



St Minver School

Head of School: Mrs A Warren

Thursday 5th June 2025

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school for the final half term in Daymer class - where has the year gone?! We hope you all had a lovely half term break in the sunshine and showers, and we hope the children are refreshed and ready for the final leg before the summer holidays.

As usual, there is lots to get through this term. Our new topic is, 'Oh I Do Like to be Beside the Seaside!' The children will be learning about our coastal life and about the beaches in our locality and how we use them. We will look at how we enjoy the beach today and compare it to seaside holidays in the past, particularly in Victorian times. The children will work on developing an awareness of the past and identify similarities and differences between ways of life in different periods. 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 walk down to Porthilly beach, weather permitting! Details to follow. 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: As always, 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 our Year 1 children will sit the Phonics Screening Check next week. This is a national test to measure decoding skills. The children are required to decode forty words, twenty of which are real words and twenty 'pseudo' words (we call them alien words in class). You can find out more about the Phonics Screening Check here:

[Phonics screening check: information for parents - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/phonics-screening-check)

The children will continue to have daily phonics lessons and group reading sessions three times each week. New reading books will be sent home in the usual way. 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 by completing their work on fractions. After that they will work on place value to 100 and then cover units on money and time. The Reception children will complete a unit titled 'To 20 and Beyond' and then work on addition and subtraction, then sharing and grouping.

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

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PSED (Personal, Social and Emotional Development): Our theme this term is 'Changing Me'. Across the two year groups the children will be considering how animals and people change as they grow older/grow up. The Reception children will work on naming parts of the body and recap previous work on keeping healthy; considering the importance of how we move and what we eat. They will learn about how we grow from babies to adults and think about what we can do now that we couldn't do when we were babies. We will also talk about transition to Year 1 and give the children plenty of time to express how they feel about moving to Year 1. We will talk about any worries they may have and about the things they are looking forward to. We will also share our memories of the best bits of this year in Reception.

Our Year 1 children will be looking at the lifecycles of animals and humans, how some things in our bodies change but also may stay the same. They will explore how our bodies change and that everyone grows and changes at different rates. We will also be preparing for transition into Year 2.

PE: As usual 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. At this time of the year, the children need to be prepared for all the elements – some days we need sun hats and suncream, some days it's coats and wellies!

And finally ...

A big part of our focus for this half term is transition. We will ensure that the children are well-prepared for the next step in their journey at St Minver. They will of course take part in the transition days later in the term, but we will also provide opportunities for them to become familiar with their new classroom, and to spend some story time sessions with Mrs Cudmore, their teacher from September. Preparing for transition is a big part of our PSED curriculum for this term and we will discuss all aspects of moving forwards to ensure that the children can feel happy and confident about returning to school in September. Please do come in and see us if you have any questions or concerns regarding transition.

Here's to a happy and productive half term! We are so proud of the children, and of all they have achieved this year. As well as all the learning we have planned for them over the coming weeks, there is much to celebrate, and we will spend time reflecting on their success and on how far they have come. They are an amazing group of children, and we have loved being part of their journey this year. Well done to them all!

With best wishes,

Lisa Cray and Lucie Merson

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