

BELIEVE, ACHIEVE, ASPIRE

ST BURYAN ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Friday 17th November 2023

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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

22nd November - Tots and Tiddlers
Forest School (No Forest School for
Nanjizal)

8th December - Whole school trip to
Hall for Cornwall

8th December - PK Museum Event

12th December - Morning and evening
Christmas shows

14th December - Christmas dinner and
Christmas Jumper day

19th December - Last day of term!
Wear your Christmas clothes

CHECK OUT OUR NEW "WHAT'S ON
THIS WEEK" NOTICEBOARD FOR OUR
WEEKLY EVENTS

In this edition...

- Welcome
- Spotlight on School Council
- PK Museum
- Virtual Bookfair
- Menu
- Curriculum Overview
- Online Safety: Microtransactions

Welcome to our fortnightly newsletter!

It has been such a busy couple of weeks since our last newsletter; I am always so proud of what we offer as a school, I really believe that the education and opportunities that we provide go over and above, allowing our children to have experiences and create memories that last a lifetime.

I was really proud of our well-being event last week, I strongly believe that we play a key role in promoting a healthy well-being to our pupils, staff and community; so it was important to me that we offered such a unique event which allowed our children to work with specialists in well-being and mental health; then to offer the opportunity for our community to meet with these charities and organisations too. Thanks to those who supported the event and if you'd like more information then please get in touch.

We also had a bit of a treat Thursday when the whole school visited the cinema to watch Lyle, Lyle Crocodile. Thanks to Mrs King for organising the event; the children were impeccably behaved and had a great time.

On the 13th we visited the church for our Remembrance service. Caroline Amos and Dr Hersant led our service, which featured a poem read perfectly by Harvey B and Grace, our Head Pupils. The children were so respectful and were in admiration of the poppy display at the church; I hope you like our own poppies on the school gate, these were made in Forest School by the children - they carved and drilled the wooden slices themselves!

Our High 5s (children's netball) team played their first fixtures of the year last week. They played 4 games losing one, drawing one and winning two! A great achievement against some bigger schools than us!

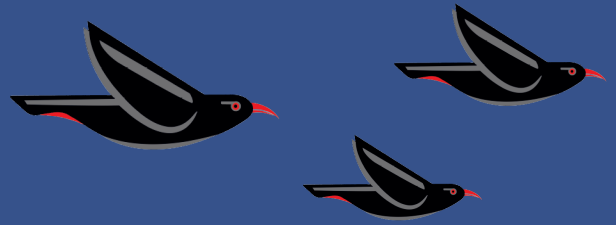
We welcomed Healthy Cornwall into school to work with all of our children in sessions across the day. They spoke to us about healthy and balanced diets, the sugars in foods we eat and how we can make healthy choices. We also learnt about how to clean our teeth properly.

Next week we welcome in the viallge's "Tots and Tidders" group to have a taste of Forest School. This means there will be no session for Nanjizal on Wednesday and Penberth will have theirs in the afternoon. Please could they come into school in uniform and pack their Forest School kits ready to change in to.

And that's only a snippet of what we've been up to!

Thank you,
Mr McDonald

SPOTLIGHT ON... SCHOOL COUNCIL



Our school council reformed toward the end of last year and carried out an inspiring 'legacy project' for our school. Led by Mrs Ayotte, the council have a key role in our pupil voice and helping to improve the school for all of our children

School councils are designed to promote pupil leadership opportunities and enable children to develop valuable communication, organisation and debating skills. It provides opportunities for children to be involved in the way that St Buryan Academy is run.

What are the aims of the School Council?

- Represent all pupils
- Ensure pupils' voices are heard and views shared
- Feedback about the outcomes of school council meetings
- Action decisions that have been made or explain why they can't happen
- Make meaningful change to improve school life for the children at St Buryan Academy
- Leave a legacy at St Buryan Academy

St Buryan School Council

The school council meets monthly and members take questions and ideas back to their classes to collect their peers' opinions. The school council members have been selected by their peers and the members then vote for positions within the council.

Meet St Buryan Academy School Councillors

Grace our School Council Chair

Millie and Rhys our School Council Vice Chairs

Lettie and Florence our School Council Secretaries

Last year, the school council members began the 'Leave a legacy project' they raised £300, which they wanted to put towards art work within the school. This year, the school council members would like to continue this work with lots of fund raising ideas to discuss in future meetings.

The school councillors are responsible for communicating successes and projects with parents and governors, as well as staff and children. One of their ideas was to set up a page on the website so that they can keep everyone informed as to what they are up to each month! Please head to the school website to have a look. They're looking forward to the year ahead and how they can make a positive contribution to St Buryan Academy – watch this space!

Mrs Ayotte

FRIDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2023

On Friday 17th November, Mae from Porthcurno Telegraph Museum, came in to work with Nanjizal Class – Year 2 and 3. The children were tasked to design three different stained glass window pictures, linked with either St Buryan, winter or nature. The children instantly wanted to draw a chough as they are proud to wear the Cornish bird upon their uniform. Our second design was inspired by a donkey, who lives in a stable, very close to school. We pass this donkey every week on our way back from swimming, which is often the highlight of their journey. Our third design was a seagull and boat, which is linked to our locality. These will be displayed upon Porthcurno Telegraph Museum’s new educational bus. The grand lighting of our masterpieces will take place on 8th December, where everyone is welcome to the switch on.

Mrs King



VIRTUAL BOOK FAIR

We are hosting our ‘Virtual Book Fair’ once again this year! These have been really popular over the past few years; they allow people to purchase books and other gifts without having to come into school to view samples. We will be continuing with our partnership with Usborne books - you can see what is on offer on our Facebook page. There are lots of options and items to see ready for Christmas. When you buy any book or item through the link, you can earn books back for the school. Visit our Facebook page or speak to Mrs Rendle for more information.

You're invited to our

Usborne Book Fair

on 4th and 5th December at All Day

You'll find us in the dedicated Facebook Group

Our Independent Usborne Partner is
Nicola White

You can contact them on
nicola@thewhitehousebookshop.co.uk
07792 512 414
Facebook @thewhitehousebookshop

In partnership with
USBORNE

INSET DAYS 2023/24

MONDAY 4th SEPTEMBER 2023 ✓

TUESDAY 5th SEPTEMBER 2023 ✓

FRIDAY 7th JUNE 2024

MONDAY 22nd JULY 2024

TUESDAY 23rd JULY 2024

WEDNESDAY 24th JULY 2024



DO YOU HAVE A CHILD DUE TO START SCHOOL?

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PENWITH AREA AND LOOKING FOR THE RIGHT SCHOOL FOR YOUR CHILDREN?

Book a tour of ST BURYAN ACADEMY

Meet our children and staff!
Tour our school and environment!
See what our school has to offer!



www.stburyanacademy.com

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secretary@stburyanacademy.org



Excellence - Equity - Evolution - Believe - Achieve - Aspire

Menu

Week commencing 20th November 2023

MONDAY

Mac 'n' Cheese with salad

-

Cookies

TUESDAY

Burgers or vegetarian burgers with salad and wedges

-

Jelly and fruit

WEDNESDAY

Gammon or vegetarian sausages with roast potatoes and vegetables

-

Cake and Custard

THURSDAY

Fish fingers, chips, peas and beans

-

Flapjack

FRIDAY

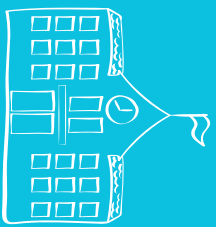
Pasties or Sausage rolls

-

Ice cream

JACKET POTATOES AVAILABLE DAILY!










FRUIT AND YOGHURT AVAILABLE DAILY
PLEASE MAKE ALL PAYMENTS THROUGH PARENTMAIL



St Buryan Academy

Curriculum Overview: Essential Questions Cycle A



Class / Term	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Penberth (Reception/Year 1)	Do all fairytales have happy endings? 	How does your garden grow? 	Who likes to be beside the seaside? 
Nanjizal (Year 2/3)	What makes Mexico magnificent? 	Were all Egyptians Mummified? 	What did pre-historic Britons leave us? 
Porthcurno (Year 4/5/6)	What is out there? 	How Greek are we? 	Why is water so important? 

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MICROTRANSACTIONS

Microtransactions (often abbreviated as "MTX") are digital purchases made within an app or game to unlock extra features or additional content such as new levels. A popular sub-set of these are loot boxes, which contain a selection (usually random) of virtual items: from character skins to game-changing equipment like better weapons. Microtransactions (and loot boxes in particular) are now widespread in apps and games, but concerns persist that they normalise gambling and can foster addictive behaviours – especially among younger players.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

GATEWAY TO GAMBLING?

Microtransactions have been criticised for promoting gambling-adjacent behaviour in children. Research has also suggested that exposure to the loot box system could affect the likelihood of a young person suffering gambling harms later in life: children who purchased or used loot boxes in the last 12 months were found to be more likely to have gambled during the same period, as well.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Microtransactions (and loot boxes especially) could lead to young people displaying compulsive behaviours. Loot boxes are designed to be addictive, and the sought-after prizes they contain are dispensed at random. This means that young gamers might not get what they want straight away, causing them to spend more money as well as additional time gaming.

PAYING TO WIN

In many popular games (the FIFA series being a notable example), microtransactions make it far easier to succeed – which is a concern because children can often find it difficult to keep track of their spending. Once a child starts making in-game purchases, they may continue buying to keep up with their friends and other players – sometimes without recognising the mounting real-world cost.

EXCLUSIVE CONTENT

DATA COLLECTION

To allow a young person to complete microtransactions, many app and game developers collect personal data such as their name, address, email, geolocation information, photos, payment details and so on. Even if this data remains secure (which is by no means guaranteed), there's always the chance that it will be used – and possibly sold on to third parties – for marketing purposes.

AFFECTING DAILY ROUTINE

Online games tend to revolve around repeated loops of activity that can affect purchasing decisions and potentially influence children's spending patterns. This could lead to your child not only handing over more money but also adjusting their daily routine to match the game's schedule – potentially impacting more important elements of their day, such as homework and family time.

SATELLITE SPENDING

If you've linked a payment method like a debit card or a PayPal account to your child's game or app, it's wise to keep a close eye on their microtransactions to ensure they aren't racking up a large bill. Letting a child have access to your card (if they're still too young to have their own) or other means of payment could also lead to them spending beyond the apps and games they normally use.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DO YOUR RESEARCH

It's important to have a serviceable idea of whether the games your child plays use the loot box system (even if it goes by a different name) or include the option of buying items, equipment and so forth. If so, it's crucial to help your child understand that this costs actual money, and that they shouldn't feel pressured into making any purchases.

CHAT ABOUT 'CHANCE'

It may help to explain to your child that many microtransactions involve an element of chance: they could pay money and still not get what they want in return. Emphasise that – while not usually costing much individually – these in-app and in-game purchases can soon add up. Talk to your child about how spending their money in a game or app means they have less to use in the real world.

(GIFT) CARDS ON THE TABLE

Investing in an in-game currency gift card can be a useful way of helping your child get to grips with budgeting. If you buy, say, a £10 V-bucks Fortnite gift card, monitor how long it takes them to spend it. When they come to you asking for more, you could make it the starting point for a conversation about how quickly that money went and how they could earn their next gift card.

STOP SPENDING AT SOURCE

You might decide that the wisest strategy is to remove the potential for spending money on microtransactions. If so, most games, apps and devices have options in their settings to help you manage what your child can spend – or to disable that function altogether, preventing them from buying additional items for their games or boosted functionality for certain apps.

WATCH FOR THE SIGNS

If you're worried that your child's passion for a particular game or app may tempt them into habitual spending on microtransactions, it's important to remember the indicators of addictive behaviour: irritability, a lack of concentration and prioritising recreational screen time ahead of homework or mealtimes could all be signs that you need to have a conversation about a more balanced routine.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



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#WakeUpWednesday