



# St Minver School

Head of School: Mrs A Warren

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Dear Parents,

Well, here we are already in the last term of the school year - doesn't time fly? We hope you had a lovely Easter break. The children are clearly well-rested and have returned to school so confidently! They have quickly settled back into the familiar routines and have had a very productive week. Well done to them all!

As usual, there is lots to get through this term. Our new topic is, 'How Does Your Garden Grow?' The children will be learning all about plants and how to grow and look after them, as well as learning about the different parts of a plant. Our literacy, science, art and DT work will all link to our topic. We hope to have plenty of opportunities to take our learning outside as we cover this topic, and plan to spend some time in the science garden, weather permitting! If you have any books at home linked to our topic we would love you to send them in so that we can share them with the class. We promise to take good care of them and return them at half term. Here is an overview of what we plan to cover this half term although as usual, things might change a little as we go along.

**Literacy:** This term, the children's learning will be based on a range of quality texts, both fiction and non-fiction. Through stories we will continue to work on the skills the children need to become literate; listening, vocabulary, questioning, sentence-building, storytelling and phonics. Phonics and reading continue to be the priorities this term and the children will continue to have daily phonics lessons and group reading sessions three times each week. New reading books will be sent home every Thursday as usual. Please note a change in the routine for the Year 1 children: as they become more confident readers we will start to send home a text which is new to them, instead of the text which they've read to us in school. This text will be at the same level as the text they have read with us during the week, and your child should be able to decode it without too much help. The children in Reception will continue to bring home the book which they have read with us during the week. As usual, the children can change their 'book to share' as often as they like, and we continue to encourage them to change these books independently.

**Reading at home:** We encourage all children to read to you every day at home. We cannot stress enough the importance of regular reading at home. It has a huge impact on progress and confidence, providing opportunities for your child to practise the skills they've learned in school. Ten minutes a day makes such a difference! **After reading with your child, please write a comment in their yellow reading record, it is helpful for us to know how they are getting on at home.**

**Maths:** The Year 1 children begin the term with a unit on multiplication and division, learning to count in twos, fives and tens and to recognise, add and make equal groups. They will go on to work on fractions, recognising and finding a half and a quarter of an object or amount. Afterwards they will cover a unit on position and direction. The Reception children will complete a unit titled 'building 9 and 10' before progressing to investigating numbers to 20 and beyond, as well as exploring 3d shapes.

T: 01208 862496

E: [hello@stminver.org](mailto:hello@stminver.org)

W: [www.stminver.org](http://www.stminver.org)

St Minver School, Rock Road, St Minver, Wadebridge, Cornwall PL27 6QD

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Registered Office: Aspire Academy Trust, Unit 20, St Austell Business Park, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 4FD





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**PSED (Personal, Social and Emotional Development):** Our theme this term is 'Relationships'. Across the two year groups the children will be considering the importance of families, and how families vary. They will also be thinking about friendship and we will discuss what it means to be a good friend and what to say and do when friendship issues arise.

**PE:** This half term, the Year 1 children will have PE lessons every Wednesday and Thursday and will need their PE kit on these days. The Reception children have a PE lesson alongside the Year 1 children every Thursday, as well as daily physical development sessions – no PE kit required. All the children have daily access to our wonderful outdoor learning environment – please ensure that they always have their coat because we do try to get outside whatever the weather! Wellies are a good idea too, a named pair which they can keep at school is really useful.

### **Expectations in Daymer Class:**

Children throughout the school are encouraged at all times to be polite, diligent and hard working. We want the children to do the best they can and feel a sense of pride and achievement in everything they do. We encourage teamwork and a respect for all other members of 'Team St Minver'. We remind the children daily of our school motto, 'Be Brave, Be Kind, Belong'.

The way in which the children learn and their motivation to do so remains hugely important. In Daymer Class we focus on the characteristics of effective learning using a story called 'Lenny Lion's Learning Zoo'. Each animal in the zoo is linked to an important skill for learning and so the children strive to become, for example, proud peacocks and persevering parrots! We will continue to talk daily about these characteristics, and in this final term in Daymer Class we encourage the children to be increasingly independent and aware of what makes you a successful learner.

Here's to a happy and productive half term!

With best wishes,

Lisa Cray and Lucie Merson

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