



Nansloe Academy & Nursery

Head of School: Mrs L Swiggs

8th September 2025

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope you all had a wonderful summer break. It's hard to believe September is already here, and we're so pleased to see the children settling into their new classroom with such enthusiasm.

My name is Mrs Wilkinson, and I'm absolutely delighted to be joining the school as the new Year 4 teacher. I'm really looking forward to getting to know each of you and working together to support your child's learning and development throughout the year. The students and I are also very lucky to be joined in the classroom by the fantastic Miss Richard, who brings great energy and enthusiasm to everything she does.

Last week, we kicked off the term with a fun and collaborative activity as part of our *Building Relationships Challenge*. The children worked in teams to construct the tallest tower they could using only pasta and plasticine. It was fantastic to see their creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving skills in action. The winning tower measured over 50 cm tall—what a brilliant achievement!

Curriculum Highlights

We're starting the year with our exciting topic: *Polar Lands*. Through geography and science, we'll explore the icy regions of the world, learn about life in these freezing places, research polar animals, and investigate ice as part of our *Solids, Liquids and Gases* unit after half term.

In literacy, we'll sharpen our punctuation skills and write information texts inspired by Arctic animals. In maths, we'll build confidence in place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. It's going to be a busy and brilliant term!

Further information about our curriculum can be found on the school website.

Reading

Reading is key to success at school and beyond. Please support us by encouraging your child to read every day and record any reading in their reading record. Your children should have now come home with a new reading record and a reading book.

In Year 4, we use the *Fresh Start* intervention programme to support children who are still developing their word reading. This is linked to the *Read Write Inc.* scheme but is

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Nansloe Academy, Bulwark Road, Helston, Cornwall TR13 8JF

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Registered Office: Aspire Academy Trust, Unit 20, St Austell Business Park, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 4FD





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pitched appropriately for older pupils. We'll provide further information to relevant parents in due course.

Spelling

We'll be sending home key word lists for the children to learn this term. It would be really helpful if you could support your child in practising these words at home. In school, we no longer carry out weekly spelling tests, as research shows limited long-term impact. Instead, we'll continue to explicitly teach spelling patterns and rules as part of our literacy lessons.

Times Tables

At the end of Year 4, pupils complete a national multiplication check assessing recall of times table facts up to 12×12 . Please support your child by encouraging regular practice on TT Rockstars—we recommend short sessions (e.g. 15 minutes, three times a week). Logins can be found in the front of their reading records. Please do not worry about this, we will send more information about this nearer the time.

Daily Essentials

Each day, your child will need to bring:

- A **water bottle**
- Their **reading book and reading record**
- A **coat**
- A **healthy snack**

PE

PE lessons will take place on **Fridays** this half term. Please ensure your child wears their full PE kit (white t-shirt, black shorts/joggers, and trainers) each Friday.

Communication & Key Dates

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me. You can speak to me at the school gate at the end of the day, or email/phone the school office and I'll get back to you.

I look forward to meeting you at **Parents' Evening on 15th and 16th October**.

Kind regards,
Marta Wilkinson

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