



Germoe School Newsletter

6th September 2024

Message from Miss Blackburn

Welcome back!

I hope you all had a lovely Summer and managed to recharge your batteries. We've had lots of work going on in both our schools over the Summer, heating and insulation etc., so we have been denied access and unable to upkeep the site so we apologise if it looks a little neglected. We should be back to normal in no time. That aside, we've had a great start to the new school year with lots of exciting activities and some very excited children. I was quite shocked when I first bumped into a very tall, Anglo-Saxon in the foyer at Germoe on Wednesday but he was such an incredible asset to our learning of the Anglo Saxons and Vikings. It was also great to see the Boskenwyn and Germoe Year 5 and 6's all learning and playing together.

It is always good to listen to parental opinions about the learning at our federation, to listen to your ideas about how we could improve, how you can help us and to bounce new ideas to and fro with each other so please do come along to the next coffee morning. Everyone is welcome and it will help you get to know the other parents too. The next parent coffee morning will be Tuesday 17th September for Germoe parents/carers and Thursday 19th September for Boskenwyn parents. Both meetings will start at 9.00am. I really hope to see you there.

Miss Blackburn

PRICE INCREASES FROM SEPTEMBER

Unfortunately, due to the cost of living rise and the restraint this has on our budget, we will have to make the following price increases from September:

- School meals will be £3 per day.
- Breakfast club will be £4 per child/£3 per child, if eligible for FSM (including food).
- After school care will be £4 per child/£3 per child, if eligible for FSM, for the first hour (including snack). A late charge of £4 per 15 mins (for each child) will be incurred due to staff staying later than contracted.
- Kindergarten snack will be £2 per week payable via School money

We apologise for this but there is no other way to make our income and expenditure align.

WHEELIE BINS REQUEST!

Tony, our Premises Manager, would like to know if anyone has any 240 litre wheelie bins that they no longer need, we could do with three or four. Any donations will be gratefully received

CLUBS

Monday:

Mr Conway- Football

Miss Symons- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Explorers

Tuesday:

Mrs Knight- Eco Club

Miss Burns- Book Making

Thursday:

Mrs Reeves- PE Games

All Clubs are open to Year 1 and above and if your child/ren would like to join you will need to contact Mrs Care in the office to sign them up.

We are an official Eco-School!

We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded Eco-Schools Green Flag status for our exceptional work in promoting sustainability and raising environmental awareness.

The Eco-Schools programme, established in 1994, is now implemented in over 70 countries worldwide. In 2023-24, more than 1.4 million pupils attended an Eco-School in England. Last September, a pupil-led Eco-Committee was established. This committee took responsibility for spearheading the school's environmental initiatives. They first conducted a thorough review of their school environment and curriculum, before developing a year-long plan of action.

Their Action Plan focussed on 3 key issues: Biodiversity, Energy and Waste and activities included planting flowers to attract pollinators, making bug houses, developing the vegetable plot, switching off lights and holding a Clothes Swap Shop. These activities were thoughtfully selected to increase environmental awareness, bolster their school's sustainability, and make meaningful contributions to global conservation efforts.

The Eco-Committee are passionate about protecting and enhancing our environment. They are a dedicated group who have worked for an hour each week throughout the whole school year. We are very proud of their achievements.

Eco-Schools England Manager, Adam Flinte are passionate about protecting and enhancing our environment. They a dedicated group who have worked for an hour each week throughout the whole school year, said: 'The Eco-Schools' Green Flag is an international benchmark that demonstrates a commitment to fighting climate change and high standard of sustainable practice. Students and staff who earn this award deserve recognition for their dedication toward protecting our planet. Every day, they demonstrate that each of us can contribute to making our planet a better, more sustainable, place.'

To learn more about Eco-Schools head to www.eco-schools.org.uk



Redruth International Mining Festival Primary School Pasty Design Competition

The Redruth International Mining & Pasty Festival runs 20–21 September, with Saturday as the celebration of the great Cornish Pasty and they would like our school to get involved! The Cornish Pasty Association will be running a pasty making marquee on Saturday 21 September at the festival. The marquee will be open from 9.30–4 and children aged 5–16 can come along and make their own pasty with our expert bakers. In the run up to the event, they are running a 'Design Your Own Pasty' competition for local primary school children to create their own unique pasty design. The winning school will win a free pasty making session with the Cornish Pasty Association for up to 60 students and the student of the winning pasty design will receive their own CPA apron and hamper from Prima Bakeries. To enter all you need to do is create your own Cornish pasty ingredients, along with a drawing of your pasty and give your drawing to your class teacher. The pasty can include any ingredients, sweet or savoury and can be creative or traditional! We will then email the pasty designs in to the Festival by Friday 20 September, the winner will be announced at the festival via their social media channels and via email. We look forward to receiving your pasty designs, best of luck!

If anyone is interested please let your class teacher know.

Tax-Free Childcare

Tax-Free Childcare is:

- For **working families**, including the self-employed, **in the UK**
- Earning **under £100k** and **an average of £167** per week (equal to 16 hours at the National Minimum or Living Wage) each over three months
- Who **aren't** receiving Tax Credits, Universal Credit or childcare vouchers
- With children aged 0-11 (or 0-16 if disabled)
- For every £8 you pay into an online account, the government will add an extra £2, **up to £2,000 per child per year**

For more information <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

HEAD LICE

Cornwall council health department - information on the treatment of Head Lice

Wet combing method:

- Wash the hair with ordinary shampoo and apply plenty of conditioner.
- Use an ordinary, wide-toothed comb to straighten and untangle the hair.
- Once the comb moves freely through the hair without dragging, switch to the louse detection comb.
- Make sure the teeth of the comb slot into the hair at the roots, with the edge of the teeth lightly touching the scalp.
- Draw the comb down from the roots to the ends of the hair with every stroke, and check the comb for lice each time – remove lice by wiping the comb with tissue paper or rinsing it.
- Work through the hair, section by section, so that the whole head of hair is combed through.
- Do this at least twice to help ensure you haven't missed any areas, until no more lice are found.

IMPORTANT – Repeat this procedure on days five, nine and 13. Detection combing should be done on day 17, to check for any live head lice.

School Closures in Emergency – Agreed Notification Procedure

Please see the attached guidance from Cornwall Council. Sometimes schools have to make the decision to close either partially or fully due to inclement weather such as snow or other unforeseen circumstances. The procedures are revised annually. The agreed notification Procedure for our school is: We will inform Cornwall Council so they can update their website We will inform local radio stations (BBC Radio Cornwall, Goldmine FM, Heart FM, Pirate FM) so they can make announcements and update their websites We will post on our Facebook pages, "The Federation of Boskenwyn and Germoe School," "Boskenwyn FOBS" and "Germoe FROGS" If you wake up to a blanket of snow in the near future then please make sure you check one or more of the above places to keep up to date with school closures, it may be that we open later or close earlier so you will need to check before coming to school. If the school needs to close whilst the children are there then we will contact all parents via phone

Academic and Pastoral Support

If you need help or have concerns regarding your child, please see your class teacher in the first instance. Discussion with your class teacher first will help them to meet the needs of your child. Further support can be sought by class staff, should this be needed.

Early Help Drop-in Coffee & Chat Morning

You are invited to our Kerrier Coffee Morning

On Friday 13th September from 9.30am until 11.30am at Redruth Family Hub, Drump Road, Redruth, TR15 1NA
Family Workers and Youth Workers available for advice and guidance along with Guest Speakers.

The Literacy Trust - for families to be supported with reading locally.

Cornwall Neighbourhoods for Change - support and advice on achieving your education, employment or personal development goals.

Parent Carers Cornwall - advice about the neurodevelopmental profiling tool

Healthy Cornwall - for all your general health advice

Smarter Smiles - advice about your families' dental health

Community Energy Plus - helping households to enjoy more energy efficient homes.

Southwest Water - for tips on how to save water.

For any further information
please contact:

Email: Kerrier.FamilyHub@cornwall.gov.uk
or ring Redruth Family Hub on 01209 310000



Together
for Families

www.cornwall.gov.uk

Together for Families

Early Help Parenting Newsletter – Autumn 2024

Free information, support and guidance for parents and carers.

Need help?

Contact the Early Help Hub on 01872 322277 for support, advice and guidance.

If you have immediate concerns, are worried about a child or young person's safety, please telephone the Multi Agency Referral Unit (MARU) on 0300 123 1116.

Parenting Support Workshops

We offer interactive parenting programmes both online and face to face. For more information about our parenting support on offer and to book onto a workshop please visit: www.cornwall.gov.uk/parenting

The programmes currently available are:

Solihull: Understanding your Child – Supporting parents/carers of children aged 1 to 11 (10 x 2-hour sessions)

Parents Plus Adolescent Programme – Supporting parents/carers of teenagers aged 12-17 (9 x 2-hour sessions)

Living with Parents – a one day workshop for parents and their young person aged 12 to 17 years.

Supporting Healthy Relationships – (3 x 2-hour sessions)

- Me, You and Baby Too (for parents pre-birth – 12 months)
- Arguing Better (for parents of children aged 1 – 15)
- Getting it Right for Children (for separated/separating parents with children aged 0 – 15)

Understanding your Child with Additional Needs – a self-guided course accessed through Solihull: <https://inourplace.heiapply.com/online-learning/course/36>. To access the course, please register for an account using the code TAMAR

- If accessing from a computer, please [click here](#)
- If accessing from a mobile/tablet, please [click here](#)

Information Classification: PUBLIC

“We’ve noticed a change already and it’s only been 3 weeks.”

-Parent on Parents Plus
Adolescents Programme
(May 2024)

Have your say!

We invite you (parents, carers, and professionals) to complete our new survey to help shape our parenting offer. This should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete. Please visit, letsstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/parentingsurvey, to have your say. You can also sign up to our mailing list to stay informed through our newsletter and flyers, by clicking on ‘Stay Informed – Subscribe’ button on this page.

Bitesize Parenting

Bitesize parenting workshops are weekly 2-hour sessions delivered by our parenting team to support on a wide range of topics including:

- Remaining Calm
- Routines and Boundaries
- Praise and Rewards
- Technology and Safety
- Special Time
- Supporting Healthy Relationships
- Teenage Brain
- And many more!

Please book on by visiting www.cornwall.gov.uk/parenting

Empowered Parenting Podcast

In August, we will be launching a brand new podcast, called Empowered Parenting. Each week, Rachel, a Senior Parenting Worker from the Parenting Team will be joined by guests from the team and other services to chat all things parenting, including tips and strategies!

Follow us on our Facebook or Instagram pages (TFFCornwall) or on our website www.cornwall.gov.uk/parenting to see new episodes as they are released.

Information Classification: PUBLIC

Positive Parenting Top Tip!

Praise and Encouragement

Why do we praise? Praising your child for positive behaviours raises their self-esteem and confidence and makes them feel good. It encourages behaviour you want to see more of.

How do we praise? There are so many ways to praise, for example visual praise such as high 5s, thumbs up, or hugs; overhead praise and labelled praise.

Labelled praise is specific praise where you tell the child exactly what it is that they have done well such as ‘thank you for putting your plate by the sink’ or ‘well done for trying to put your shoes on’.

It’s important to praise the effort, not just the outcomes or end result.

You cannot spoil a child with too much praise so catch them doing something good and praise them.

Service Spotlight

Home-Start Kernow

Home-Start Kernow offers support, friendship and practical help to parents with children under 5 throughout Cornwall. Parents may struggle at one time or another, you are not alone, that’s when Home-Start Kernow can help.

Home-Start offer a variety of groups for families and most groups operate every week during term time. Most families will get 6 months of group support, some may be offered places for longer if additional support is needed or needs change.

Come chat and play with us.

<https://homestartkernow.org.uk/group-support/>



New Booking Platform

Parents/carers or professionals can access the parenting offer by visiting www.cornwall.gov.uk/parenting.

Parents/carers or professionals will be able to self-book onto workshops using the parenting booking portal, which can be found at the above website. If a family requires targeted or specialist support, an Early Help Request for help should be made via the Early Help Hub: <http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/earlyhelphub>.

If parents/carers or professionals would like support booking themselves or a parent/carer onto a workshop, they should contact the Early Help Parenting Team using the contact details below. An advice line will be available Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm to support queries.



Further Parenting Support

For further parenting support, including self-help and support from our partner organisations please visit www.cornwall.gov.uk/parenting

Contact us

Email: parenting@cornwall.gov.uk
Call: 01872 324323

If you would like this information in another format please contact:

Cornwall Council, County Hall, Treyew Road, Truro TR1 3AY
Email: equality@cornwall.gov.uk Telephone: 0300 1234 100



Together
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www.cornwall.gov.uk

DIARY DATES 2023/2024

AUTUMN TERM 2024

Dates TBC

TERM DATES 2024/2025

Autumn term (74 days)

- 3rd September 2024 - 20th December 2024
- (Half term 28th October - 1st November)

Spring Term 2025 (60 days)

- 6th January 2025- 4th April 2025
- (Half term 17th - 21st February)

Summer Term 2025 (61 days)

- 22nd April 2025- 23rd July 2025
- (Half term 26th May - 30th May)
- **INSET DAYS 2nd -6th June 2025**

REMINDER TO WEAR SCHOOL UNIFORM

Our school uniform is:

sweatshirt/navy jumper or cardigan,

polo shirt white/light blue

navy/black trousers/joggers/leggings/skirt

Sweatshirts, t-shirts and bookbags can be purchased through School Money and collected from the office

Smartphone information for parents

Please find below some links regarding smartphone usage for children. It was very kindly sent to us by one of our parents and it is interesting information for any parents/carers who are concerned about smartphones and social media for children. I hope you find it useful....

<https://amp.theguardian.com/technology/2024/feb/17/thousands-join-uk-parents-calling-for-smartphone-free-childhood>

<https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>

Neurodiverse?

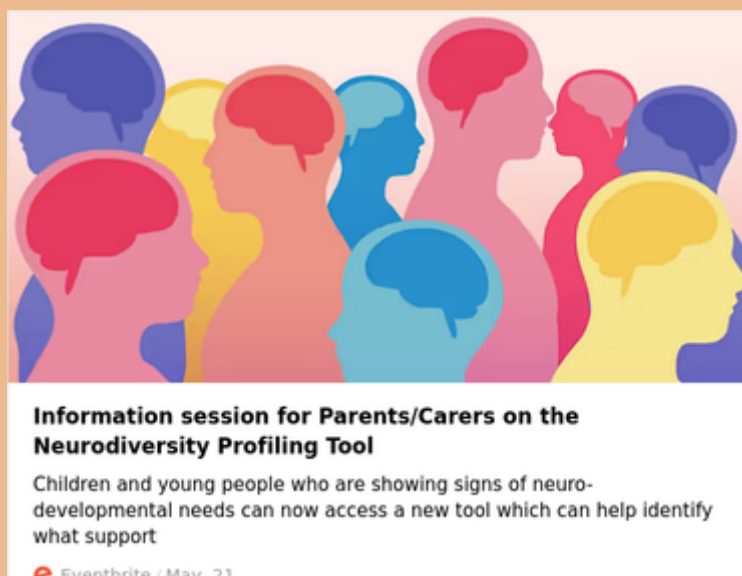
A new system will be operational from April, for the assessment pathway for Autism and ADHD. It's not yet up and running, but Parent Carer Cornwall have a linked site, which has some great information for parents about neurodiversity. If you'd like to take a look:

<https://parentcarercornwall.org.uk/> and find the 'Neurodiversity Hub' tab at the top of the page

ND PROFILING TOOL

Please see link below for online sessions for parents about the ND profiling tool

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/information-session-for-parentscarers-on-the-neurodiversity-profiling-tool-tickets-884811554177>



Germoe Well-Being Borrowing Library

We have a few resources that are now available for you to borrow, relating to supporting wellbeing, emotions, anxiety, Autism, bereavement, trauma and activities to support wellbeing. The box will be available in the Office. Please use the 'sign out' sheet and return the item within two weeks. If you have books or resources that you no longer need or use, we would be very grateful for them, to support families further. Many thanks



Headstart Kernow

For children in Y5/6 and older - Headstart Kernow, have developed a mental health site for young people, made by young people with lots of helpful advice. If your child is in Y5 or 6, this may be something you would like to look at with them:

<https://www.startnowcornwall.org.uk>

Twitter and Instagram

The Federation of Germoe and Boskenwyn Schools are on twitter and Instagram!

Twitter: @BoskenwynGermoe

Instagram: boskenwyngermoe

Feel free to follow us and spread the word to encourage others to hear about the wonderful things happening in our schools.

School information finder - Germoe

What information do you need?	Where to find the information
I need to contact school urgently	Phone on 01736 763310
I need to contact school non-urgently	Email secretary.germoe@fbgschools.co.uk or email class teacher(name plus @fbgschools.co.uk)
	School website
I need to find a list of teachers	www.germoe.cornwall.sch.uk
	Our school – Meet the staff
	School website
I need to know term dates	www.germoe.cornwall.sch.uk
	Parent info – Term dates
I need to see if my child has homework or upload their homework	See saw
	Reading records
I want to report my child absent from school	Phone call before 0900 on 01736 763310
	School website
I want to find out about upcoming dates, trips etc	www.germoe.cornwall.sch.uk
	Calendar
	School website
I want to read a school policy	www.germoe.cornwall.sch.uk
	Our school - Policies
	School website
I want to see the school development plan	www.germoe.cornwall.sch.uk
	Our school – school development plan
	School website
I want to see what is on the lunch menu	www.germoe.cornwall.sch.uk
	Parent info – Menu
	School website
I want to find out about clubs	www.germoe.cornwall.sch.uk
	Parent info - Newsletter
	School Website
I want to look at a past or present newsletter	www.germoe.cornwall.sch.uk
	Parent info - Newsletter
	Phone or email
	01736 763310
I need to report a safeguarding matter to school	Paula Blackburn head@fbgschools.co.uk
	Angie Larcombe alarcombe@fbgschools.co.uk
	Denise Rusga drusga@fbgschools.co.uk