform day or picnic.

The national expectation for school attendance is 96%. We will be sending letters out to inform you of your child's current rate of attendance in the new year.

	Pebbles	Shells	Starfish	Footprints	Waves	Surfers
This week	82%	79%	97%	92%	86%	90%
This term	91%	92%	95%	94%	94%	91%

Safety and Support







Christmas Support

We know that, despite all of its joys, Christmas can also bring difficulties, stress and worry. Therefore, we thought it would be useful to remind you of some sources of support in Cornwall that are available throughout the festive period.

A good starting point for support is the **Early Help Hub**. You can find a list of the different support services they offer at Early help - Cornwall Council (01872 322277) Your GP will also be able to signpost you to specific support that may help.

If at any time you feel that someone is at risk of immediate harm, you should contact the **Multi Agency Referral Unit** on 0300 123 1116 or the Emergency Services on 101/999. For specific areas of need, you may find the below useful:

Emotional wellbeing, mental health or Bereavement

	Young Minds	https://www.youngminds.org.uk/
	CAMHS—Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service	https://www.cornwallft.nhs.uk/camhs Kerrier, call 01209 204 000 01209 881 600
	Action for Children—Kernow Connect (young people aged 11-19 years)	Kernow Connect Action For Children
	Action for Children webchat (children aged 0-19 years)	1:1 chat - Parent Talk (actionforchildren.org.uk)
	Childline	Childline Childline 0800 1111
	NHS—Every Mind Matters	Children's mental health - Every Mind Matters - NHS (www.nhs.uk)
	Penhaligon's Friends	Penhaligon's Friends - A Cornish charity supporting bereaved children & young people

Roasting or Banter

We have recently had a few incidents of children engaging in 'roasting' during playtimes. This is essentially berating each other with comments or rudeness. Much of this appears to have been influenced by television and the media. As a school, we do not recognise this as a way to interact with someone in a positive way and have seen that it can cause upset and escalate quickly. The children's wellbeing can be affected by this. Please talk about this together at home. We will be exploring this further through PSHE and assemblies in the new year.

School Uniform

This is a polite reminder about ensuring your child has the correct school uniform.

- School navy sweatshirt or cardigan (with the school logo)
- Green polo shirt (with the school logo)
- Dark grey or black trousers or knee length grey or black skirt
- White, grey or black socks or plain grey or black tights
- Plain flat black shoes

We are also opening a '**Uniform Swap Shop**' in January which will be located in the school hall. Any preloved uniform that no longer fits can be either donated or swapped for the next size up. All we ask is that it is clean! Any donations can be dropped to the office and if you want to swap, then the hall doors or school office will be open for you to explore.

Wall of Frame

Please hand in your entry to Miss Hayhurst by Monday 16th January 2023

WALL OF FRAME

Exhibition 02 Theme: Door



Knock knock? Who's there? CREATIVITY! Lots of creativity. It's our second exhibition for the Mullion Wall of Frame and we think you'll love it.

As the New Year approaches, what does the theme, 'Door' mean to you?

A new beginning? A fantasy world? A memory door of times past?

Entry Guidelines

- All entries must be A4, either landscape or portrait and follow the brief.
- Entries can be drawn, painted, collaged, digital art, textiles, creative writing, poetry...
- Please make sure your name is on the back and if you would like to give your piece a title, write it on the back.
- All pieces that are submitted must be presented to a high quality to show your talent, please.



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A School Snapshot



Diary Dates

Tuesday 3rd Jan
Monday 9th Jan
Tuesday 10th Jan
Wednesday 11th Jan
Monday 23rd Jan
Monday 30th Jan
Monday 31st Jan

Return to School
After School Clubs start
Year 4 swimming
Year 5/6 Basketball League starts
KS2 Gymnastics Competition Penryn
Football Cluster Tournament
KSI Gymnastics Competition Penryn