



Newsletter - December 2025



# Head of School Welcome



Welcome to December's Book Creator newsletter.



As we come to the end of a busy and joyful term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on some of the wonderful experiences we've shared. From our whole-school trip to the pantomime, to the festive fun of Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch, and even a magical Santa fly-by, it's been a term full of excitement and community spirit.

Behind the scenes, staff have been working incredibly hard to further develop our curriculum offer and to embed routines and expectations that help every child thrive. This ongoing work is central to ensuring that our school continues to provide the very best learning experiences for all.

A huge thank you to the Friends of St Keverne School (FOSKS) for their incredible support throughout the term. Their hard work and dedication in organising events and fundraising have made a real difference to our school, and we are so grateful for everything they do.

On a personal note, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the children, parents/carers, staff, and the entire St Keverne Primary School community for welcoming me so warmly during my first term as Head of School. It has been a privilege to get to know you all, and I am excited for all that lies ahead as we continue to work together.

From all of us here at St Keverne Primary School, we wish you all a wonderful festive season and a happy, healthy New Year.

**Best Wishes**  
**Mrs Hancock**

# Diary Dates - January 2026

- Monday 5th January - First Day of Spring Term
- Monday 12th - Parent/Carer Coffee Morning with Mrs Hancock at 9am
- Friday 16th - Year 1 Hearing Screening
- Tuesday 20th - Reception & Year 6 Height and Weight
- Monday 26th - Parent/Carer Maths Workshop, 9am in the school hall



# This Week's Certificate Winners

A huge well done to these superstars, who have showed our school values this week!



# House Points

All of our children belong to a school 'house': Karrek (representing mining), Morva (representing the sea) and Trevas (representing agriculture). Each week, the children earn house points for showing our school values, working hard and showing brilliant presentation in their learning. We record these points digitally and share the weekly totals and overall running totals in our newsletters. The TOTAL points for this term are below - congratulations to **TREVAS** for being the Autumn Term winners!



955



1054



1096

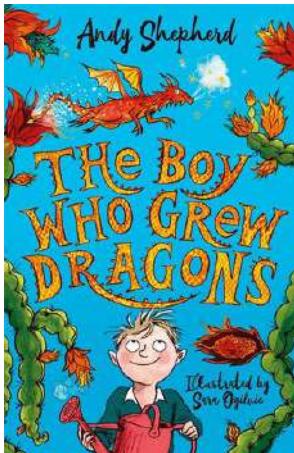
# Highlights | Carleon Class



Nativity practice was in full swing when we entered the busy month of December! The children worked so hard to learn the song words, their own lines plus actions! They did amazingly well for the 2 performances and we were very proud of them! In amongst that, we enjoyed the Pantomime, Christmas dinner and lots of Christmas crafts and activities. As well as Christmas, we have finished our Science learning about 'Animals including Humans' and have learnt all about our senses most recently. We have had pockets of busy learning where the children have been busy building and creating!



# Highlights | Godrevy Class



Godrevy Class have enjoyed another fantastic month of learning. We wrapped up our Place Value of Punctuation and Grammar topic and began building sentences with the help of supportive resources. Everyone has been working hard on handwriting, and the progress since September has been amazing to see.

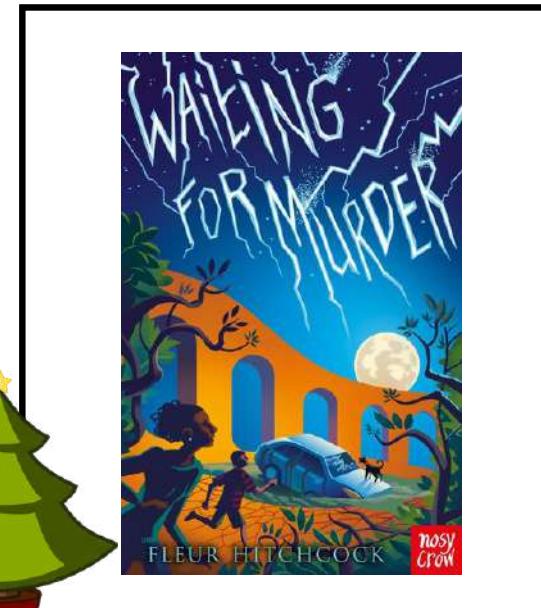
Our class novel, *The Boy Who Grew Dragons*, has kept us entertained - especially the mischievous antics of Flicker! While exploding poo isn't for everyone, a few of us still dream of having our own pet dragon. In Reading, we focused on prosody and learned the poem *Fireplace* by Ted Kooser and Connie Wanek, performing it so beautifully that we were invited to share it in whole-school assembly.

In History, we explored the Shang Dynasty and compared it with other ancient civilisations. In Science, we investigated human and animal skeletons, discovering surprising facts—like giraffes having the same number of neck bones as humans! Beyond the classroom, we have been rehearsing for the nativity and Christingle, enjoying a brilliant trip to the panto, and getting creative with Christmas crafts. Thanks to our morning challenges, we're also becoming experts at using bar models in Maths.



# Highlights | Leggan Class

December has once again proved to be a very busy month for Leggan and the wider school. It has been fantastic to take part in many activities and trips across the month. The children have continued to work extremely hard in the classroom. It has been a pleasure to see the culmination of many units of learning and the children applying their newly acquired skills and knowledge brilliantly. The children have been using CAD software in DT to design packaging. They have learnt about the body and nutrition in Science and the Shang Dynasty in History.



# Pantomime Fun



The whole school had a magical time at the pantomime last week - so much laughter, cheering, singing and dancing. What a special treat!



A HUGE HUGE HUGE thank you to our amazing FOSKS, who funded the tickets for the whole school, and to our wonderful staff and parent/carer volunteers for organising & accompanying the children - an incredible school community team effort to give the children such a brilliant, festive experience.



# Festive Performance



A huge well done to all of Carleon Class for their acting, singing and dancing in their nativity this year, and to Godfrey and Leggan classes for helping with the songs too. THANK YOU to Mrs Ashe, Mrs Briggs, Mrs Cleminson, Miss Dilworth and Miss Ruberry for all of their hard work in getting the nativity ready, to the Church & the volunteers for allowing us access, FOSKS for providing refreshments and to all of the parents/carers for their support and being a fab audience!



# Christingle



Children had a brilliant time this week working together to create Christingles. Everyone came together in the hall to learn about the significance of the Christingle and the meaning behind each element.



# Christingle Service



A huge well done to Key Stage Two who gathered for a beautiful Christingle service this week, celebrating the meaning of Christmas with light, hope, and community. It was a wonderful opportunity to pause, share in festive traditions, and appreciate the joy of this season. Thank you to everyone who helped make this special event possible!



# Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch



What an amazing Christmas Lunch 2025! A HUGE thank you to Aspire's IT Engineer Jacob & Management Accountant Naomi for being tree-mendously helpful by coming to serve up, to Kelly & her kitchen team for the delicious food and to our brilliant staff team for making this lunch one to remember!



# Flying Visit



We had an exciting morning last Thursday - the children were enjoying some fresh air when who should fly by?! Father Christmas himself! His sleigh had gone in for some all important maintenance before Christmas Eve, so we were incredibly grateful to everyone at RNAS Culdrose for arranging a lift for Santa so he could visit all the children. Once back inside, Santa's little helpers (aka FOSKS) had organised and wrapped a present for everyone. Some amazing memories created for our children!



# Gymnastics



Another fantastic PE event organised by DT Coaching earlier this week - this time, gymnastics! Children from across

Years 1 to 6 had a fantastic taster session at Swallows Gymnastics Club this morning - they tried out lots of different apparatus including the floor, the uneven bars, the vault, the rings and the trampoline. A huge thank you to the coaches at Swallows for having us and for their time.



# Cross Country



A huge well done to all the children who represented the school at this term's cross country event. Despite battling wind and rain, they showed incredible resilience and determination - and did it all with big smiles on their faces! We are so proud of their effort, teamwork, and positive attitude. What a fantastic example of perseverance and school spirit!

A big thank you to the FOSKS for providing the refreshments and of course, Mr Timmons, Mr Roberts and Miss Richards from DT Coaching for organising and running the event.



# Friends of St Keverne School

## CHRISTMAS FAIR 2025



This year's Christmas Fair was another huge hit. A fantastic day full of festive music, tasty treats, beautiful gifts and prizes. A huge thank you to all of our volunteers, helpers and stall holders.

We raised a brilliant **£754.97** in total!



# Friends of St Keverne School

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MARKET 2025



A big thank you for all of the donated gifts and presents for this year's Children's Christmas Market. We've made sure every child went home with two presents for special relatives and raised lots of pennies in the process, which goes directly back into supporting the school and the children.



# Community Noticeboard

 FACE

**January 2026 Timetable**

All sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long  
**£24 each or FREE with School Membership**

Book online at [facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)  
Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)

Autism - Improving Communication	5 Jan 10am
Improving Family Communication	5 Jan 7pm
Supporting A Child with ADHD	6 Jan 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	6 Jan 7pm
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	12 Jan 10am
Understanding Anger	12 Jan 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	13 Jan 10am
Facing Defiance	13 Jan 7pm
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	19 Jan 10am
Anxiety Explained	19 Jan 7pm
Introduction to OCD	20 Jan 10am
What Is ACT	20 Jan 7pm
<b>FREE Responding to Angry Behaviour</b>	22 Jan 7-8pm
Raising Self-Esteem	26 Jan 10am
Decreasing Depression	26 Jan 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	27 Jan 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	27 Jan 7pm

**HELSTON RAILWAY**

# Christmas Trains



**Santa Train Dates (December 2025)**  
6th, 7th, 13th, 14th, 20th, 21st, 22nd

**Santa Train Times**  
10:00, 11:30, 15:00

**Train of Light Time**  
17:30

**Ticket Prices**  
Adult £10  
Child £11.50  
Under 5 years £5

Child and under 5 prices include present from Santa!

visit [www.helstonrailway.co.uk](http://www.helstonrailway.co.uk)

# Community Noticeboard

**Kernow Young Carers**  
**BARNARDOS**  
Changing childhoods. Changing lives.

**Season's Greetings the Kernow Young Carers Service Professionals Newsletter!**

This year has been filled with incredible moments of resilience and achievement from our young carers, and we couldn't be prouder to celebrate everything they've accomplished. We're looking ahead to the new year with exciting plans for our programme of activities for young carers, and continuing to strengthen our collaboration with professionals across Cornwall to ensure the best support possible for our young carers. In the meantime, we wish you all a wonderful festive season!

**Young Carer book 'The Late Crew'**

Author Rab Ferguson has partnered with Kernow Young Carers and other charities to offer a free download of his book **The Late Crew**, a book series about young carers. We've already sent out lots of free download postcards but **please feel free to share the poster on the next page** with young carers in your network too!

Rab also offers schools a variety of online workshops and training to support with young carer awareness. You can find more information at <https://www.thelatecrew.co.uk>

**2025 Highlights -**  
This year we have:

- Supported **479 young carers in getting a break** from their caring role
- Provided **154 young carers and young adult carers with funding** through our Barnardo's Grants
- Attended the **Young Carers Festival in Southampton** enabling our young carers to connect with others from across the country!
- Worked with **40+ local providers** to offer activities and specialist counselling, therapeutic or wellness support to young carers

**Need to make a referral for a Young Carer?**

Contact our advice line via -

Email: [hello@carersadvice-line.org.uk](mailto:hello@carersadvice-line.org.uk)  
Phone: 01736 756655

Or scan the QR code to visit our website and find out more information



**Merry Christmas from The Late Crew!**



The Late Crew are **young carers** who meet **aliens**, in a book series for 8-12 year olds! Scan the QR code to download a gift from your local carers charity: the free Late Crew E-Book, which can be read on your phone, kindle or tablet!



Keep in touch: Know someone who wants to be added to our distribution list?  
Contact us on [kernowyoungcarers@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:kernowyoungcarers@barnardos.org.uk)  
We would love to hear any feedback you have too!

# Community Noticeboard

A vibrant illustration for a Brussels Sprouts Food Festival in December. The scene is set in a field with a blue sky and white clouds. In the foreground, a large green Brussels sprout is the central focus, resting on a golden pedestal. The pedestal is part of a blue stand that also holds a small rainbow-colored sign that reads "HEAT-UP EVERY DAY". The background is filled with various colorful vegetables floating in the air, including a corn on the cob, a red apple, a radish, a green leafy vegetable, a red pepper, and a small orange. At the top left, there's a colorful sunburst logo with the text "FOOD FESTIVAL" and "By Asperges". At the top right, a banner with the word "DECEMBER" is part of a string of colorful triangular flags. The overall theme is a fun and colorful celebration of Brussels sprouts and other vegetables.

## FOOD FESTIVAL By Asperges

### BRUSSELS SPROUTS FUN FACTS

1. BRUSSELS SPROUTS ARE MOST DELICIOUS IN THE AUTUMN AND WINTER. THEY LOVE THE COOL WEATHER AND SOMETIMES EVEN TASTE BETTER AFTER A TOUCH OF FROST!
2. BRUSSELS SPROUTS LOOK LIKE TINY CABBAGES! THEY GROW IN LITTLE CLUSTERS ON A THICK STALK, ALMOST LIKE NATURE'S VEGETABLE BOUQUET.
3. BRUSSELS SPROUTS GROW ON TALL PLANTS THAT CAN REACH UP TO A METRE. IT'S LIKE THEY'RE REACHING FOR THE SKY!
4. WHEN BRUSSELS SPROUTS ARE READY TO BE PICKED, THEY'RE CAREFULLY PLUCKED FROM THE STALKS. IT'S LIKE A HARVEST TREASURE HUNT IN THE GARDEN.
5. DID YOU KNOW THAT BRUSSELS SPROUTS ARE HIGH IN FIBRE? FIBRE HELPS KEEP OUR TUMMIES HAPPY AND OUR BODIES HEALTHY!

**Did you Know?  
INTERNATIONAL FACT**  
"Brussels" in Brussels sprouts comes from the city of Brussels in Belgium. It's like they have a fancy name that takes them on a tasty journey.

# Community Noticeboard

FOOD  
FESTIVAL  
by Aspens

## BRUSSEL SPROUTS ACTIVITIES

The vegetables have got lost in the grid below.  
Can you find all the words?

U	V	B	E	A	N	S	N	T	F	J
O	I	A	V	O	C	A	D	O	M	T
W	N	Z	U	C	C	H	I	N	I	F
Q	P	N	C	U	C	U	M	B	E	R
E	F	E	C	A	B	B	A	G	E	Z
C	A	U	L	I	F	L	O	W	E	R
P	E	V	S	Q	U	A	S	H	A	D
E	B	A	R	T	I	C	H	O	K	E
A	G	B	R	O	C	C	O	L	I	Y
S	P	R	O	U	T	S	F	P	N	B
U	Z	A	S	P	A	R	A	G	U	S

Artichoke  
Squash  
Broccoli  
Cauliflower

Cucumber  
Cabbage  
Asparagus  
Avocado

Beans  
Peas  
Sprouts

FOOD  
FESTIVAL  
by Aspens

## RECIPE FROM HOME

Tell us your favourite recipe from home and hand it to a member of the Aspens Team. Make sure it includes BRUSSELS SPROUTS! The winning dish may feature on our menu.

Name of dish

Ingredients

Method

Name:

School Name:

Class:

# School Lunches

School lunches can be booked daily, weekly, monthly or termly on Parent Pay and cost £2.85 per child. If your child is in Year R, 1 or 2 they are entitled to Universal Free school Meals. Please pre-book your child's school dinner by 8.30am on the day using ParentPay. Your child can still have a school dinner if it isn't pre-booked but it will be the tomato pasta option. Please discuss your meal choices with your child because this is the meal they will be ordered. For more information on school dinners, visit our website [HERE](#).



**CLICK LOGO FOR  
FREE SCHOOL MEALS  
INFO**



# Wraparound



Following liaison with the pre-school and feedback from parents/carers, will be trialling an After-school Wraparound Provision at St Keverne Primary School during the Spring Term, starting on **Monday 12th January 2026**. This will allow time for bookings to be made during the first week back. Please find the details below:

**Days and Times:** Monday to Thursday, 3:15pm – 5:15pm (there will be no Wraparound Provision on a Friday)

**Location:** School hall

**Cost:** £5.50 for the first hour session (includes a light snack), £5 for the subsequent hour session booked that day

**Booking:**

- All bookings will be made via ParentPay.
- Booking payment items will be added to your ParentPay account for advance payment please.
- If you experience any issues with your ParentPay account, please contact the school office where Ms Hicks will be happy to support you.
- Bookings for the following week must be made by Wednesdays at 3:00pm.
- Unless there is an unavoidable emergency, no bookings will be accepted after this deadline.
- For the first week of After-school Wraparound (week beginning 12th January 2026), bookings must be made by 3:00pm on Wednesday 7th January.

Any collection after 5:15pm will incur a £10 late collection fee which must be paid via ParentPay prior to any future bookings being made.

Further information can be found in the letter sent out to all parents/carers at the beginning of the week.

# Attendance - This Month's Results

*Whole School Attendance*

95.43%

**Carleon Class**

*Reception - 97.25%*

*Year 1 - 91.67%*

*Year 2 - 98.08%*

**Godrevy Class**

*Year 3 - 96.15%*

*Year 4 - 95.8%*

**Leggan Class**

*Year 5 - 91.03%*

*Year 6 - 96.7%*



# Attendance

## IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE LAW REGARDING PENALTY NOTICES FOR UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

As of 19th August 2024, the government's new National Framework for Penalty Notices for School Absence (including unauthorised holidays) comes into effect.

\*This affects when penalty notices are issued in Cornwall\*

There is a new national threshold of 10 unauthorised sessions for any reason (equivalent to 5 school days) within a rolling 10 school week period

A parent will no longer be able to take their child out of school for one week's holiday without a potential penalty notice being issued.

There is an increase in the penalty fine from £60 to £80 if paid in 21 days. If the fine is not paid by the first 21 days, it will rise to £160, if paid within 28 days of being issued.

If a second penalty fine is issued to the same parent for the same child within a 3-year rolling period, the fine will automatically rise to £160 with no option to pay the lower rate of £80.

If a parent commits a third offence in a 3-year rolling period, the local authority will consider other enforcement options available. This may include prosecution for the offence of failing to ensure your child's regular attendance.

If your child is absent from school without authorisation, you will be committing an offence under the Education Act 1996. We 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. We 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.

# Attendance

## Attendance Ladder

Equates to number of school days off each year

4 School days missed

100%

Perfection

6 School days missed

98%

Impressive

7 School days missed

97%

Good

9 School days missed

96%

On Target

13 School days missed

95%

Slight Concern

20 School days missed

93%

Concerns

30 School days missed

90%

Very Concerned

85%

Serious Concerns

## Reporting Absences

At St Keverne, we recognise that there are occasions when it is appropriate to authorise an absence, such as when a child is genuinely too ill to attend, has a medical appointment that cannot be taken outside of school hours, or a leave request has been agreed in exceptional circumstances. Any such requests must be made in writing to the Head of School using the school's request form.

If your child is going to be absent from school due to illness, then please inform the office before 9am in the morning, and let us know why your child is going to be absent, and when you expect them to return.

You may either phone the office on 01326 280539 and leave a message or alternatively send an email to [hello@stkeverne.org.uk](mailto:hello@stkeverne.org.uk)

When reporting an absence, please leave a message on each day of your child's absence, telling us:

- Your child's name
- Class name/Year group
- Why they are absent (Type of illness e.g. sickness, migraine)
- When you expect them to return



# The School Day



As per the letter sent to all parents/carers at the beginning of this week, the timings of the school day are changing slightly by 10minutes each morning. This is to ensure that we are delivering the full 32.5 hours of statutory education per week, as set out by the Department for Education. Please see the below timetable for a summary of the new timings, which are effective from Monday 5th January 2026.

WHEN?	WHAT?	FURTHER INFORMATION
08:35	All gates open for children to enter.	Carleon Class – gate to the left of the kitchen.  Godrevy & Leggan Class – playground gate.  Parents/carers may let their children walk in from the front pedestrian gate or walk them to their allocated class gate.
08:45	Registration closes & all gates close.	Any child arriving after this time to enter through the school office and sign in.
From 15:05	Parents/carers able to wait in the school carpark.	
15:15	Children dismissed to parents/carers.	Carleon Class – from the gate to the left of the kitchen.  Godrevy & Leggan Class – from the playground gate.
15:15 – 17:15	*NEW* After School Wraparound	Please see separate letter for further information.

# Safeguarding

If you are concerned about the physical or mental welfare of a child or young person and you wish to speak to someone about it, you can contact the MARU (Multi-agency Referral Unit) on the following numbers:

Monday to Friday, 9am - 6pm: 0300 123 1116

Evenings & weekends: 01208 251300

Police (Non-emergency): 101

**Domestic Abuse advise - First Light:** 0300 777 4777

You can walk into a local BOOTS pharmacy and ask for 'ANI' ( Say, "I'm asking for Annie") or ask to access their 'Safe Spaces' where you will get support with domestic abuse. There will be a trained member of staff.

If you are searching for support and are worried about this being tracked by an abuser in the home, please use a **private or incognito tab** when browsing as this will not save on your search history.

## Internet Safety

Please click [HERE](#) for advice on keeping your child safe online

# Staying in Touch



## Notifying change of circumstances

Please tell us of any changes to you or your child's personal details (i.e name, address, telephone numbers, emergency contact details, medical details, email address or relationship change). Certain changes may be updated directly via the Arbor Parent Portal, however if you have any difficulty please email the school office at: [hello@stkeverne.org.uk](mailto:hello@stkeverne.org.uk) or call 01326 280539.





Thank you for reading!