Alverton School



28/1/22 FRIDAY NEWS N°. 18

Dear Parents,

Before Christmas, we had a very challenging couple of weeks with many Covid cases amongst staff and children, particularly in Key Stage 2. This week, we have had to take the difficult decision to close one of the rooms in the Nursery and several staff across the school are currently absent although the children appear to be relatively unaffected at present.

This week we have risen to new levels of organisation and flexibility as the staff have been amazing at covering for each other and working in different classrooms to their own, often at very short notice, in order to ensure that the children continue to have as normal a school week as possible. You may have spotted Mr Dawe (normally in Year 2) at the Eden Project with our Reception children or Mrs O'Rourke (normally Year 5) teaching Years 3 and 4. Our Teaching Assistants have also been completely brilliant and we are, as ever, so grateful that we work in such a fantastic place where everyone puts the children, and each other, first.

I hope you have a lovely weekend,

Cathryn Wicks Deputy Headteacher

A lovely story!

We had a super phone call this week from one of the local residents who had spotted one of our pupils demonstrating that he was a great local citizen. It was the end of the school day and children were on their way home from school. Driving up the hill near Trevena Road, a driver had thrown some rubbish out of his car onto the grass verge. Harry, one of our Year 6 pupils and an Environment Minister, had come along just afterwards and had picked up the rubbish, and some more already left by the side of the road, and taken it home, to be recycled. The gentleman had been so impressed that he phoned the school to tell us what he had witnessed.

Although the rules in England regarding mask wearing have changed, we would appreciate it if you continue to wear a mask when you come into the foyer to speak to one of our office staff. You can, of course, still wear a mask outside on the school site if you still wish to do so.

Harry was awarded with a book voucher

for being so public-spirited and for setting such a great example for everyone. Here he is with Mr Higgs and our nice neighbour. Well done!

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 or, if it is out of school hours, please contact the Multi Agency Referral Unit on 0300 1231 116:

E-mail: <u>multiagencyreferralunit@cornwall.gov.uk</u>

A reminder that there is no entry into the school buildings apart from into the office foyer area and that, when you are on the site, we would ask you to please wear a mask. Thank you.

Sporting success

Yesterday twelve of our Key Stage 1 children went to a Multiskills Sports Tournament at Mounts Bay Academy with Mr Timmons. They took part in four different sports and games during a two hour session which included rackets, balls, beanbags and running and coordination. Competing against seven other local schools, they came third overall and were proud to show off their bronze medals. Mr Timmons was delighted with their excellent behaviour and team spirit. Well done to you all.

Contact details

Please ensure that we have your up-to-date contact details, particularly your mobile number and email address. We send out very useful information by text and email every week and our system doesn't tell us if these have bounced back to us. If you move house please tell us as well as we sometimes post things home.

Coronavirus symptoms

The main symptoms are:

A high temperature (hot to the touch on chest or back)

OR

A new, continuous cough (coughing a lot for more than an hour or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours)

OR

A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste (you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything or things smell or taste different to normal)

If you or your child have any **ONE** or more of these you must get a COVID-19 PCR test as soon as possible and stay at home and do not have visitors— only leave home to get the test. Please check the latest Government guidance. Please ring or email the school office as soon as possible to let us know.

If your child tests positive over the weekend please email head@alverton.cornwall.sch.uk

You can book at test online at:

https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirustest or phone the NHS test line 119.

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

Daisy's Diary

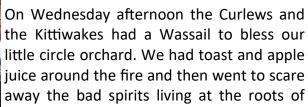
Hello! It's been so long since I've written Daisy's Diary, sorry! I seem to have been drowning in wellies!

Lots of lovely spring things seem to be happening at school. Logan found a beautiful

hellebore in the woods. We've had strange fungi like wobbly brown ears growing on the tree, the birds are really starting to sing now (probably because they are delighted they have new

houses - more on that next week), and of the 10,000 clover seeds I sowed along the new path 4 have not been eaten by slugs! That's a record! We've started planting seeds now to go in the cold frame - all bee friendly flowers, but Charlie has bought in a whole box of veg

seed.



the apple trees by banging saucepans and hooting until they left. Then Mrs England played the Wassail song on her violin and we all sang to bring in the good apple spirits, and hung

toast in the trees to tempt them to stay. What a lovely afternoon.







Residential camps 2022

Please see the deadline dates for when the full payment for camp needs to be received.

You can pay a little at a time via Schoolmoney. Just change the total in the green box to the amount you want to pay.

Year 3 camp - Penryn - June - £100

Deadline: 29th April. £75 remaining

Year 4 camp - Bude - April - £105

Deadline: 11th February. £70 remaining

Year 5 camp - Porthpean - June - £180

Deadline: 20th May. £150 remaining

Year 6 London trip - July - £310

Deadline: 1st April. £175 remaining online plus £10 cash to office for meals on the last day.



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**.

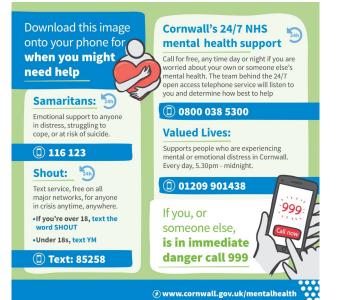








- **)** 0808 800 5000
- 🔀 help@nspcc.org.uk
- www.nspcc.org.uk



Penzance CTIPA Foodbank

The CTIPA Foodbank in Penzance provides food for anyone in need. If their support would be helpful to you, just phone Veryan 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.







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



WCWAid West Cornwall Women's Aid

01736 367539 https://www.wcwaid.co.uk/helpline



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 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	Millie	for her impeccable behaviour & positive attitude on our trip to Eden
	Curlews	Kendra	for always being such a kind, caring & all round wonderful member of Curlews
	Puffins	Kea	for his excellent art work this week
	Owls	Hollie	for super creative ideas in writing this week
	Kingfishers	Sofia	for her amazing dragon artwork
	Trencrom	Scarlette	for having a fantastic attitude to her learning, always using her manners & working so hard in Maths
	Lanyon	Riley	for fantastic perseverance with fractions
	Kerris	Eva Cl	for being so enthusiastic & determined towards all of her learning all of the time
	Bodrifty	Olivia	for a fantastic performance in The Tempest play rehearsals
	Bosigran	Summer	for being a complete star & working hard in everything she does
	Kenidjack	Lolabelle	for always being brilliant, every day in every way
	Dinnertime	Harris	for a very varied & healthy packed lunch
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Lost property

The lost property box has been moved to outside the hall door in the undercover paved area by the table tennis table. This should mean that the clothes don't get wet if it rains. Only un-named items will be put into the box and it will be emptied every half term and given to the charity shop. Please remember to name all your child's clothing and property so that it can be returned to them.

Well I for one am absolutely shattered and in need of a relaxing weekend. It's been really busy as we have had staff poorly this week so the healthy ones left have all worked extra hard. Covid, surely one day, will not be such a major part of our lives but for now it seems to linger on. So, this weekend I shall rest, swim, see family and friends and chat, chat, chat away, to anyone who will listen really. I am aware that I am very lucky, as have several very patient friends and some equally caring family members who will listen as I tell them my woes, worries, wobbles and concerns, plus the good times too. If you haven't enough ears, come and bend mine, I really don't mind what you want to say, school related or not. It's all confidential and comes with a smile, cuppa and a biscuit. If you want to chat on the phone, that can be arranged too. Take care and my very best wishes, Mrs Daylak xxx