



Mawnan CE VA School Newsletter

Using our God-given talents to let our light shine



Our core Christian Values: *Compassion, Hope, Peace, Perseverance, Respect, Trust*

Friday 13th March 2026



Mother's Day Breakfast

Our Mother's Day Breakfast was a lovely celebration for the Mawnan Mums and special ladies this morning.

A special thank you to Jacky, whose fantastic cooking and hard work made the morning such a success. Her efforts helped make the event truly memorable for everyone who attended.

Thank you also to our staff team for their support and to the PTA for ensuring that every child took home a gift for their loved ones.

We wish all our Mawnan Mums and special ladies a restful and relaxing Mother's Day.





Next week, our school will be recognising Neurodiversity Celebration Week. This is a special opportunity for pupils to learn about and celebrate the many different ways people think, learn and experience the world.

Throughout the week, classes will take part in activities and discussions designed to help children develop a better understanding of neurodiversity, including conditions such as autism, ADHD and dyslexia. Our aim is to celebrate the strengths and uniqueness of every individual while encouraging kindness, respect and inclusion across our school community.

Cornwall Council and local partners provide helpful information and resources for parents and carers through their Neurodiversity Hub. You can explore this here:

[Cornwall Neurodiversity Hub – information for parents and carers](#)

The hub offers guidance, resources and practical support to help families better understand and support children who may be neurodivergent.

Hockey

Our hockey team played another league match this week against Mylor. Mawnan made a fantastic start, scoring within the first few minutes of the game. After the early goal, the match remained very evenly contested, with both teams showing strong play and determination.

Mawnan continued to push forward and looked likely to secure the win. However, in the final moments of the match, Mylor managed to score an equalising goal, bringing the game to a close with a draw. Despite the late goal, the team played brilliantly and showed great teamwork throughout.

Parent-Teacher Meetings – Reminder

A reminder that our second set of parent-teacher meetings for this academic year will take place during the week beginning Monday 23rd March.

A Google Form has been emailed to families so that you can select a convenient appointment time. If you have not yet done so, please ensure that you sign up for your meeting as soon as possible. These meetings are an important opportunity to discuss your child's learning, progress and next steps.

During this week, we intentionally avoid scheduling other professional commitments so that staff are available to meet with every family. We kindly ask that you arrive on time for your allocated slot, as delays can impact on meetings scheduled for other families.

Please note that Lego Club and Construction, Dance and Games Club will be cancelled during this week due to the meetings.

Wraparound care will continue to operate from the Fusion classroom, and Fusion class meetings will take place in the Headteacher's Office.

Thank you for your continued support.

RNLI Visit

Yesterday we welcomed the RNLI who delivered an engaging and informative assembly for our KS2 pupils on staying safe at the beach.

They talked about how to read beach flags, what rip currents are and how to stay safe around them, and how to signal for help if you get into difficulty in the water. Pupils also learned who to call if they spot someone in trouble, along with some important sun safety tips for spending time outdoors.

A big thank you to the RNLI for sharing their knowledge and helping our children learn how to stay safe by the sea! 🌊 🚩 ☀️



School Eucharist Service

On Tuesday 31st March, the whole school will be walking down to St Michael's Church for our annual Eucharist service with Rev Johanna.

We will be leaving school promptly at 9:15am, with the service beginning at around 9:30am. Parents, carers and family members are very welcome to join us if you would like to come along.

It is always a lovely occasion for our school community, giving us a chance to come together, reflect, and share this special time of year as a whole school family.



Key Dates to remember 2025/2026

Important Dates	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
23 rd – 27 th March	Parent Teacher Meetings
Friday 27 th March	PINs coffee morning
3 rd – 17 th April	Easter Holidays
Mon 4 th May	Bank Holiday – school closed
Mon 1 st June	Inset Day 3 – school closed
17 th – 19 th June	Year 4 & 5 Camp to BF Adventure
24 th -26 th June	Year 6 Camp to <u>Porthpean</u>
Friday 3 rd July	Sports Day
Friday 10 th July	Sports Day (reserve day)
22 nd -23 rd July	Inset days 4 & 5 – school closed
24 th July	Summer Holidays

School Attendance – A Reminder for Parents and Carers

Regular attendance at school is vital for children's learning, wellbeing and future success. The Department for Education (DfE) guidance *Working Together to Improve School Attendance* emphasises that good attendance is a shared responsibility between schools, parents and pupils.

Parents and carers have a legal responsibility to ensure their child attends school regularly and arrives on time every day. Missing school can quickly add up and lead to gaps in learning and friendships. Even small amounts of absence can have a significant impact on a child's progress.

What parents and carers need to know

- Every school day counts. Missing lessons means missing important learning opportunities.
- Children should attend school every day unless they are genuinely unwell.
- Medical appointments should be made outside school hours wherever possible.
- Holidays during term time are not usually authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Unauthorised absence

Under national rules, schools and local authorities may consider issuing a penalty notice if a child has unauthorised absence, such as holidays taken during term time. Fines currently start at £80 if paid within 21 days, rising to £160 if paid within 28 days. Thank you for your continued support in helping every child achieve their best.



What Parents and Educators Need to Know about Streaming Services

Streaming services have become the go-to entertainment choice for many families, with children often favouring on-demand platforms over traditional television. This edition explores the realities behind these services, from rising subscription costs and advert-supported tiers to the impact of autoplay and endless content libraries on young viewers' screen time and wellbeing.

It also highlights key safeguarding concerns, including age-inappropriate material, binge watching, algorithm-driven recommendations and phishing scams. With clear, practical advice for setting profiles, PINs and time limits – alongside tips for discussing algorithms and stereotypes – this guide supports parents and educators in promoting safer, healthier streaming habits.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about STREAMING SERVICES

Streaming services are platforms that allow users to watch cartoons, documentaries and movies online immediately (often referred to as SVoD: streaming videos on demand). Ofcom reported that children and young adults prefer streaming services to traditional TV. With two-thirds of UK households subscribing to at least one streaming service, parents must understand how to manage screen time, set age restrictions and ensure safe viewing.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

COSTLY

Subscription services can be costly. As the main source of entertainment, most households have at least one streaming platform, and each platform has its own monthly subscription fee. Services are charging more for ad-free viewing, and better quality and resolution; however, there is a cheaper option with adverts. Due to price increases, Netflix and Disney+ reported a sharp increase in users subscribing to their ad-supported tier in 2025.

EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Excessive screen time contributes to sedentary behaviour and can negatively impact physical and mental health. Ofcom found that 4- to 15-year-olds averaged 2.5 hours per day across all video-sharing platforms, not including gaming. The vast range of content available, combined with features such as autoplay, makes it easy for children to watch for extended periods of time.

ILLEGAL STREAMING

Sharing passwords or using modified Fire sticks to access streaming content without permission is illegal. Most streaming services have now put measures in place to detect account sharing. When account sharing is identified, platforms will offer an opportunity to pay for an added member or will ask the user to verify who they are.

BINGE WATCHING

Features such as autoplay make it easy for viewers – especially young people – to continue watching episodes without a break. This can foster unhealthy and addictive patterns, such as consuming a vast amount of content in one sitting. With binge watching comes a lack of social interaction, lack of physical exercise, and often late nights and sleep disruptions which impact their mental and physical wellbeing.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most streaming platforms allow users to set up a profile for each family member, with the option of putting specific restrictions in place. These include adding a profile lock or PIN, controlling autoplay of previews and next episodes, and limiting content based on age ratings. Nonetheless, these restrictions aren't foolproof. Content which is rated as suitable for an age group may still include themes, language, or images which children and families find inappropriate.

HARMFUL STEREOTYPES

Many platforms track viewing habits, time consumed, and preferences, and generate recommendations to encourage your child to keep watching. This results in your child being in a 'loop' whereby they think the 'recommended' shows would be something they would enjoy rather than thinking critically for themselves. This can shape their beliefs, values, and understanding of the world from a young age without even realising it.

Advice for Parents & Educators

SET UP INDIVIDUAL PROFILES AND ADD PINS

Almost all streaming services allow users to set up individual profiles where each family member can have age restrictions put in place for the content they can view. Adult profiles can be protected through the use of PIN. Keep this private. Use the options of putting specific restrictions in place such as controlling autoplay of previews and next episodes, and limiting content based on age ratings.

TALK ABOUT ALGORITHMS

Talk to your child about how streaming services track what they watch, and base adverts and recommended shows/movies on previous viewing. Encourage them to critically think about whether the recommendations are suitable and how they want to spend their time. Discuss stereotypes with your child and challenge them to think about what they watch and how this may influence their beliefs.

MONITOR AND TALK OFTEN

Discuss with your child what they are watching, find out which programmes are trending, and watch them yourself. Have a little look at their watch history to check the content of what they're watching. Some platforms have been known to recommend or autoplay older or graphic content after a child's movie has been played. While some TV shows or movies may have a suitable age rating, your child may still find the content scary, or it may explore themes you don't want to explore with your child yet.

SET TIME RESTRICTIONS

Many streaming services offer the opportunity to buy movies, or add additional features to your subscription such as sports channels, as well as play games. This can increase the amount of time young people spend sitting idly in front of the screen. Some platforms (e.g. Apple TV+) allow you to set screen time restrictions. If the streaming service doesn't allow you to set screen time limits, set a family rule and stick to it.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator, and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government, comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

See full reference list on our website

www.wakeupwednesday.com

www.thenationalcollege.com

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