

17th July 2026 - End of Summer Term

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are in the final few days of the Summer Term. As another academic year ends, I would like to extend my thanks for your continued support of our schools throughout the year. Ensuring your children arrive at school smartly dressed, on time, and with all the equipment they need makes a real difference. It helps to reduce anxiety for your children and enables the school day to run smoothly. Thank you for your ongoing efforts and support.

Celebrating Success: Ofsted Inspections

It has been another full academic year. Duloe received a very positive report in the Spring Term this year following one of the new and much more rigorous Ofsted inspections. We await visits for Harrowbarrow, Trenode, and Copper Valley Juniors and hope they run as well as Duloe.

Pupil Progress and Assessments

As you know, each year we have formal assessments - EYFS, Year 1 Phonics Check, Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check, and Year 6 SATs. All areas indicate that children across the Trust are making expected progress. With an increase in individual need from children joining us this year, we are pleased with the progress everyone has made.

Parent Survey

Thank you to everyone who completed the summer parent questionnaire. Your feedback helps us to identify areas for further improvement. As in previous years, results have been shared with all school heads and if you have requested a follow-up response, heads are working through these with the aim to complete by the end of next week.

Finance

Nationally, schools continue to face significant financial challenges. The most recent announcement is that schools (maintained or academies) will have to fund 1% of teacher pay awards. We have had to fund all of the support staff pay awards and this pressure is mounting due to reduced overall funding. Bridge Schools Trust remains in a sound financial position, with reserves above the departments guidelines but we have made a few changes in readiness for next year's budget. We will reduce the number of senior staff from 3 to 2 as I retire. We have also chosen to move the central office back into Wadebridge to save further money. In setting the budget this year we have combed through each line to ensure we are offering the best value for money and reducing our overheads. The board of trustees want to continue to invest in buildings, technology and school resources. We've had to trim in-year budgets, but we are able to maintain staffing and resourcing for all our schools. Some of the investments we have made are detailed below in IT and premises enhancements.

Investment in IT

Over the past year, we have again been able to make a significant investment of nearly £200,000 into our IT infrastructure and hardware, particularly iPad provision. Small schools now benefit from 1:1 iPad devices, and larger schools from 1:2, which helps the children with their learning opportunities. There are areas of learning that are only possible using the iPads and technology. But rest assured, we still love to teach a balanced approach to learning, it is not only using screens. The great value of schools is bringing children together to develop friendships and take part in learning that can only be provided in a school. We still relish access to printed books and sing, paint and have PE using other equipment. But in terms of access to the curriculum, an iPad can open a door for those needing support and those who need extending to push on to higher levels in a safe, filtered secure environment.

This initiative marks an exciting step forward in our ongoing commitment to harnessing technology to support high-quality teaching and learning across the Trust.

Premises

We were fortunate to be awarded £599,410 from the Department for Education's Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) to enhance safeguarding measures at Harrowbarrow Primary and undertake a boiler replacement at Trenode CofE Primary. In addition, a further £51,169 of Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) funding enabled improvements across all schools within the Trust, including the replacement of furniture, essential health and safety works, and refurbishment projects. These investments have helped to ensure that our learning environments remain safe, well-maintained, and fit for purpose for pupils and staff.

Collaborations

The children were able to enjoy several events over the year, meeting other children from within the Trust, where our schools came together to compete and to work together in a variety of activities.

Spring Songfest



Groups of children from across our 15 schools came together to take part in a Whole Trust, environmentally themed Spring Song Fest. This exciting opportunity was made possible thanks to Nick Hart, a Trustee of Bridge Schools, through a collaboration with Luke Wallace, a talented singer and songwriter from Canada who works closely with schools and communities and is actively involved in environmental projects around the world.

In the lead-up to the event, the children worked creatively with their teachers and music leads to compose their own original pieces, inspired by important environmental themes. These songs were then shared with other schools during a special performance at St Martin's Church in Liskeard, creating a powerful sense of connection and shared purpose across the Trust.

The event brought our Trust community together to share a collective message about protecting our environment and ecosystems, helping to inspire a sustainable future for generations to come. It was truly a delightful day and a wonderful example of what can be achieved when our schools come together with a shared vision.

Bridge Schools Games



Our World Cup theme brought plenty of excitement, with some excellent football skills on show throughout the week. The football events formed part of the Bridge Schools Games, giving pupils across our Trust the opportunity to represent their school and compete against others. Thank you to all our wonderful staff for making everything run so smoothly. A special thank you to Mr O'Dwyer for organising this year's trust event.

Eco Summit



Children from each school across the Trust also had the exciting opportunity to attend an Eco Summit at Brunel Primary, where they explored important environmental issues, shared ideas with other schools and were inspired to think about how they can make a positive difference to our world. Alongside these memorable events, the children have continued to engage enthusiastically in their classroom learning.

From thoughtful discussions and collaborative activities to developing new skills across the curriculum, it has been wonderful to see their curiosity, determination and positive attitudes shine through.

Farewells and Best Wishes

Year 6 – Class of '25

As always happens at this time of year we say farewell to our Year 6 pupils, we hope you have enjoyed your time in primary school, and we wish you all the very best as you move on to secondary school.

We also say goodbye to staff members leaving at the end of this term. Of particular note is Lynn Cox, headteacher at Copper Valley. Lynn has held multiple roles in Cornwall; she was known to many as a numeracy consultant for the local authority where I first met her over 25 years ago. We hope she has a long and happy retirement. We thank Lynn and everyone else who leaves us, very much indeed for years of service helping children with their learning. We wish all of those who are leaving us every success in their future endeavours.

Team

We are incredibly fortunate to have such a dedicated team of staff across Bridge Schools. They work so very hard to give your children a positive time in school. For those of you who have organised a birthday party with a group of children for your child at home – it's deceptively skilled to keep things on track!

I would like to thank all the staff for their dedication and enthusiasm to achieve great things for all the children in our schools. Governors, trustees and members have also given a great deal of time voluntarily again this year, providing challenge and support. My greatest praise as ever, goes to the children. They have made their way through another academic year, learned a lot along the way and made some positive friendships and memories together.

Term Dates

Please note:

- **The summer term ends on Wednesday 22nd July** (INSET Day: Thursday 23rd July)
- Whole Trust INSET Day: Thursday 4th and Friday 5th September (**Autumn term begins: Monday 7th September**)

When I was invited to take the journey to setting up one of the first multi academy trusts I leapt at the opportunity to help to accelerate success by bringing schools together. It was all new when we started working as families of schools, now it is the government's preferred option. That was 13 years ago when Bridge Schools began, 15 schools later and here we are. I am grateful to the parents current and past who put faith in our 360+ staff to give your children the very best education we can. We have shown time and again that we are stronger together.

This will be my last termly parent letter, as I retire at the end of term. The next will be from Louise Gilbert, who takes over as Interim Chief Executive. In the meantime, I thank you all for your support and wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable summer break. Bridge Schools look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 7th September.

With all good wishes,
Adrian Massey and everyone at
Bridge Schools

**Please find below some resources
that may be useful to you over the summer break**

We're all going on a summer holiday!

Please find below some resources
that may be useful to you over the summer break

Children eat free or at a reduced price

PLACES KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2026 moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free	
ANGUS STEAKHOUSE Kids under 8 eat FREE daily, 12pm to 5pm	MARCO PIERRE WHITE Kids under 12 Eat FREE daily with an adult spend
ASDA Kids eat for £1 daily, with no adult spend	MORRISONS Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend
ASK ITALIAN 2 Kids eat free every day until Sept 6th 2026	PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend all day
BELLA ITALIA Children eat free Sunday - Thursday	PIZZA HUT Kids Eat Free Every Day after 3pm
BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE 2 Kids Eat Free Breakfast with 1 paying adult	PREMIER INN 2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast
BILLS Kids Eat Free weekdays until September 1 st 2026	PRETO Kids up to age 10 eat free with 1 paying adult
BREWDOG 1 Kid eats free with 1 adult, 19th July - 31st August	PREZZO Kids up to age 12 eat for £1 during half terms
CAFE ROUGE Kids Eat FREE 12-4pm every day of the week	PUREZZA Kids under 10 get free pizza with every adult meal
CHIQUITO Kids eat free during all school holidays	SA BRAINS PUBS Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays
COCONUT TREE Kids eat free Mon 13th July - Sun 6th Sept	SIZZLING PUBS Kids eat for £1, Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm
DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES Kids eat for £1 with an adult meal purchase	TABLE TABLE 2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult
FARMHOUSE INNS 2 Kids eat FREE this summer holidays	TESCO Kids eat free every day this summer with a 65p spend
FLAMING GRILL PUBS Kids eat for 88p this summer holidays	TGI FRIDAYS Kids Eat Free until 6 th September (Via App)
FRANKIE & BENNY'S Kids eat FREE during school holidays	THE REAL GREEK Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend
FRANCO MANCIA Kids eat FREE school holidays Mon-Thurs	TRAVELODGE 2 kids eat for £1 with 1 adult breakfast
FUTURE INNS Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal	TOBY CARVERY Kids eat for £1 every day until Sept 1 st 2026
GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS Kids under 10 eat FREE all day, every day	TURTLE BAY Kids eat free with every £15 adult spend via app
HARVESTER Kids eat for £1 every day until Sept 1 st 2026	VILLAGE HOTELS Kids eat free 20th July - 4th Sept via the village app
HUNGRY HORSE Kids eat for 88p this summer holidays	WHITBREAD INNS 2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast
IKEA Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am	YO! SUSHI Kids eat free all day (weekdays) in school holidays
LAS IGUANAS Kids under 12 eat FREE via the App	ZIZZI Kids eat free via app during school holidays

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<https://moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free>

The Summer Time2Move Holiday Programme is here with lots of activities taking place right across Cornwall this summer!

Time2Move

Our Time2Move Holiday Programme (known nationally as HAF, the Holiday Activities and Food Programme) provides fun physical activity and healthy food for children aged between 5 and 16 years old during the main school holidays in Cornwall.

It is fully funded by the Department for Education for children who are eligible for benefits related free school meals (FSM)*. We also encourage our approved activity providers to offer paid spaces so that even more children and families across Cornwall can potentially benefit.

On these pages you will find everything you need to know about Time2Move – whether you're a parent/carer looking to book a session or request SEND support; an activity provider looking to register for the programme; or are simply interested in the impact we have locally.



[Click here for more information](#)

There are many resources to support with children's and adults' wellbeing Please look [here](#) for some suggested ideas



**If your child is starting or leaving primary school,
please look at some top tips for you in supporting their move
[here](#)**



Feel empowered, listen [here](#) to some podcasts that may help with sleep, feeding infants, coping with sibling fallouts and much more.



Staying safe online: [This](#) newsletter has lots of good advice and food for thought when communicating with your child at home

Worried about a child?

Who to contact if you have concerns about a child:

Multi-agency Referral Unit (MARU): 0300 123 1116

Out of Hours Service: 01208 251300

NSPCC

If you're worried
about a child:

0808 800 5000

help@nspcc.org.uk

www.nspcc.org.uk



Together
for Families

Cornwall's Early Help Hub offers family support to help with common family matters (i.e. parenting support, health visiting, school nursing) for children and young people.

To request help:
earlyhelphub@cornwall.gov.uk
01872 322 277



SAMARITANS

Call free day or night on

116 123

Email

jo@samaritans.org

Crisis Care Award (Cornwall Council)
0300 1234 121

Housing (Cornwall Council)
0300 1234 161

First Light (Domestic Violence Support)
0300 777 4777

Citizens Advice Cornwall
0800 144 8848

Remake Cornwall
07480 135818
remakecornwall@gmail.com

St Austell Foodbank
01726 65313
info@staustell.foodbank.org.uk



Lots of information is available on the Family Information Service should you need any help over the break.

You can find the link [here](#) This includes support on housing, food and other such services.



If you are looking for SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) activities and services, you can contact the local authority on 0800 587 8191 or click [here](#).



KEAL is another service that provides early advice, guidance and information for parents, carers and students with questions or concerns about education. We help families understand learning, education choices and how children are feeling - and support them to get the right help at the right time.

To find out more click on this link [Kernow Education Advice Line](#)



Kooth

Kooth is an online platform to help young people with their mental health and wellbeing. It's a welcoming space for your child to safely explore their feelings. They can anonymously talk to other people their own age on moderated discussion forums, and chat to mental health professionals via messaging. We're a BACP-accredited digital mental health service, and provide free services through the NHS. Our team of professionals are trained to offer clinically-safe advice while lending a supportive ear for whatever your child's facing.

Kooth does not require a GP or school referral. There are no waiting lists or thresholds to meet. All your child needs to do is register with an anonymous username to get immediate access to support.

All of Kooth's services are free, and support is available 24/7, 365 days a year.



Kooth have created a range resources to help families get to know the service and how, working with Kooth, can help support the young people. We run a regular calendar of free webinars for families to provide useful advice and guidance for families supporting young people with their mental health and wellbeing.

[Use this link to find out more](#)

Caring in Cornwall - your views matter

Whether you're caring for a family member full-time, helping a neighbour with shopping and cleaning, or anything in between, we would like to hear about your experiences.

Our aim is to ensure that we are co-designing services with the people who need them, so everyone can access the right support, in the right place, at the right time.

[Find out more here](#)



Home to School Travel Assistance

If your child is attending school for the first time or transitioning to a new educational setting in September 2025, you may be eligible for Home to School Travel Assistance. If you wish to apply it is really important you do this ASAP. Applications that come in late in the summer term, may result in travel arrangements not being in place for the start of the Autumn Term.

[You can find further information here](#)



Cornwall Parent Carers Forum

The new Cornwall Parent Carer Forum website is now live.

It is a space made by parent carers for parent carers, with helpful information, updates, and ways to get involved or just feel a bit more connected.



Courses to support transition

Nurturing New Beginnings – Step into primary school: This is a free 90-minute in-person workshop for parents and carers to attend with their child. The workshop is designed to help parents and carers support their child's smooth and confident transition from nursery to reception. The workshop will explore:

- How to prepare your child emotionally
- Practical tips for building independence
- Strategies to boost your child's confidence

[You can book a Primary School session here](#)

Nurturing New Beginnings – Step up to secondary school: Starting secondary school is a big step - and we're here to help make it a smooth one. Join us for an engaging and informative free, in-person workshop designed to help parents and carers support their child's smooth transition from primary to secondary. The workshop will explore:

- How to prepare your child emotionally and practically
- Tips for building confidence and independence
- Ways to support your child through change

[You can book a Secondary School session here](#)

[For anyone struggling in school, you can find out more here](#)



Great British Summer Savings

Rising prices can make life's little treats harder to afford, especially during the school holidays when costs build up for families. This Government is determined to help, and that is why last month the Chancellor announced the *Great British Summer Savings* scheme.

From 25 June to 1 September 2026, the Government is temporarily cutting VAT from 20% to 5% on children's meals in restaurants, children and family tickets to cinemas, theatres, concerts and exhibitions, and admission to a wide range of attractions. Combined with free bus travel during August for children aged 5 to 15 in England, families and young people will be able to enjoy experiences that make summer special, including visits to the kinds of cultural and educational attractions that enrich children's lives outside the classroom.

The public are ready to get behind the scheme and are keen to take advantage of the discounts available. As trusted pillars of their communities, schools play a vital role in connecting families with important information.

We need you to help spread the word. So please share details of the *Great British Summer Savings* scheme through your newsletters, school apps, and other communications to parents and carers, so that the families in your school community know about the experiences they can enjoy this summer for less.

This forms part of a broader effort by the Government to ease financial pressures on families. From ending the two-child limit and expanding free school meals, to rolling out free breakfast clubs and delivering 30 hours of free child-care, this Government is taking action to put more money back into parents' pockets and give every child the best possible start in life.

As part of this campaign, we have launched an **attraction finder** website which allows families to type in their postcode and find participating venues near them to make the most of summer savings. To use the attraction finder, please visit <https://summersavings.gov.uk>.

Booking a holiday for next year?

Please avoid booking when your child is at school.

Please see below Bridge Schools Term Dates for 2026/27, to help with planning time off, childcare and forthcoming family events.

Autumn School Term - 7th September to 18th December 2026

INSET 3rd and 4th September 2026, INSET 23rd October 2026

Spring School Term – 5th January to 25th March 2027

INSET 4th January 2027, INSET 12th February 2027

Summer Term – 12th April to 22nd July 2027

INSET 28th May 2027, INSET 23rd July 2027

Should an absence be unauthorised, we are likely to request that Cornwall Council issue a Penalty Notice. A Penalty Notice is issued to each liable parent/carer of each child taken out of school and that this carries a fine of £80 if paid within 21 days, increasing to £160 if paid within 28 days. If parents do not pay the fine, it may result in legal action being taken. Parents have a duty to ensure their child's regular attendance at school and failure to do so is an offence under Section 444(1) and Section 444(1A) of the Education Act 1996.

This information has been shared with parents since July 2024 and is available on school websites ([reminder](#)).

Other activities happening over the summer break that you may find useful

<https://www.blackbirdpie.co.uk/>

<https://www.primarytimes.co.uk/cornwall/listings>

Mid Cornwall

Free and under £5 activities:

<https://fis.cornwall.gov.uk/synergyweb/CornwallFIS/freeandunder5midcornwall.aspx>

Summer activities: <https://fis.cornwall.gov.uk/synergyweb/CornwallFIS/Whatsonmidcornwall.aspx>

East Cornwall

Free and under £5 activities:

<https://fis.cornwall.gov.uk/synergyweb/CornwallFIS/freeandunder5eastcornwall.aspx>

Summer activities: <https://fis.cornwall.gov.uk/synergyweb/CornwallFIS/Whatsoneastcornwall.aspx>

