



# St Minver School

Head of School: Mrs A Warren

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parents,

We can't believe we are half way through the school year already. Where does the time fly? We hope you have all had a lovely half term break.

This half term has got off to a great start, with the delivery of an amazing set of new furniture and resources for Daymer class, The children have been so excited! We have been delighted to watch them explore their new classroom and to see them learning to use their new equipment with such enthusiasm. They have worked and played hard this week, sharing, exploring, discovering, experimenting and laughing lots! Well done to them all.

We are so proud of the progress the children have made so far this year. Last half term they really got into their stride, settling well into the routines and expectations of our class and, as a result, they are becoming quite amazing learners. They are setting up such positive habits which will continue to develop and grow as they continue their learning journey through our school.

As usual, this letter sets out our plans for the next half term and what we will be learning in Daymer class although of course some things may change as we go along.

**'There's No Place Like Home'** is our topic title this half term. To begin with we will focus on our own homes and who lives in them, considering what a home is and why families are important. The children will learn about different types of homes, here and around the world, and they will also learn about homes in the past, particularly in Victorian times, identifying similarities and differences between ways of life in different periods. They will learn about our locality, considering where our homes and our school are in the country and in the world. In science lessons they will learn about materials, considering how materials are different and what objects are made from. They will consider which materials are best to build a home and carry out an investigation to find out which materials are best to make some of the things we find in our homes.

**Literacy:** Learning continues to be supported by quality texts. 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 are at the heart of the curriculum for children in Reception and Year 1. The children will continue to have daily phonics lessons and group reading sessions three times each week. Group reading books will be sent home every Thursday and the children can change their 'book to share' as often as they like. We will soon start sending home additional reading books alongside the group reading book, to give the children access to a wider range of texts. Further information on this will follow.

**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.

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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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**Maths:** The Year 1 children continue to work on addition and subtraction within 20 and have begun by finding and remembering doubles facts. They will go on to work on different subtraction strategies. Afterwards they will cover units on place value to 50 and then length and height. The Reception children have been working on doubles too this week. After this unit they will work on measures (mass, capacity, length, height and time).

**PSED (Personal, Social and Emotional Development):** Our theme this term is 'Healthy Me'. The Reception children will be learning about the importance of keeping our minds and bodies healthy and ourselves safe. They will find out about healthy food choices and how things like getting a good night's sleep, keeping our bedrooms tidy, cleaning our teeth and getting some exercise all contribute to a healthy and safe lifestyle. The Year 1 children will also be exploring how to keep ourselves healthy, how to make healthy choices, how to look after our bodies and the importance of both medicine and road safety. During these lessons the children will play games which encourage them to get along with one another, follow the class rules and reinforce our school motto.

**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:** At the beginning of the school year, we set out some of the hopes we have for the children in our class; the things that we hope we can help them to achieve (aside from just the educational things). Throughout this half term we will work on some new things and ensure that all the children have the opportunity to refine them. Here are some of the things on our list:

- Take part in celebrating World Book Day
- Share their learning environment with a parent (we will invite you in to read with us)
- Experience another trip out of school: Porthilly
- Welcome a visitor to our classroom (the dentist!)
- Take part in whole class celebration and fundraising days such as Red Nose Day and St Piran's Day
- Perform a class song in front of an audience at our Spring Concert

Here's to a happy and productive half term!  
With best wishes,

Lisa Cray and Lucie Merson

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