

ST BURYAN ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Friday 7th March 2025

www.stburyanacademy.com

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Tel: 01736 810480

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TURN ON NOTIFICATIONS AND RECEIVE NOTICE WHEN WE UPLOAD OUR NEWSLETTERS, MENUS AND UPDATE OUR DIARY!

Key Dates

Please check the school calendar through our website regularly - more dates will be added as the term goes on

Please check the key dates below for upcoming events. New dates may be added across the term so please check our lines of communication when notified.



In this edition...

- Welcome
- Recent photos
- 2025/25 Term Dates
- Upcoming FoS events
- Yearly Dates
- Open Morning Info.
- Using technology to support reading

INSET DAYS 24/25

Sept 3rd and 4th 2024

June 6th 2025

July 21st, 22nd, 23rd 2025

Welcome to our fortnightly newsletter!

Thank you for people's understanding this week as I've been away - and a huge thank you to all of our great staff.

It has been yet another busy few weeks at St Buryan - with some exciting events to come...

Well done to all those who have represented the school in sporting events over the past couple of weeks. Cross country concluded with more impressive results and some superb sportsmanship on show. Our children showed great teamwork and athleticism.

We have also had hockey teams represent the school in both the Y3/4 and Y5/6 leagues - some of these children playing for the first time or even playing in the year group above their own! A huge well done to them and to all those who supported.

We have more upcoming sporting events next week as we take a team to the Penwith Swimming Gala - look out for information should your child be participating.

Last Friday we welcomed Mrs Pascoe and Mrs Semmens in to school to share some exciting work they had done lately and how that will support our children. Over the summer, on behalf of the Women's Institute of St Buryan, they raised a valuable amount of funds for the school as well as donate a hygiene care pack for every child - which they will receive soon!

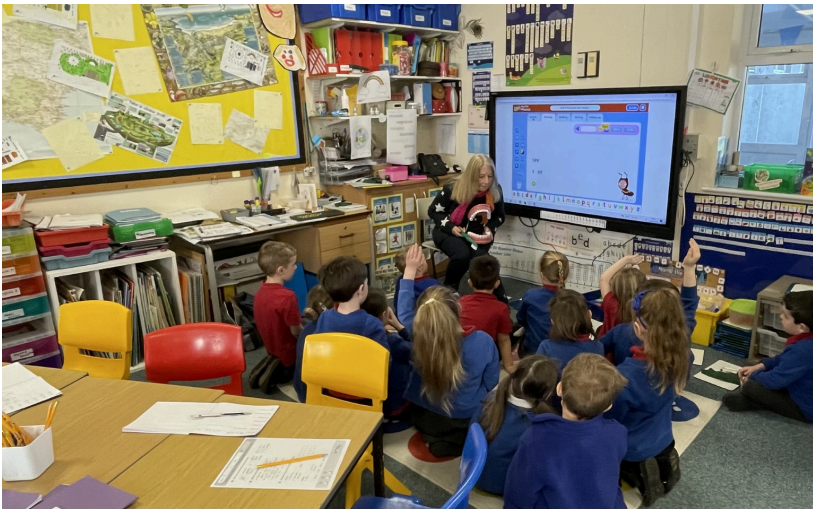
Mrs Pascoe and Mrs Semmens spoke to each class about the importance of dental hygiene and how to take proper care of our teeth. A huge thank you to them both and to the WI for the generosity.

Speaking of fundraising, our Friends of School continue to do an amazing job in supporting the school and our children. They dedicate their own time to organise events for the children of the school and we are incredibly appreciative to them. Please see Natalie Scotter if you're interested in joining our FoS but do have a look within the newsletter for some upcoming events which they have organised.

Hopefully you have received a letter from Mrs Rendle outlining our plans for our own World Book Day on 19/3. Children are welcome to dress up on this day and we are inviting you to join us for a 'Reading Cafe' as well as for a book fair! Please do see the letter that went out on 6/3/25 for more information!

On Tuesday 11th March we will be holding an open morning where you are welcome to tour the school, visit classes and take part in some activities linked to our children's recent learning. Join us in the hall from 8.45am before heading up to classes between 9.00am-10.00am.

Have a great weekend, Mr McDonald and all at St Buryan Academy





ST BURYAN ACADEMY

Key dates

2024

September

- 5th – First Day back!
- 20th – Fitness Day
- 25th – Outdoor Learning Day

October

- Black History Month
- 4th – World Animal Day
- 9th – Stay Safe Workshop
- 10th – World Mental Health Day
- 21st-25th – Parent Meetings
- 22nd – Healthy Cornwall Workshops
- 28th-1st Nov Half Term
- 29th-3rd Nov – Diwali

November

- Diwali
- 11th – Armistice Day
- 13th-17th Anti Bullying Week
- 14th – Open Afternoon/Learning together

December

- 16th – Christmas performances dress rehearsal
- 17th – Christmas Dinner
- 18th – Morning Christmas Show
- 19th – Evening Christmas Show
- 20th – Christmas Paryy and last day of term (1.30pm finish)

January

- 6th – Back to school
- 13th – Year 6 SATs meeting

February

- 3rd-10th – Children’s Mental Health Week
- 7th – NSPCC Number Day
- 17th-21st – Half Term

March

- Women’s History Month
- 4th – Open afternoon/learning together
- 6th – World Book Day
- 12th – Outdoor Learning Day
- 14th & 15th – Holi
- 21st – World Poetry Day
- 24th-28th – Parent Meetings

April

- 4th – Last day of term (1.30pm finish)
- 22nd – Back to School

Key contacts

- Mr. Josh McDonald
Head of School
- Designated Safeguarding Lead
head@stburyanacademy.org
- Mrs. Care
Business and Administration
Parent Liaison Officer
secretary@stburyanacademy.org
- Mrs. Joanna Kwiatkowska
SENCo
- Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
joanck@stburyanacademy.org

All other contacts are available on our website



May

- 12th – Year 6 SATs week
- 19th – Year 5/6 London Trip (proposed date)

June

- 2nd – Multiplication Check week
- 6th – INSET day
- 9th – Phonics Screening Check period begins
- 19th – Outdoor learning day
- 23rd – Year 1-4 residential week (proposed dates)

July

- 4th – Sports’ Day and fete
- 11th – Reports out
- 15th – Year 6 Leavers’ Service
- 18th – Last day (1.30pm finish)!

Key Information

Please note that dates are subject to change and more may be added across the course of the year.

PE every Tuesday

Swimming every Thursday morning (children may come to school in PE kits these days)



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2025/26 INSETS:

- Monday 1st September 2025
- Monday 20th October, Tuesday 21st October, Wednesday 22nd October, Thursday 23rd October, Friday 24th October 2025
- Monday 26th January 2026
- Friday 24th July 2026

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	

- 2025/26 INSET DAYS
- FIRST DAY OF 2025/26 SCHOOL YEAR



OPEN morning

8.45am-9.00am in the school hall before
visiting classrooms and taking part in
activities with our children between
9.00am-10.00am.

Tuesday 11th March 2025

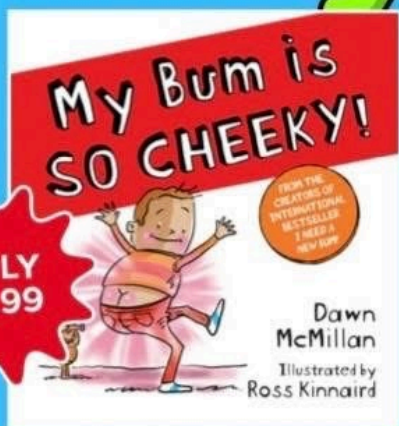


FREE BOOKS FOR YOUR SCHOOL WHEN YOU BUY AT THE BOOK FAIR!

A POP-UP BOOK-STORE WITH HUNDREDS OF BOOKS FROM JUST £2.99

COME TO THE

BOOK FAIR



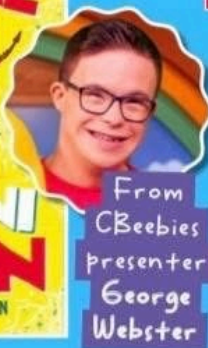
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£6.99 **£2.99**



NEW

£6.99



From CBeebies presenter George Webster



NEW

£7.99



NEW

Hardback only £7.99

£12.99 **£7.99**



NEW

£6.99

A LAUGH OUT LOUD new illustrated series



NEW

Hardback only £9.99

IN CINEMAS FEBRUARY 2025

£12.99 **£9.99**

Date: **Wednesday 19th March**
2.45 - 4.15pm

Scan the QR code to pay online!





FUNDRAISING MEAL NIGHT 28.03.25

AT ST BURYAN COMMUNITY HOUSE 5.30- 8PM
RAISING FUNDS TOWARDS TRIPS, EQUIPMENT & EVENTS AT
ST BURYAN ACADEMY

CASH OR CARD ACCEPTED - BAR OPEN - RAFFLE £1 A STRIP
PLEASE DM LARA OR TEXT 07706841361 TO BOOK YOUR TABLE
(OR ARRANGE A TAKEAWAY)

LOADED FRIES

£10.00

Pulled pork, chicken strips or 3 bean chilli
with cheese, bbq sauce, chilli and spring onion

ST BURYAN FARMSHOP BEEFBURGER

£10.00

Chips, homemade coleslaw
Add bacon or cheese £1 - Pulled Pork £2

CHICKEN CHUNKS (KIDS PORTION £6)

£10.00

Chips, homemade coleslaw or baked beans

LOCALLY MADE SAUSAGES (KIDS PORTION £6)

£10.00

Chips, homemade coleslaw or baked beans

SIDES

Chips or Onion rings £3
Homemade Coleslaw £2

DESSERTS (KIDS PORTION £3)

£5.00

A selection of homemade desserts

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators USING TECHNOLOGY TO BOOST READING SKILLS

The way we engage with text has changed dramatically over the years. Whether reading captions on social media, instructions in a video game or an e-book on a digital device, technology plays a major role in modern literacy. While traditional books remain invaluable, digital tools can enhance reading skills by making text more accessible, interactive and engaging.

1 CHOOSING THE RIGHT TYPE OF TEXT

Before integrating technology, consider the types of text that a child engages with. If they need help on occasion, digital reading pens can assist by scanning and reciting words or sentences. These tools are especially useful for students with reading difficulties, and can even be used in exams if they're part of their routine learning process. Proper training and practice are required, but they can be a great help when tackling printed text.

2 READING ON SCREEN

Many devices now allow users to customise text for better readability. Adjusting font type, size and background colour can significantly enhance comprehension. For many readers, white text on a black background is the easiest to see, whereas other styles – such as dyslexia-friendly fonts – are designed to help those who are struggling. Teaching children how to personalise text settings on their devices empowers them to read more comfortably and with greater confidence.

3 ACCESSIBILITY TOOLS

Most modern devices include built-in tools designed to support readers. These features can be found in Settings under Accessibility and may include text-to-speech, speech-to-text and screen magnification functions. Enabling these tools can make digital reading more user friendly, especially for children with learning difficulties or visual impairments, who might have an easier time with spoken language than the written word, or who might simply require a closer look at the text.

4 INTERACTIVE READING PROGRAMMES

Many digital reading devices, such as Kindle and other e-readers, offer features like word highlighting, adjustable text speed and built-in dictionaries. These tools help learners to break down complex words and phrases while maintaining an appropriate reading pace. Some programmes even allow users to track their progress, making reading a more structured and motivating experience.

5 VIDEO GAMES AND READING SKILLS

Many video games require players to read instructions, character dialogues and mission objectives, making them an unexpected but effective literacy tool. Games that involve storytelling, puzzles or problem-solving often include large amounts of text – encouraging children to read these texts aloud or discuss them can improve their comprehension and vocabulary in a fun, engaging way.

6 SUBTITLES AND CLOSED CAPTIONS

Watching videos with subtitles or closed captions is an effective way to enhance reading skills. As children watch their favourite shows or online videos, they can follow along with the text, gaining a better understanding of how written words sound when spoken aloud. This is particularly beneficial for reluctant readers, as it exposes them to words in a familiar, engaging context. Repeatedly watching content with subtitles reinforces word recognition and comprehension.

7 USING AUDIOBOOKS

Audiobooks are an excellent way to develop listening and reading skills simultaneously. Children can follow along with the text while listening to a narrator, reinforcing word recognition and fluency. For struggling readers, listening to an audiobook before attempting to read the text independently can boost their confidence and comprehension.

9 TEXT-TO-VOICE TECHNOLOGY

Text-to-voice software reads digital text aloud, making it easier for learners to follow along. Most smartphones, tablets and computers come with this function built in. When enabled, users can highlight a passage or sentence and press Play to hear it read aloud. This tool is particularly helpful for auditory learners and those who struggle with decoding written words.

8 VOICE-TO-TEXT FOR WRITING AND READING

Voice-to-text tools allow users to dictate words, which are then transcribed into text. This feature helps children see the connection between spoken and written language. By using text-to-voice to have their dictated words read back to them, learners can identify mistakes and improve their reading and writing skills simultaneously.

10 SOCIAL MEDIA AND PARENTAL CONTROLS

While social media provides opportunities for reading, most platforms have age restrictions of 13–16 years old, making parental guidance essential. Many social media videos include captions and comments that can encourage reading. However, it's important to use the platform's parental controls (such as time limits and content filters) to create a safe and educational online environment for children. Encouraging responsible social media use can ensure a balanced and productive approach to digital literacy.

Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lowri is a qualified special needs teacher and experienced SENCO. She recently launched her own site, Neuroteachers, which offers a library of short, 'how-to' and explanation videos for educators. Catrina also writes and delivers online training and events for multi-academy trusts, businesses, schools and training organisations.



The National College