

# ST BURYAN ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Friday 3rd October 2025

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TURN ON NOTIFICATIONS AND RECEIVE NOTICE WHEN WE UPLOAD OUR  
NEWSLETTERS, MENUS AND UPDATE OUR DIARY!

## Key Dates

Please check the key dates below for upcoming events. New dates may be added across the term so please check our lines of communication when notified.

### In this edition...

Welcome

Highlights

Sponsorship Form

We need you!

Curriculum 2025/26

Reading

Key Dates

Recorder lessons

Attendance

Wake Up Wednesday: Snapchat

### INSET DAYS 25/26

Monday 1st September 2025

Monday 20th October, Tuesday 21st  
October, Wednesday 22nd October,  
Thursday 23rd October,  
Friday 24th October 2025

Monday 26th January 2026

Friday 24th July 2026

Welcome to our fortnightly newsletter!

As always, we have had an incredibly busy couple of weeks; one of my favourite Friday jobs is our celebration assembly. It is a great chance to reflect on our weeks and all we have achieved, they always leave me feeling incredibly proud of our children's achievements. Now that we are several weeks into the school year, it is wonderful to see our children thriving and settled into their new routines. There has been a slight change in our classes throughout the school and I am so proud of how children have adapted to these and are exceling.

We have had a focus on writing throughout the school and it has been incredibly rewarding to see some examples of high quality writing - and attitudes towards writing - in each of our year groups. There has been some wonderful writing in Years 5 and 6 around their Shackleton unit of work where they are exploring the passive voice and impact on the reader, to Years 3 and 4 where they are developing their use of present perfect verb forms, to Year 1 and 2 where they are focussing on sentence structure; then into Reception where early writing and letter formation.

A big thank you to our families who came to our open morning last week. It was great to welcome you into our school and to take part in your children's learning. We will be holding one of these a term with a different focus each time. Prior to your classroom visits we discussed the importance of both attendance and reading at home. Our attendance is currently at 97.4%, which is well above the National Average - so thank you for your amazing efforts with this. Our reading is strong, but please do ensure that your promote and encourage reading at home in-line with your child's class expectations.

The PowerPoint shared will be sent out to you all.

Last week we were visited by IMS Prussia, a world-class musical group who we have worked with before. They entertained the children with their music and shared their stories, inspiring our young people! If you think that your child would be interested in learning a string instrument, then please do get in touch.

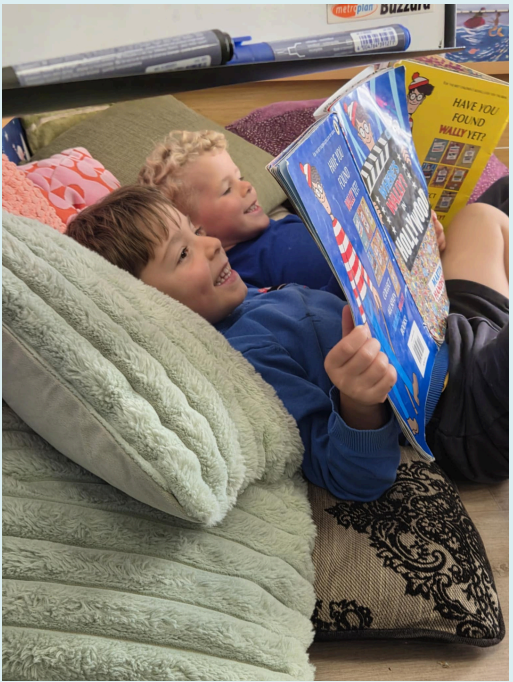
Mrs Care is running a Halloween themed raffle this year and would be grateful for any donations for the Halloween Hamper!

Children will be taking home a fundraiser letter today to help raise funds for our outdoor areas. **Please note that there was a spelling error on the original sheet. A new copy is attached to the newsletter should you wish to use it.**

Best wishes

Mr McDonald and all at St Buryan Academy









This year we are inviting our children to raise funds for our outdoor area to add to our playtime resources and developing our Early Years outdoor space.

On 11th November, children will be aiming to complete 20 laps of the playground (that is over 1 mile). Our older children will aim to jog the 20 laps, whilst our younger children will get the opportunity to use our bikes and trikes to complete them!

Please bring in completed sponsor forms with sponsorship in by Friday 7th November 2025.

- a donation per lap
- a single donation

[illegible]

[illegible]





# Volunteers NEEDED

**SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL**

## **We need help with:**

- Volunteer readers
- Forest School

You can support your local school and children of the community by volunteering at St Buryan Primary School. We are looking for volunteers that would like to support children's reading and help with our forest school sessions. If you may be interested, then get in touch for more information!

**Contact Mr McDonald on  
[head@stburyanacademy.org](mailto:head@stburyanacademy.org) for more information**

# ST BURYAN PRIMARY SCHOOL 2025/26 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Shaping Bright Futures: An Overview of Our Innovative Curriculum

## Merry Maidens

### Autumn Term

#### **Under the Sea:**

Join us as we dive into our learning, finding out about what lives in the deep blue which surrounds us and how they survive!

### Spring Term

#### **The Great Fire of London:**

We learn about how the Great Fire of London started and how it was stopped. We learn about the impact it had on London and England through the diary of Samuel Pepys.



### Summer term

#### **Famous Figures:**

We learn about inspirational people, their achievements and what impact they have had on the world.



### HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT

We integrate academic excellence with social, emotional, and physical well-being, ensuring students grow as well-rounded individuals



### PERSONALIZED EDUCATION

Through tailored instruction, adapted support, and flexible groupings, we meet students where they are, helping them reach their full potential



### STEM AND CREATIVITY

We include STEM education alongside arts and humanities, promoting critical thinking, creativity, and innovation. Our students are not just learners but creators and problem-solvers



### ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Our curriculum incorporates environmental education, teaching students about sustainability, conservation, and the importance of caring for our planet



### INNOVATIVE LEARNING APPROACHES

We embrace a blend of traditional and modern teaching methods, from hands-on projects and inquiry-based learning to digital literacy and interactive technologies



### GLOBAL AWARENESS

Our curriculum includes multicultural studies, foreign languages, and topical learning, encouraging global citizenship and cultural empathy



### COMMUNITY AND SERVICE

Learning extends beyond the classroom through trips, community service projects and partnerships. These experiences teach our students about empathy and responsibility



### CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT AND GROWTH

Progress is monitored through a combination of formative and summative assessments, portfolios, and reflections, allowing for continuous feedback and growth

## Boscawen - Un and Tregeseal

### Autumn Term

#### **Frozen Kingdom:**

We learn about Shackleton's Arctic expedition, how it was ground-breaking and the sacrifices made. We will study the similarities and differences between various Polar Regions whilst carrying out map studies.

### Spring Term

#### **Stone Age to Iron Age:**

We learn about the people who came before us, their settlements and lives - as well as the impact that they had on our lives today. We look at these ancient civilizations as historians and geographers - we will even visit some settlements that are amongst us!

### Summer term

#### **Romans:**

We look at the significant impact the Romans had on how we live our lives today in an historical study.



At St Buryan Academy, our Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 classes often combine their learning in the afternoons.

This means that both groups follow the same overall topics, but at a level that's right for their age. By doing this, we make sure that all children get the chance to cover the full curriculum in a way that is engaging and age-appropriate, while also making the most of opportunities to learn together.

It allows teachers to plan rich, creative lessons that build on children's skills year by year, ensuring no learning is missed and that every child continues to be challenged and supported.



# 20 is plenty!

Children who read for **20 minutes** a day will...

Improve  
**focus and  
concentration**

Have a world of  
**imagination and  
creativity**  
opened to them

Have  
**stronger  
writing skills**

Improve and  
**strengthen  
memory**

Be exposed to  
**1.8 million  
words a year**

Have a  
**broad  
vocabulary**

Improve  
**test results**

Have better  
**general  
knowledge**

Improve  
**communication  
skills**

Encourage  
**a love for  
learning**

Learn how to  
**develop  
empathy**

Improve  
**critical  
thinking skills**

Have  
**reduced  
stress levels**



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# KEY DATES

## AUTUMN TERM

| DATE   | EVENT   |
|--|---|
| 2ND SEPT                                     | BACK TO SCHOOL!   |
| 12TH SEPT                                    | JENNY DAVY AUTHOR VISIT!  |
| 19TH SEPT                                    | INTERNATIONAL CHARITY DAY<br>BRING A £1 FOR A CORNISH THEME DRESS UP DAY<br>MONEY GOES TO THE PASTY BOX |
| 25TH SEPT                                    | OPEN MORNING FOR FAMILIES 9AM-10AM  |
| 26TH SEPT                                    | IMS PRUSSIA MUSIC CONCERT   |
| 2ND OCT                                      | WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY:<br>WEAR SOMETHING GREEN FOR WELL-BEING   |
| POSTPONED UNTIL<br>11 <sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER | NATIONAL FITNESS DAY: DRESS AS YOUR FAVOURITE<br>SPORTS STAR AND FUNDRAISER                             |
| 20TH-31ST OCT                                | HALF TERM   |
| 4TH NOV                                      | HEALTHY CORNWALL WORKSHOPS  |
| 10TH-14TH NOV                                | PARENT MEETINGS   |
| 11TH NOV                                     | REMEMBRANCE DAY<br>SERVICE AT MEMORIAL  |
| 20TH NOV                                     | NASAL FLU IMMUNISATION  |
| 15TH-18TH DEC                                | YEAR 5/6 DEVON&CORNWALL MINI POLICE<br>PROGRAMME  |
| 16TH DEC                                     | CHRISTMAS DINNER, CHRISTMAS CONCERT<br>AND CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY!  |

**PLEASE NOTE THAT DATES MAY BE ADDED OR  
CHANGED – WE WILL LET YOU KNOW OF CHANGES  
AND ADDITIONAL DATES**







## 2025/26 INSETS:

- Monday 1st September 2025
- Monday 20th October, Tuesday 21st October, Wednesday 22nd October, Thursday 23rd October, Friday 24th October 2025
- Monday 26th January 2026
- Friday 24th July 2026

| September 2025 |  |   |    |    |    |    |
|----------------|--|---|----|----|----|----|
| Mon            |  | 1 | 8  | 15 | 22 | 29 |
| Tue            |  | 2 | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30 |
| Wed            |  | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 |    |
| Thurs          |  | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |    |
| Fri            |  | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |    |
| Sat            |  | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 |    |
| Sun            |  | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 |    |

| October 2025 |   |    |    |    |    |  |
|--------------|---|----|----|----|----|--|
| Mon          |   | 6  | 13 | 20 | 27 |  |
| Tue          |   | 7  | 14 | 21 | 28 |  |
| Wed          | 1 | 8  | 15 | 22 | 29 |  |
| Thurs        | 2 | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30 |  |
| Fri          | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 |  |
| Sat          | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |    |  |
| Sun          | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |    |  |

| November 2025 |   |   |    |    |    |  |
|---------------|---|---|----|----|----|--|
| Mon           |   | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 |  |
| Tue           |   | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |  |
| Wed           |   | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |  |
| Thurs         |   | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 |  |
| Fri           |   | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 |  |
| Sat           | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 |  |
| Sun           | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 |  |

| December 2025 |  |   |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|--|---|----|----|----|----|
| Mon           |  | 1 | 8  | 15 | 22 | 29 |
| Tue           |  | 2 | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30 |
| Wed           |  | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 |
| Thurs         |  | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |    |
| Fri           |  | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |    |
| Sat           |  | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 |    |
| Sun           |  | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 |    |

| January 2026 |   |    |    |    |    |  |
|--------------|---|----|----|----|----|--|
| Mon          |   | 5  | 12 | 19 | 26 |  |
| Tue          |   | 6  | 13 | 20 | 27 |  |
| Wed          |   | 7  | 14 | 21 | 28 |  |
| Thurs        | 1 | 8  | 15 | 22 | 29 |  |
| Fri          | 2 | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30 |  |
| Sat          | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 |  |
| Sun          | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |    |  |

| February 2026 |   |   |    |    |    |  |
|---------------|---|---|----|----|----|--|
| Mon           |   | 2 | 9  | 16 | 23 |  |
| Tue           |   | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 |  |
| Wed           |   | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |  |
| Thurs         |   | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |  |
| Fri           |   | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 |  |
| Sat           |   | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 |  |
| Sun           | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 |    |  |

| March 2026 |   |   |    |    |    |    |
|------------|---|---|----|----|----|----|
| Mon        |   | 2 | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30 |
| Tue        |   | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 |
| Wed        |   | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |    |
| Thurs      |   | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |    |
| Fri        |   | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 |    |
| Sat        |   | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 |    |
| Sun        | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 |    |

| April 2026 |   |    |    |    |    |  |
|------------|---|----|----|----|----|--|
| Mon        |   | 6  | 13 | 20 | 27 |  |
| Tue        |   | 7  | 14 | 21 | 28 |  |
| Wed        | 1 | 8  | 15 | 22 | 29 |  |
| Thurs      | 2 | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30 |  |
| Fri        | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 |    |  |
| Sat        | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |    |  |
| Sun        | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |    |  |

| May 2026 |   |    |    |    |    |  |
|----------|---|----|----|----|----|--|
| Mon      |   | 4  | 11 | 18 | 25 |  |
| Tue      |   | 5  | 12 | 19 | 26 |  |
| Wed      |   | 6  | 13 | 20 | 27 |  |
| Thurs    |   | 7  | 14 | 21 | 28 |  |
| Fri      | 1 | 8  | 15 | 22 | 29 |  |
| Sat      | 2 | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30 |  |
| Sun      | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 |  |

| June 2026 |  |   |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|--|---|----|----|----|----|
| Mon       |  | 1 | 8  | 15 | 22 | 29 |
| Tue       |  | 2 | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30 |
| Wed       |  | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 |    |
| Thurs     |  | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |    |
| Fri       |  | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |    |
| Sat       |  | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 |    |
| Sun       |  | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 |    |

| July 2026 |   |    |    |    |    |  |
|-----------|---|----|----|----|----|--|
| Mon       |   | 6  | 13 | 20 | 27 |  |
| Tue       |   | 7  | 14 | 21 | 28 |  |
| Wed       | 1 | 8  | 15 | 22 | 29 |  |
| Thurs     | 2 | 9  | 16 | 23 | 30 |  |
| Fri       | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 |  |
| Sat       | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |    |  |
| Sun       | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |    |  |

| August 2026 |   |   |    |    |    |    |
|-------------|---|---|----|----|----|----|
| Mon         |   | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 |
| Tue         |   | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |    |
| Wed         |   | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |    |
| Thurs       |   | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 |    |
| Fri         |   | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 |    |
| Sat         | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 |    |
| Sun         | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 |    |

2025/26 INSET DAYS  
 FIRST DAY OF 2025/26 SCHOOL YEAR

# Music Lessons



Music lessons are now available at school for Woodwind instruments provided by CMST.

Flute Clarinet Saxophone  
Recorder Fife

In order to get your child's musical journey underway please sign up on our website below or contact us on [office@cmst.co.uk](mailto:office@cmst.co.uk)



Hear Music.  
Learn Music.  
Play Music.

For more information  
head to:  
[CMST.co.uk/learnmore](https://CMST.co.uk/learnmore)

Sign Up At:  
[CMST.co.uk/signup](https://CMST.co.uk/signup)



**CMST**  
ILOW RAG OLL



# Why attendance matters

**At St Buryan Academy we take attendance seriously. Good punctuality and high attendance helps promote a child's success and happiness in and out of school.**

## High attendance fosters:

Positive attitudes towards learning

Higher chances of achieving (or surpassing) academic development

The best chances to develop and foster friendships and social skills

## Did you know that?

School is open for children for 195 days - meaning they already get 170 days off each year!

90% attendance is still 4 weeks off school each year!

80% attendance = 1 day a week off over 5 years = 1 full year of school missed!

Over a year, 10 minutes late each day is 6 full days of school

Thank you for supporting us with our push on raising our attendance figures





# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

**SNAP STREAK**

**97**

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.

## SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 🌟 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.

## SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.

## SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

## ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.

## INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.

### ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

### BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.

### USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.

## Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



**#WakeUpWednesday**

The National College