



PENINSULA
LEARNING TRUST



Half and 1/2

Can you believe we are now officially half way through the school year?! I am always astonished by the progress that the children are able to make in a term and a half, especially when you look at their books.

Before the Easter holidays you will receive a written report about your child. This report will indicate the progress they have made, their attributes and their targets for the final term. If extra copies of the report are needed please notify us in advance and we will try to oblige.

In the meantime have a safe and enjoyable half term and we will see you for the second half of the academic year on Monday 20th February.

Mr Gynn

Many thanks for your donations toward Childreach International and sponsoring former student Eleanor Clay. We raised £91!



THE HARBOUR TAVERN

WEDNESDAY 22ND FEBRUARY

10.30AM

All proceeds going to

Little Nipper's Mevagissey pre-school

Come and join us for coffee and cake



Eden Project

Ice Skating



Stars and Citizens of Week

Dear Parents,

1st February, 2017

The Cornwall Association of Primary Headteachers has advised that this letter would be sent to all parents explaining to them the very serious financial pressures that schools are facing. The heads and their governing bodies are also writing to their MP; many have already done so. During the last week or two, MPs from across England have been raising their concerns with the Secretary of State and on the floor of the House of Commons – we are urging our MPs to add their voice to the growing concerns being expressed nationally.

The Government is imposing real terms funding cuts on schools by freezing the amount of money that is allocated to schools for each pupil at the same time that inflation, the contributions that schools have to make towards their employees pensions and National Insurance contributions have risen significantly. This affects all schools and academies alike, both primary and secondary. Whilst the amount of money coming into schools from government has remained static, the amount going out on expenditure due to government imposed changes has risen considerably.

Schools across the country are funded differently, and have been for many years. Generally, schools in rural areas are funded at a lower level than those in cities. This government has been brave enough to try and address these differences and introduce a new National Funding Formula, and the initial details were announced just before Christmas. However, rather than help rural areas such as Cornwall, it is now clear that many schools will actually lose funding; the new formula announced will do nothing to help the majority of schools in Cornwall. Figures from the National Association of Headteachers, National Union of Teachers and the Association of Teachers & Lecturers, using the government's own formula and statistics, show that between now and 2020 there will be an average cut in funding of £339 per pupil in primary schools across the Country. Some Cornish schools have already made staff redundancies over the last three or four years, class sizes have already increased.

It is clear that schools in Cornwall are already struggling with their finances. We do not want children in this county to miss out on being taught a full curriculum in a school which has sufficient teachers and support staff to give children the attention they need to make the best of their education. The current Government was elected on a manifesto that promised to protect school funding. It is clear that this pledge is not being honoured in real financial terms. We are asking our MPs to press the Chancellor to use the Budget to announce increased education spending. We are also asking our MPs to stress the impossible financial situation that Cornwall's schools are facing when meeting with the Secretary of State for Education, Justine Greening and her ministers. The Chair of the Conservative backbench 1922 Committee, Graham Brady has asserted that "it is clear that the draft published by the DfE does not rectify the long-standing unfairness of education funding," and many other senior Conservative MPs have already publicly condemned the funding reforms announced.

What can parents do to help and support their school?

The more people that raise their concerns with their MP, the more likelihood there is that changes may be made. The government is currently consulting on their funding reforms, so now is the time for Cornish parents to make their voice heard. You can do two things:

Sign a national online petition by clicking on this link: <http://www.schoolcuts.org.uk/#/contact-us> AND

Email your MP; you can use this link if you wish: <http://www.schoolcuts.org.uk/#/email-your-mp>

Your local MP will be expecting to hear from you – they know that we are sending this letter to you all!

Mr S Gynn & Mrs S Beardsmore

Spring and Summer Diary Dates

Monday 20th February	2nd half of Spring Term begins
Tuesday 21st February	Y5 and Y6 Visit to Recycling Centre
Wednesday 22nd February	Pizza Making Workshops
Tuesday 28th February	Pancake Day
Thursday 2nd March	World Book Day
Friday 3rd March	Pyjama & Onesie Day arranged by the school council £1 donations to raise money for wet play board-games for classes
Tuesday 21st March	Move It! Hall for Cornwall - Mrs Hoare's dance club
Tuesday 21st March	Farm & Country Day - Royal Cornwall Showground—Yr 3 & 4
Friday 24th March	Red Nose Day
Monday 27th March	Easter Egg decorating workshops
Friday 31st March	Last day of Spring Term. School finishes 2pm
Tuesday 18th April	Summer Term starts