

# BREAGE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



FEB 2025

*Our school vision: to be a caring & loving school where children are equipped to flourish in the real world.  
We flourish when we help others flourish (Jeremiah 29:4-7)*

A reminder to drop your child off promptly so that they are present for registration at 8.45am (gate is unlocked at 8.35am). Please also ensure that school lunches are pre-ordered on ParentPay. This allows learning to begin promptly. Each day children should be in full uniform and have a suitable coat. Hats & gloves also recommended as it's still quite chilly. PE day continues to be each Wednesday when children should wear PE kit in school colours. Please ensure all clothing is named.

### Young Voices London trip - January 2025

What an incredible trip! Hopefully, you will have seen the email inviting you into school this Friday at 1pm for our celebratory assembly; during which, highlights of the trip will be shown and our Young Voices children will wow you all with a few of their favourite songs! Please complete the "forms link" in the email sent and let us know you'll be joining us.

### Arbor

Have you successfully downloaded the Arbor app? If you need help please contact the school office.

### Request for leave of absence for your child

For any leave of absence from school you are required to complete a "leave of absence/exceptional circumstances request form". This should be done at least 15 school days before the proposed absence takes place. If the absence is unauthorised, Cornwall Council may issue a penalty notice. Penalty notices are issued to each liable parent/carer of each child taken out of school and this carries a fine of £80 if paid within 21 days, increasing to £160 if paid within 28 days (or £160 with no option to pay the lower amount if it is the 2nd penalty notice within a 3 year rolling period. If the fine is unpaid, it may result in legal action being taken against you.

**It is the duty of parents to ensure their child's regular attendance at school and failure to do so is an offence under Section 444(1) and Section 444(1A) of the Education Act 1996.**

**FULL INFORMATION DETAILED ON PAGE 3 & 4 OF THIS NEWSLETTER**

### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM NURSERY EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM

## STRICTLY NO PARKING ON ZIG ZAGS

Please, no matter how briefly, do not park on the yellow zig zag lines or opposite them. Please always park considerately and always think if where you park could cause a danger to pedestrians. Thank you.



We received a fantastic amount for this collection from our families and the wider community! £70 was raised. Next collection 30/04/25



## REGULAR READING MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Please encourage your child to read regularly at home. Younger children should read to an adult. Reading supports children to meet speech & language milestones and do better at school.

- They have better brain development, attention and cognitive ability.
- They have better speech & language development and literacy skills.
- They have better school readiness and knowledge about the world.
- They make more progress across the curriculum.
- Better mental well being and enhanced social skills
- Reading also fosters imagination, empathy and creativity.

Also please see the "Why Read At Home" flyer on the last page.



## P&F SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

This Monday, 10th, from 3.15pm: Cake Bake fundraiser (see poster on page 3). Donations would be much appreciated. Homemade cakes etc will need a list of ingredients for allergy purposes please. THANK YOU!



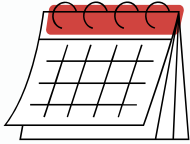
We remained in 3rd position in the playground competition so no prizes unfortunately ... but entering this has boosted our Terracycle account to £493.58 and we did recycle an incredible amount of plastic and involved many people from our community! We will continue to recycle these items so please send these in and collect from friends & families - please keep strictly to the permitted waste: just lunch boxes/food storage tubs and drinks bottles. Tesco in Helston are happy to keep the collection box in place for us but should you be in store and see it looking a little full and/or untidy, please, if you're able, collect all or some and drop to school. THANK YOU!

**P&F need parents on board to help organise forthcoming events for the children. Please don't leave it to just a few parents: jobs split across several people involves less time when shared. This ensures P&F continues which then benefits each and every child in school.**

Please follow the new Parents and Friends of Breage C of E Primary School FB page.



**Our Christian values: happiness, respect, care, forgiveness, friendship & honesty**



# Diary Dates

UPDATED: 05/02/2025

4th Feb 7th 10th 14th 17th - 21st 24th 25th	Will Keating workshops (in preparation for Hall for Cornwall visit) 1pm: Celebratory assembly with Young Voices highlights & mini concert: all welcome Cake Bake fundraiser 3.15pm: donations welcome; homemade requires ingredients please. Thank you! INSET TRAINING DAY: all schools in Aspire Trust HALF TERM BREAK Back to school Cross Country League Race 4: KS2: Helston South Site 4pm
3rd March " 5th 6th " 7th 12th 18th	Whole School Trip: Hall for Cornwall: "Mass Cornish Sing" involving 17 Cornish schools Parents' evening Weight/Height Measurements: Year R and Year 6: National Child Measurement Programme World Book Day: dress as your favourite book character Aspens Special Menu: St Piran's Day: have you completed the "forms response"? Parliament Visit: County Hall: School Council Eco Committee Activity Day at Truro Cathedral Helston Community College transition visit: HCC visiting our Year 6's
3rd April 4th 22nd 29th 30th	2pm: Easter Service: Breage Church Last day of Spring term Children return to school Cross Country League Race 5: R/KS1/KS2: Helston North Site 4pm Bags2School collection
5th-9th May 12th - 15th 13th 15th 19-21st 23rd	KS1 SATs Year 6 SATs week Cross Country League Race 6: R/KS1/KS2: Helston South Site 4pm Summer School Census Day Bristol Residential Trip: Years 5 & 6 Last day of school before May half term break

### **REGULAR CLUBS start back w/c 13/01/25**

Monday: 1.30-3.00pm: Stay & Play toddler group: all welcome from birth to 4 years old

Tuesday (lunchtime): Happy Me Club KS1 & KS2: 3.15-4.15pm

Tuesday: 3.15-4.15pm: KS1/KS2: Art Club (limited to 15 children)

Weds: PE with DT Sports: All classes

Weds: 10.30am: Cornwall Music Service Trust (sign up: Flute, Saxophone, Clarinet, Keyboard & Ukulele) (currently a waiting list)

From 15th Jan: Weds: KS1: Striking & Field Club; KS2: Striking & Fielding Club (hockey, cricket, tennis, rounders, danish long ball & golf)

Thursday: 3.15-4.15pm: KS1 & KS2: Singing Club (starting 6th February)

Thurs/Friday: 3.15-4.00pm: Booster Year 6 sessions: selected children: parents will be contacted

Please ensure that any **ABSENCE** from school is reported as soon as possible by telephoning or emailing ([hello@breageschool.org](mailto:hello@breageschool.org)). Please adhere to the rule that children should be 48hrs clear **before** returning to school following any sickness/diarrhoea.

Some parents are replying via text to our school text. These are sent via Arbor but we receive no notification that a message has been received so please avoid using this as a method of contacting school. Please regularly login to your parent Arbor app account to check data held is correct, and if there are any new messages from us, as this is now used in place of text messages. However, if after 24hrs you haven't seen the in app message you will receive a text 24hrs later but this is at a cost to school.

**SCHOOL MEALS** should be ordered in advance via ParentPay. Please also regularly login to your ARBOR account to check your child's information and complete any outstanding actions eg: consents.

**PLEASE ALSO ENSURE CLOTHING ETC IS NAMED SO THAT ITEMS CAN BE RETURNED PROMPTLY. Thank you!**





Dear Parents/Carer

### **Department of Education changes to Attendance**

Updates to the Department for Education (DfE) statutory guidance on school attendance, most notably around penalty notices issued for absenteeism and irregular school attendance, took effect from this academic year.

As you know, leave during term time cannot be authorised by Heads of School unless there are 'exceptional' circumstances. This is in accordance with the Department for Education (DfE) legislation and the Aspire Attendance Policy.

Before booking leave, we strongly advise you to speak to the Head of School, particularly if you are unsure as to whether your request is deemed 'exceptional'. Where Heads of School are not able to authorise, you may be at risk of a penalty notice, in line with Local Authority guidance.

From this academic year, updated DfE statutory guidance sets out the new National Framework for issuing penalty notices and there are some changes you should be aware of. The penalty notice costs issued by the Local Authority have risen to £80 (if paid within 21 days) increasing to £160 if paid between days 22-28. If the penalty notice is not paid, the Local Authority can consider prosecution under Section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996. Penalty notices are issued on a per parent, per child basis.

**IMPORTANT: Individual schools may refer absences to the LA who then issue penalty notices (each case is looked at individually). It is not the school/trust issuing penalty notices to parents, and any monies generated from these fines remain within the Local Authority to provide attendance support.**

The government has changed the guidance around how many penalty notices can be issued to a parent. The new guidance states that only 2 penalty notices can be issued to a parent in respect of a particular pupil, within a rolling three-year period.

The first penalty notice costs are as outlined above. If a second penalty notice is issued, this is at a flat rate of £160. A third penalty notice cannot be issued and instead consideration must be given to alternative action, including prosecution.

*If your child is absent from school without authorisation, you will be committing an offence under the Education Act 1996. Your child's school may submit a request to Cornwall Council for a Penalty Notice to be issued, in accordance with Sections 444A and 444B of the said Act. Penalty Notices are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £80 if paid within 21 days or £160 if paid after this but within 28 days.*

*If your child is further absent from school without authorisation within any 3-year period, you will be committing a further offence under the Education Act 1996. Your child's school may submit a request to Cornwall Council for a Penalty Notice to be issued, in accordance with Sections 444A and 444B of the said Act. Penalty Notices for a second offence are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £160, payable within 28 days.*



*Importantly, fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action such as a parenting order or prosecution will be considered.*

*Failure to pay the Penalty Notice may also result in legal action. If you are prosecuted and attend court because your child has not been attending school, you could get a fine of up to £2,500. Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs.*

*Absence not authorised by the school may also result in a prosecution in the Magistrates' Court under Section 444(1) or Section 444(1A) of the Education Act 1996, leading to a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a custodial sentence. Again, Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs.*

*Money raised from fines is only used by the local authority to cover the costs of administering the system, and to fund attendance support. Any extra money is returned to the government.*

'Parent' as set out in Section 576 of the Education Act 1996, defines parent to include: natural parents, whether they are married or not; any person or body who has parental responsibility for a child (as defined by the Children Act 1989) and; any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child. Having care of a child means a person with whom a child lives and who looks after a child, irrespective of what their relationship is with said child.

With regards to the day-to-day attendance procedure within your child's school, there will be little noticeable change. If your child is absent for any reason, we will still ask you to contact the school office by 9am and staff will continue to regularly communicate home the importance of attendance, through the school newsletter, letters via email and/or face-to-face conversations.

If you are worried about your child's attendance, please talk to your child's class teacher or the Head of School at the earliest opportunity so we can work with you quickly and effectively to support positive change.

Thank you for your ongoing support

Aspire Admin

# Why Read at home?

## STUDENT A READS

- 20 minutes per day
- 3,600 minutes per school year
- 1,800,000 words per year



SCORES IN THE 90TH  
PERCENTILE ON  
STANDARDIZED TESTS

## STUDENT B READS

- 5 minutes per day
- 900 minutes per school year
- 282,000 words per year



SCORES IN THE 50TH  
PERCENTILE ON  
STANDARDIZED TESTS

## STUDENT C READS

- 1 minute per day
- 180 minutes per school year
- 8,000 words per year



SCORES IN THE 10TH  
PERCENTILE ON  
STANDARDIZED TESTS

If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3.

**WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.**

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