

Dear Parents,

One of the things which I know the staff have been looking forward to is the return of whole-school events and one of the most exciting of these is our annual musical production. It doesn't quite seem possible, but it is three years since The Little Mermaid and we are all absolutely delighted that, at the end of May, we will be performing Moana.

The Year 5 and 6 children who have come to Drama Club each week have been absolutely brilliant. They have worked incredibly hard and their enthusiasm and commitment has been fantastic to witness. Our Year 3 and 4 children will also be involved and, as the choir, are very important members of the team. These children will have been in Reception and Year 1 when we last put on a show and we are so pleased that they want to be a part of it all.

Putting on a production like this makes us realise once again how lucky we are to have such talented and creative staff. Lots have given their time making costumes and props, painting backdrops and so on. Mrs Stevens, in particular, has been given free rein with her creative talents! The staff are also so supportive despite the disruptions that putting on something of this nature inevitably brings! I can genuinely say that it is the favourite event of the year for lots of staff and it is great that we are finally able to do this again.

We are also extremely fortunate to have a really supportive wider school community. Mrs Scott (Mrs Knowles's Mum) is an incredibly talented lady and has made some amazing costumes. We are also absolutely delighted that Mrs McClure has come out of retirement to rehearse with the children and that Mr McClure will again enable a professional sound experience, complete with microphones!

Tickets for Moana will go on sale next week. If you would like to see the show and your child is currently at Alverton, their ticket is **free**. Adult tickets cost £4.50 and child tickets (for children not at Alverton) cost £2.50. Even if your child is not part of the cast or choir, do please still come along as you are guaranteed to enjoy it!

Have a lovely Bank Holiday weekend,

Best wishes,

Cathryn Wicks  
Deputy Head



Tickets on sale next week! Look out for a text.

# Alverton Primary School's production of



Wednesday 25th May 2022 at 6.30pm  
Thursday 26th May 2022 at 6.30pm

## **Tickets**

£4.50 adult / £2.50 children over five.

Free tickets for pupils of Alverton School.

Please ask at the office if you have younger children  
who would like to attend.

Music and Lyrics by

**Lin-Manuel Miranda, Opetaia Foa'i and Mark Mancina**

Book adapted by **Susan Soon He Stanton**

Music and Orchestrations Adapted and Arranged by **Ian Weinberger**

Based on the 2016 Disney film *Moana*

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with

**Music Theatre International (Europe)**

All authorised performance materials are also supplied by **MTI Europe**

[www.mtishows.co.uk](http://www.mtishows.co.uk)

### Remember – safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

If you have a safeguarding concern, please contact Martin Higgs (Designated Safeguarding Lead) at [head@alverton.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:head@alverton.cornwall.sch.uk) 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](mailto:multiagencyreferralunit@cornwall.gov.uk)

### Summer term

As the weather gets warmer please remember to ensure your child has a filled, named water bottle in school every day and a sun hat and you have applied suncream before they come to school in the morning.

As there will be many more opportunities for taking part in PE outside please make sure that a PE kit is brought into school on a Monday and **is left in school all week.**

Red checked summer dresses or grey shorts may now be worn if the weather dictates.

### Summer half term date

This half term holiday will be from Monday 30th May until 3rd June. **School will also be closed on Monday 6th June** in lieu of the extra Bank Holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee which falls in the half term holiday. We return to school on Tuesday 7th June. Woodland Nursery will be open as normal on Monday 6th June to children who do not receive free funding or who have chosen to stretch their funding (not term time only).

### Covid 19

Please see the link below for updated Covid 19 guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts>

### Clubs

All clubs will start next week commencing Tuesday 3rd May.

If the club requires payment please ensure that it is made before the club starts or your child will be unable to take part.

Many clubs have waiting lists so if your child doesn't attend regularly their place will be given to the next person on the list.

### Go Active After School provision

Any queries or to book please contact Mr Timmons direct on 07843 126833 or by emailing him on

[alvertonkidsclub@outlook.com](mailto:alvertonkidsclub@outlook.com)

Early May Bank Holiday is next **Monday 2nd May** and school and the Woodland Nursery will be closed. See you on 3rd.

## **Sporting Success**

### **Swimming**

Eight of our Year 5 and 6 pupils went to Penzance Leisure Centre this week to take part in the Penwith Schools Swimming Gala. They swam brilliantly with some getting into the finals. Mrs Harman was so impressed with their fantastic attitude and sportsmanship and said they were a credit to the school. The team were Nina, Cove, Kaiden, Hazel, Harry, Leo, Lolabelle and Summer.

### **Football**

Yesterday the Year 5/6 football team played Newquay Junior School in the semi-final of the Diamond Shield which is a county-wide competition. We have had some tough games to reach this stage and this was no different. Alverton had a magnificent start with two first half goals from Thomas G and Cove putting us into a commanding position. However, Newquay came back at us ferociously in the second half and with the last kick of normal time, equalled the scoreline. A hard fought extra time followed and unfortunately Alverton conceded again eventually losing the game 4-2. All the boys played magnificently, as they have done all season. Next week we are in the semi-final of the Rosewarne Shield so hope to get back on our winning streak then. The team was: Kaiden, Jowan, Kai, Alfie, Thomas G, Cove, Jenson, Thomas J, Leo and Levan.

## **FRIENDS OF ALVERTON SCHOOL**

### **ANNUAL DUCK RACE**

**SATURDAY 14<sup>th</sup> MAY**

### **AT WHERRYTOWN BOATING LAKE**

To raise funds for the school we are holding our first Duck Race in three years on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May starting at 11.00am. Please come and support us. Ducks are £1 each and can be 'bought' from the office. You will be allocated a number for each duck and there will be a board with all the numbers on at the duck race. Cash prizes for the winner and runners up. Refreshments available.

Please come along to support us and enjoy a lovely, family experience.



# FRIENDS OF ALVERTON SCHOOL (FOAS)

Parent-run fundraising and fun-organising group

**Want to help bring back some fun**





**now we can gather again?**

Here at FOAS we are desperate to get the *old faves* up and running again (Summer Fete, Christmas Fair...) and also keen to try out some *new ideas* to get our lovely pupils and their families *together having fun*, and also raising some *much-needed funds* for enhancing their school experience.

We've been working towards funding a

dedicated  *music room*    
for the school and are really close to the target! + loads more great ideas waiting in the wings...

The traditional Spring **Duck Race**  is already organised and taking place on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May (Pz Boating Lake). Yay!!!! Make sure you're there to cheer your duck on 

For this we need **YOU** to join in!

Commitment could be as little as 1 hour a year, it all counts 😊 but please do come and find out what you could do to help keep our school experience really special.

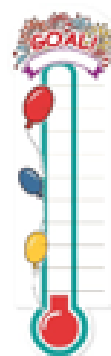


**MEETING** WED 4<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2022, 3.15pm @ school

Biscuits provided, no pressure to commit, all welcome.



Alverton Foas / Email: foas@alverton.cornwall.sch.uk





## 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](http://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 Vryan 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

CAMPAIGN  
AGAINST  
LIVING  
MISERABLY  
CALM

"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](http://gov.uk/domestic-violence)

WCWAid

West Cornwall Women's Aid

01736 367539

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



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# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about GROUP CHATS

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## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Occurring through messaging apps, on social media and in online games, group chats are among the most popular ways that young people engage with their peers online. Involving, by definition, three or more individuals, these groups allow users to send messages, images and videos to everyone in one place. While they are useful for helping friends, people with shared interests or members of a club to communicate and coordinate activities, they can also leave young people feeling excluded and bullied – as well as providing opportunities for inappropriate content to be shared and viewed.

### BULLYING

Unkind comments or images which are purposely aimed at an individual can be shared freely in a group chat – allowing and often encouraging others to join in the bullying behaviour. If this content is shared in a group of their peers (especially a larger group), it serves to amplify the hurt, embarrassment, anxiety and isolation that the victim feels.

### EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: starting a new group, for instance, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one child doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss or share images from an event that everyone else but them attended.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by your child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some chat apps have a disappearing message function, so your child may be unable to report something they've seen because it can only be viewed once or for a short time.

### SHARING GROUP CONTENT

It's important to remember that – while the content of the chat is private between those in the group – individual users can easily share a message, photo or video with others outside of the group or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something your child intended as private becoming public (and potentially going viral) is higher if there are people they don't know well in the group.

### UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Within larger group chats, it's more likely your child will be communicating with people they don't really know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly toward your child. It's wise for young people not to share personal details and stay aware that they have no control over the messages and images they share after they've put them online.

### NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications. Every time someone in the group messages, your child's device will be 'pinged' with an alert: potentially, this could mean hundreds of notifications a day. Not only is this highly distracting, but young people's fear of missing out on the latest conversation results in increased screen time as they try to keep up with the chat.

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## Advice for Parents & Carers

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### CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats are often an arena for young people to gain social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse, which could upset others in the group. Encourage your child to consider how other people might feel if they engaged in this behaviour. If your child does upset a member of their group chat, support them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

### GIVE SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Remind your child that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded in a group chat, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their hurt feelings and help to put them back in control by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. On a related note, you could also empower your child to speak up if they're in a chat where others are being picked on.

### BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If your child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block the users sending the material, report them to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could be putting a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise to your child that it's OK for them to simply leave any group chat that they don't feel comfortable being a part of.

### PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Discuss the importance of not revealing identifiable details like their address, their school or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they lose control of where it may end up and how it might be used.

### AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their true identity to gain a child's trust – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure your child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and, especially, to never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

### SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Having a phone or tablet bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be a massive irritation and distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to your child that they can still be part of the group chat, but that it would be healthier for them to turn off or mute the notifications and catch up with the conversation at a time which better suits them.

## Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



**NOS**  
National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 27.04.2022

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](http://www.alverton.org.uk/website/online_safety_for_families/246722). Your child's teacher will also always be happy to talk to you



## 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](http://www.alverton.org.uk/website/pupil_premium/172518) or speak to Mrs Gill or Mrs Stacey in the office or contact Mrs Wicks 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.



## STARS OF THE WEEK

Kittiwakes	Rowan	for his amazing attitude towards learning this week
Curlews	Troy	for confidently applying his phonics skills needed this week
Puffins	Ted	for beginning the Summer term with a really focused & engaged attitude
Owls	Izzy	for settling in so beautifully to Owls class
Kingfishers	Gia	for amazing progress in Maths
Trencrom	Blake	for being a wonderful member of our class & making a brilliant piece of homework
Lanyon	Dylan	for working really hard to create his Greek god
Bodriftly	Logan G	for being such brilliant company on camp & giving everything a go
Bosigran	Sienna W	for being such great company on camp & giving everything a go
Kenidjack	Maisie	for being generally brilliant all year in every way! Superstar
Dinnertime	Kittiwakes & Curlews	for great behaviour out on the field



Welcome back to you all and hello to the sunshine. How lovely to return to school with sunny days, lighter mornings and lovely evenings. I hope you've been managing to head to the beach or the park; I always feel that we must make the most of these sunny day opportunities as we don't know how long they'll last. I hope that the sunshine has made you feel happier, it certainly seems to make more of us feel content and people tend to smile more too. When the sun's out I tend to forget whatever worry is on my mind currently and just enjoy the moment, feeling more able and inclined to be mindful. If the sunshine doesn't help, or even if it does and you just want to chat, come and find me. If you have a question, just come and ask. Of course, you know where I am. Mrs Daylak.



## 'Have a Go Days'

**Free to attend. A fun and friendly activity for children with additional needs or disability and their siblings or friends, aged 6-17**

**Wednesday 1 June  
10am-12pm  
Bodmin Leisure Centre  
Lostwithiel Road  
Bodmin, PL31 1DE**

**Wednesday 1 June  
2-4pm  
Cornwall College (Astro)  
Trevenson Rd, Pool  
TR15 3RD**

**Booking is essential. For more information and to book your free place(s) contact Katie on 01736 759500 or email [katie@disabilitycornwall.org.uk](mailto:katie@disabilitycornwall.org.uk). Find us on Facebook by searching "Have a Go Days Cornwall".**

