

THE MAWNAN LIGHT

Friday 4 September 2026



COMPASSION • HOPE • PEACE • PERSEVERANCE • RESPECT • TRUST

Welcome Back!

I hope you have all had a lovely summer and enjoyed the wonderful weather. We cannot wait to welcome everyone back to school on Monday for the beginning of a new academic year at the best school in the world!

We are really looking forward to seeing the children again, and welcoming our new pupils and families into our wonderful Mawnan community. I know that the first day can bring a mixture of excitement and nerves, but our staff will be ready to give every child a warm and reassuring welcome.

Our first newsletter of the year always contains a little more information than usual. We hope the reminders below will help everyone feel prepared for the new term. If you are unsure about anything, please do ask because we are always happy to help.

Thank you, as always, for your support and for the important part you play in our Mawnan community.

Miss Pridmore

Keeping in Touch

We try our best to keep families informed about school news, events, learning and successes. The summary below explains where you can expect to find different types of information.

INFORMATION	HOW IT WILL BE SHARED
Class routines	A class newsletter will be published on ClassDojo at the beginning of the academic year. It will include PE days, home learning and other routines. Information is also available on class pages of the website.
Class learning	Teachers will add posts to the Class Story and aim to publish a summary of learning each Friday.
Your child's progress	Parent-teacher meetings take place in November and March. A written report containing attainment and targets is provided in July. Appointments are booked through Google Forms.
Whole-school news	The Mawnan Light is published on Friday afternoons and shared by email, ClassDojo and the school website.
Trips and sporting events	Information and forms are sent by email, usually through Google Forms.
Emergency closures	Urgent notifications, including emergency closures, are shared by email and ClassDojo.

Please let the school office know promptly if your telephone number, email address or emergency contact details change.

Contacting School

Reporting an absence

Please telephone or email the school office by 9.00am on every day that your child is absent. Please tell us the specific reason why your child is unable to attend.

Changes to collection arrangements

Tell the class teacher at the beginning of the day or telephone the school office. This ensures the message reaches the correct member of staff before collection time.

Medical appointments

If you need to collect your child during the school day, please notify the office in advance. This allows the class teacher to be informed and your child to be ready without unnecessary disruption to learning.

Questions about learning or wellbeing

Please speak to your child's teacher at the beginning or end of the day, or arrange an appointment if a longer conversation is needed. Brief ClassDojo messages are welcome, but staff will not check or respond during teaching time.

Safeguarding concerns

Please speak to Miss Pridmore, our Designated Safeguarding Lead, or Miss Law, our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Parent Partnership

At Mawnan, we believe that children flourish when families and school work closely together. Parents and carers know their children best, and the knowledge, support and encouragement you share with us are incredibly important. We genuinely value your contribution to school life and the trust you place in us.

Our partnership is built on open communication, mutual respect and a shared commitment to doing the very best for every child. By listening to one another, celebrating successes and approaching any difficulties constructively, we create a safe, positive and nurturing community in which children feel known, supported and able to thrive.

Our Home–School Agreement sets out the shared commitments of children, families and staff. It:

- reflects our school vision and values;
- reminds us of the part we each play in supporting children's learning, wellbeing and development;
- provides a clear starting point for families joining Mawnan; and
- helps us work together positively when questions or difficulties arise.

Alongside this, our Parent Code of Conduct explains how we can maintain the kind, respectful and harmonious relationships that allow our whole community to shine together. We ask everyone to communicate constructively, model kindness and patience, respect school policies and contribute positively to school life.

A copy of our Home–School Agreement is attached to this newsletter. You can also read our [Parent Code of Conduct](#) on the school website.

Thank you for everything you do to support your children and our school. Your partnership is not only valued—it is a vital part of what makes Mawnan such a special community.

Arriving at School

The school gates open at **8.35am** and a member of staff will be there to welcome you and your child. Classroom doors open at **8.40am**. If you arrive before then, please keep your child with you because an adult may not yet be available in the classroom.

The gates close and registration begins at **8.45am**. Children arriving after this time must enter through the school office so that they can be registered correctly. Please do not reopen the playground gates once they have been secured.

Children must not be dropped off inside or outside the school grounds before 8.35am because there is no supervision available. If your child walks independently, please ensure they do not arrive early.

If you need an earlier drop-off, Breakfast Club provides appropriate supervision and a healthy breakfast from 8.00am. Children arriving late should come to the main reception, where parents can say goodbye and a member of staff will escort them to class.

Collection and Playground Safety

Once children have been handed over at the end of the school day, parents and carers are responsible for supervising them. Please keep children away from the perimeter wall, parked cars and surrounding bushes.

We also ask families to leave the playground promptly and not allow children to use the play equipment or go onto the field. Several clubs run after school and need to use these spaces, and it is important that the gates can be secured by 3.20pm. Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe.

Breakfast Club and Wraparound Care

We are proud to offer two high-quality childcare provisions that support families and provide a safe, nurturing environment outside normal school hours. Both Breakfast Club and Wraparound will start on Monday 7th September.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club opens at 8.00am and costs £3 per session. Children receive a healthy breakfast and have time to settle and socialise before learning begins. Sessions are booked through ParentPay. On arrival, ring the bell at the main entrance. Mrs Cattle will welcome children at reception, where parents should say goodbye.

Wraparound Club

Our afternoon club runs from Monday to Thursday, 3.15–5.30pm. Children can enjoy arts and crafts, games, outdoor play and a healthy snack. The team works hard to create a welcoming atmosphere in which every child feels happy and supported.

For more information, see our website <https://www.mawnanschool.com/web/after-school-childcare-wraparound/707573> or contact Sam at wraparound@mawnanschool.com.

Message from Sam:

Welcome back!

Welcome back to all the children! We hope everyone has had a lovely summer break and is feeling refreshed and ready for the new school year.

We have now finalised the new **Wraparound Care hours and pricing**. These changes are essential to ensure that our Wraparound provision remains sustainable going forward.

The sessions will be:

- **3.15pm – 4.15pm: £6**
- **3.15pm – 5.30pm: £12**
-

We will continue to run our **special activity sessions each week**. The children will be able to see what activities are planned on the Wraparound display board in the hall. We will also share the activities on **Class Dojo and in the school newsletter**.

We will also continue to provide a **balanced snack**, including fruit, vegetables, yoghurt and cereals, with milk or oat milk. If your child has any dietary requirements, please let the school office know.

The Wraparound sessions are now **live on ParentPay for this term**.

If you would like to pay using a **voucher scheme**, please let me know or pop into the school office and we can arrange an invoice.

Please note that if you are paying through a voucher scheme, payment must be received within the first week of the relevant week/weeks or term. If payment is not received, unfortunately your child/children will not be able to attend Wraparound until the account is brought up to date.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to another lovely year of Wraparound! 

School Uniform

Thank you for supporting our Mawnan uniform policy and helping children arrive looking smart and ready to learn. Please clearly name all school clothing, particularly jumpers, cardigans and polo shirts, so that misplaced items can be returned quickly. Class teachers will let families know which days children should come prepared for PE.

A small selection of preloved branded uniform is available from the school reception. Please speak to the office if you would like to access it. We are also grateful for donations of clean, good-quality branded uniform that children have outgrown.

Food and Drink



Morning snacks

As a Healthy School, we encourage a balanced diet. Oppie and Topper receive fruit or vegetables through the government scheme. We ask children in Pico, Fusion and Dart to bring only fresh fruit or vegetables for their morning snack whenever possible. This supports healthy choices and helps reduce single-use plastic.

Water bottles

Every child should bring a clearly named water bottle containing water rather than juice or squash. Please also label any snack containers.

Serious nut allergy

A child in school has a serious nut allergy and requires an adrenaline auto-injector. For their safety, please do not send nuts or products containing nuts into school.

School lunches

Chartwells provides our school meals and all lunches must be booked through ParentPay. New families will receive login details next week. School meals remain £2.79. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 continue to receive universal infant free school meals; charges apply in Key Stage 2 unless a child qualifies for benefits-related free school meals.

Birthday Celebrations

We love celebrating children's birthdays at Mawnan. However, for health and allergy reasons, please do not send cakes, sweets or other sweet treats to school.

If your child would like to bring something to share, some lovely fruit would be very welcome (please prepare this before handing it over to a member of staff).

Alternatively, families may wish to donate a book to the Reading Barn. We will add a special sticker showing who donated the book and the date, creating a lasting reminder of your child's special day for everyone to enjoy.

Free School Meals: What Families Need to Know

From September 2026, all children whose families receive Universal Credit are entitled to a free school meal, regardless of household income. A claim must be made, and eligibility must be confirmed by the school or local authority.

There are now two categories of benefits-related free school meals.

Targeted Free School Meals

This applies to households receiving Universal Credit with annual earnings of £7,400 or less. Children receive a free meal and may also qualify for additional support, including the Holiday Activities and Food programme. The school also receives Pupil Premium funding to support eligible pupils.

Expanded Free School Meals

This applies to households receiving Universal Credit with annual earnings above £7,400. Children receive a free school meal, but the additional benefits and funding linked to targeted eligibility do not apply.

Families whose children are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 should still apply. Although all infant children receive a free meal, a successful targeted application may bring valuable additional funding into school and provide access to further support.

Annual Consent Form

Educational visits are an important part of our curriculum. They enrich learning and give children opportunities to develop new knowledge, skills and confidence.

Parents need to complete one permission and medical consent form for the academic year. This covers educational visits during term time, adventure activities and off-site sporting fixtures during or outside the school day.

We will continue to send the full details of each visit, including timings, transport, clothing and any requests for help. For visits outside our immediate locality, information will usually be sent by email through Google Forms so that we know it has been received.

It is essential that families tell us promptly about changes to a child's medical needs, emergency contacts or consent for medical treatment. The annual consent form will be sent next week.

Enrichment Clubs

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

Next week is club sign-up week. Google Forms will be sent by email and must be completed by **9.00am on Friday 11 September**. We need a firm closing time so that we can organise appropriate staffing ratios safely.

Gardening Club will begin on Wednesday 9 September. All other clubs will begin during the week starting Monday 14 September.

We are extremely grateful to the staff and volunteers who give their time to provide these opportunities. Please think carefully before accepting a club place. Last year, some children were registered but did not attend. If your child no longer wishes or is unable to take part, please let us know promptly so the place can be offered to someone else.

Enrichment clubs are not intended to provide regular childcare. Families who need after-school care should book a place at our Wraparound Club.

The Mawnan Curriculum: Voyages, Journeys and Expeditions

At Mawnan, we are extremely proud of our curriculum. It is carefully designed to provide rich, enjoyable and memorable learning experiences while securing exceptional outcomes and supporting the personal growth of every child.

At the heart of our curriculum are the exciting voyages, journeys and expeditions that capture children's curiosity and bring learning to life. These experiences help children make meaningful connections, deepen their knowledge and remember what they have learned.

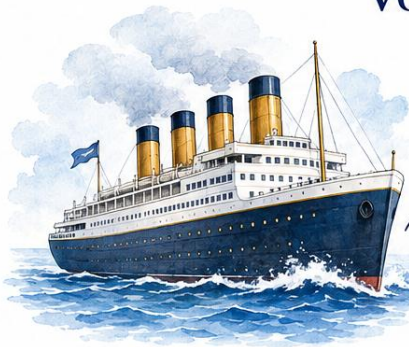
This year, we will continue to build on this success. We want every child not only to achieve academically, but also to develop the curiosity, confidence and love of learning that will stay with them long into the future.

At the beginning of each term, families will receive information about what their children will be learning. We will also share regular ClassDojo updates so that you can see the curriculum in action. If you have any questions about your child's learning, please speak to their class teacher.

The Mawnan Curriculum



Voyage • Journey • Expedition



VOYAGE

Our child's seven years at Mawnan

A mapped timeline of carefully chosen, well-linked learning—meaningful in each part and even more powerful as a whole.



JOURNEY

Each school year

Knowledge is interleaved across the voyage. Threads connect new learning with prior knowledge and earlier experiences.



EXPEDITION

Each half term

Knowledge is deliberately interwoven, with opportunities to make connections and revisit previous expeditions so learning is secured.



Trips • workshops • visitors • rich experiences • personal development



Highly ambitious and detailed



Ofsted, October 2024

Every School Day Matters

Regular attendance gives children the best possible opportunity to learn, build friendships and feel part of school life. Learning develops in a carefully planned sequence, so even short periods of absence can result in children missing important teaching.

We understand that children become unwell and that families can face circumstances that make attendance difficult. Please speak to us as early as possible if your child experiences a barrier to attending school. We want to work with families and offer appropriate support.

Parents must contact the school on every day of absence and provide an honest, specific reason. Where appropriate, we may request evidence of medical appointments or prescribed medication. We use NHS health guidance when deciding whether illness-related absence can be authorised.

Attendance and Leave During Term Time

Term-time leave can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. Under the national framework, schools must consider requesting a penalty notice when a child has 10 unauthorised sessions—usually five school days—within a rolling period of 10 school weeks. The sessions may include unauthorised leave, other unauthorised absence or late arrival after registration has closed.

A first penalty notice is £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days, rising to £160 if paid within 28 days. A second notice for the same child within three years is charged at £160, with no reduced rate. A third offence within three years may lead to prosecution rather than a further penalty notice.

Attendance information is shared daily with the Department for Education and the local authority. This helps schools and services identify patterns, offer support and make sure children receive their entitlement to education.

Our priority is always to work with families so that children can attend regularly and thrive. Every school day matters.

Term Dates

Information Classification: PUBLIC

Cornwall Council

2026/27 School Term Dates for Community and Voluntary-Controlled Schools



CORNWALL COUNCIL
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Together for Families

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

October 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		

November 2026						
Mon		2	9	16	23	30
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	29	

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

January 2027						
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	

February 2027						
Mon		1	8	15	22	
Tue		2	9	16	23	
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	

March 2027						
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		

April 2027						
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		
Sun	4	11	18	25		

May 2027						
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	

June 2027						
Mon		7	14	21	28	
Tue	1	8	15	22	29	
Wed	2	9	16	23	30	
Thurs	3	10	17	24		
Fri	4	11	18	25		
Sat	5	12	19	26		
Sun	6	13	20	27		

July 2027						
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		

August 2027						
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	

School holidays

Bank holidays

Christmas Day	25 December 2026
Boxing Day	28 December 2026
New Years Day	01 January 2027
Good Friday	26 March 2027
Easter Monday	29 March 2027
May Bank Holiday	03 May 2027
Spring Bank Holiday	31 May 2027
Summer Bank Holiday	30 August 2027

AUTUMN TERM (72 days)

3 September - 18 December 2026
(HALF TERM 26 - 30 October 2026)

SPRING TERM (54 days)

4 January - 25 March 2027
(HALF TERM 15 - 19 February 2027)

SUMMER TERM (69 days)

12 April - 23 July 2027
(HALF TERM 31 May - 4 June 2027)

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.

Academy, trust and voluntary-aided schools set their own term dates and INSET days.

Important Dates

MONTH	KEY DATES
September 2026	Thu 3 and Fri 4 – INSET days Mon 7 – Children return
October 2026	Mon 26–Fri 30 – Half-term holiday
November 2026	Week beginning Mon 16 – Parent–teacher meetings
December 2026	Fri 18 – Last day of autumn term
January 2027	Mon 4 – Children return
February 2027	Mon 15–Fri 19 – Half-term holiday
March 2027	Week beginning Mon 15 – Parent–teacher meetings Thu 25 – Last day of spring term
April 2027	Mon 12 – Children return
May 2027	Mon 3 – Bank holiday; school closed Mon 10–Thu 13 – KS2 SATs Mon 31 May–Fri 4 Jun – Half-term holiday
June 2027	Mon 7–Wed 9 – INSET days Thu 10 – Children return Mon 7–Fri 18 – Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check window Week beginning Mon 14 – Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
July 2027	Fri 2 – Sports Day Fri 23 – Last day of academic year

Thank you for taking the time to read our first newsletter of the year. We hope that the information is helpful and that it supports a happy, settled start to the new term.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday.

The Mawnan Team