

ST BURYAN ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Friday 14th November 2025

www.stburyanacademy.com

secretary@stburyanacademy.org

Tel: 01736 810480



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STAY UP-TO-DATE WITH
SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS,
MENUS AND DATES

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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

Remembrance Day and Fundraiser

We need you!

Curriculum 2025/26

Reading

Key Dates

Messy Church

Recorder lessons

Attendance

Updated: Contact Information

Wake Up Wednesday:

Recognising AI Videos

[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!

We hope you enjoyed your two-week half term, which now feels as if it was an eternity ago!

We are well into our 'Autumn 2' Term now and are heading toward Christmas...

It is a really busy time in and out of school, so please do keep checking emails, texts and our social media to keep up to date with all that is going on in school!

We are pleased to let you know our Christmas performances will take place on December 16th at school! We will be performing at both 9.30am and 6.00pm - more information on this will follow.

Thank you for all of your generosity lately, whether it be fundraising or Children in Need. Your kindness is greatly appreciated and we have been shocked about the amounts raised!

Our fundraiser has raised £2,000 - all of which will be put into enhancing our outdoor play areas! Thank you for raising such a magnificent sum - and thank you to your children who completed it with such positivity and fun. We are grateful that The Logan Rock Inn are supporting our fundraiser and are holding a Quiz Night for the school. See their Facebook or the email sent out earlier this week for more information and how to book. If you have a donation to their raffle for the school, please bring it in to school for Monday - thank you!

Also on Tuesday, we paid our respects to those who gave their lives for our today as we gathered with the community for the Remembrance Day service. Our Head Pupils, Lilianna and Rupert, read a poem superbly and laid a wreath on behalf of the school. Our children observed the moment of silence superbly and represented the school brilliantly.

Today we helped raise some money for Children In Need, a charity we love to support each year and one close to our hearts. We learnt about the difference they make to children and the great work they do. We had a moment to reflect about our own lives and how grateful we are to have what we do.

In today's newsletter you can see photos from our fundraiser and Remembrance Day. You can also see how you can support us in voluntary roles, what our curriculum looks like, how you can support your child read and our key dates for the term!

There is also information about Messy Church, how you can sign up for recorder lessons, how to contact the school and some useful information on recognising AI videos - which is incredibly important with more and more children accessing social media and online content.

There is also a feature on attendance, which is superb at the moment with us 1.9% above the national average. This may not sound a lot - but it is! We have though, noticed a slight increase in parents asking for leave of absence forms recently. Please be aware that we are not permitted to grant holidays, only absences of exceptional circumstances; this may mean that an absence of 10 sessions within a 10 week period results in a Penalty Notice.

Best wishes

Mr McDonald and all at St Buryan Academy



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 for more information**



Our children represented the school superbly on Remembrance Day and created some poppy artwork for the memorial.

Thank you to everybody who took part in our sponsored run and who helped raise funds for the school!



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 BRING A £1 FOR A CORNISH THEME DRESS UP DAY 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: WEAR SOMETHING GREEN FOR WELL-BEING
POSTPONED UNTIL 11 TH NOVEMBER	NATIONAL FITNESS DAY: DRESS AS YOUR FAVOURITE SPORTS STAR AND FUNDRAISER
20TH-31ST OCT	HALF TERM
4TH NOV	HEALTHY CORNWALL WORKSHOPS
10TH-14TH NOV	PARENT MEETINGS
11TH NOV	REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE AT MEMORIAL
20TH NOV	NASAL FLU IMMUNISATION
15TH-18TH DEC	YEAR 5/6 DEVON&CORNWALL MINI POLICE PROGRAMME
16TH DEC	CHRISTMAS DINNER, CHRISTMAS CONCERT 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



Hear Music.
Learn Music.
Play Music.

For more information
head to:
CMST.co.uk/learnmore

Sign Up At:
CMST.co.uk/signup



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

**CURRENT
ATTENDANCE:
97.1%**





FAITH

FOOD

FRIENDSHIP

FUN

Sunda 23rd November 2025

4 - 5:30 pm

St Buryan Primary School

A chance for children and families to have fun, take part in games and craft activities, sing songs, explore faith and share a simple meal. Open to children from 2-11. All children to be accompanied by an adult and all adults to be accompanied by a child! Donations welcome.

Shhhhhh! **Christmas is coming!**



Christingle Service
Sunday 7th December 4:30pm
St Buryan Church
*Followed by....
Christmas Lights switch on*



Story Time around the
Christmas Tree
**Mondays 8th Dec
15th Dec
29th Dec
3:30pm-4:30pm
St Buryan Church
All welcome
Pop in for light refreshments**

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI-GENERATED VIDEOS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AI-generated videos are increasingly difficult to spot and easy to share. From fake news clips to deepfake abuse, children and young people face new risks every day online. These videos can imitate real people, spread false narratives or even generate harmful content from scratch. Understanding these dangers is crucial for schools and families who want to protect children in a fast-evolving digital world.

DEEPPAKE ABUSE CONTENT

Shockingly, artificial intelligence is now being exploited to create child sexual abuse material (CSAM). These synthetic images and videos are a form of digital abuse, often generated by manipulating real children's photos, including ones shared innocently online. Worryingly, the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) has identified a sharp rise in this disturbing trend. Whether real or AI-generated, this content causes lasting trauma – and its creation or possession remains a criminal offence under UK law.

BLURRED REALITY

Regular exposure to fake content can erode a child's trust in real-world evidence. If everything can be faked, they may begin to question genuine videos – including actual abuse or injustice. This is known as the 'liar's dividend', where real harm is dismissed as fake news. It can discourage victims from coming forward or speaking up.

USED FOR BULLYING

Deepfake technology is already being used by peers to create embarrassing or explicit clips of classmates. These videos can be edited to appear as though a child said or did something they never did. Once shared, they are almost impossible to delete completely. AI-generated bullying adds a new layer of harm that is deeply personal and difficult to prove.

EMOTIONAL MANIPULATION

AI-generated videos can be used to provoke strong emotions, including fear, anger or guilt. False footage of crying children, injured animals or burning buildings may be created purely for clicks, donations or political influence. Children may feel upset or powerless, unaware that what they are watching has been digitally invented to manipulate their reaction.

DISINFORMATION

AI-generated videos can spread fake news, making it harder for children to separate fact from fiction. False clips may include deepfake interviews, hoax disasters or fabricated health claims. AI is already being used to produce misleading or persuasive material that appears authentic. If they don't develop media literacy, children may accept false content as truth.

IMPERSONATION AND SCAMS

With just a few photos or voice clips, AI tools can imitate someone's appearance or speech. This makes it easier for scammers or bullies to create fake videos of children, teachers or celebrities. These impersonations can be used for fraud, harassment or humiliation – and can spread quickly through social media or group chats, due to the viral potential of video, in particular, on social media.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TEACH HOW IT WORKS

Explain to children that videos can be faked – and show them how. Demonstrating side-by-side examples of real vs AI-generated clips helps to build awareness. Discuss how faces, voices and even movements can be copied by machines. Understanding the technology reduces fear and builds confidence in navigating digital content safely.

TALK ABOUT TRUST

Always keep lines of communication open. If a child sees something upsetting or unbelievable, they should feel safe discussing it without judgement. Create an environment where they know they will not get in trouble for asking questions. This also helps you step in quickly if harmful content has been shared; trust is vital and needs to be nurtured.

ENCOURAGE CRITICAL QUESTIONS

Help children question what they watch. Who made this? Why was it made? Is it trying to persuade me? These habits encourage digital thinking, especially when videos seem too shocking or convenient. Reinforce that not everything shared by friends or influencers is true, even if it looks convincing at first, and that the initial approach should always be one of speculation.

STRENGTHEN PRIVACY SETTINGS

Advise children not to share voice notes, selfies or personal videos on public platforms. AI tools often scrape content from social media to create deepfakes. Use privacy controls to limit who can see their content and turn off facial recognition where possible. Fewer public images means fewer opportunities for misuse.

Meet Our Expert

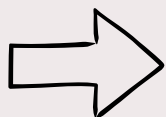
Brendan O'Keeffe is a headteacher and digital education consultant with over a decade of experience in education. As Director of Digital Strategy across multiple schools and an advisor to The National College, he specialises in digital safety, PREVENT, and pastoral care.



The National College®

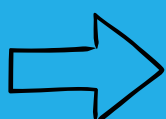
St Buryan Academy

Contact Information



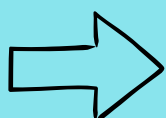
General Enquiries

Mr McDonald – head@stburyanacademy.org
Mrs Care – secretary@stburyanacademy.org



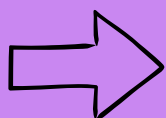
Pre-planned absence

Mr McDonald – head@stburyanacademy.org and fill in a Leave of Absence form available on our website



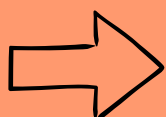
Unplanned absence and illness

Please phone by 9.00am on the morning of the absence
If no answer, please email head@stburyanacademy.org



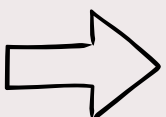
Safeguarding

Mr McDonald (Designated Safeguarding Lead) – head@stburyanacademy.org
Mrs Helen Ayotte (Deputy DSL) – hayotte@stburyanacademy.org
safeguarding@stburyanacademy.org



Special Educational Needs

Mrs Ayotte (SENCo) – hayotte@stburyanacademy.org



Teacher Meetings

Please see 'Meet our Staff' page under 'Our School' on our website



Office Hours

Please note that our Reception hours are 8.30am-1.30pm Monday to Thursday term time only. Phone lines are still accessible but please aim to use one of the above contacts in the first instance outside of these hours – thank you.

In the event of needing to contact the school out of these hours, please use the relevant above contact and phone in emergency only.

IF YOU ARE GOING TO BE LATE FOR PICK-UP, STAFF WILL SUPERVISE YOUR CHILD UNTIL 3.30PM – AFTER THIS TIME THEY WILL BE SENT TO AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB, WHICH MAY INCUR A CHARGE IN LINE WITH OUR WRAP-AROUND CARE FEES.