



Autumn Term 2024: Newsletter 4  
Friday 22nd November 2024

# MOUNT CHARLES SCHOOL

## HEAD TEACHER UPDATE



Wow - what an exciting start to the term, full of Poppies, Odd Socks and Pudsey ears!

### Parents Evening

We started the term with Parent's evening. Thank you to everyone who attended parent's evening – it is so important. If you haven't managed to, please book an appointment for another time with the class teacher. The rescheduled dates for 4SG are Tuesday 26th November and Thursday 28th November which you can now book on eSchools. We have also had several EYFS tours for prospective pupils for next year, where I was very proud of our Pupil Leadership Team, who spoke so eloquently to new parents about why they should send their children to this school and why the Pupil Leaders themselves enjoy being pupils at Mount Charles.

### Remembrance Day

On Monday the 11th November, we commemorated Armistice Day by holding a two-minute silence at 11am. In the previous Friday's assembly, we spent time reflecting on why we have Remembrance Day and celebrated the service and bravery of our armed forces, past and present. In the weeks leading up to the 11th November, our School Councillors from Year 5 and Year 6 went to each class selling Poppy Appeal merchandise. The Royal British Legion have collected the money and we are awaiting the final total. There were a range of activities across the school. In Nursery, our pupils enjoyed art and baking activities and in Year 6, as part of their learning on 'A Child's War', they shared Poems based on Flanders Fields.

### Odd Socks Day and Anti-Bullying week

On Tuesday 12th November we wore odd socks to launch National Anti-bullying week. We took this opportunity to encourage pupils to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique! The odd socks represent our differences and celebrating the fact we are all different! Many children took great delight in showing mw their odd socks, which was great fun. Anti-Bullying Week is an annual event that aims to raise awareness of bullying of young people, with an emphasis on prevention and effective responses to bullying. Throughout out the week pupils discussed being kind to one another and this year's theme of 'Choose Respect', which supports the Mount Charles way of READY, RESPECT, SAFE. We also learnt the useful mnemonic 'STOP' (Several Times on Purpose) to distinguish bullying from the one-off or accidental hurting of a child.



## Children in Need

On Friday we raised funds for BBC Children in Need. We invited the children into school wearing something yellow/spotty or official Children in Need merchandise. Our School Councillors had the near impossible job of judging our Children in Need colouring competition.

Drum roll please... the winners are:

KS1 Winner – Lucy KS2 Winner Freddie F.

With your kind donations, we have raised an amazing **£219.00**, thank you.



## Parking

Thank you to our parents and carers who always park with consideration. We have been made aware of congestion by the school car park at the beginning and end of the school day. To keep our children safe and allow pedestrians to walk safely, please avoid parking on the pavements. Please also be mindful of blocking in other vehicles.

Mount Charles Methodist Church, on Victoria Road, have very kindly offered our parents and carers the use of their car park for school drop off and pick ups. Victoria Road can be crossed safely by using the service of our lollipop lady or the pedestrian crossing at the traffic lights. Parents are also able to park at ASDA & B&M which is just a short 5 minute walk to school.

We appreciate your help in this matter.

## Christmas is coming!

Please see some key dates on the following page for your information. December is action-packed! Carols, Christmas Trees, Advent, Fayre, Grotto, Christingle, Christmas Jumpers, Christmas Dinner, KS1 Nativity performances, KS2 Christmas performance, and much more!

## Staffing Update

We have some exciting news about an amazing member of our team. Ms Nile has been successful in her goal of being appointed Head Teacher. In January, she will be the Head Teacher at Nanpean CE Primary. We are thrilled for her as this is her next step and we are incredibly proud of her. I am sure you will all join us in congratulating her, she will be greatly missed.

Mrs Richards will also be leaving us at Christmas with the return of Miss McNally. Miss McNally is an experienced KS1 teacher who is return from maternity leave and will be the main teacher all week for the current 1DR class, from January they will be known as 1NM. Mrs Richard has been a valuable member of the team and will still be part of the CELT Trust as she is moving to Carclaze School from January.

## Thank You

I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank you all for your kind words and support in my first term – it really does mean a lot! I look forward to continuing to work with you to make Mount Charles the best school for your children.

Mrs Simpson



# Christmas at Mount Charles

**Thursday 5th December PTA Christmas Fayre** One of the highlights of our Christmas calendar and it always kick starts the festive spirit! The children will be dismissed to parents as usual at 3pm then invited back through the gates with parents to enjoy this special event. We would like to thank Moore's of Mevagissey for donating our tree.

**Friday 6th December Nursery Children Meet Father Christmas**—contact the office to book your slot.

**Monday 9th December Christingle service, EYFS & KS1** (children only) at Mount Charles Methodist Church

**Wednesday 11th December PTA Christmas Craft session, KS1.** There are 30 places available and the session costs £5. Places can be booked by paying via ParentPay. The session will run from 3pm—4pm, in our main hall.

**Thursday 12th December Christmas Dinner & Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day** The whole school will enjoy their Christmas Dinner (please book on ParentPay) and all are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper with their school uniform.

**Friday 13th December KS2 Christmas Celebration, 1:30pm and 6:00pm.** We are very grateful once again to Penrice Academy who have generously loaned us the use of their auditorium for our KS2 Christmas Celebrations. Information regarding tickets will be released soon.

**Monday 16th December Christmas Celebration, Nursery** 2:30pm in the main hall. There are two seats allocated per child, tickets not necessary.

**Tuesday 17th December Christmas Celebration, Reception** 2:30pm in the main hall. There are two seats allocated per child, tickets not necessary.

**Wednesday 18th December Christmas Celebration, Year 1.** The celebration will start at 2:30pm in the main hall. There are two seats allocated per child, tickets not necessary.

**Wednesday 18th December PTA Christmas Craft session, KS2.** There are 30 places available and the session costs £5. Places can be booked by paying via ParentPay. The session will run from 3pm—4pm, in our main hall.

**Thursday 19th December Christmas Celebration, Year 2.** The celebration will start at 2:30pm in the main hall. There are two seats allocated per child, tickets not necessary.

**Friday 20th December Last day of term.** School finishes at 3.00pm, in line with the other CELT schools.

## Safeguarding

Last week was a busy week. On Monday, we started the week with an Anti-bullying Assembly. On Tuesday we wore Odd Socks to mark our uniqueness. We have talked about what bullying is and who we can talk to both in and out of school if we need help. This year the campaign was titled 'Choose Respect'.



Mutual Respect is one of the **British Values**. At Mount Charles, children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community are encouraged to treat each other with respect.



On Wednesday, we welcomed the NSPCC into school as part of the Speak Out, Stay Safe Programme. They worked with Year 2, 5 and 6. The volunteers were incredibly impressed with the pupils responses in discussions and with the questions they asked. They were fantastic ambassadors for the school.



# British Values

## Mutual Respect and Tolerance

- I know my behaviour, actions and words can affect others
- I understand and respect that not everyone is the same as me and everyone needs to be treated as an individual
- I know that life is not the same for everyone
- I understand that people's faiths and beliefs are different, and I respect that

## Attendance

Week 1 Attendance = 97.2%

Week 2 Attendance—95.6%

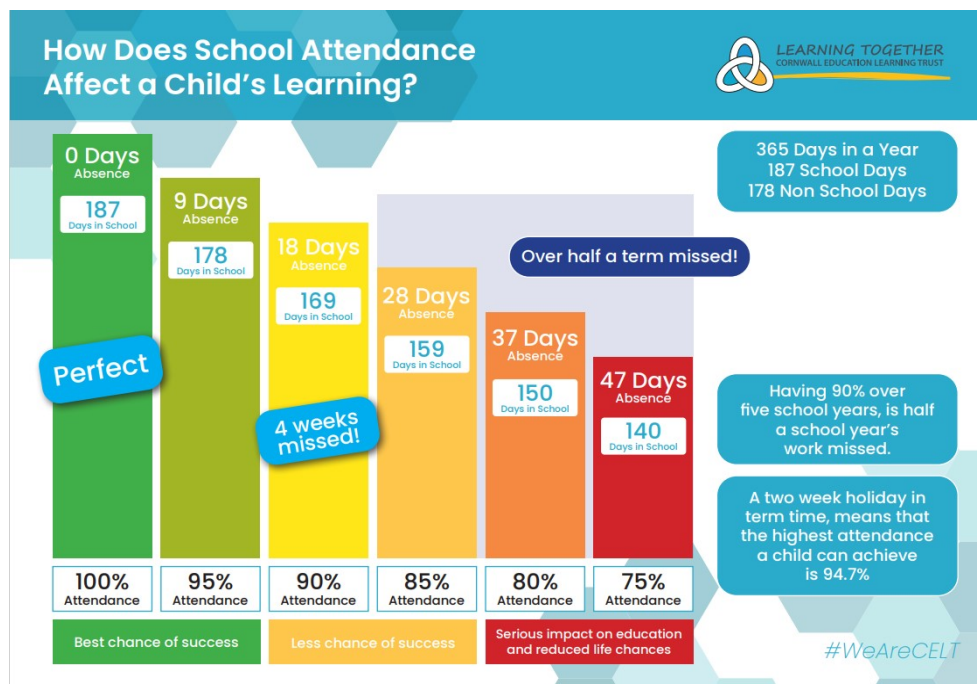
Week 3 Attendance— 94.6%

The attendance has been dropping slightly each week. We would love to see our attendance above 97% again - we did so well in the first half term.

As we enter the colder months, we know that coughs and cold and other seasonal illnesses can become more common.

If a child has a very high temperature, they should stay at home and rest, however there is no need to keep them off school with a cough or common cold. To reduce the spread of germs in school, we encourage pupils to practice good hygiene habits. Please also ensure that your child comes to school with a named coat, and hat & gloves if very cold, each day.

Please see the chart below which shows how attendance affects a child's learning.



If you have any questions or concerns regarding attendance, please contact Mrs Nile via the school office. We are here to help and support.

If your child is unable to attend school, please contact the school office via telephone **before 9am**. Please give **full details** of the reason for absence so that our admin team can code the absence appropriately. Please avoid using phrases such as **“poorly”** or **“sick”** and instead give details of symptoms.

Repeat this for **every day** of absence. If you know you may need to request leave from school for **exceptional circumstances**, such as national sports competitions or visa appointments, please complete a leave request form from the office.

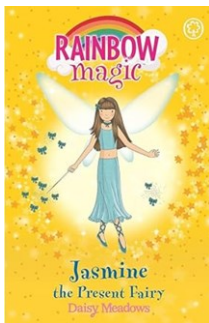
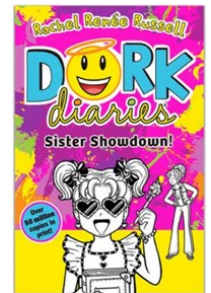


## Reading Recommendations



### Dork Diaries Sister Showdown by Rachel Renee Russell

“This book is funny. It’s about how her sister’s annoying her by doing annoying stuff to her. For example, stealing her sister’s clothes on her trip to Paris.” **Emily in 6TW**



### Rainbow Magic: Jasmine the Present Fairy by Daisy Meadows

“I recommend this book because it is a fun fairy book for children. This fun-filled magical book is perfect for all children. Kirsty and Rachel try to stop the goblins from stealing everyone’s party bags and ruining their fun. Will they manage? Read the book to find out.’ **Jasmine 6JT**

### Pages and Co – Tilly and the Book Wanderers by Anna James

‘ I recommend this book for people who like peaceful and calm types of books. In it, Tilly lives in a bookshop with her grandparents because her mother randomly disappeared. She had no idea where she went until one day, she discovered book wandering where you can teleport in to different books. Tilly sets off on an adventure through different books to solve the mystery of her missing mother.’ **Lily 6JT**



### The Worst Witch and the Wishing Star by Jill Murphy

‘I recommend this book because it is about animals and witches. There are dogs, cats and bats in the story along with a mean teacher called Mrs Hardbroom. Will Mildred make it through the year?’ **Lizzie 6JT**

# EYFS NURSERY

To celebrate Diwali, our Nursery children made Diya Lamps! The children all enjoyed moulding the clay using their hands and tools and loved decorating their lamp with paint, glitter and sequins. They learnt that Diwali is the Hindu Festival of light and were excited to light their lamps at home.



# EYFS RECEPTION

EYFS ENGAGED in their new ILP 'Why Do Squirrels Hide Their Nuts?' by venturing on a welly walk! On their adventure around the school, they spotted various signs of autumn such as, crunchy leaves scattered along the floor! To finish their welly walk, the children enjoyed a yummy hot chocolate with a biscuit, or 2, in Buttery Woods.



# YEAR 1

Year 1 came to school dressed as superheroes to launch their topic for Autumn Term Two. During the day, the children were set a series of challenges set to test their superhero abilities. This included designing a superhero mask, completing a very challenging assault course and creating their own Supertato based on the story. It was a great day and the children made a brilliant start to their new topic.





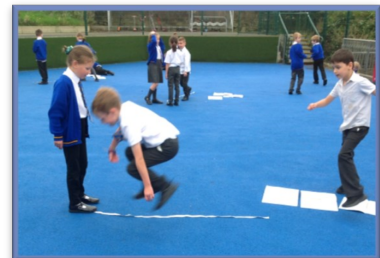
## YEAR 2

Year 2 had an amazing pirate day, to support their 'Land Ahoy' topic. The children experienced what pirate life was really like, trying different pirate foods, dressing like a pirate and carrying out pirate duties. They received an exciting letter from Captain Blackbeard himself asking for their help in finding his precious treasure, which had been stolen. They followed his secret treasure map and explored the school until they finally found his hidden loot. Captain Blackbeard gave the children a generous reward of golden chocolate coins for going on this dangerous quest and returning his treasure to him.



## YEAR 3

Year 3 have had a brilliant start to this half term. For their new history topic, Gods and Mortals, they watched and read the story of Theseus and the Minotaur. The children worked in groups to create freeze frames focused on specific parts of the story. In writing and reading, they have been exploring different Greek Gods and their roles within Greek mythology and daily Greek life. In Science, the children finished off our Topic all about animals and humans with an experiment. We wanted to investigate whether bigger thigh muscles meant you could jump further, then used their maths skills to measure distances of their jumps and recorded their findings in a table.



## YEAR 4

Year 4 have thoroughly enjoyed their Roman soldier experience as their Engage for 'I am Warrior'. They learnt about the similarities and differences between Roman and Celtic soldiers before designing and making their own Roman shield. The children used traditional Roman symbols such as lightning, wings and the eagle and tried to make their own handles for the back. They then practiced marching in formation using 'sin' (left) and 'dix' (right) to keep in time. They then made Roman battle formations: the testudo (turtle), the orb (circle) and the wedge (triangle).





## YEAR 5

Year 5 had a fantastic Friday designing and brewing their own imaginative potions. Some of the ingredients included hair of dog, 2 tears from unicorn taken at midnight and a scorpion claw (not attached to the body). This will not only help us with our independent writing next week when we tackle instruction writing but also when we study an extract from Macbeth 'The Song of the Three Witches'.



## YEAR 6

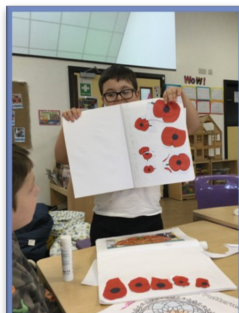
Year 6 dressed up as evacuees for their engage session for the topic 'A Child's War'. They walked to St Austell train station and listened to stories from evacuees who were evacuated to St Austell during World War Two. It was fascinating to discover what the children who came to Cornwall thought and they were able to empathise with how they might have felt. The experience helped immerse the children in their topic and they cannot wait to continue their learning.



## ARB

The children have been very busy since our half term break learning all about different festivals and celebrations including the Hindu Festival of light - Divali.

Last week the children celebrated Children in Need by decorating a biscuit with icing spots, anti-bullying week by wearing and designing their own odd socks and on Monday we had our two minute silence for Remembrance Day. Well done everyone! Super learning.





# YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL

Our Year 6 children enjoyed a residential trip to London just before October half term - our school's very first city break! With the contrast between country and city life, there were many 'Wow!' moments for our children. During their trip, the children went to Harry Potter Studios, Natural History Museum, Science Museum, Buckingham Palace, Central Gurdwara, a River Thames Cruise, and watched Matilda at the Theatre! The children stayed at a Youth Hostel and had dinner at Bella Italia and Pizza Express. We would like to say a very big thank you to Mrs Wiltshire, Mr Walters, Mr Bartlett, Mrs Nile, Mrs Allen and Miss Grigg for attending the trip and giving your time to ensure our children had such a memorable experience.



# REMINDEERS

## Christmas Fayre 5th December

Our PTA are needing any unwanted teddies, gifts or Christmas jumpers for the Christmas Fayre. If you have any you would like to donate, please bring them to the school office.

Raffle tickets will be on sale on ParentPay soon. Prizes so far include:

£100 cash

Simba lego

Harry potter art set

Moustache Jack's voucher

Sweet gift boxes

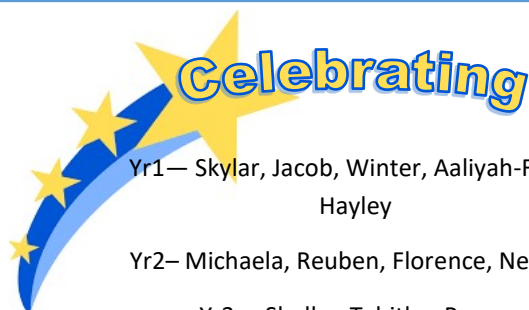
Wine hamper

## What should my child bring every day?

A waterproof, warm coat. If the weather is particularly cold, please bring in gloves & a hat! Please don't forget to put your child's name in them.

A water bottle

A healthy snack for break time



Yr1— Skylar, Jacob, Winter, Aaliyah-Faith,  
Hayley

Yr2— Michaela, Reuben, Florence, Nevaeh

Yr3— Shelby, Tabitha, Poppy

Yr4— Olli, Theia, Hettie, Aafreen, Nalah,  
Stephanie

Yr5— Lillymarie, Billy, Lily, Jose

Yr6— Ted, Skye, Darcie, Jake C, Jasper, Imojen

Sports Superstar— Archer, Gabbie, Lucy

## Success

Our attendance trophy was won by:

8th Nov: 1RD 100%

15th Nov: 6TW 99.4%

22nd Nov: 2CD 97.7%

**Perfect Attendance!**







**Biggest improvement in accuracy in last 14 days:**



- 1st place: Freddy Winterbottom**
- 2nd place: Theodore Eristow**
- 3rd place: Ruby Kelly**

**Most correct answers given over the last 14 days:**



- 1st place: Harley Foster**
- 2nd place: Brynley Gilbert**
- 3rd place: Harper Price**

**Biggest improvement in studio speed over the last 14 days:**



- 1st place: Jenson Rickard**
- 2nd place: Leo Dusey**
- 3rd place: Logan Graham**



**TOP THREE!**

**Biggest increase in number of minutes played in the last 14 days:**



- 1st place: Eli Nancarrow**
- 2nd place: Darko Mataija**
- 3rd place: Alexandru Scutaru**



**Biggest increase in correct answers in the last 14 days:**



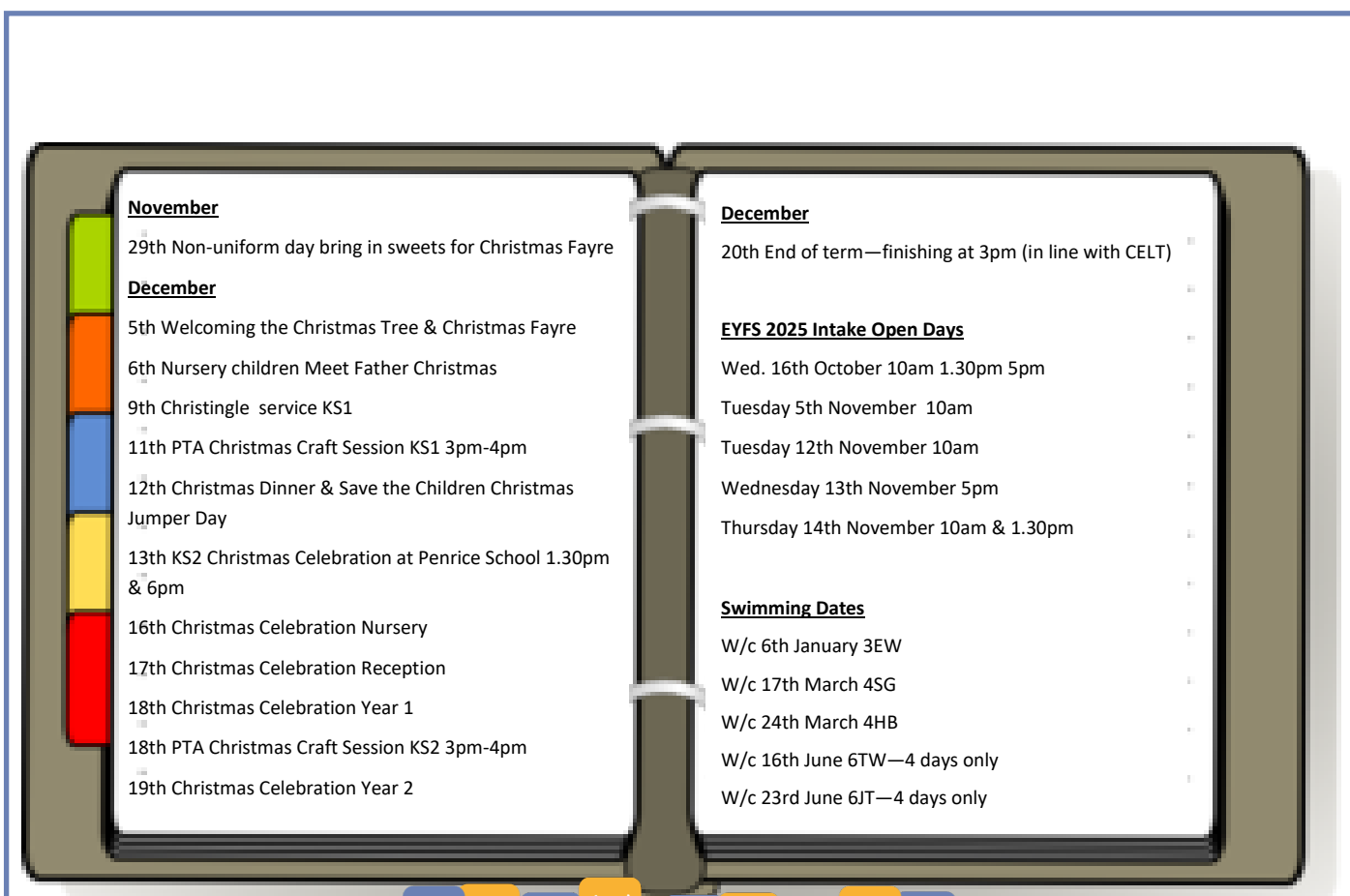
- 1st place: Alexander Scutaru**
- 2nd place: Eli Nancarrow**
- 3rd place: Darko Mataija**



**Highest improvement in accuracy in the last 14 days:**

- 1st place: Eli Nancarrow**
- 2nd place: Ellen Launder**
- 3rd place: Darko Mataija**





## TERM DATES

**Autumn term 2 2024:** Monday 4th November 2024 - Friday 20th December 2024

**Spring term 1 2025:** Monday 6th January 2025 - Friday 14th February 2025

**Spring term 2 2025:** Monday 24th February 2025 - Friday 4th April 2025

**Summer term 1 2025:** Tuesday 22nd April 2025 - Friday 23rd May 2025

**Summer term 2 2025:** Monday 2nd June 2025 - Friday 25th July 2025

**INSET DAYS:** Friday 18th October 2024 Friday 20th June 2025 Monday 23rd June 2025

## 2025-2026

**Autumn term 1 2025:** Thursday 4th September 2025 - Thursday 16th October 2025

**Autumn term 2 2025:** Monday 3rd November 2025 - Friday 19th December 2025

**Spring term 1 2026:** Monday 5th January 2026 - Friday 13th February 2026

**Spring term 2 2026:** Monday 23rd February 2026 - Thursday 2nd April 2026

**Summer term 1 2026:** Monday 20th April 2026 - Friday 22nd May 2026

**Summer term 2 2026:** Monday 1st June 2026 - Friday 24th July 2026



## BALANCED MIND, BALANCED HOME EMPOWERING MALE CARERS TO PROTECT YOUNG MINDS

Join other male parents and carers at our live online workshop, which lasts up to two hours. We're here to give you the tools to protect your own mental health and that of your children.



We'll talk about things like:

- stress
- anxiety
- mental health
- grounding techniques

Ask questions, meet other parents and carers or just sit back and listen - the choice is yours.



LEARN STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILDREN WITH ANXIETY/WORRIES



Wednesday, 20 November 2024 at 10am OR  
Thursday, 16 January 2025 at 10am



SIGN UP USING OUR QR CODE OR CLICK HERE



## CHILD & FAMILY SAFETY INSIDE THE HOME

This is a live online workshop made up of one session, lasting up to one and a half hours.

This workshop will include:

- Safety to consider, room by room, in your home
- Poisons
- Button batteries
- Blinds and curtains
- Nappy sacks
- Food safety
- Toy safety



Together for Families



JOIN US

Tuesday, 22 October 2024 at 10am OR  
Thursday, 12 December 2024 at 10am



SIGN UP USING OUR QR CODE OR CLICK HERE



## CORNWALL VIRTUAL FAMILY SPACE WORKSHOPS

These are live virtual workshops, with each session lasting up to 2 hours



**Potty Training:** this workshop includes the three step 'Let's Go Potty' approach, preparation to use the potty, practising potty skills, and stopping using nappies as your child gains confidence.



**Child & family Safety in the Home:** this workshop can help you think about safety in each room of your home to minimise risks of accidents and injuries to your family. Focusing on falls, burns, scalds, drowning, poisoning, button battery safety and other potential at-home hazards.



**Child & family Safety outside the Home:** this workshop will cover sun safety, water safety, garden safety, car seat safety, road safety and firework safety.



**Mini First Aid:** an interactive Virtual Class for parents and carers. This award-winning, CPD-accredited class covers CPR, choking, bumps, burns, breaks, febrile seizures, sepsis and meningitis awareness. Includes a handy digital first aid guide.



**Balanced Mind, Balanced Home:** this session, for male parents and carers, will cover stress, anxiety, mental health, grounding techniques and more...



TO BOOK, USE OUR QR CODE OR CLICK HERE



## Barnardo's in partnership with MINI FIRST AID

This is an Interactive Virtual Class for parents and carers and will last for two hours.

This award-winning, CPD-accredited class covers:

- CPR and choking
- Bumps, Burns, Breaks
- Febrile Seizures
- Sepsis & Meningitis Awareness

Includes a handy digital first aid guide



AS SEEN ON  
DRAGONS' DEN

Your workshop with Kate Ball will be informative and memorable. Kate's informal style of teaching will have everyone who attends feeling engaged and empowered that they could save a life.



Together for Families



JOIN US

Wednesday, 6 November 2024 at 1pm OR  
Wednesday, 27 November 2024 at 10am OR  
Tuesday, 17 December 2024 at 10am OR  
Thursday, 23 January 2025 at 10am



SIGN UP USING OUR QR CODE OR CLICK HERE





# WINTER WONDERLAND

SATURDAY 30th NOVEMBER

2 - 4.30pm



**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
ST AUSTELL**

For more info:  
[www.staustellparish.uk/winter-wonderland](http://www.staustellparish.uk/winter-wonderland)

**A FUN-FILLED EVENT  
FOR ALL AGES**