



# Mawnan CE VA School Newsletter

Using our God-given talents to let our light shine



Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025

Dear Mawnan Families,

I'd like to warmly welcome you all back to Mawnan for what I'm sure will be a positive and successful year ahead. The start of a new school year always brings a sense of fresh beginnings, and we're really looking forward to the opportunities it will bring for the whole school community.

Over the summer, staff have been busy preparing classrooms and planning engaging lessons to inspire and challenge the children. I'm grateful for the hard work of the team in making sure that each child feels supported to reach their potential.

A very special welcome goes to our new Reception children, who are starting their school journey with us this term. This is such an important milestone for them and their families, and we're excited to see them settle in and grow as part of our school community. We're also delighted to welcome a new child in Year 3 and another in Year 4 — we know our children will show them kindness and friendship as they find their feet.

As always, the partnership between home and school is key to ensuring every child thrives. Thank you for the trust you place in us and for the ongoing support you give to the school.

We're looking forward to a year full of learning, creativity, and achievement, and to celebrating all the progress the children will make along the way.

Miss Pridmore

## The Mawnan Curriculum – Voyage, Journey and Expedition

At Mawnan School, we are very proud of the curriculum we offer. It is carefully planned to provide enjoyable and memorable learning experiences, while also supporting exceptional outcomes and personal growth for every child.

Last year, our hard work in developing the curriculum was recognised by Ofsted, who praised it as “highly ambitious and detailed”. They noted how it has been “meticulously designed to account for the mixed-age classes” and that pupils are able to “build their knowledge in a logical order.”

Most importantly, Ofsted recognised that our curriculum captures children’s interest and curiosity. At the heart of our approach are the exciting ‘voyages’ and ‘expeditions’ that bring learning to life, making each step of the journey engaging and memorable.

This year we will continue to build on this success, ensuring our children not only achieve well academically, but also develop the curiosity, confidence, and love of learning that will stay with them long into the future.

Each term you will receive information about what the children will be learning in class, and each week we will share updates on ClassDojo about the learning taking place. If you have any questions about your child’s learning, please don’t hesitate to speak to their class teacher.

### VOYAGE



Voyage= our child's 7 years at Mawnan.

### JOURNEY



Journey = each school year.

### EXPEDITION



Expedition = each half term.

Mawnan's Curriculum Voyage can be seen as linear in design – moving the pupils along a mapped-out timeline of well linked, carefully chosen events that can each be viewed separately but are better understood as a whole.

A Journey through a year group will interleave knowledge from other parts of the Voyage across their years at Mawnan. There will be threads that allow pupils to connect their learning by building on prior knowledge and experiences. This interweaving strengthens connectivity between prior Expeditions.

An Expedition will contain the new learning and opportunities to create connections. The Expeditions will carefully *interweave* knowledge between the Expeditions they take during the year. Opportunities to return to previous Expeditions will be offered at various points in the year to ensure that knowledge is reviewed and strengthen

## Communication

We try our best to keep you informed with school news, events, learning and successes. **Please find below a summary our communication methods.**

Communication	Method
Information about class routines e.g PE days, home learning etc	Class newsletter at the beginning of the academic year – this is published on ClassDojo. There is also information on the class pages of our website
Updates about what is happening in each class	ClassDojo – we will aim to add posts to the class story and publish a summary of learning each Friday
Sharing your child's learning journey	We will hold parent teacher meetings in November and March and you will receive a school report which has details about your child's attainment and targets in July. Bookings are made on google forms.
Whole School Newsletter	We publish our school newsletter on a Friday afternoon, and it will be shared via email, ClassDojo and posted on the school website.
Notification about educational trips / sporting events	Google forms via email
Notifying you of an emergency closure e.g in the event of snow	Email and ClassDojo

If your phone number or email has changes, please ensure that you notify us.

**We request that you communicate with the school in the following ways:**

Communication	Method
Reporting Absences	Please phone or email the school office by 9am on the day that your child will not be attending. You need to inform the school of the specific reason why your child is unable to attend.
Notifying the school that someone different is picking your child up	<u>Tell</u> the class teacher at the beginning of the day or <u>phone</u> the office so a message can be passed onto the class teacher.
Medical Appointment	If you need to collect your child during the school day for a medical appointment, please notify the school office in advance. This advance notice allows our office staff to inform the class teacher, ensuring that your child is ready for collection upon your arrival, thereby minimising disruption to their learning.
Questions for the teachers about your child's learning and wellbeing	<u>Face to face</u> at the beginning or end of the day or by appointment.  It is possible to send brief messages via ClassDojo but please note that these will not be checked during teaching hours.
Booking breakfast club and wraparound	Booking and payment through ParentPay.

If you have safeguarding concerns about a child	Please speak to Miss Pridmore, our Designated Safeguarding Lead or Miss Law, our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
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## Arriving at School

Our school gates will be open from **8:35am** in the morning and a member of staff will be on the gate to welcome you and your child. Bicycles and scooters must be dismounted before entering the school premises.

Our classrooms open at **8:40am**. If you arrive at school **before 8:40am**, please do not send your children into the classrooms as there may not be an adult there to supervise them.

The gates will be closed at **8:45am** and registration will take place at this time. If your child arrives after this time, please enter the school via the school office to ensure that your child is registered.

It is important that you do not drop off your children either outside or inside the school premises before this designated time, as there will be no supervision available. If your child is walking to school alone then please ensure that you arrive no earlier than 8:35am.

Should you require earlier drop-off arrangements, I encourage you to book your child into our breakfast club service through ParentPay, which provides appropriate supervision and a delicious breakfast from 8:00 am onwards.

If you are arriving late to drop off your child(after 8:45am), please bring them directly to the main reception, where I ask that you say goodbye, and a member of our staff will escort them to their classroom.

## After-School Collection and Playground Safety

Following the handover of your children at the end of the school day, I must emphasise the importance of staying with your child and keeping them away from and off the perimeter wall, away from the parked cars within the school grounds and out of the surrounding bushes.

We also ask that parents exit the playground promptly after collection and do not allow their children to play on the equipment or go onto the field. We often have several clubs running after school which require use of the outside spaces, so it is important that the gates are secured by 3.20pm.

## Childcare – Mawnan Breakfast Club and Wraparound Club

We are proud to offer two high-quality wraparound childcare facilities that supports our families and provides a safe, nurturing environment for our pupils outside of regular school hours. **Both start on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September.**

Our **Breakfast Club** gives children a calm and friendly start to the day, with a healthy breakfast and the chance to socialise with friends before learning begins. This open from 8am is £3 a session and can be booked via ParentPay.

When dropping off children at breakfast club, please note that the front door will be secured, and you will need to ring the bell for entry. We will admit the children at the reception; this is where you should say goodbye to them. Mrs Cattle will be available in the reception from 8:00am to facilitate entry, and our breakfast club staff will ensure that children place their belongings on their designated pegs.

In the afternoons, our **Wraparound Club** provides a wide range of engaging activities from arts and crafts to games and outdoor play alongside a healthy snack to keep children energised.

We would really like to encourage families to make use of our After School Wraparound Club. We only have our funding grant for another term and at present, numbers remain very low, and to make the club sustainable for the future, we need more children to attend.

The wraparound care team works hard to create a welcoming atmosphere where every child feels happy and supported and the children really love it!

If you would like more information about our wraparound childcare or to book a place for your child, please contact Sam - [wraparound@mawnanschool.com](mailto:wraparound@mawnanschool.com)

Collection of children from our wraparound care takes place from the main reception. Please ring the bell, and your children will be brought to you. Our designated collection times are 4:15pm, 5:30pm, and 6:00pm, and following these times ensures the smooth and safe operation of our extended care provision.

## School Uniform

Thank you for supporting our Mawnan uniform policy.

Please could we remind you to **name label school tops** so that they can be easily returned to the children.

Your child's class teachers will let you know which days are their PE days.

More information about our school uniform can be found here:

[https://www.mawnanschool.com/web/school\\_uniform/521216](https://www.mawnanschool.com/web/school_uniform/521216)

## Morning Snack Time

We are a Healthy School and like to encourage the children to eat a balanced and healthy diet. The children in Oppie and Topper receive a piece of fruit or veg as part of the government's scheme. We would also like the children in Pico, Fusion and Dart to just have fresh fruit and vegetables for a snack if possible. This also helps us to reduce the amount of single use plastic that comes into school.



Please also make sure that the children have a name labelled water bottle in school and if your child brings a snack in a box please name label this so we can return it.

**We have a child in school with a serious nut allergy which requires an adrenaline auto-injector. For this child's safety we kindly request that you do not send any nuts into school.**

## School Lunches

Chartwells are our school meals provider. All school lunches need to be booked via ParentPay (new families will be given their log in details next week).

From 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025 the cost of school meals will be increasing from **£2.53** to **£2.79** per meal (only KS2 pay for school lunches). Apparently, the increase has been introduced to help cover rising food and catering costs, while ensuring that Chartwells continue to provide healthy, balanced, and good-quality meals.

<https://www.chartwells.co.uk/primaries/>



## Toys and precious items

We ask that your child keeps their precious items and toys at home, as they can cause upset if they get either broken or go missing.

We understand that some children require comforters as a transitional object when parting from their carers. We ask that you explain to your child that these must remain in their bags at all times during the school day.

## Collective Worship

At Mawnan, collective worship is a central and valued part of daily life. It provides children and staff with the opportunity to pause, reflect, and come together as a school community. Through stories, prayer, music, and moments of stillness, we encourage pupils to explore values such as kindness, respect, and thankfulness, helping them to grow spiritually, morally, and socially.

Collective worship also strengthens our sense of belonging. It allows us to celebrate achievements, share in one another's joys. We would love you to join us on a Friday afternoon at 2:55pm for our end of week celebration assembly. Please enter via the main reception.

## Annual Consent Form

Each year, the school arranges educational visits for the children, they are part of our curriculum delivery and are designed to enhance your child's learning experience as well as teach essential skills and knowledge. We are writing to seek your permission for your child to partake in our planned educational visits for this academic year.

Parents are only required to complete one permission and medical consent form per academic year. This is inline guidance from the Department for Education and Outdoor Education Advisers' Panel which both state that one off consent forms can cover all types of visits and activities where parental consent is required.

By completing this Google form, you are consenting to your child participating in:

- All educational visits that take place during term time.
- Adventure activities during term time.

- Off-site sporting fixtures during and outside the school day.

We will not seek secondary consent; however, we will continue to write to you to inform you about the exact details of all educational trips. If a trip is outside of our immediate locality (e.g. not in the village) we will notify you via email through google forms about educational visits and sporting events that require further permission or support with transport. This will ensure that we know that you have received the essential information about the educational visit e.g. timings of the trip, transport arrangements, clothing requirements, parental support etc.

It is essential that you keep the school informed about any changes to your child's medical condition or individual needs, agreement to medical treatment and any changes to emergency contact numbers.

Our annual consent form will be sent out next week.

## **After School Curriculum Enrichment Clubs**

At Mawnan School, we are pleased to offer a range of enrichment clubs for children in Years 1 to 6. These clubs give pupils the chance to explore new interests, develop skills, and enjoy activities beyond the classroom.

Next week is club sign up week. Google forms will be sent via email and we kindly request that you sign up by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September by 9am (we need a cut-off date to enable us to arrange the correct adult ratios for the number of children who want to attend).

All clubs will start the week beginning Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September. We would like to thank all of our volunteers and staff who give up their time to offer these opportunities for our children.

Please note that enrichment clubs are not designed to provide daily childcare. If you require regular after-school care, our Wraparound provision is available.



# Term Dates 2025-2026

## Cornwall Council 2025/2026 School Term Dates for Community and Voluntary-Controlled Schools

September 2025						
Mon		1	8	15	22	29
Tue		2	9	16	23	30
Wed		3	10	17	24	
Thurs		4	11	18	25	
Fri		5	12	19	26	
Sat		6	13	20	27	
Sun		7	14	21	28	

October 2025						
Mon		6	13	20	27	
Tue		7	14	21	28	
Wed	1	8	15	22	29	
Thurs	2	9	16	23	30	
Fri	3	10	17	24	31	
Sat	4	11	18	25		
Sun	5	12	19	26		

November 2025						
Mon		3	10	17	24	
Tue		4	11	18	25	
Wed		5	12	19	26	
Thurs		6	13	20	27	
Fri		7	14	21	28	
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	
Sun	2	9	16	23	30	

December 2025						
Mon		1	8	15	22	29
Tue		2	9	16	23	30
Wed		3	10	17	24	31
Thurs		4	11	18	25	
Fri		5	12	19	26	
Sat		6	13	20	27	
Sun		7	14	21	28	

January 2026						
Mon		5	12	19	26	
Tue		6	13	20	27	
Wed		7	14	21	28	
Thurs	1	8	15	22	29	
Fri	2	9	16	23	30	
Sat	3	10	17	24	31	
Sun	4	11	18	25		

February 2026						
Mon		2	9	16	23	
Tue		3	10	17	24	
Wed		4	11	18	25	
Thurs		5	12	19	26	
Fri		6	13	20	27	
Sat		7	14	21	28	
Sun	1	8	15	22		

March 2026						
Mon		2	9	16	23	30
Tue		3	10	17	24	31
Wed		4	11	18	25	
Thurs		5	12	19	26	
Fri		6	13	20	27	
Sat		7	14	21	28	
Sun	1	8	15	22	29	

April 2026						
Mon		6	13	20	27	
Tue		7	14	21	28	
Wed	1	8	15	22	29	
Thurs	2	9	16	23	30	
Fri	3	10	17	24		
Sat	4	11	18	25		
Sun	5	12	19	26		

May 2026						
Mon		4	11	18	25	
Tue		5	12	19	26	
Wed		6	13	20	27	
Thurs		7	14	21	28	
Fri	1	8	15	22	29	
Sat	2	9	16	23	30	
Sun	3	10	17	24	31	

June 2026						
Mon		1	8	15	22	29
Tue		2	9	16	23	30
Wed		3	10	17	24	
Thurs		4	11	18	25	
Fri		5	12	19	26	
Sat		6	13	20	27	
Sun		7	14	21	28	

July 2026						
Mon		6	13	20	27	
Tue		7	14	21	28	
Wed	1	8	15	22	29	
Thurs	2	9	16	23	30	
Fri	3	10	17	24	31	
Sat	4	11	18	25		
Sun	5	12	19	26		

August 2026						
Mon		3	10	17	24	31
Tue		4	11	18	25	
Wed		5	12	19	26	
Thurs		6	13	20	27	
Fri		7	14	21	28	
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	
Sun	2	9	16	23	30	



### School holidays

### Bank holidays

Christmas Day	25 December 2025
Boxing Day	26 December 2025
New Years Day	01 January 2026
Good Friday	03 April 2026
Easter Monday	06 April 2026
May Bank Holiday	04 May 2026
Spring Bank Holiday	25 May 2026
Summer Bank Holiday	31 August 2026

### AUTUMN TERM (73 days)

3 September - 19 December 2025  
(HALF TERM 27 - 31 October 2025)

### SPRING TERM (59 days)

5 January - 2 April 2026  
(HALF TERM 16 - 20 February 2026)

### SUMMER TERM (63 days)

20 April - 22 July 2026  
(HALF TERM 25 - 29 May 2026)

195 days are included on the school calendar.  
Schools will be open to pupils for 190 days. The five additional days are allotted for In-Service Training (INSET). Schools allocate their own INSET days.

The school will also be closed on the following dates for staff training:

1. 3rd September 2025
2. 24th October 2025
3. 1st June 2026
4. 22nd July 2026
5. 23rd July 2026

## School Attendance

As we progress through these early weeks of term, we want to emphasise the fundamental importance of consistent school attendance in supporting your child's educational progress and overall development. Regular attendance forms the cornerstone of academic achievement, enabling children to fully engage with the sequential nature of learning and maintain meaningful connections with their peers and teachers. When children attend school consistently, they benefit not only from the structured learning environment

but also from the social interactions and collaborative experiences that are integral to their holistic development.

Our attendance expectations remain aligned with national standards. We recognise that exceptional circumstances may occasionally arise, and we encourage open communication with our school office team to ensure appropriate support can be provided when needed. The partnership between home and school proves invaluable in maintaining the high attendance rates that directly correlate with improved educational outcomes and enhanced life opportunities for our children.

### **Attendance Update including Requesting Leave within Term Time**

The Department for Education (DfE) made changes to attendance guidance that become statutory and from August 19th, 2024. These changes must be adopted by all schools and Local Authorities across the country, with the aim of ensuring consistent approaches. Please click onto the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-regulations-for-schools-in-next-stage-of-attendance-drive>

### **1) A National Framework for Attendance Penalty Notices**

The Penalty Notice regulations are:

- Each parent will be issued a separate penalty notice, for each child who is absent. For example, 2 parents and 3 children, each parent will receive 3 penalty notices for £160 each, with a family total of £960 in fines.
- The fine amount will be £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days, reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.
- This will be considered your first offence.
- The next time an offence occurs, within 3 years of the date the first penalty notice is issued, the fine will be £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days, with no reduction
- The third time an offence occurs this will be presented to Magistrate's court with no penalty notice issued.

This will include Term Time Leave fines, and Irregular Attendance. Term time leave does not just include holidays. Where a child is absent and it is believed they are absent due to term time leave, schools will be expected to carry out a home visit and see the child on or before the 3rd school day of absence.

**For irregular attendance** – where a child has unauthorised absences of 10 sessions (5 school days) or more in any 10-week period, the school must consider escalation to prosecution. Sessions refer to each half a school day, we have 2 sessions a day, morning and afternoon. The school must consider the reasons for the absence, the support already offered, and the engagement of the parents/carers and young person. These 10 sessions could be made up of term time leave, unauthorised late marks, or unauthorised absence. It is therefore important to notify school every day that your child is absent, providing an honest reason, and where appropriate evidence of medical appointments or prescribed medication.

We will consider NHS guidance Health protection in children and young people settings, including education - [GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance) and [is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk) when making their decision whether to authorise absence due to illness.

## **2) Updates to the Working Together to Improve Attendance Guidance**

The current guidance and statutory guidance can be found at the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance>

This clarifies the expectations for parents, schools and the Local Authority to promote the importance of regular attendance at school, and to provide ideas for support and interventions when a young person is not attending school on a regular basis.

## **3) Regulation changes to modernise school attendance and admission registers**

The predominant change is around the use of attendance coding for schools to use on their attendance register. This may mean that you will see different marks on your child's attendance certificate. The H code for authorised term time leave (holiday) has been removed, therefore Headteachers can no longer authorise term time leave, unless there are exceptional circumstances covered by the C code and must request an attendance penalty notice if there are 5 or more days of unauthorised absence.

## **4) Regulations to mandate attendance data sharing by all state funded schools.**

This means that your child's attendance is shared with the Department for Education and the Local Authority every day. This will be live data. This will allow the DfE to provide schools with the tools to monitor and see improvements in attendance, and will allow the Local Authority to provide advice, support and

Early Help services. It will also allow tracking of attendance trends for example a child reported as ill in the same week each year, or a certain year group or cohort with patterns of absence.

With all the changes, the priority is supporting children to be in school every day. Every school day matters.



# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING CHILDREN GOING BACK TO SCHOOL

Returning to school after the summer holidays can be both exciting and daunting for children of all ages. Different routines, classes, schools, and academic pressures can cause anxiety or uncertainty. Parents play a vital role in easing this transition. This guide will help you support your child emotionally, mentally, and practically as they return to school.

## 1 RE-ESTABLISH ROUTINES



Gradually shift back to school-time routines a week or two before term starts. Regular bedtimes, wake-up times, and mealtimes can help children feel more secure and reduce the shock of change when school begins. Having a routine creates predictability and stability, helping to reduce anxiety while improving sleep and concentration.

## 2 TALK ABOUT FEELINGS



Encourage open conversations with children about their feelings. Ask them how they feel about returning to school, such as what they're looking forward to and anything they might be feeling unsure or worried about. Validating their emotions can help reduce anxiety and show them it's okay to talk about their emotional wellbeing.

## 3 SUPPORT WITH SLEEP



Children need adequate sleep for concentration, brain function, memory, and emotional regulation. Establish a wind-down routine without screens at least an hour before bed, and encourage relaxing activities like reading or listening to calming music.

## 4 LOOK OUT FOR SIGNS



Some children hide their anxiety. Watch for changes in their behaviour, such as withdrawal, stomach aches, and irritability. If worries persist, speak with their teacher or the pastoral team early to ensure your child receives support.

## 5 REFRESH SOCIAL CONNECTIONS



Help children reconnect with school friends by arranging playdates or video chats in the week before school starts. Familiar faces and social interactions help the transition and provide emotional comfort on that first day back.

## 6 CREATE A CALM MORNING



Mornings set the tone for the day. Plan ahead with a consistent morning routine that allows time for breakfast, getting dressed, and talking calmly about the day. Avoid last-minute rushing to reduce stress for everyone.

## 7 FOCUS ON POSITIVES



Talk about the fun and interesting parts of school - seeing friends, favourite subjects, or exciting activities. One simple but powerful change parents can make is swapping "How's your day been?" for "What's been good about your day?" This invites more of a positive, open response. Focusing on positives can help shift children's anxious thoughts and reframe school as a safe and engaging place.

## 8 VISIT OR VISUALISE SCHOOL



If possible, encourage visits to the school grounds before the first day, especially if it's a new school. Walking the route or even looking at photos of classrooms and teachers can make the environment feel familiar. The school website is always a great go-to place for this. This is particularly helpful for younger children or those with additional needs.

## 9 PLAN AHEAD TOGETHER



Involve children in preparing for school - buying supplies, packing their bag, or choosing lunch options. This gives them a sense of control and builds excitement. Use checklists or calendars to prepare together, helping reduce last-minute stress.

## 10 STAY POSITIVE AND PRESENT



Children pick up on your outlook. Stay calm, positive, and present, especially during drop-offs. Avoid lingering goodbyes, and let them know you'll be there at pick-up. A consistent, reassuring presence builds their confidence and resilience.

### Meet Our Expert

This guide was created by Jo Morton-Brown, an Emotional Health Practitioner with nearly 15 years' experience supporting children and young people's mental health. She produces uplifting YouTube content for pupils and trains adults to better support young people's wellbeing, with a mission to help every child feel valued and understand their emotions.



The National College®





**Sunday, Sept 21st**  
**10am Start**

**Carwinion Playing Field**  
**Mawnan Smith, TR11 5JD**



## **Kids 1 Mile Fun Run**

**Fantastic prizes for winners of  
each age group**

**Prize for best Fancy Dress**

**Refreshments & Stalls**

**All Pre-Entries receive a goody  
bag and a medal**

**Enter Online:**  
**RunMawnan.org.uk**



**Organised by Falmouth Rotary Club with grateful thanks to our sponsors:**



Sign up here:

[https://www.sientries.co.uk/event.php?elid=Y&event\\_id=15325](https://www.sientries.co.uk/event.php?elid=Y&event_id=15325)