

Friday 31st March 2023



# BURYAN BULLETIN

The newsletter of St Buryan Academy

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Some of what we  
have been up to  
this term!







# BURYAN BULLETIN

## The newsletter of St Buryan Academy

Welcome to our fortnightly newsletter!

Spring term is at an end and it has gone by in a flash! It has been an action-packed term with sporting achievements, Wave Rangers Projects, Minack trips and visits, work with secondary schools not to mention the amazing work that our children have been producing in school!

Thank you to all of those who took part or contributed to the Easter raffle and egg hunt this week. It was great to see children through the school enjoying the treasure hunt and enjoying their treat at the end of this. Thanks to our Friends of St Buryan Academy for organising the event and raising some important funds that our children will benefit from.

Earlier this week we also held our end of term showcase. This is where we invite parents and family members around the school to see what we have been up to for the term, take part in some activities and importantly, get a chance to have a chat with each other and our staff. The children love sharing and showing their work, their achievements and our school; so a huge thank you if you were able to make it in.

We will continue to hold these termly as we feel it is crucial that our families have the chance to see what their children do on a day-to-day basis, the environment they work and learn in as well as the layout of the classroom and school; it is also hugely beneficial for the children to share their learning and for you all to play a key role in this.

We were also joined by Michael Payne and Gary Anderson, two members of our Local Academy Committee (LAC) - commonly known as governors. They shared their role with you and are actively recruiting LAC members for the future, so thank you if you expressed an interest in this.

Thanks too for completing their Governor survey; opportunities for our families to contribute to the school are vital and we take on board your views to help us evolve. Over the Easter holidays, we will analyse your feedback and see what we can act upon.

To answer some of the points raised from your feedback:

**Communication** - we always aim to keep everyone as up-to-date and aware of important dates and events at the earliest opportunity and we do so in a variety of ways in order to give you all the best chance of receiving that information. We do this through newsletters, texts, paper copies when appropriate, emails, the website and its calendar, emails, our social media pages and on our new notice board outside of school; so we do aim to reach out in a variety of ways. We also aim to respond to individual emails or phone calls as soon as we can, with consideration to when we receive emails and how busy we are at that time. What we have started to do is create posters on monthly dates that go up on our notice board, we will continue to do this. Inevitably, some events get postponed, dates change or new dates are created; we always endeavour to notify parents as early as possible in these cases. We recommend downloading the 'eschools lite' app, which we have shared with you before. This will notify you of when we upload newsletters, menus and other information to our website.

**Parental meetings and how my child is doing** - this year we have staggered these by year groups and have aimed to hold them at key points in the year. For example, our end of key stage classes held them earlier this term, as well as Reception, so that we could inform and support parents of their child's attainment and targets for them before their end of key stage assessments. Year 3 and 4 held theirs recently so that they could get a good overview of progress made and any actions for next term. Year 1s will hold theirs early next term to discuss progress made, upcoming phonics screening and the transition to year 2. To keep you further updated on how your child is achieving, this year we have introduced termly attainment updates which your child takes home with them. These tell you about how they are currently achieving as well as their current attendance percentage.

**Class learning contexts and topics** - we always update the class pages on our website to share and inform you of what each class is learning about termly; which we have shared before. Our curriculum pages on our website give you more information on what we teach and how. Each class now produces termly newsletters with important weekly days for your child's class and information about what will be taught throughout the term.

**The bottom gate** - we appreciate that for many it is easier and perhaps safer for the bottom gate to open. As we have shared before, by opening the gate for drop-offs and collection, it does present some logistical barriers for school. We have also been working with the local councillor to address traffic control and speed outside of the school, which we will continue with. We do have ambitions to open the gate but need to ensure that it is safe and practical to do so. We are grateful to the Parish Council, who this month released some funds for us to ensure that the steps leading to the gate are safe to use and we have plans to path an area of the field - whilst limiting the impact of any lost field space - so that people who use the path can do so without getting wet feet (which isn't an ideal way to start the day!) and making sure that when passing the garden area that nothing is damaged. We are aiming to do this as soon as possible with the likelihood that traffic may increase over the upcoming months, however much of this depends on limited funding and time.

### **Our priorities**

As you know, each year schools have priorities or focuses to work on throughout the year. This year the four we highlighted were: **developing writing, raising attendance and further collaborative opportunities.**

I think that it is really important to share these with you so that you are aware of what we are looking to develop as a school and the role that you can play in supporting these. It is also important for us to keep you informed on how we are progressing with these.

**Writing** - Hopefully, as you explored the school and looked at your children's work, you saw the focus on writing throughout and the progress children have made over the course of the year. A great way to see this at a glance is our writing display in the 'gallery' area of the school where progression of work can be seen from Reception through to Year 6. In each of our classrooms, we also have a writing progress wall, where each child has a display of writing at points across the year; this shows you the progress they have made and they have identified where that progress has been. We have had a real focus on writing across the curriculum, not just in our English lessons. When we hosted a monitoring day this month, it was commented on by colleagues from other schools that:

"Children are very articulate about what they are writing and why."

"The high standard of writing develop the use of powerful vocabulary."

"Children's writing stamina is impressive."

"Children are active writers."

"Children are positive about their experiences of writing."

"Displays promote a love of books and writing."

**Raising attendance** - Thank you to everyone in supporting our attendance over the year; especially over this term. It is crucial that we keep this going, and further improve it, into next term. Some highlights to share with you:

**Overall attendance has risen by 4.3% from Autumn term to Spring term!**

**Gwenver, Nanjizal and Porthcurno classes were all above 95% attendance for Spring term!**

**Last term, we were 2.3% below the National Average - now we are only 1% below - so still work to be done but nearly there!**

**In the last national attendance record (recorded mid-March), the average was 93.6% for the week - we were at 98% for the week! So if we carry on with this progress then we will be meeting our targets!**

You can really see the improvement in attendance with these figures:

**Last term, 9 children had an attendance above 97% - this term 31 children had a termly attendance of above 97%. That's over 3 times higher!**

**Last term, 7 children achieved 100% attendance - this term that tripled and 21 children achieved a termly attendance of 100%!**

Thank you for your support with this and for keeping it going until the end of the year!

**Collaborative Opportunities** - this is probably most noticeable in our increased participation in sporting events, whether it be cross country, hockey, football, rugby, athletics, multi-skills events or more. We have also participated in other event such as the Wave Rangers Project, which we then went on to get national recognition for with Wave Rangers, as well as strengthened work with local organisations such as The Minack Theatre and PK Museum, all to raise attainment and progress of our children and to give them unique, meaningful opportunities.

You all received a slip about wrap-around after school provision this week. We have continuously assessed and gauged the demand for this; after reading feedback from the survey this week, it seems that we are at a point where there is a demand for this service once again. If you have not already returned the form about this, I would be grateful if you could do so. Alternatively, please send a photo of your filled out form so that I can begin to make plans for this as soon as possible. Thank you.

Our after school clubs will commence again next term, please look out for contact over the holidays about what clubs will be on offer. Children were asked what clubs they would like to see next term, so we will consider these when putting together our club offer. Please do remember that this does depend on teacher availability, which means we offer what we can - thank you.

Have a great Spring break

All the best

Mr McDonald and all at St Buryan Academy



## Active Together

**FREE family sports** every Tuesday and Friday 5-6pm,  
Mounts Bay Sports Arena. For parents and children.  
Turn up and play! Have fun! Be active!

For more information contact:

[holidaycamp@mountsbayacademy.org](mailto:holidaycamp@mountsbayacademy.org)



**MOUNTS BAY  
ACADEMY**





MUSEUM OF GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS

## Easter Pop-Up Family Fun

### Make a wildflower bouquet

Tuesday 4 & 11 April, 1-3pm  
Thursday 6 & 13 April, 1-3pm



Create a colourful bouquet of 3D paper wildflowers to take home.

Inspired by our environmental programme Planet PK, native flowers, and the beginning of Spring, we invite you to make a beautiful bunch of flowers that will never wilt!

Using a variety of different colours and types of paper, you can get creative with textures and shapes - even making up an entirely new species of flower if you wish...

Free event in our Clore Learning Space at PK Porthcurno.

### Mini PK Tours

Monday 10 & Wednesday 12 April  
Tours start from 12pm



Come and explore our museum in a family friendly way.

Meet Paul, our Learning Facilitator at PK, find out about telegraphy and play a Morse Code race game!

Tours take place between 12-2pm.

Free with museum admission.

→ [PKPorthcurno.com](https://www.pkporthcurno.com)

PKPorthcurno | PKPorthcurno | PKPorthcurno



# crab walkers

Crab Walkers is a creative arts group for primary age young people who have experienced trauma, loss or adversity, or children who struggle socially and lack confidence.

It runs every Thursday at  
Trelva  
The Lescudjack Centre  
Penzance  
TR18 3PE  
3:45 - 5:15pm

Ran by  
Imogen & Emily



Contact  
[education@minack.com](mailto:education@minack.com)  
to express an interest  
and explain why you  
think the child will  
benefit.



## Should I keep my child off school?

### Yes

	Until...
Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

### No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

### Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.



## TERM DATES 2022-23

### AUTUMN:

5 SEPT - 16 DEC

(HALF TERM 24 OCT-28 OCT)

### SPRING:

3 JAN - 31 MAR

(HALF TERM 13 FEB-17 FEB)

### SUMMER:

17 APR - 25 JUL

(HALF TERM 29 MAY-2 JUN)

### 2022/23 INSETS

5TH SEPTEMBER 2022

21ST OCTOBER 2022

3RD JANUARY 2023

5TH JUNE 2023

25TH JULY 2023

26TH JULY 2023

## CONTACTS

Head of School/Designated Safeguarding Officer: Mr J McDonald  
[head@stburyanacademy.org](mailto:head@stburyanacademy.org)  
Senior Teacher: Mrs N Cross  
[ncross@stburyanacademy.org](mailto:ncross@stburyanacademy.org)  
SENCO/Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officer: Mrs J Kwiatkowska  
[joannak@stburyanacademy.org](mailto:joannak@stburyanacademy.org)  
Business and Administration/Parent Liaison Officer: Mrs T Care  
[secretary@stburyanacademy.org](mailto:secretary@stburyanacademy.org)

Further contacts are available on our website.



## SCHOOL WEBSITE

Please remember to check the calendar section of the website to keep up-to-date with school events. These will be added to the calendar when we confirm them.

You may wish to download the 'eschools lite' app for free - this notifies you when we upload our newsletters, menus, calendar dates and more so that you can stay up-to-date with all that is going on in school!