

1 DECEMBER 2023: TRURO SCHOOL NEWS AND UPDATES

Dear Parents and Carers,



Way back in 1998, Lottie and I made the transition from teaching in senior schools to a prep school setting and we moved to Mount House in Tavistock (an independent prep school prior to it later merging with Kelly College). The headmaster at the time was an inspirational and very experienced gentleman by the name of Charles Price. I mention this because his words remain with me some 25 years down the line and particularly so at this time of the year.

When we found ourselves heading towards the end of term (but not quite close enough to the holidays), as tiredness crept in and children (and staff) became less tolerant of each other, he would begin an assembly with the words 'We have reached that stage of term...'.

We have indeed reached that stage of term here at Truro School Prep, where an increase in tiredness and the number of children feeling poorly unsurprisingly coincides with a decrease in our patience and ability to tolerate situations and relationships which do not go quite according to plan.

With this in mind, we have been focusing on wholeheartedly positive messages over the past few weeks. Last week, I shared with you our work on the theme of 'The Golden Rule' and the message of 'do unto others as you would have done unto you'. This week's focus has been less grand in scale but equally important as we continue to develop the children's understanding of themselves and each other, and their ability to deal with challenging situations and relationships.

This week's Monday assembly was entitled 'Empathy and the Lettuce' and was based upon the following message from Thích Nhat Hanh, Culture of Empathy Builder: Thích Nhat Hanh.

It has certainly proved helpful here at Treliske House this week and I imagine that I will be reminding myself of it during the Christmas holidays whilst trying to fit too many relatives into too small a space for too long a period!

I imagine that none of you will be beset by such challenges but, should a problem arise, I suggest that you think of the humble lettuce!

With every good wish,

Mr Rob Morse  
Headmaster

## Empathy

When you plant lettuce, if it does not grow well, you don't blame the lettuce. You look for reasons it is not doing well. It may need fertiliser, or more water, or less sun. You never blame the lettuce. Yet, if we have problems with our friends or family, we blame the other person. But if we know how to take care of them, they will grow well, like the lettuce. Blaming has no positive effect at all, nor does trying to persuade using reason and argument. That is my experience. No blame, no reasoning, no argument, just understanding. If you understand, and you show that you understand, you can love, and the situation will change.

Thích Nhat Hanh

## Monday 4 December

Year 6 League Football  
Kea School (A) 3.30pm-5pm (KO 3.45pm)

## Tuesday 5 December

EYFS Christmas Play Refreshments  
Refreshments for parents attending the EYFS Christmas play in the dining hall from 9.30am

EYFS Christmas Play Performance One - 10am

EYFS Christmas Play Performance Two - 2pm

EYFS Christmas Play Refreshments  
Refreshments for parents attending the EYFS Christmas play in the dining hall after the performance

Concert by the Prep School Choristers  
Assembly Hall 4pm

After School Fencing Club  
Moved to Science Room due to concert 4pm

## Wednesday 6 December

KS1 Christmas Play Refreshments  
For parents attending the KS1 Play in the Dining Hall 9.30am

KS1 Christmas Play Performance One - 10am

KS1 Christmas Play Performance Two - 2pm

KS1 Christmas Play Refreshments  
For parents attending the KS1 Play in the Dining Hall 3pm

REARRANGED U10A and U11A Girls' Hockey  
Truro High (A) 2pm-4.15pm (2.45 start)

Able and Interested Rugby Session  
Truro School (A) 2.30pm-3.40pm

## Thursday 7 December

6AG BMX cycling  
BMX Centre, Blackwater 1pm-4pm

6DG Swimming  
SBA pool, Truro School 1.30pm-3pm

## Friday 8 December

FTS Christmas Fair 3pm  
See page 5 for full details

*Please note that some details may change – please check next week's bulletin for updates*

## Monday 11 December

Concert Rehearsal  
Truro Methodist Church for Year 6 pupils & orchestra 9.20am  
11.50am

Prep School Christmas Concert  
'Nadelik Lowen - A Cornish Christmas' at Truro Methodist Church 6.30pm. \*All children in Years 3-6 involved. Parents and guests welcome.

## Wednesday 13 December

Christmas Lunch

## Thursday 14 December

Pre-Prep Christmas party

Sponsored Santa Run  
in Aid of Children Hospice South-West. Wear home clothes/Christmas jumper. See page 5 for full details.

End of day pick-up arrangements  
(siblings can be collected together at the earliest time slot).

Nursery & Reception	3pm-3.15pm
Year 1 & Year 2	3.15pm-3.30pm
Year 3 & Year 4	3.30pm-3.40pm
Year 5 & Year 6	3.40pm-3.50pm

End of term – no after school care or activity clubs

Nine Lessons and Carols  
Truro Cathedral 7pm

*Spring Term begins Thursday 4 January 2024*

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## Christmas Cards

Post boxes have been placed at the front of School in Treliske House and in Pre-Prep for pupils to post their Christmas cards.

Please ensure that full names, including surnames, are written on the envelopes as well as the form that the child is in. Last posting day will be Tuesday 12 December.

## Charity Begins at Home

A huge thank you to children and families for all your support towards our charity ventures this term. Together you have mounted up the following:

- 257.4kg of food items at harvest
- £341.36 for the British Legion Poppy Appeal
- £658.09 for Children in Need

We have heard from these charities expressing their thanks and appreciation and we, as a school, extend our thanks for your ongoing support too.

## Christmas Donations

Today we have launched our two Christmas charity donation events. Many thanks to everyone who has brought in donations to launch these appeals. This year, we are collecting items for two causes; the Truro Foodbank and Truro Methodist Church's Toy Appeal.

Below is a list of items that will be revealed in our Reverse Advent Calendar. Please do not worry if you don't have the specific item listed, or if you cannot contribute every day. The Foodbank is most grateful for any donations. Donations can be left in the prepared boxes at the top of the staircase in the Prep or in the entrance area in the Pre-Prep. Items suggested on weekend days or after the school term has finished may be brought into school at any time.

As an alternative (or addition) we would like to invite you to buy a new toy for any child between the ages of 6 months to 16 years. We will pass these on to Truro Methodist Church on your behalf to support their cause of delivering toys to over 300 children living in Cornwall who might otherwise not have a gift to open on Christmas morning.

Many thanks in advance for your generosity, help and support in making these charitable ventures successful.

1 <sup>st</sup> Dec: Coffee	2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec: Tinned Meat pie	3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec: Tinned Rice Pudding	4 <sup>th</sup> Dec: Tinned veg	5 <sup>th</sup> Dec: Tinned Fruit
6 <sup>th</sup> Dec: Smash Potato	7 <sup>th</sup> Dec: UHT Fruit Juice	8 <sup>th</sup> Dec: Cereal	9 <sup>th</sup> Dec: Biscuits	10 <sup>th</sup> Dec: UHT Milk
11 <sup>th</sup> Dec: Tinned Soup	12 <sup>th</sup> Dec: Tinned Tomatoes	13 <sup>th</sup> Dec: Tinned Fish	14 <sup>th</sup> Dec: Pasta Sauce	15 <sup>th</sup> Dec: Pasta Sauce
16 <sup>th</sup> Dec: Rice	17 <sup>th</sup> Dec: Baked Beans	18 <sup>th</sup> Dec: Pasta	19 <sup>th</sup> Dec: Toiletries	20 <sup>th</sup> Dec: Toiletries
21 <sup>st</sup> Dec: Tinned puddings	22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec: Tinned Veg	23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec: Tinned Fruit	24 <sup>th</sup> Dec: UHT Juice	

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## Parking

A polite reminder to parents not to park in the staff car parking area at morning drop off as parking spaces are limited. Please park in the visitors spaces or in the car park behind the Sports Hall if you need to come in to school. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

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## Cold Weather

As the weather is feeling considerably colder, please could you ensure that your son / daughter has the correct kit in school for PE and games. We have noticed that some children do not have adequate clothing for the colder weather.

Ideally, your child needs a tracksuit top and bottoms, long games socks (rugby/ hockey/ football), white socks (netball and PE) and suitable footwear for their sport (eg: football boots for football / rugby). If your child has cycling as their activity, it would also be a good idea to pack some warm gloves.

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## Christmas Hamper Raffle

We are running a Christmas Hamper Raffle (kindly donated by parents of Year 1 children) in aid of the Star Light Ward at Bristol Childrens Hospital's Grand Appeal.

Tickets will be on sale at the beginning of all the Early Years and Year 1 & 2 Performances as well as at the Christmas Fair. We will also have a donation box at the end of all performances.



## Snow Business at Prep

On Thursday, delighted pupils arrived as a flurry of snow fell on Truro School Prep. It was lovely to see our pupils making the most of this festive weather.



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## Christmas Fayre



Thank you for all of your donations for the Christmas Fayre so far.

Please continue to bring in sweet-filled jam jars, chocolate for the chocolate tombola, books and soft toys ahead of this year's Christmas Fayre on Friday 8 December.

In addition, the FTS is looking for donations of boxed Lego or toys and any new and unused gifts for regifting.

Donations of cakes and baked goods can be brought into the School Office from Monday 4 December; please ensure they are labelled with any possible allergens, and we ask that you kindly avoid using nuts in your bakes.

The FTS is still looking for volunteers to help on the stalls anytime between 3-5pm. Please contact [fts@truroschool.com](mailto:fts@truroschool.com) to offer your support.

## Guess the Name of the Teddy

In preparation for the FTS Christmas Fayre on Friday, our House Captains will be visiting each class during the course of next week offering children the chance to guess the name of the teddy (who is currently residing in our front office).

Children are invited to bring in 50p per guess from Monday. The teddy will be at the fair for any last-minute guesses, along with a wealth of other wonderful stalls, sales and games (see poster on Page 13).

## Santas on the Run at Prep

A reminder that the Santa run is taking place at Truro School Prep on the last day of term. We are raising money for the Children's Hospice South West and donations can be made at <https://www.justgiving.com/page/lynette-lukes-1701352274730> or via the QR code.



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## Celebrating Sinterklaas

Have you heard of Sinterklaas? Our Reception pupils learned all about him, and the Christmas traditions of the Netherlands thanks to Matilda, and her mum Liselotte.

Sinterklaas is a beloved figure in Dutch Christmas traditions. He is said to arrive in the Netherlands on a steamboat from Spain in late November, accompanied by his helpers known as Petes. Matilda shared her Pete outfit with us as she prepared to be a helper.

Through the engaging session, the pupils gained a wonderful insight into the customs, such as leaving shoes out for Sinterklaas to fill with gifts and enjoying traditional treats like pepernoten and chocolate letters. Matilda shared photos of her making some pepernoten for her friends to taste and even provided goodie bags to take home.

It was a fantastic afternoon for the children exploring a new culture, a huge thank you to Lisselotte and Matilda for sharing this special occasion with us.

## Tudor Day

The Tudor rose was created when Henry VII brought an end to the Wars of the Roses is just one of the facts our budding Year 1 historians could tell you as they've been learning all about the Tudors.

In conjunction with their current topic, the pupils had an immersive Tudor day taking part in activities including fencing and archery, quill writing, Tudor rose decorating, and making delicious Tudor-inspired food which they enjoyed in their Tudor feast.



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## The Late Wise Man

There were roars of laughter, and many rounds of applause as Year 5 took to the stage for this year's Christmas play "The Late Wise Man."

"The Late Wise Man" tells the story of a forgetful wise man who, despite his best efforts, always manages to arrive late to important events. As the other wise men embark on their journey to witness the birth of baby Jesus, our late wise man faces numerous comical obstacles along the way. Will he finally make it in time to witness this miraculous event?

Beyond the comedic elements, "The Late Wise Man" explores important themes such as perseverance, friendship, and the true meaning of Christmas. Through the late wise man's journey, the play teaches valuable lessons about the importance of being present and cherishing the moments that truly matter.

Our Year 5 cast has been working extremely hard to make the play memorable, and they certainly achieved that. Thank you to Mrs Gregory for your fantastic directing and all the other staff who made it a wonderful night.



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## Courageous Efforts in House Cross-Country

Our Prep pupils gathered this week for the annual house cross-country competition. They showed great courage and determination as they took on the course to earn valuable points for their houses.

Cross-country running is a tough endurance event. It is both physically and mentally tough. We were delighted to see how positively the children responded to this sporting challenge, offering compassion to their fellow runners throughout the race and all trying their best. There were some outstanding individual achievements, but everyone should be proud of themselves for taking part.

Throughout the Autumn Term the children have been learning the importance of key sporting values- honesty, respect, passion, self-belief, and determination. They really showed all of these during the events and both staff and parents expressed how impressed they were with the children's attitude and respect they showed to one another.

If this event has given your child a buzz to continue with cross country, there will be plenty of opportunities for them to partake next term. We currently run two after school clubs, on Monday and Thursday, open to all children in Year 3-6.

After close competition throughout the overall house winner was Vinter. A huge well done to everyone, it was a fantastic afternoon of great sportsmanship. You can view the full gallery [here](#).

The top three results were as follows:

Year 3: 1st – Christopher, Mabel, 2nd – Albie, Athena, 3rd – Bobby, Ella

Year 4: 1st – Ollie, Sienna, 2nd – Rohan, Ashleigh, 3rd – Arthur, Hennie

Year 5: 1st – Reggie, Lissie, 2nd – Henry, Ellie L, 3rd – Freddie, Phoebe

Year 6: 1st – Isaac, Hetty, 2nd – Rowan, Rosie, 3rd – George, Lexi



Golden Award for going above and beyond in the Pre-Prep

**Edie H**

**KS1 Golden  
Lunch Table**

Grey Table

## Gold Commendations

[Albert 5LJ for English: 'Bodmin Moor Walk'](#)

**Comment:** A hilarious and highly original cartoon which tells the story of building the Cheesewring.

## House Point Form Champions

Harleen & Bobby 3ME

Ramona 3SM

Hennie & Saffron 4LL

Fjola 4SC

Sophia 5CD

Florence 5LJ

Arthur 5SL

Fergus 6AG

Erys 6DG

Raif 6JL

## Merit Awards



### Bronze Merit Awards

**4LL:** Arlo, Rafe, Endelyn, Harvey, Sienna



### Silver Merit Awards

**3ME:** Ella C, Ollie, Malhar, Albie, Kaleem

**4LL:** Oliver G

**5LJ:** Sebastian



### Gold Merit Awards

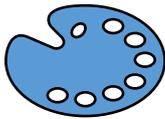
**3ME:** Freddy

**3SM:** Henry, Christopher, Hugo

**4LL:** Maya, Freya

**5SL:** Jenson

## Art



**Congratulations to the following pupils whose work has been chosen to feature in the Golden Frame:**

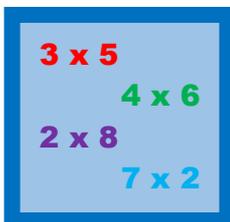
**Jesse 5CD:** for your excellent dry point etching self-portrait and determination

**Annie 5CD:** for your excellent dry point etching of an eye

**Digby 5LJ:** for your excellent dry point etching self-portrait

**Tilda 5LJ:** for your excellent dry point etching self-portrait

## Maths



### Times Table Challenge Certificates

**3ME:** Teddy, Harleen, Bobby, Erin, Albie

**3SM:** Henry, Zander, Elodie, Daisy, Percy, Mabel, Harry, Joseph, Christopher, Athena, James

**4LL:** Ashleigh, Maya, Edward

**4SC:** Harry, Arlo, Gabriel, Tom, Barney, Anantveer, Arthur W

**5CD:** Elliot

**5LJ:** Scott

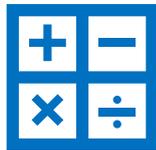
**5SL:** Oscar

**6AG:** Hetty

**6DG:** Mia

**6JL:** Lexi, Gracie

## Rock Stars



### Times Table Rock Star of the Week

Qaveem Year 5

### Top Rock Performers

Year 3: Daisy  
Year 4: Ashleigh  
Year 5: Aubrey  
Year 6: Thomas

## Swimming



Dylan 5SL took part in a swimming gala in Penzance Leisure Centre on Saturday 25 November. He completed 16 lengths front crawl in 7m 54s, winning gold in the 8-9 age group.

## Cross Country



Archie 5SL took part in the Westward League Cross Country event in Newquay on Sunday, finishing in 3<sup>rd</sup> place overall - only seconds behind the two front runners.

In the county section, Archie finished in first place, and his club, Cornwall Athletics Club also took first place.



TRURO  
SCHOOL  
PREP

# CHRISTMAS FAYRE 2023



Truro School Prep Assembly Hall

**8 DECEMBER || 3 PM**

SANTA'S GROTTTO, STALLS, GAMES,  
CRAFTS, BBQ & MORE!



**FTS**

Friends of  
Truro School



# Boys' Chorister Experience Day and Cushion Concert

SATURDAY 13 JANUARY 2024

Come and experience what it's like to be a chorister in Truro Cathedral Choir!

Get to know the choristers and what they do; stand in the beautiful choir stalls where they sing in the amazing space of the cathedral; explore the crypt where they rehearse; try on a chorister's cassock and surplice and see and hear the mighty cathedral organ being played close up! And, of course, learn music and sing along with the choristers, culminating in performing a concert along with them.

All boys currently in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 are welcome.

For more information and to book a place, please email [jab@trurocathedral.org.uk](mailto:jab@trurocathedral.org.uk)



**TRURO  
SCHOOL**

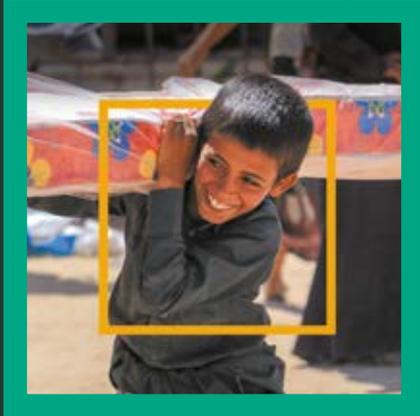


**Truro  
Cathedral**

[www.truroschoo.com/boychoristers](http://www.truroschoo.com/boychoristers)



**ShelterBox**



## CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE IN AID OF SHELTERBOX

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

6.30pm - 9pm, doors open  
from 6.15pm, Truro Cathedral

Join us for an evening of festivities. You'll hear music from sea shanty group, The Clams. Enjoy carols from The Suitcase Singers and Ingleheart Singers, led by Claire Ingleheart. Readings from special guests, with refreshments to follow. All proceeds support ShelterBox.

Special Guest: Fern Britton - renowned presenter, writer and journalist.



**BOOK YOUR TICKETS  
AT EVENTBRITE**  
or call us on 0300 0300 500



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## PETER PAN

EDWARD ROWE  
CAPTAIN JACK

04 - 31 DEC 2023  
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**Calendar for  
Christmas  
2023 and  
New Year 2024**

What's on  
Festive fun  
around  
Cornwall

Search for Santa  
Christmas  
at Eden  
Christmas  
books

Theatre shows  
& pantomimes  
Advice on  
Strep A

Vouchers &  
offers for:

- National Maritime  
Museum Cornwall, page 3
- Jungle Jacks, page 6
- Eden Project, page 7
- Paradise Park, page 7
- Magilabs, page 10

[Link to the latest edition of BlackbirdPie](#)




TRURO  
SCHOOL  
COOKERY

# Cookery Classes

**Bookings Now Open  
to Spring 2024!**

**New Adult &  
Child Cookery  
Class Dates  
Added for 2024!**

[WWW.TRUROSCHOOLCOOKERY.COM](http://WWW.TRUROSCHOOLCOOKERY.COM)

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Pre Prep  
Wraparound

\*

Please use this QR code to register your child for Wraparound care or via the Forms link.

<https://forms.office.com/e/VZUiYbg1Ff>

