Germoe School
W
Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

19th April 2024

Message from Miss Blackburn

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back. We hope you had a wonderful Easter break. I would like to say a huge congratulations to Mr Watson and his wife, Lauren on the birth of their daughter, Florence. Mr Watson will return to school on 29th April after his paternity leave.

Next week, I have an appointment with our attendance officer from the local authority. As a local authority maintained school, we have to report our attendance figures to the attendance officer who then meets with me to discuss any persistent absence. Persistence absence is anything lower than 90% attendance and unfortunately we have a lot of children who fall into this category. I have recently looked at the data for the Spring term and if your child falls into this category, you will have received a letter today. Some cases cannot be helped and I am usually aware of these and able to put them into context when discussing with the attendance officer, it could be there was a long illness, an exceptional circumstance where the parent worked away and child had to go too, or any other exceptional circumstance. It is the sporadic, persistent attendance which will be discussed at length and if you do receive a letter and also fall into this category then the next step will be explained in the letter and could result in a meeting with the attendance officer. Our main priority however, is to support you and your child so if there is any way we can help or support then please drop me a line or give me a ring and we can arrange to meet to discuss. Our whole school attendance so far this year is 91.7% which is below Cornish (94.3%) and National (93%) averages and this could affect our ratings in future. Please help us to continue to be the wonderful school we are by supporting us in improving our attendance.

We are looking forward to hearing all about how much fun and adventure Y3/4 have on school camp next week! It will be a quiet week without them but we hope they have a wonderful time.
Have a lovely weekend
Paula Blackburn

Morning Drop-off

Please note that staff are **not on duty until 8:45** and therefore please continue to supervise children if you arrive early on the playground until this time.

REMINDER

Please can all Breakfast/After school care needs to be booked by the end of the school day, the day before it is needed, to ensure we have the correct pupil/staff ratios.

CLUBS

Clubs restart this week. To sign up please email Mrs Care secretary.germoe@fbgschools.co.uk
All clubs are Y1 -Y6 unless stated otherwise:

Monday
Rounders - Miss Symons
Book club **Y2-Y6** - Miss Reeves

Tuesday
Football - Mr Conway
Yoga - Miss Burns

Thursday
Eco club - Mrs Knight

Growing season is upon us and we really want to get some fruit and vegetables growing in our garden and polytunnel. The children want to grow tomatoes, cucumber, beans, peas, potatoes, radish, strawberries, raspberries, and carrots. To get us started we are looking for donations of seeds, plants, compost and pots. We could also do with a hand to prepare the beds (weeding and preparing the soil). If you can help in any way, please let Mrs Knight know. Thank you!

BOOKS AND LIBRARIES

Those of you that are avid readers of the newsletter will know that Mrs Nicholas and I have been doing our Unwin 'Libraries for Primaries' training. As a result of this, we have now taken delivery of our first 300 brand new library books! The Reading Ambassadors and I will spend some time unpacking these and then they will start appearing in your children's book bags. Please enjoy!

To make way for our new books, we have culled a lot of old stock. We have followed the maxim 'old and gold or new and bold' for this. Much of our stock was (very) dated, tatty, or duplicated. Having said that, there are some gems in there, and the Reading Ambassadors suggested we have a book sale to raise funds for a new library before we donate our old books. Therefore, they will be having an after-school book sale on Tuesday 23rd of April so please bring your change.

This brings me to the new library.

As you will know, our current library is not fit for purpose. It is certainly not the 'magical threshold' that Barack Obama talks about. Our vision is to create a reading space in Germoe School that will be welcoming, enticing, intriguing and a pleasure for all members of our community to use. Therefore, with the support of FROGS, we have decided to start the long road of raising funds to build a library on our school field. To this end, if you have any fundraising ideas or contacts, please get in touch with me or one of our friendly FROGS. This is a school community project that will only happen with the support of our fabulous community.

Many thanks!
Beth Reeves

DIARY DATES 2023/2024

SUMMER TERM 2024

22nd- 24th April
Rinsey class camp

23rd April
Coffee and cake meeting @ 3.00pm
Paris trip camp meeting @ 3.30pm
Book sale from 3.15pm

Thursday 25th April
Y5 Falmouth Fire station

Wk commencing 13th May
Y6 SATS week

20th - 24th May
Godrevy France trip

Friday 24th May
Last Surfing lesson.

Monday 17th June
to Wednesday 19th June
Helston School Y6 Transition events

20th June 9am
Coffee and cake meeting

24th June
1:45pm Sports Day

29th June
Mazey Day

22nd July
2.30pm Leaver's service

24th July
Break for Summer

TERM DATES 2023/2024

Autumn term (72 days)

- 4th September - 19th December 2023
- (Half term 23rd -27th October 2023)

Spring Term (56 days)

- 4th January - 28th March 2024
- (Half term 12th-16th February 2024)

Summer term (67 days)

- 15th April - 24th July 2024
- (Half term 27th May - 31st May 2024)
- **INSET 3rd-7th June 2024**

Information for all settings: Guidance on measles outbreaks

There have been recent localised outbreaks of measles centred around the West Midlands. There is a risk of further outbreaks in other areas unless urgent action is taken to increase Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccination take up in areas with low MMR vaccine rates.

Measles spreads very easily among those who are unvaccinated, especially in nurseries and schools. The best protection against measles for children and adults is to get both doses of the MMR vaccine. It is never too late to have these vaccinations.

https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/

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.

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

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

SAFETY NOTICE

We have seen cars parking on the pavement, below the playground, at drop off and collection times. Please can we ask that you refrain from doing this as it means parents and children have to go into the road to get around the parked cars.
Thank you

PERRANUTHNOE CLASS UPDATE

This week in Perranuthnoe Class, we have launched our new inquiry 'what makes our Cornwall special?'. We made pasties and leant about knockers. We became historians to gather clues from pictures of famous Cornish people. We looked at their clothes, hair and other things in the pictures to see which was the oldest and which was the most recent picture.

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/

ND PROFILIING 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, anxiet, 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.

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

Together for Families Parenting

Parenting Workshops April - August 2024

Solihull – Understanding your Child

- Early Years (ages 1-3)
- Primary Years (ages 4-8)
- Transition Years (ages 9-11)

Workshop Description

Delivered over 10 weeks, each weekly session is 2-hours.

This is an evidence-based workshop that covers topics such as:

- How your child develops
- Understanding how your child is feeling
- Tuning into what your child needs
- Responding to how your child is feeling
- Different styles of parenting
- Having fun together
- The rhythm of interaction
- Why is sleep important?
- Self-regulation and anger
- Communication and tuning in
- Looking back and looking forwards

www.cornwall.gov.uk/parenting

Workshop Dates

Countywide – VIRTUAL		
Ages 1-3	Mondays 18:00-20:00	22.04.24-24.06.24 Virtual MS Teams
Ages 1-3	Wednesdays 09:30-11:30	05.06.24-07.08.24 Virtual MS Teams
Ages 4-8	Tuesdays 12:30-14:30	23.04.24 – 25.06.24 Virtual MS Teams
Ages 4-8	Mondays 18:00-20:00	03.06.24-05.08.24 Virtual MS Teams
Ages 9-11	Thursdays 12:30-14:30	02.05.24-11.07.24 Virtual MS Teams
Ages 9-11	Wednesdays 18:00-20:00	08.05.24-17.07.24 Virtual MS Teams
East		
Ages 4-8	Mondays 09:30-11:30	13.05.24-22.07.24 Wadebridge Family Hub
Ages 9-11	Tuesdays 12:30-14:30	30.04.24-09.07.24 Launceston Family Hub
Mid		
Ages 1-3	Tuesdays 12:30-14:30	04.06.24-06.08.24 St Austell Family Hub
Ages 4-8	Thursdays 12:30-14:30	02.05.24-11.07.24 Newquay Family Hub
Ages 9-11	Fridays 09:30-11:30	10.05.24-12.07.24 The Park Family Hub
West		
Ages 1-3	Thursdays 09:30-11:30	02.05.24-11.07.24 Gooseberry Bush Nursery
Ages 4-8	Wednesdays 09:30-11:30	08.05.24-17.07.24 Helston Family Hub
Ages 9-11	Mondays 12:30-14:30	13.05.24-22.07.24 Penzance Family Hub

Parents Plus Adolescent Programme

Workshop Description

Delivered over 9 weeks, each weekly session is 2-hours.

This is an evidence-based workshop that covers topics such as:

- Understanding teenagers
- Pressing the pause button
- Getting to know your teenager
- Establishing rules with teenagers
- Connecting with your teenager
- Communicating rules positively
- The power of encouragement
- Using consequences
- Active listening
- Creating a discipline plan
- Empowering teenagers
- Dealing with conflict and aggression
- Problem solving with teenagers
- Establishing routines
- Family problem solving
- Parent self-care

Workshop Dates

Countywide - VIRTUAL		
Ages 12-18	Wednesdays 18:00-20:00	01.05.24-26.06.24 Virtual MS Teams
Ages 12-18	Mondays 09:30-11:30	03.06.24-29.07.24 Virtual MS Teams
East		
Ages 12-18	Thursdays 09:30-11:30	02.05.24-04.07.24 Saltash Family Hub
Ages 12-18	Mondays 12:30-14:30	13.05.24-15.07.24 Wadebridge Family Hub
Mid		
Ages 12-18	Fridays 12:30-14:30	19.04-24-21.06.24 The Park Family Hub
Ages 12-18	Mondays 12:30-14:30	13.05.24-15.07.24 Newquay Family Hub
West		
Ages 12-18	Tuesdays 12:30-14:30	28.05.24-23.07.24 Penzance Family Hub
Ages 12-18	Wednesdays 12:30-14:30	05.06.24-31.07.24 Helston Family Hub

www.cornwall.gov.uk/parenting

Supporting Healthy Relationships

Me You and Baby Too (MYBT)

Workshop Description

Delivered over 3 weeks, each weekly session is 2-hours.

A course for all new or expectant parents/carers:

- What your baby picks up on
- How to support each other
- How arguments start, and how to manage them constructively

Arguing Better (AB)

Workshop Description

Delivered over 3 weeks, each weekly session is 2-hours.

A course for all parents/carers with a child of any age:

- How to support each other
- How arguments start, and how to manage them constructively
- Impact on children

Getting it Right for Children (GIRFC)

Workshop Description

Delivered over 3 weeks, each weekly session is 2-hours.

A course for separating or separated parents/carers:

- How to stay calm and listen
- Seeing things differently
- Finding solutions and making compromises

MYBT Workshop Dates

Countywide – VIRTUAL		
Ages pre-birth – 12months	Wednesdays 09:30-11:30	17.04.24-01.05.24 Virtual MS Teams
Ages pre-birth – 12months	Thursdays 18:00-20:00	04.07.24-18.07.24 Virtual MS Teams

AB Workshop Dates

Countywide – VIRTUAL		
Ages 1-19	Thursdays 18:00-20:00	02.05.24-16.05.24 Virtual MS Teams
Ages 1-19	Tuesdays 12:30-14:30	02.07.24-16.07.24 Virtual MS Teams

GIRFC Workshop Dates

Countywide – VIRTUAL		
Ages 0-19	Fridays 09:30-11:30	19.04.24-03.05.24 Virtual MS Teams
Ages 0-19	Thursdays 18:00-20:00	06.06.24-20.06.24 Virtual MS Teams

www.cornwall.gov.uk/parenting

How to access

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 workshop 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.

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.

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**

CORNWALL COUNCIL one and all - ones hag oll | Together for Families | www.cornwall.gov.uk

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)
I need to find a list of teachers	School website www.germoe.cornwall.sch.uk Our school – Meet the staff
I need to know term dates	School website 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
I want to find out about upcoming dates, trips etc	School website www.germoe.cornwall.sch.uk Calendar
I want to read a school policy	School website www.germoe.cornwall.sch.uk Our school - Policies
I want to see the school development plan	School website www.germoe.cornwall.sch.uk Our school – school development plan
I want to see what is on the lunch menu	School website www.germoe.cornwall.sch.uk Parent info – Menu
I want to find out about clubs	School website www.germoe.cornwall.sch.uk Parent info - Newsletter
I want to look at a past or present newsletter	School Website www.germoe.cornwall.sch.uk Parent info - Newsletter
I need to report a safeguarding matter to school	Phone or email 01736 763310 Paula Blackburn head@fbgschools.co.uk Angie Larcombe alarcombe@fbgschools.co.uk Denise Rusga drusga@fgbschools.co.uk