

Youth Speaks success

Our Youth Speaks team of Riley D, Jesse and Jacob went back to Penwith College on Tuesday to speak on their topic of 'Is reading really good for you?' in the next round of the competition. They were up against nine other schools from all over Cornwall and came back having won! Many



congratulations to them. They now go through to the Area Final at Saltash on 16th March and we wish them every success.



High Fives

A huge well done to our High Fives team who won both their last tournament matches on Tuesday evening. We are hoping to be top of our group as we go into the Finals in a few weeks time.

The team were Maisie, Lily Rose, Summer, Callum and Rex.

Breakfast club reminder

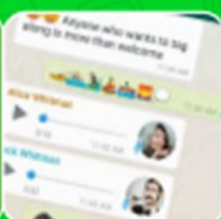
Recently a number of children have been found alone in the reception area before 8am. Please **do not** drop your children off for Breakfast club before 8am without adult supervision. We cannot take responsibility for them before they come into Breakfast club at 8am.

Online safety

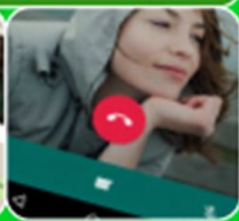
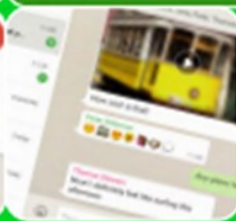
Please see the next page with some excellent advice about WhatsApp a messaging app. We will be publishing a different information page each week.



WhatsApp is one of the most popular messaging apps in the world, with more than 1.5 billion people in more than 180 countries using it to send and receive text, photos, videos and documents, as well as make voice and video calls through an internet or Wi-Fi connection. The free app offers end-to-end encryption, which means that messages can only be read by the sender and the recipient in one-to-one chats, or all members if it is a group chat. Not even WhatsApp can read them.



AGE RESTRICTION
16+



What parents need to know about



WhatsApp



AGE LIMIT CHANGE

Since May 2018, the minimum age for using WhatsApp is 16 years old if you live in the European Union, including the UK. Prior to this, the minimum age was 13, which still applies for the rest of the world. WhatsApp has not yet stated whether it will take action against anyone aged between 13 and 16 who already hold accounts under the old terms and conditions, such as closing their account or seeking parental permission.

SCAM MESSAGES

Occasionally on WhatsApp, people receive spam messages from unauthorised third parties or from fraudsters pretending to offer prizes to 'lucky people', encouraging recipients to click on a link to win a prize. A common scam involves messages warning recipients that their WhatsApp subscription has run out with the hope that people are duped into providing their payment details. Other scam messages include instructions to forward the message in return for a reward or gift from WhatsApp or another person.

FAKE NEWS AND HOAXES

WhatsApp has been linked to enabling the spread of dangerous viral rumours. In India, for example, a number of attacks appear to have been sparked by false rumours shared on WhatsApp.

THE 'ONLY ADMIN' FEATURE AND CYBERBULLYING

Cyberbullying is the act of sending threatening or taunting text messages, voice messages, pictures and videos, with the aim to hurt and humiliate the receiver. The group chat and group video call features are great for multiple people to chat simultaneously, but there is the potential for people to hurt others with their comments or jokes. The 'only admin' feature gives the admin of a group chat greater control over who can send messages. Whilst this can be good for one-way announcements, the group admin has the power to block somebody from responding to an offensive message in a chat, which could result in a child being upset and unable to reply.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

To start a chat in WhatsApp, you need to know the mobile number of the contact you want to speak to and they also need to have the app downloaded. WhatsApp can find contacts by accessing the address book of a device and recognising which of those contacts are using WhatsApp. If your child has shared their mobile number with somebody they don't know, they can use it to get in touch via WhatsApp.

LIVE LOCATION SHARING

WhatsApp's 'Live Location' feature enables users to share their current location in real time to their contacts in a chat, allowing friends to show their movements. The feature, which can be found by pressing the 'attach' button, is described by WhatsApp as a 'simple and secure way to let people know where you are.' Location-sharing is already a common feature on other social apps, including Snapchat's Snap Map and Facebook Messenger and can be a useful way for a child to let loved ones know they are safe. However, if your child is in a group chat with people they do not know, they will be exposing their location.



National
Online
Safety

Top Tips for Parents

CREATE A SAFE PROFILE

Even though somebody would need your child's phone number to add them as a contact, as an extra security measure we suggest altering their profile settings to control who can see their profile photo and status. The options to choose from are 'Everyone', 'My Contacts' and 'Nobody'. We suggest selecting 'My Contacts' or 'Nobody' to ensure their profile is protected.

EXPLAIN HOW TO BLOCK PEOPLE

If your child has received spam or offensive messages, calls or attachments from a contact, they should block them. Messages and status updates sent by a blocked contact will not show up on the phone and will stay undelivered. Blocking someone will not remove this contact from the contact list - they will need to be removed from the phone's address book. To block a contact, your child needs to open the person's chat stream and tap on the settings.

REPORT SCAM MESSAGES

Advise your child not to tap, share or forward any message that looks suspicious or sounds too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they will be given the option to report the number as spam directly inside the chat. They can also report a contact or a group as spam using the following steps: 1) Open the chat. 2) Tap on the contact or group name to open their profile information. 3) Scroll to the bottom and tap 'Report Spam'.

LEAVE A GROUP

If your child is part of a group chat that makes them feel uncomfortable or has been added to a group they don't want to be part of, use the group's settings to show them how to leave. If someone exits a group, the admin can add them back in once, if they leave again, they cannot be added again.

USING LIVE LOCATION SAFELY

If your child needs to use the 'Live Location' feature to share with you or a friend, advise them to only share it for the amount of time they need to. WhatsApp gives the options of either 15 minutes, one hour or eight hours. However, your child can choose to stop sharing at any time.

DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES

If your child has sent a message to the wrong chat or if a message they sent has contained a mistake, they can delete it. To do this, simply tap and hold on the message, choose 'Delete' and then 'Delete for everyone'. The app allows seven minutes to delete the message after it has been sent, but it is important to remember that recipients may have seen and screenshot a message before it was deleted.

SET TIME LIMITS

A 2017 study found that by the age of 14 the average child will have sent more than 35,000 texts, 30,000 WhatsApp messages and racked up more than three solid weeks of video chat. Although it is inevitable that your child will use technology, you can still set boundaries. This is not easy, especially since teens use their devices for both schoolwork and free time, often simultaneously.

SOURCES: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2018/may/20/whatsapp-photos-to-be-under-16-the-reality-is-hazy>; <https://whatsapp.com/en-gb/faq>; <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/tech/whatsapp-photos-to-be-under-16-the-reality-is-hazy>; <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/tech/whatsapp-photos-to-be-under-16-the-reality-is-hazy>

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This is not a definitive guide. Please always check with the app's support information to see if your security and privacy concerns are addressed.

www.nationalonlinesafety.com



One Planet One Future - Key Stage1 Fundraising Event - Monday 25th February from 3-4.30pm in the hall

Wanted!

KS1 are asking the Alverton School community for donations of raffle prizes (or promises) for their fundraising event on Monday 25th February. The money raised will be used to help develop an area of the field as a wildlife garden for this and future generations of Alverton children. If you are able to help in any way please give your prize or promise to the school office by next Friday 15th February. Thank you very much.

Year 6 London trip - July 2019

A reminder that ALL payments for Year 6 London trip (£310 total) need to be made by **5th April at the latest.**

Full payment is needed by the above date. If it is not paid in full by this date, we will cancel your child's place and refund any money you have already paid (less the deposit) with immediate effect.

You can pay as much or as little as you want anytime up to the final date. Please pay online at schoolmoney.co.uk as we no longer accept cash or cheques. Click into the amount box and change the total payment to the amount you'd like to pay. If you cannot pay online, please ask at the office for a Paypoint barcode which you can use to pay cash at a local Paypoint retailer.

Club cancellations

Drama club is cancelled next **Tuesday 12th February.**

After half term

Hockey club is cancelled on **Thursday 28th February** due to a tournament.

All clubs will be cancelled on **Monday 11th, Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th March** due to parent consultations.

Go Active holiday day

Following on from the success of the Go Active holiday provision in December, they are running another day in half term, **Wednesday 20th February.** Please see the letter in last week's newsletter (or ask at the office for a form) for more information and how to book. If you are interested, please complete and return the form to the office, with your payment in cash, by 13th February at the latest.

Lost property box

The lost property box is full again. If you are missing anything please come in after school and check the box before next Friday 15th. All unnamed items will be emptied out and taken to the charity shop next Friday.

100 Word Challenge



Dear Alverton pupils,

Welcome to the Winter 100 Word Challenge! Please write a story about the above picture using **exactly** 100 words and then e-mail your entry to extremereading@alverton.cornwall.sch.uk. Entries should be in by **Friday 15th February** and there will be prizes for the winners!

Good luck!

Mrs Clive.

Lost

Isabella in Kingfishers has lost her trainers. They are black and white Nike trainers. Phoebe in Trencrom has lost her black, lace up school shoes. They are size 11.5 and are Clarks brand. Please check and if you've found them, please hand them in.

Need a chat?

Come and have a cup of tea with Mrs Daylak if you have any questions or concerns about anything which might be affecting your child in school. You can find her any Monday to Thursday after school until 4pm. If you would rather make an appointment, please ask the office. She might even find you a biscuit to go with your tea!



STARS OF THE WEEK

Robins	Molly	for outstanding enthusiasm for all things at school & superb storytelling
& Choughs	Eden	for making a lovely book
Puffins	Charlie	for his fabulous writing this week
Owls	Isla	for persevering even when things seem tough. Well done Isla
Kingfishers	Layla	for super writing about wildlife gardens this week
Trencrom	Kitty V	for working hard all week in Maths. You have been a superstar
	Sunny	for working hard all week learning to divide
Lanyon	Jackson	for an amazing choice of adjectives in his writing
Kerris	Rylee	for her kind, caring & thoughtful nature—always such a lovely friend
Bodrifty	Layla	for a fantastic effort in her swimming lessons. Well done
Bosigran	Riley	for being a total superstar in every single aspect of school life
Kenidjack	Jacob	for consistently outstanding Maths
Dinnertime	The terrific trio - Bailey M, Todd & Ryan for working together as a team	
PE Star	George C	for another first place at Cross Country this week



Twitter

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter @alvertonschool to keep up-to-date with all the exciting things that are going on.



DIARY DATES

February

15th School closes at normal time of 3.15pm for half term break

Monday 18th to Friday 22nd February – HALF TERM

PLEASE NOTE CLUBS CONTINUE AS NORMAL AFTER HALF TERM

March

1st Sharing assembly for Puffins at 2.45pm

5th St. Piran's dance for Year 6 – details to follow

7th World Book Day

11th-13th Parent Consultations – appointment times will be booked online – **no clubs this week on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.**

22nd Sharing assembly for Lanyon at 2.45pm

27th Last swimming for Year 5

29th Sharing assembly for Owls at 2.45pm

29th **All clubs finish**

29th All music lessons finish

April

4th FOAS Easter Disco – details to follow



CLASS ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

Choughs	92.0%	8
Robins	95.8%	3
Puffins	97.6%	1
Owls	91.3%	10
Kingfishers	93.3%	7
Trencrom	93.4%	6
Lanyon	97.3%	2
Kerris	94.7%	4
Bodrifty	93.8%	5
Bosigran	91.7%	9
Kenidjack	90.7%	11
Overall school attendance	93.8%	

Our collective target is 96.5%

HALF TERM TENNIS CAMPS

20th February
22nd February

**20% OFF EARLY
BIRD DISCOUNT**

9:00 – 10:00 3-5 years
10:00 – 12:00 6-10 years
13:00 – 15:00 11+ years

- All abilities welcome
- All equipment provided
- LTA qualified coaches



BOOK ONLINE

WWW.PENZANCETENNISCLUB.CO.UK/COACHING/HOLIDAY-CAMPS