

4/4/25

FRIDAY NEWS

Nº 27

Dear Parents/carers

This week has been a fantastic week for sports! Year 5 and 6 girls played on Monday and Tuesday against St Ives and Gulval as part of the football festival. They had a close game with St Ives but lost by one goal in the last few minutes. When playing Gulval they drew one and lost one. The festival continues with Years 3 & 4 next term, and our aim is to take as many as we can through the term to experience the game. The boys played in the Rosewarne Cup against Parc Eglos and went on to win 3-1! Huge well done to all the players and thank you to the staff for supporting.

Lanyon had a great trip to the Kurt Jackson Gallery today and were wonderfully behaved, I definitely think we have some budding artists in Year 3 and 4 this year! EYFS enjoyed welcoming parents in this afternoon for their Easter scavenger hunt, thank you so much to all those who came along to support.

Some staffing news to end the term.

- Mr Stevens is leaving us today to make a move up country to be with his partner. He has been a wonderful TA in EYFS this year and I know they will miss him a great deal.
- Miss Hooton has one more term before she leaves to have her baby. Mrs Lawrey will be beginning her transition next term and taking over in Curlews straight after May half term.
- As well as Miss Bowman & Mr Hammond leaving at the end of the year, Mrs Holliday will also be leaving us for pastures new. We thank them all for all their hard work across the school.
- Joining us in September, we have 2 wonderful new teachers. Abigail Pearson is from Penzance and has been teaching in Bristol this past year. She is returning home to continue her career with us. She is very keen on sport and particularly interested in gymnastics. Olivia Berry also grew up in Penzance and has been away travelling. She has a keen interest in the environment and geography. Both teachers will be a great addition to the school and hopefully we can get to know them more in the summer term.

We wish you all a wonderful relaxing Easter break, the weather looks wonderful! We look forward to seeing everyone again on Tuesday 22nd April.

Nichola Smith
Headteacher

School closes today, Friday 4th April at 3.15pm, for the Easter holidays and we re-open on Tuesday 22nd April at 8.30am.

Remember – safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

If you have a safeguarding concern, please contact Nichola Smith (Designated Safeguarding Lead) at

nsmith@alverton.tpacademytrust.org or, if it is out of school hours, please contact the Multi Agency Referral Unit on 0300 1231 116;

E-mail:

multiagencyreferralunit@cornwall.gov.uk

Clubs

New clubs lists for next term have gone home with your child. If your child would like to take part, please return this as soon as possible and by the first day back after Easter at the latest. **Clubs will start on Monday 28th April.**

Spanish for Year 1-6 on Mondays will only start on Monday 28th April if enough children sign up. If your child is interested please go online and email Vicky Rouncefield. Please do not pay at this stage until they know if enough children are interested.

<https://www.kidslingo.co.uk/area/spanish-classes-central-west-cornwall/>

Break the Rules!

A huge thank you to everyone who donated to Break the Rules day on Tuesday. It raised a fantastic **£414** for FOAS. All funds raised for FOAS is spent on the buying things for the school to benefit the children.

THIS IS OUR

HELP YOUR SHELF

How it Works

It's all free.

Take what you need, whenever you need it.



No Questions Asked – No Judgements Made

Give what you can if you would like to.

Donations wanted

Our Help Your Shelf is looking rather bare. If you are able to bring in any non-perishable food items, cleaning products or toiletries, we would be very grateful. These will all go to helping our families and community. Thank you very much.

New menu after Easter

Aspens new menu for next term which will start after Easter can be found on the school website under Parent Pages, What's on this term. This will run into the Autumn term up until October half term. You are now able to choose these meals on the Aspens Select system.

Tickets on sale after Easter:

Tuesday 22 April - Year 5 and 6 Drama Club parents

Monday 28 April - Year 3 and 4 Choir parents

Tuesday 6 May - everyone else

£5 for adults, £2.50 for children aged 4 upwards (Alverton pupils free)

Cash only please.

Please remember to buy your tickets as soon as possible - they sell out very quickly!

Alverton Primary School's
production of



Wednesday 21st May 2025 at 6.30pm

Thursday 22nd May 2025 at 6.30pm

Music and Lyrics by

Richard M Sherman and Robert B Sherman

Music by Special Arrangement with Sony / ATV Publishing

Adapted for the Stage by Jeremy Sams

Based on the MGM Motion Picture

Licensed Script Adapted by Ray Roderick

This amateur production is presented by

Music Theatre International

All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI

www.mtishows.co.uk

FOAS Easter Disco - Wednesday 23rd April

FOAS are holding an Easter Disco on **Wednesday 23rd April** (the second day back after half term). Times are as follows:

Reception and Key Stage 1 4.30-5.30pm

Key Stage 2 6-7pm

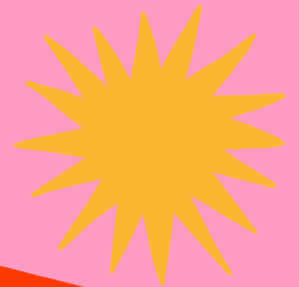
The cost is £1.50 to include a drink. All proceeds raised will go to FOAS funds. The discos are for children only - parents do not stay. Please drop off and collect your child at main reception.



Easter Holiday Reading Bingo!



Read aloud to someone! 	Read outside (in the sunshine if there is any!) 	Read a book with a one word title! Read	Read in bed! 
Read the instructions on a seed packet and plant something! 	Read to a plant (you might help it grow!) 	Read a fairy tale! 	Read a favourite old book! 
Read a non-fiction book! 	Read a poem! 	Read a book by a female author! 	Just read! 



**Fancy dress & craft morning at
Roo's on the prom!**

**join us from 10am to 12pm on
Monday 7th.**



**Free event, donations welcome
to raise money for new
outdoor and gardening equipment
for KS1 Alverton School**





Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

The Trust has its own Out of Hours telephone support provided by Support Matters Cornwall. This service operates from 5pm to 9am on weekdays and 24 hours a day at weekends and bank holidays. The service is open to all patients (aged 16+) under the care of the Trust's mental health services. Support can be delivered over the telephone, via text, email or web chat. Call free on **0800 001 4330**.



Family
Line

0808 802 6666



Download this image onto your phone for **when you might need help**



Samaritans: 24h
Emotional support to anyone in distress, struggling to cope, or at risk of suicide.

☎ **116 123**

Shout: 24h
Text service, free on all major networks, for anyone in crisis anytime, anywhere.

• If you're over 18, text the word **SHOUT**
• Under 18s, text **YM**

☎ **Text: 85258**

Cornwall's 24/7 NHS mental health support

Call for free, any time day or night if you are worried about your own or someone else's mental health. The team behind the 24/7 open access telephone service will listen to you and determine how best to help

☎ **0800 038 5300**

Valued Lives:

Supports people who are experiencing mental or emotional distress in Cornwall. Every day, 5.30pm - midnight.

☎ **01209 901438**

If you, or someone else, is in immediate danger call **999**



🌐 www.cornwall.gov.uk/mentalhealth

If you're worried about a child:

☎ **0808 800 5000**
✉ **help@nspcc.org.uk**
🌐 **www.nspcc.org.uk**

Penzance CTIPA Foodbank

The CTIPA Foodbank in Penzance provides food for anyone in need. If their support would be helpful to you, just phone Vervan or Adele in the office in confidence on 01736 364087 and they can phone the Foodbank for you who will be able to help.

The Foodbank are extremely busy at the moment and are very grateful for any donations.

citizens
advice

0344 411 1444

**ON YOUR SIDE
NO MATTER WHAT**

☎ **0800 58 58 58** 🌐 **THECALMZONE.NET/WEBCHAT**

5PM-MIDNIGHT | FREE | CONFIDENTIAL | ANONYMOUS



"It's alright to ask for help"

SAMARITANS

☎ **116 123**

**NATIONAL DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE HELPLINE
0808 2000 247
24/7 CONFIDENTIAL
FREEPHONE**

**AT HOME
SHOULDN'T
MEAN
AT RISK**

#YOUARENOTALONE

FIND SUPPORT AT:
gov.uk/domestic-violence

WCWAid

West Cornwall Women's Aid

01736 367539

<https://www.wcwaaid.co.uk/helpline>

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about BLUESKY SOCIAL APP

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

While Bluesky has been around since 2019, it's suddenly taken off in a big way thanks to a significant exodus from X (formerly Twitter). Indeed, it looks and behaves a lot like Twitter before Elon Musk bought the platform. Bluesky has been touted in recent months as a safer, more open-minded alternative to X – but like any social media site, it still has its share of risks.

AGE RESTRICTION
13+
With an App Store rating of 17+ & Google Play rating Mature

NO PRIVATE ACCOUNTS

While most social networks allow accounts to be private, at the time of writing, all Bluesky accounts must be public. The development team has indicated this might change in the future, but the app is built on a public-first protocol. If private accounts are ever introduced, it may only be in a limited way – such as through the implementation of group chats.

INTERACTIONS WITH STRANGERS

Every account being public means that anyone can be contacted by anyone else. While users don't have to respond and can easily block people and move on, it does mean that youngsters are at particular risk of being conned by scammers, messaged by predatory adults or exposed to others with ill intentions. These hazards can be compounded by the fact that Bluesky doesn't require its users to provide their real name.

TROLLING AND BULLYING

While Bluesky currently feels a lot friendlier than X seems to have become, its lack of private accounts means that there's nothing to stop users from trolling and cyberbullying younger people. While accounts can be blocked and reported, a persistent bully could simply create a new profile, potentially making their victims feel unsafe in continuing to use the app.

DANGEROUS MISINFORMATION

Established news organisations have fact-checking and editing processes, but social networks have no such controls and can often serve as breeding grounds for misinformation and disinformation. Bluesky will possibly be no different once it reaches a certain size, and children may not have the critical thinking skills to tell fact from fiction – or to discern an informative, honest user from a malicious one.

ADULT TARGET AUDIENCE

Bluesky isn't designed with children in mind, and there aren't many parental controls on the platform. In an interview with the BBC, Bluesky's CEO originally said that the app would only allow users aged 18 and above to sign up, but a spokesperson later clarified its age restriction as 13+. This could imply the app was originally meant for an adult audience and suggests that making the platform more child-friendly might not currently be a priority.

RAPID GROWTH

At the time of writing, Bluesky seems calm in comparison with other social networks where moderation is lax and the atmosphere toxic – but that's due at least in part to its smaller community. The app has recently been adding as many as a million users per day, and if that continues, there'll be more unpleasant users to handle, and moderators could struggle to maintain the pleasant environment Bluesky is currently known for.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE THE ADULT CONTENT FILTER

Bluesky doesn't have much in the way of parental controls, but there are content filters which can hide sexual and graphic imagery. These are enabled by default for underage accounts but can be manually turned on in the 'Moderation' section of the app's settings. The 'advanced' Bluesky Moderation Service lets you restrict content even further, hiding – for example – self-harm content, extremist rhetoric, and even rude posts.



LOOK OUT FOR FAKES

Impersonation is a problem on all social networks. While the consequences are usually benign, imposters sometimes attempt to scam or groom children by pretending to be a popular influencer or online personality. Bluesky is unique in that it can be connected to official domains, with users' handles linking to other sites; while this isn't widely used right now, it could be a reliable way to verify celebrities and public figures in future.



ENCOURAGE BLOCKING AND REPORTING

Another tool that Bluesky uses to ensure a decent experience is muting and blocking accounts. The former prevents you from seeing a specific user's content, while the latter stops them from seeing yours. If a child is encountering trolls or bullies on the platform, encourage them to use this function, while also reporting the offenders to help make the platform a nicer place for everyone.



KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

As with all social media platforms, moderation and content filters can only do so much; it's highly likely that a child will eventually face something unsavoury. For that reason, it's important to make sure that young people are aware of the risks and know how to handle the technology if anything they see on the app makes them feel unsafe or uncomfortable.



Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/bluesky-app>



@wake_up_weds



/www.thenationalcollege



@wake.up.wednesday



@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 26.03.2025

There is a lot of help and advice available to help you keep your children safe online. Have a look at the Online Safety section of our website for lots of useful information and links http://www.alverton.org.uk/website/online_safety_for_families/246722. Your child's teacher will also always be happy to talk to you about online safety.

Free School Meals / Pupil Premium

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/schools-and-education/schools-and-colleges/school-meals/>

Registering a child as eligible for free school meals (as described below) means that your child receives a free meal every day (though they can, of course, bring a packed lunch should they prefer) but there are additional benefits too. Pupil Premium brings more money into the school to help children achieve and learn. Children in receipt of the Pupil Premium also receive other benefits (eg contributions towards Key Stage 2 camps and funding to use for uniform, music lessons, trips etc). At some times, there are further benefits for these children such as food vouchers during holiday times where these are given. Please see the Pupil Premium Provision Map in the Pupil Premium section of our website http://www.alverton.org.uk/website/pupil_premium/172518 or speak to Mrs Gill or Mrs Stacey in the office or contact Mrs Simpson who leads our Pupil Premium provision.

The easiest and quickest way to apply for free school meals is online through the Cornwall Council website but, if you are unable to do this, you can call the Free School Meals team on 01872 323298 and a member of the team will call you back to complete the application over the phone.

A child is eligible for free school meals if their parent / carer (or the child themselves) receives any of the following benefits:

- Income Support (IS)
- Job Seekers' Allowance (Income-Based) and equal based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA-IR) and equal based Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (CTC) with an annual income of less than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Guarantee Element of Pension Credit (GPC)
- Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 (IAA) Support
- Universal Credit - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get) as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods

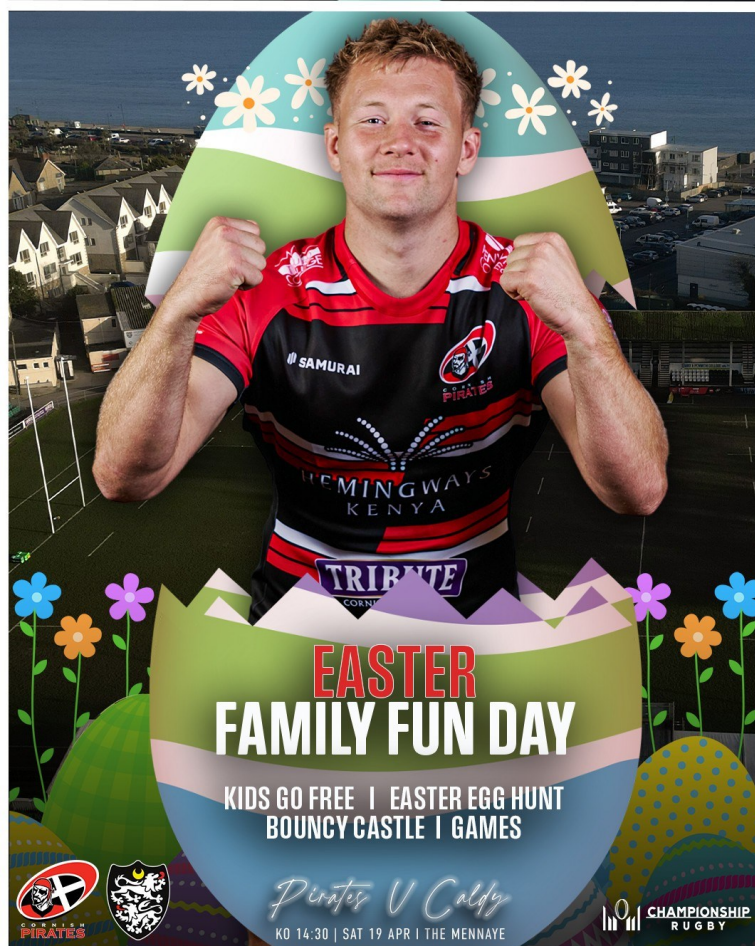
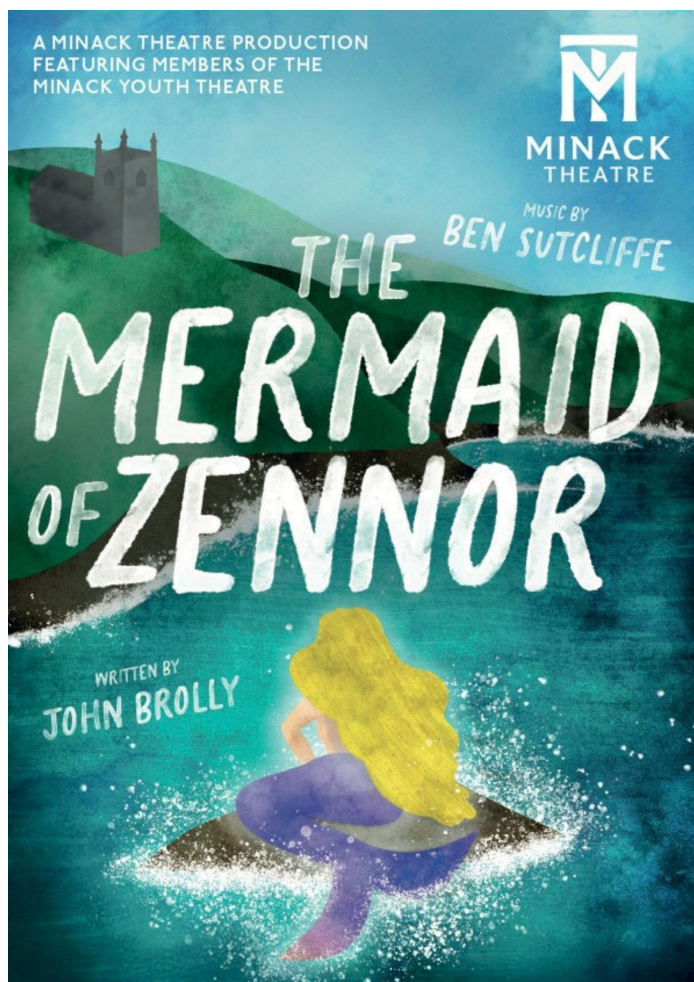
If you are claiming the benefits listed below you are NOT eligible for free school meals, regardless of what other benefits / credits are being claimed:

- Working Tax Credit
- Contribution-Based Job Seeker's Allowance and / or Contribution-Based Employment and Support Allowance

NB All Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils are entitled to receive a free school meal as part of the Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) initiative, regardless of what benefits are being claimed. However, some children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 may also have an entitlement to benefits-related free school meals and it is important to apply for these if you think your child may be eligible.

Registering for free school meals / Pupil Premium is confidential. If you think that your child is eligible, we strongly recommend that you contact Cornwall Council as detailed above. Mrs Gill and Mrs Stacey in the office will also be able to help you and answer any questions you may have.

Thank you.



And before we know it, two terms have flown by and suddenly the best two week break of the year (in my opinion, though I have canvassed other mortals who agree) is upon us. I can only hope that the weather is in our favour, that the days are warm and light, that all your holidays, childcare plans and arrangements go like clockwork and that all goes well for you all. I will be eating as much chocolate as possible I'm afraid, and I have started early because I thought it sensible to get in a bit of practice and prepare myself for the chocolate indulgence heading my way...I sincerely hope. Anyway, enough of me, I wanted to say, and I genuinely mean this, that it matters not if your child was taught by me, nor do I mind if your child is no longer in my class and I most certainly don't mind what you want to come and chat about. I met somebody recently who asked if I was the Mrs D in the letter, the one who says to come and have a cuppa and a chat. Yes, that's me, I work Wednesday to Friday each week and I am more than happy to listen. So do come, no matter how large or small the worry. I can't fix things, I have no magic wand, but I can listen, make a hot drink, rummage for those biscuits and offer a shoulder with a box of tissues. And a hug if that would help. Until then, stay safe, eat chocolate if you wish, enjoy as much of the days as you can and I will be here in two weeks time. Happy Easter from me (I used to teach Robins and now my class are called Curlews. I'm in the class behind the passion flowers - I may one day attach a photo, when I'm feeling really brave. Until then, take care and much love, Mrs Daylak xxx



STARS OF THE WEEK

Little Foxes	Cora	for always getting involved & being kind to her friends
Little Owls	Lilly	for always being so kind & thoughtful & a lovely friend
Kittiwakes	Loveday	Enthusiasm: for exceptional enthusiasm for phonics
Curlews	Evie	Enthusiasm: for being perfect & hard working all the time
Puffins	Phoebe	Perseverance: for overcoming her fear & swimming with her friends
Owls	Ella	Responsibility: for responsibility & always trying to do the right thing
Kingfishers	Neve	Kindness: for being such a kind girl in class, always willing to help
Trencrom	Arlo	Responsibility: for a fantastic week, sharing brilliant ideas
Lanyon	Felix	Enthusiasm: for trying hard with all of his work this week
Kerris	Henry	Enthusiasm: for writing a wonderful adventure story
Bodrift	Lealou	Perseverance: for such impressive effort & perseverance in Maths
Bosigran	Archie	Responsibility: for consistent effort & hard work across all his learning
Kenidjack	Dylan	Perseverance: for great effort & improvement with his writing
Lunchtime Star	Jack Gr	for being such a kind & thoughtful friend
Breakfast Club	Chloe	for always being polite & happy in the mornings
	Ashton	for helping tidy the playground equipment

DIARY DATES

Friday 4th April 3.15pm	School closes for Easter holidays (normal time)
Tuesday 22nd April 8.30am	School re-opens for Summer term
Wednesday 23rd April	Swimming starts for Year 5 Group 1
Wednesday 23rd April 4.30-5.30pm - EYFS/KS1 6-7pm - KS2	FOAS Easter Disco £1.50 on the door
Monday 28th April	Clubs start
Tuesday 29th April	Swimming starts for Trencrom Group 2






MOUNTS BAY ACADEMY

JOIN THE ADVENTURE EASTER HOLIDAYS

*Funded for FSM children or £20 a day
FREE HOT MEAL INCLUDED!
5-16 YRS old
Apr 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th*

Join the Easter egg hunt on Thursday 17th!

☒ Multi-Sports
 ☒ Arts and Crafts
 ☒ Biking

St Marys Camps: 

Mounts Bay Camps: 



Surf Or Mega SUP

This Easter Holiday with






Surfing

Mega SUP

Funded places for
FSM children

Penzance and Praa Sands

active
CORNWALL

Scan to book via Playwaze
Or contact:
info@coastactivityprogramme.com





SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES

Coast
ACTIVITY PROGRAMME

THIS EASTER HOLIDAY

EGG HUNT

Free Half Day Places and a Hot Meal for FSM Children

Hayle Academy
St Ives Secondary School
Helston Community College
St Mary's Catholic Penzance

£20 for Non Free School Meal places

SCAN TO BOOK 07939863010

www.coastactivityprogramme.com
info@coastactivityprogramme.com

Ofsted
Registered
See website for details

TIME MOVE
Holiday Programme

ACTIVE CORNWALL
CORNWALL COUNCIL
Department for Education

ACTIVITIES
Silent Disco
Dodgeball
Tennis
Football
Cricket
Rugby
Bike Riding
Arts and Crafts
and so much more

AGES 5-16

WALK 30 KM IN MAY
TO SUPPORT PENHALIGON'S FRIENDS

SIGN UP HERE!

Could you and your four-legged friend walk at least 30k in May to raise funds for Penhaligon's Friends and help make a difference to the lives of bereaved children, young people and families throughout Cornwall?

Simply sign up and donate £10 to receive your pooch postal pack, which contains a fabulous Penhaligon's Friends dog bandana, treats for dogs and their humans, and lots of great resources.

THIS EVENT IS KINDLY SUPPORTED BY
penmellyn vets
Your local vets in Cornwall

Charity No: 1189323
www.penhaligonsfriends.org.uk

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF PENHALIGON'S FRIENDS!

DYNAMOS CRICKET

This is our game.

Calling all 8-11 year olds!

Whether a graduate from All Stars or new to the sport, Dynamos Cricket is an exciting way for kids to **play, learn** cricket skills and make **new friends**.

Participants receive a personalised New Balance shirt with their name and chosen number.

Sign up today

dynamoscricet.co.uk

It all starts with... ALL STARS CRICKET

All Stars Cricket is the best cricket experience for **5-8 year-olds**

All kids are guaranteed to develop **new skills** while having **fun** and making **friends**

Participants receive a **personalised t-shirt**

Sign up today at allstarscricket.co.uk



Open Morning

Easter Saturday April 19th

9.30-12.30

Easter Fun Trail - with Easter Egg prize

£5 per child

£3 per adult (includes a drink from the new "High Bar" cafe)

Members and non-members welcome

Stalls, crafts, colouring competition, lego competition, fun activity trail and more

Bring the whole family and join PZGC for an Easter Eggstravaganza

Watch our coaches and athletes demonstrate their gymnastic, Parkour and tumbling skills



Scan QR code to book tickets online

Penzance Gymnastics Club, Unit E, Questmap
Business Park, Long Rock Industrial Estate, TR20 8AS

charity@penzancegymclub.co.uk

Open to
Members and
Non-Members

Easter Week 1 timetable 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	Friday
9:00am-3:00pm Holiday Club £35 7:00pm-9:00pm Adult gym £14	9:30-10:30am Busy Bees £5 3-4pm Family Fun £6 Adults go free!	9:00am-3:00pm Holiday Club £35 Disco Time! 	9:30-10:30 Family Fun £6 Adults go free! 4-5pm Recreational Gymnastics class £10 6:00pm-8:00pm Open gym £10	9:30-10:30 Parent toddler £5 10:45-11:45 Open gym £6 

Open to
Members and
Non-Members

Easter Week 2 timetable 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	Friday
9:00am-3:00pm Holiday Club £35 7:00pm-9:00pm Adult gym £14	9:30-10:30am Busy Bees £5 3-4pm Boys Hour £6 4-5pm Family Fun £6 Adults go free!	9:00am-3:00pm Holiday Club £35 EASTER SPECIAL 	9:30-10:30 Family Fun £6 Adults go free! 5:30-6:30pm Parkour L1 £10 6:30-7:30 Parkour L2/3 £10 7:30-9 Adult Parkour £14 6:00pm-8:00pm Open gym £10	9:30-10:30 Parent toddler £5 10:45-11:45 Open gym £6 