CURNOW SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

01209 215432 | www.curnow.cornwall.sch.uk | @curnowschool

UPCOMING EVENTS

Christmas fayre
Saturday 5th December
10-1

Christmas lunch
Wednesday 9th December

Sennen & Crofty Christmas Activities
Thursday 10th December
1-3.30

Tehidy, Eden & Sowenna Christmas Activities
Monday 14th December
1-3.30

Father Christmas Visit
Friday 18th December

Last day of term
Friday 18th December

Curnow School
Drump Road
REDRUTH
TR16 4SW
01209 215432

HEADTEACHERS NEWS



I am writing to update you on leadership arrangements at Curnow School while we undertake the recruitment process for a new substantive Headteacher.

The Governing Body and school leadership is committed to ensuring continuity, stability and strong leadership throughout this period. With this in mind, we are pleased to confirm the following interim leadership structure from January.

Sam Murray will take on the role of Interim Headteacher, providing overall strategic leadership for the school and ensuring that our pupils, families and staff continue to receive the high-quality support and provision they expect from Curnow.

To strengthen leadership capacity further, Rachel Waters will step up to the role of Deputy Headteacher. Rachel brings extensive knowledge of our school community and has already played a significant role in supporting school improvement and operational leadership. Her experience and commitment will be invaluable during this transition period.

We are also delighted to announce that Catherine Medley has been successful in securing a secondment to the role of Assistant Headteacher. Catherine joins us from Pencalenick School, where she has held a number of leadership responsibilities, including leading mathematics across the school and overseeing specialist provision within Additional Resource Bases (ARBs). She brings a wealth of experience, expertise and a strong commitment to inclusive education, which will further enhance our senior leadership capacity.

Together, Sam, Rachel, Jenny and Catherine will work closely with staff, governors and families to ensure that the school continues to move forward positively and that our pupils remain at the centre of everything we do. I will support this transition after Christmas but also support the wider trust up until the February half term.

The recruitment process for a permanent Headteacher is currently being planned, and we will keep our school community informed of progress as appropriate. In the meantime, we are confident that these interim arrangements provide the leadership strength, stability and expertise needed to support the continued success of Curnow School.

Thank you for your ongoing support, commitment and partnership. We look forward to working together as we continue to provide the best possible outcomes for all our pupils.

Enhancing Communication Across Curnow School with The Grid

We are delighted to announce that Curnow School has recently signed up to The Grid, an innovative Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) platform developed by Smartbox.

The Grid is a powerful communication app designed to support individuals who have difficulty communicating through speech alone. Using symbols, words, pictures, and personalised communication pages, the app enables pupils to express their thoughts, needs, feelings, and ideas more independently and confidently.

Since introducing The Grid, staff have been incorporating it throughout the school day and across a range of lessons. Pupils are using the app to participate in classroom activities, answer questions, make choices, engage with their peers, and communicate with adults around the school. This consistent approach ensures that communication opportunities are available throughout every aspect of school life.

The introduction of The Grid is helping us to create a more inclusive environment where every pupil has a voice and can actively engage in learning. By providing accessible communication tools, we are empowering our pupils to develop their independence, build relationships, and take a more active role in their education.

Staff have been exploring the many features of The Grid and tailoring communication resources to meet the individual needs of our pupils. As confidence grows, we look forward to seeing the positive impact it has on communication, participation, and learning across the school.

At Curnow School, we are committed to ensuring that every pupil can communicate in a way that works best for them. The introduction of The Grid is an exciting step forward in supporting this vision and strengthening communication throughout our school community.

We look forward to sharing more updates on how our pupils are benefiting from this fantastic resource in the months ahead.











Our Extraordinary Explorers





We are delighted to celebrate the fantastic achievement of Noah Constable and Lydia Constable, who have successfully completed the Cornwall Reading Challenge: Extraordinary Explorers. The Cornwall Reading Challenge encourages young people to discover new books, develop a love of reading, and explore different stories and authors. By completing the challenge, Noah and Lydia have demonstrated great commitment, enthusiasm, and perseverance in their reading journey.



Children in Need

The children had a wonderful day celebrating Children in Need by dressing up, playing games, and enjoying the photo booth with their friends.











This month in pictures

We have taken time to remember and reflect on Remembrance Day through a wonderful range of creative activities. We have also been learning all about Bonfire Night and its traditions, alongside enjoying lots of other fun and exciting learning experiences throughout the month!













Cornwall School Games - Bowling event at Ozzell Bowl

Some of our KS4 and Post-16 students recently attended a bowling session at Ozzell Bowl as part of the Cornwall School Games Inclusion Programme. This programme provides a wide range of opportunities to help schools deliver inclusive sporting and physical activity experiences for all pupils. Through activities such as inclusive competitions, events, and participation opportunities, students of varying abilities and needs can develop confidence, enjoy being active, and experience the benefits of sport in a supportive environment. The bowling trip was a fantastic opportunity for students to socialise, build skills, and take part in an enjoyable and inclusive activity.

Keep an eye out for more exciting sporting opportunities coming up throughout the year, as we continue to take part in events through the Cornwall School Games Inclusion Programme. We look forward to giving our students more chances to develop their skills, build confidence, make new friends, and enjoy being active in inclusive and supportive environments.







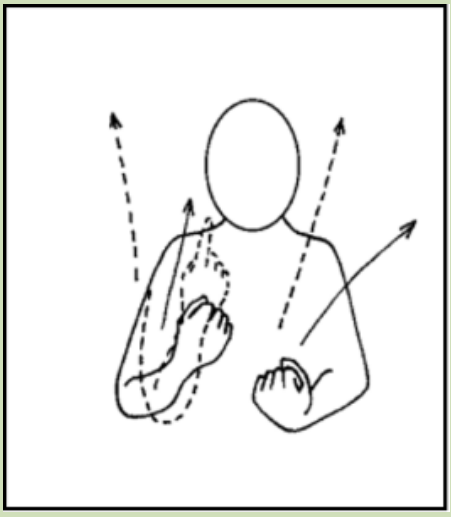


🌟 Learn Makaton Together! 🌟

Each month, we will be introducing a new Makaton sign for families to learn and practise at home alongside our students. This is a wonderful way to support communication and help reinforce the signs being used throughout the school.

📚 This month's Makaton sign is: Firework

We encourage everyone to have a go and use the sign in everyday conversations. Learning together helps build confidence, understanding, and communication skills for all. Look out for next month's sign in our newsletter!



EVENTS


Join Us For Our
Christmas Fayre
Saturday 5th December
10am - 1pm
at Curnow Upper School
Santa's Grotto
Craft Stalls
Tasty Treats
Hot Drinks & More!
Fun for All the Family!


REDRUTH IN LIGHTS
REDRUTH'S FREE! CHARITY
CHRISTMAS GROTTO
SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2026
SATURDAYS 5TH | 12TH DECEMBER
10AM - 12PM AND 1PM -3PM AT REDRUTH CIVIC CENTRE
REDRUTH TOWN COUNCIL
WWW.DISCOVERREDRUTH.CO.UK
REDRUTH


SEND parent carers
CORNWALL PARENT CARER FORUM
Coffee Morning
A friendly, welcoming space for parent carers across Cornwall
Meet other parent carers
Enjoy a cuppa and a chat
Share experiences and find support
Thursday 12th November & Thursday 10th December
Camborne Family Hub, Cliff View Road
(Next door to the cafe at Goosberry Bush Day Nursery)
10.00am - 12.00pm
All parent carers are welcome


TA-DAAA!
Cinderella
Written by Alan P Frayn
20th - 22nd November
RITZ


KIDZ R US
Rapunzel
An Entangled Tale
ST IVES THEATRE
19 - 30 DECEMBER


SEND Parents Support Group
Drop in to our support group at the Pool Family Hub Every other Thursday 12.30-2.30pm
• Offering support, advice & information
• Tea & Coffee provided
• Children welcome
Pool Family Hub, Treloweth Nursery, Higher Broad Lane, Illogan. TR15 3JL
12th & 26th Nov & 10th Dec Then we return on 21st January 2027
Parent Carer Forum works to represent the voice of parent carers with: the local authority, health services, education providers, and other organisations to ensure that families' voices are heard and valued.
To find out more please visit: https://www.cornwallparentcarerforum.co.uk/

UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH

Are you a parent or caregiver?

We'd like to hear about your thoughts and feelings about parenting

All parents and caregivers of children aged 4-13 are invited to take part. This includes parents and caregivers of children with and without learning disabilities, as we are interested in how these experiences may vary

What's involved?

- A short, anonymous online questionnaire that you can complete in your own time
- This takes approximately 15-20 minutes

Chance to win a £50, £20 or £10 gift card





To take part, please follow this link or scan the QR code:

https://psysurvey.plymouth.ac.uk /limesurvey/index .php?r=survey/index&sid=741754&lang=en

For further information, please contact:
hannah.gibbs@plymouth.ac.uk

This study has been approved by the University of Plymouth ethics committee (6860)

Cornwall & Devon
School Age Immunisation Service

NHS

Flu Vaccination Walk In Clinic

School Age
Reception
- Year 11

Saturday 12th December 2026
10am - 12pm

Newquay Family Hub, Trenance Road,
Newquay, TR7 2LU

For more information please speak with a member of the team.

01872 221105

kernowhealthcic.schoolimmunisation@nhs.net