

Mawnan CE VA Primary School Newsletter



Using our God-given gifts to let our light shine



Our core Christian Values: *Compassion, Hope, Peace, Perseverance, Respect, Trust*

Friday 9th February 2024

Half Term

As we approach the half-term break, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest wishes to you and your families. May this well-deserved break bring you joy, relaxation, and quality time spent together.

I would like to remind you that our school will be closed next week (from Monday 12th February) for the half-term break. We look forward to welcoming our well-rested children back on **Monday 19th February** for another exciting term filled with new opportunities and continued growth.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership in your child's education.

Health and Safety

We are working diligently to provide a safe entrance and exit to the school premises. To support us in this, we kindly request the following:

- When dropping off or collecting your children, please ensure that the 'keep clear area' is free of cars.
- Please refrain from leaving your car idling. It is important to note that an idling engine can produce up to twice as many exhaust emissions as an engine in motion. We strive to maintain clean air for everyone's well-being.
- Lastly, please discourage your children from playing around cars, in the bushes, or on the school wall.

Safety is our utmost priority, and we appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Hockey League



We are delighted to share with you the fantastic news that our very own Hockey Team has emerged victorious in the recent Hockey League finals! After a nail-biting 1-0 win against Penryn in the last few minutes, our team advanced to the final, where they faced Kennel Vale team.

Kennel Vale had previously defeated us 2-1 in the earlier rounds, so our players knew they were in for a tough challenge. However, they approached the game with determination and a never-give-up attitude.

Right from the start, Mawnan displayed their prowess on the field, scoring a goal within the first few minutes. The excitement was palpable, and it seemed like our team was on their way to glory. However, by half time, the score stood at a nerve-wracking 1-1.

Undeterred, our players returned to the pitch for the second half with renewed energy and focus. Their defence was impenetrable, and their offensive moves were nothing short of spectacular. With two beautiful goals, they secured a well-deserved 3-1 victory over Kennel Vale!

We would like to extend our congratulations to our Hockey League Champions and their esteemed coach, Tom. The level of teamwork and skill displayed by our players was truly exceptional, and they have made us immensely proud. Their dedication and hard work have paid off, and they deserve every ounce of this triumph. Go Mawnan!

Children's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week has been a resounding success. It was brilliant to see our children engage in the various activities and discussions centred around their mental well-being. Dress to Express was a showcase of individuality and creativity and it was truly a joy to witness the diversity of outfits and the enthusiasm!

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind parents that if you have any concerns regarding your child's mental health, our dedicated staff are always available to listen and support you. Additionally, we have a range of useful resources on our website, which can provide further guidance and information. Please visit our website at [https://www.mawnanschool.com/web/mental health and wellbeing of children /524795](https://www.mawnanschool.com/web/mental%20health%20and%20wellbeing%20of%20children_/524795) for more details.





Rotary's Young Writer Competition

Before Christmas, Nell from Dart class entered the rotary's Young writer competition. This year's theme was 'Rebuilding'.

We are very excited to say, that the judges thought Nell's poem was '**outstanding and thought provoking**', and as a result she is one of the winning entries of our district which will now be put forward to the Cornwall and Devon round of the competition.

A huge and very well-deserved congratulations, Nell! ✨

Rebuilding

A secret told. A confidence broken.
I never knew how embarrassed I could feel.
I miss our talks. How can I ever trust again?
Rebuild it with time.

Hurtful words. Mean things said.
I never knew how alone I could feel.
I miss our friendship. How can we get it back?
Rebuild it with kindness.

A parent gone. A family shattered.
I never knew how sad I could feel.
I miss being together. How can I ever be happy again?
Rebuild it with love.

Warring sides. A community torn apart.
I never knew how angry we could feel.
I miss feeling safe. How can we ever be friends again?
Rebuild it with peace.

By Nell

Safer Internet Day

I would like to celebrate Safer Internet Day, which took place this week. This day provided us with a wonderful opportunity to engage in conversations about our online activities and the ever-evolving world of technology. Our students and staff took the time to reflect on how we should respond to changes in online settings, such as

games, and how to stay safe when faced with unexpected pop-ups or alterations in character appearances. It is crucial that we equip our children with the knowledge and skills to navigate the digital world safely, and Safer Internet Day served as a valuable reminder of this.



In the land of cyberspace, where pixels play, it's Internet Safety Day, hip-hip-hooray!

Listen up, little ones, gather near, to this tale of online adventure, there's nothing to fear.

In addition to our discussions, I am delighted to share with you the incredible work of Mrs Shepherd. She has created her very own tale on how to stay safe online, which we have attached to this week's newsletter because the children loved it. I encourage you to read it with your

children, as it offers valuable insights and advice on navigating the online realm responsibly.

What Parents and Carers Need to Know about Persuasive Design Online

Apps and sites are all competing for our attention 📣👁️ Over the years, numerous strategies have been developed which are intended to influence users' behaviour – making us more likely to remain on a site, game or platform for longer periods of time. These techniques are known as 'persuasive design' and can have a particularly profound effect on children and young people 😬

Despite these tactics' evident effectiveness, there are still plenty of ways to help prevent yourself (and your child) from being psychologically swayed. This week's **#WakeUpWednesday** guide breaks down the potential risks posed by persuasive design online – and offers some top tips for recognising and reducing its impact on young people's decision making.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about PERSUASIVE DESIGN ONLINE

'Persuasive design' refers to the techniques that companies employ to influence our thoughts and behaviours when we're on the internet. These approaches can be spotted on websites, in apps and even as part of some video games. Persuasive design means that this content has been deliberately presented in a way that's intended to encourage you to spend your time or money (or both). These methods often prove highly effective at keeping people engaged and invested for longer than we might expect.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

POTENTIAL ADDICTION

In the digital world, persuasive design can make certain activities more addictive and harder to walk away from: some people may begin to feel anxious or irritated without access to their device or their favourite app, for example. It can also often leave users feeling isolated, as – if they spend most of their time on social media – they may start to find it difficult to talk to other people in real life.

MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS

Scrolling online or gaming without regular breaks is proven to be harmful to our mental health. The constant bombardment of news stories (many of them negative), images and influencers' posts can create sensations of unease, uncertainty and FOMO (fear of missing out). Young people can get so immersed in this environment that they become less likely to spot misleading posts.

PROLONGED SCROLLING

Social media can draw any of us – regardless of age – into a continuous pattern of refreshing our screen, following posts and links down rabbit holes or reading countless comments made by others. This aimless scrolling can eat up time which could have been spent on more productive activities. It could also lead younger users into areas of the online world which aren't age appropriate.

SENSORY OVERLOAD

Repetitively scrolling, clicking on links or playing games can create an unending stream of new information and visual stimuli. Put it this way: social media isn't exactly renowned as a carefree, chilled-out environment. Such overstimulation can become too much for young people to handle, resulting in sensory overload and causing them to feel stressed, overwhelmed and exhausted.

COSTLY ADDITIONS

Video games sometimes display offers for downloadable content or loot boxes which can be bought with real money. While these 'microtransactions' temptingly promise to improve a player's gaming experience, most of the time they are money sinks. Young people in particular, excited by the chance of enhancing their game, could spend quite a sizeable sum very quickly indeed.

PHYSICAL CONSEQUENCES

Hours spent sitting and scrolling means far less time moving around and getting exercise: hardly ideal for a young person's physical health. Additionally, prolonged exposure to the light given off by a phone's screen can lead to eye fatigue and discomfort, especially if viewing it in the dark. Extended phone use before bed can also impact on sleep quality, affecting mood and energy levels over the following days.

KEEP SCROLLING

Advice for Parents & Carers

ESTABLISH LIMITS

Talk to your child about setting some time limits on how long they can use their phone, tablet or console in the evenings or at weekends – or perhaps how often they can go on a specific app, game or website. You could also decide to involve the whole family in creating this shared screen time agreement, making things fair (and healthier) for everyone.

NIX NOTIFICATIONS

Stop knee-jerk responses at the source by turning off push notifications and alerts. Whether it's a gaming notification or a social media update, these not-so-gentle reminders are designed to catch our attention and lure us back to our device. Switching them off – or even deleting any particularly intrusive apps – can help prevent your child from being reeled back into the online world.

ENCOURAGE MINDFULNESS

Acknowledging any addiction is key in overcoming it – and compulsive scrolling is no different. If anything mentioned in this guide sounds familiar, it could help to have an honest, open chat with your child about how much time they spend online. Get them to think about how often they scroll through social media aimlessly or habitually open it up whenever they have a spare moment.

MAKE A CHECKLIST

Considering a list of relevant questions can be an effective way of helping children figure out why they're scrolling on certain sites or consuming particular pieces of content. A checklist can prompt young people to ask themselves if they're learning anything or benefiting from this activity – or if they're wasting their time. Taking a step back can sometimes help us to see things more clearly.

Meet Our Expert

Rebecca Jennings has more than 20 years' experience in the field of relationships, sex and health education (RSHE). As well as delivering workshops and training for young people, parents and schools, she is also a subject matter expert on RSHE for the Department of Education.



The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

@natonlinesafety

/NationalOnlineSafety

@nationalonlinesafety

@national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 31.01.2024

Road Safety

We would like to kindly request that you use the pavement when entering the school grounds for breakfast club. Please be aware that vehicles continue to move in and out of the premises until 8:30am. By using the pavement, we can ensure the safety of our school community.

National Garden Scheme – Save the Date!

We have some exciting news to share with you regarding our beloved school garden. As you are well aware, we take great pride in our beautiful garden and the endless opportunities it provides for our children. It is with great joy that I announce Mawnan School Nature Garden will be hosting an open garden event on **Sunday 16th June** through the prestigious National Garden Society Scheme.



This is a momentous occasion for us as we are the first school garden in Cornwall to open for the National Garden Society. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the dedication of Zinnia, who has worked tirelessly to create this magical space. Please mark the date in your calendars and come join us for this special event.

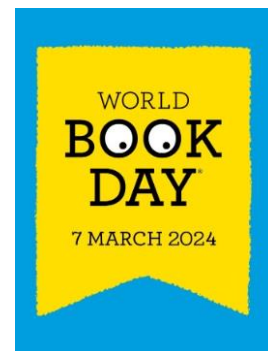
Go to <https://findagarden.ngs.org.uk/> and type in Mawnan Smith for more details.

A screenshot of the National Garden Society website. The top navigation bar is yellow and contains a search bar with 'Mawnan Smith, Falmouth' entered, a distance filter set to '10 miles', and various filter buttons like 'Opening', 'By arrangement', 'All', 'Refreshments', 'Wheelchair access', 'Dog friendly', 'Plants for sale', 'Group size', 'Garden name', and 'More filters'. Below the navigation bar is a large image of the garden with the text 'Mawnan School Nature Garden' and 'Shute Hill, Mawnan Smith, Falmouth, Cornwall, TR17 5HG'. To the right of the image is a map showing the location. Below the image is an 'About' section with the text: 'First school garden in Cornwall to open for the NGS. The garden, est. 2021, began with a vision - to teach children how to grow. To see, smell, hear, touch and taste the natural world, learning sustainable gardening skills along the way. A hands-on haven, where everyone can be themselves.' Below the 'About' section are tabs for 'Openings', 'Features', 'Accessibility', 'Find us', and 'Owner info'. The 'Open Days' section is highlighted, showing 'Sunday 16 Jun 2024'. Below this, there is a table with information about the event: 'For this open day you can book your tickets in advance. Click on the yellow button below to book or you can just turn up and pay on the day.' The table has three columns: 'Refreshments', 'Admission', and 'Opening times'.

Refreshments	Admission	Opening times
Home-made teas. Refreshments in aid of Mawnan School Nature Garden.	Adult: £6.00 Child: Free	13:30 - 16:30

World Book Day

We want to take this opportunity to thank you all for supporting your child with reading at home. **On Thursday 7th March**, we would love it if the children came in dressed up as their favourite character from a book. Please try to keep it simple and try your very best to reuse and recycle rather than buying anything new.



Dates to Remember 2024

<u>2024 Dates</u>	<u>Event</u>
12 th - 16 th Feb	Half term
Mon 4 th - Fri 8 th March	Parent Teacher Meetings (a google form to sign will be sent out to parents nearer the time)
Thurs 7 th March	World Book Day
11 th – 22 nd March	Year 3 and Year 4 Swimming lessons (a google form has been sent out to parents for children attending)
29 th March – 12 th April	Easter Holidays
19 th April – 24 th May	Friday CST Sailing lessons – Term 1 (6 Sessions)
Thurs 25 th April	TEMPEST: School Class Photos
Mon 6 th May	Bank Holiday Monday
27 th – 31 st May	May Half Term
7 th June – 5 th July	Friday CST Sailing lessons – Term 2 (5 Sessions)
Sun 16 th June	National Garden Scheme Open Garden
19 th – 21 st June	Year 4 & 5 BF Adventure School Camp
26 th – 28 th June	Year 6 Porthpean School Camp
Fri 5 th July	Sports Day
Fri 12 th July	Sports Day (reserve date)
22 nd – 24 th July	School Closure Days
Thurs 25 th July	School Summer Holiday

All dates and events can be found on our School website Calendar:

<https://www.mawnanschool.com/web/calendar/430674>

Netball Club

This starts again on Monday, 19/02/2024, initially for children in years 5 & 6. Netball Club will finish promptly at 4.15pm.

Uniform

Thank you for supporting our uniform policy and sending your children into school in the correct uniform.

To ensure clarity, I would like to provide a gentle reminder of our uniform guidelines:

- Tights should be either grey or navy, and on PE days, white sports socks may be worn but not over tights on non-PE days.
- If your child has pierced ears, for safety reasons, we kindly request that they do not wear dangly or hooped earrings to school. Studs are the safest option, as they reduce the risk of earrings getting caught or pulled.
- Please remember that school shoes are to be worn on uniform days, while trainers are to be worn on PE days.

Uniform
Grey knee-length pinafore, skirt, trousers or shorts
Pale blue polo shirt
Navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo (from Castle Sports)
Grey or white socks (non-branded) or navy or grey tights
Black School shoes (no high boots or open toed sandals)
Navy blue and white gingham dress for summer wear
PE Uniform - to be worn on PE days
Top : White P.E. shirt with school logo (from Castle Sports) with Mawnan zipped sports top (from Castle Sports)
Bottom: Navy blue shorts (from Castle Sports), Navy blue Skort (from Castle Sports) or Mawnan tracksuit trousers (from Castle Sports)
Footwear: Black, blue or white trainers

If you find yourself in need of financial assistance with regards to purchasing the correct uniform, please do not hesitate to speak to Miss Pridmore. We are here to support you and want to ensure that every child has equal access to school uniform.

Statutory Test Dates for 2023-2024

KS2 SATs 2024

Here are the dates for when the National KS2 SATs will take place in May 2024.

Test	Date
English grammar, punctuation and spelling test Paper 1: short answer questions (45 minutes) Paper 2: spelling (15 minutes)	Monday 13th May 2024
English reading test Paper 1: Reading comprehension (60 minutes)	Tuesday 14th May 2024
Mathematics Paper 1: arithmetic (30 minutes) Paper 2: reasoning (40 minutes)	Wednesday 15th May 2024
Mathematics Paper 3: reasoning (40 minutes)	Thursday 16th May 2024

Phonics Screening Check for Year 1 children

Year 1 children will complete their phonics screening check in the week beginning Monday 10th June 2024.

Multiplication tables check (MTC) for Year 4 children

Year 4 children will complete the multiplication check during the week commencing Monday 3rd June 2024.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you about the importance of regular attendance, particularly during the statutory testing period. Therefore, I kindly request that you refrain from booking any holidays or non-essential activities during term time to ensure that your child is able to participate fully in their learning.

Mawnan WI 'Annual Pancake Races'

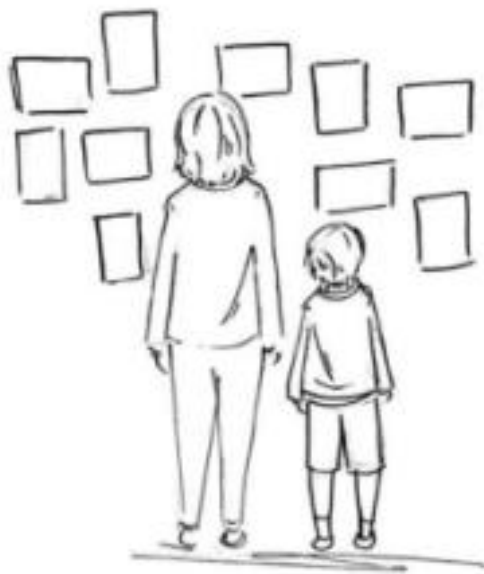
Children and adults in the village are invited to come along to Mawnan Memorial Hall for the Annual Pancake Races which will be held on Tuesday 13th February at 1.30pm.



We are one of a very few villages in Cornwall where this tradition is still celebrated so please come along to keep it alive! There will be races for pre-schoolers and for all other age groups. Previous experience is not required and practising at home is allowed. We have some special heavy-duty pancakes (made from a secret recipe) which are non-stick and can be tossed high in the air!

This event is free. We hope to see you there.

Mawnan WI



MAWNAN SECRET POSTCARD PROJECT

Mawnan school is delighted to announce a unique fundraising event for our wonderful village school.

The Mawnan Secret Postcard Project will see hundreds of original postcards featuring a huge range of subjects and media created by artists both local and further afield.

We are looking for artists to create an original postcard to be donated and exhibited in our exhibition (which we hope will be in early May 2024 - date and venue to be confirmed soon).

All postcards will be displayed anonymously (signed on the reverse) and sold for a fixed fee per card with all money raised going towards a new library for our incredible village school. We have already had a huge amount of interest and started to collect some beautiful postcards from artists far and wide. We are looking forward to a very exciting community event.

Enquiries and postcards to Alex at postcardproject@mawnanschool.com
(Blank Cards available)

Postcard Project, Mawnan School, Shute Hill, Mawnan Smith, Cornwall, TR11 5HQ



FEBRUARY HALF TERM HOLIDAY CAMPS

Come and take part in our EdVenture half term provision, offering children a fantastic opportunity to build friendships through team sports and outdoor adventures, and explore their creativity with themed group games and arts & crafts.

TUE 13TH - THUR 15TH FEB

3 DAY SUPER CAMPS **5-7 YEARS | 8+ YEARS**

**FEATURING A RANGE OF
ACTIVITIES INCLUDING:**

**DODGEBALL, DEN BUILDING, GYM,
PAPER PLANE WARS, ARTS & CRAFTS,
DANCE OFF, FOOTBALL, GYMNASTICS,
CAPTURE THE FLAG, BOARD GAMES,
FILMS, TEAM CHALLENGES
& LOTS MORE!**

**JUST £75 FOR 3 DAYS
OR £30 A DAY**



MON 12TH & FRI 16TH OCT

FULL/HALF DAY CAMPS: **BASKETBALL** **FOOTBALL** **COMIC BOOKS** **AND MORE...**



FOR MORE DETAILS ON THE COURSES & HOW TO BOOK:

WWW.MYEDVENTURE.CO.UK
01326 372379



**PLAYERS
and
KEEPERS
WANTED!**

Come train, play and have fun with our Girls Team, players current in year 6

Cornwall Youth Football League

**TRAINING- Mondays 6-7
Penryn College**

**Email -
katjohnsonsn@gmail.com**