

## Big Dig 3

A huge thank you to the parents and staff who helped with Big Dig 3 last Saturday.

We set ourselves some ambitious targets for the day which thanks to the hard work of all concerned we managed to meet.

This included:

- Clearing the final piece of woodland behind the Year 5/6 Playground in order to be able to open up a pathway onto the field and the playground so that children do not have to walk through the car park to access this.
- Completing the new Library with its woodland theme ready for opening on Monday 9th November - which it did!
- Tidying and clearing the outdoor areas at the back of the school hall, by Kerris Class and in the Year 5/6 shared space. This was looking very poor and is now cleared and ready for a significant make-over.
- Creating a welly storage area. Thanks to the generosity of Chris Sedgeman who provided all of our materials as well as a great deal of advice, we have created an outdoor wellington boot storage and changing area which will enable all of the Key Stage 2 pupils to keep a pair of wellies at school semi-permanently. This means that we can allow those children who have wellington boots in school to have access to the school field and the woodland pretty much all year at lunchtime.

An explanation of the plans to improve the playtime provision is given on the next page.

Once again, the efforts of our school community working together have achieved a tremendous amount in a very short time. A very big thank you to our parents and family members - Skippy, Maili, Pat, Fred, Tracey and Katherine - for their hard work and support. I am genuinely very grateful to all those who came along and would like to publicly acknowledge the efforts of our staff who give up so much time and energy to Alverton in order to provide the best experience possible for our children. On behalf of the school and its pupils thank you to everyone who took part!



## What a fantastic field - why can't we use it?

We are extremely fortunate to have an incredible school site, our school field in particular is amongst the best in the county with its great views and amazing woodland. It therefore seems a real shame that our children are denied access to this great resource and for most of the year have to spend their break and lunchtimes on tarmac playgrounds.

With this in mind we are putting into place some changes to the way the site is used by children between lessons. The proposal is that:

- Children from Years 3-6 have access to the field and woodland most of the year as long as they wear welly boots (hence the creation of the welly boot store).
- Once the path is finished at the back of the existing Y5/6 playground all Year 3 to 6 children will have access to this area, but ball games will not be allowed in this space.
- The existing Y3/4 playground will become a dedicated ball games court for Years 3-6. We have already moved the large PE Shed to the edge of this space so that ball games resources can be accessed easily.
- Our plan is to give Years 1 and 2 access to their own grassed area by extending their existing playground and opening up the space at the end of their existing playground.



## Open Morning at Ducklings

If you have a child who will turn three before 31st December 2015 or know anyone who does, your child will be eligible for 15 hours free funding from January 2016. Please come along to our Open Morning in Ducklings pre-school. It's on **Friday 20th November** anytime from 9.30 - 11.30am. You will be able to meet Miss Caddick and Mrs Roberts, have a look at our wonderful outdoor learning space and meet other parents and children. If you are interested in visiting, please let the school office know.



## Reports to Parents

This term, we have changed our report format to reflect the changes in the national curriculum and in our assessment systems.

An explanatory letter and Parent Guide to Assessment will be going home with the reports at the end of term. However, if you would like to find out more about this, Mr Higgs and Mrs Wicks will be holding a meeting on **9th December at 2.45pm** to explain the changes we have made and to talk about how we will now be reporting your child's progress to you.

Everyone is very welcome and we look forward to seeing you there.



## Wanted

We would be very grateful for any spare rollerblades or rollerskates (child or small adult size) for our Rollerskating Club. Thank you.

## Twitter

Our school Twitter feed is proving very popular! We will be using this more and more to share all the exciting learning that goes on everyday at Alverton. If you haven't already done so, it doesn't take long to organise a Twitter account when you will be able to follow us @alvertonschool. You can also follow our teachers, for example @AlvertonBC (Mr Chalwin) or @AlvertonCW (Mrs Wicks).



## Lost

Ruby in Puffins has lost her named red school PE bag with her shorts, polo shirt and plimsolls inside. All of it is named. It was lost before half term. Please check and hand in if found.

## Walking Bus

Many parents said that they would be interested in their child using the Walking Bus service if it was started up again. This service is run by adults who walk a group of children from the Free Church car park to school at 8.45am each day and back from school at 3.15pm. Unfortunately we cannot do this without your support. If you can spare any time regularly during the week to help, please complete the slip below and hand into the office. You would not need to commit to every morning or afternoon - even just a few sessions per week would help. Thank you.

### Walking Bus

Name: ..... Parent of: .....

I would be able to help supervise the Walking Bus on the following days/times:

Monday	am	<input type="checkbox"/>	pm	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuesday	am	<input type="checkbox"/>	pm	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wednesday	am	<input type="checkbox"/>	pm	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thursday	am	<input type="checkbox"/>	pm	<input type="checkbox"/>
Friday	am	<input type="checkbox"/>	pm	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signed: .....

## STARS OF THE WEEK

Robins  
Choughs  
Puffins  
Owls  
Kingfishers  
Trencrom  
Lanyon  
Kerris  
Bodrifty  
Bosigran  
Kenidjack  
Dinnertime  
PE Star Class


## TO BE ANNOUNCED ON MONDAY



### KS1 Nativity - change of date

Please note that the KS1 Nativity date has changed. It will now be held on **Thursday 10th December** at 2pm and 6pm.

### CLASS ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

Choughs	93.3%	8
Robins	96.1%	6
Puffins	90.9%	10
Owls	88.3%	11
Kingfishers	97.7%	4
Trencrom	93.0%	9
Lanyon	98.3%	2
Kerris 	99.3%	1
Bodrifty	93.7%	7
Bosigran	96.7%	5
Kenidjack	98.2%	3
Overall school attendance	95.2%	

Our collective target is 97.5%

### DIARY DATES

#### November

- 20<sup>th</sup> M & M Theatre Production of Robin Hood  
25<sup>th</sup> Last swimming for Kerris, Lanyon and Trencrom  
27<sup>th</sup> Non uniform day in aid of the FOAS Christmas Fair – details to follow  
27<sup>th</sup> ALL CLUBS FINISH TODAY

#### December

- 1<sup>st</sup> Advent Service at 9.30am – followed by mince pies and coffee for parents  
4<sup>th</sup> FOAS Christmas Fair – details to follow  
4<sup>th</sup> Guitar and keyboard lessons finish  
8<sup>th</sup> EYFS concert at 9.30am & 2.00pm  
10<sup>th</sup> KS1 concert at 2.00pm & 6.00pm - **NEW DATE**  
11<sup>th</sup> Pupils Christmas lunch  
15<sup>th</sup> KS2 concert at 6.30pm at the Chapel Street Methodist Church  
17<sup>th</sup> Medal Service at 9.30am  
18<sup>th</sup> **SCHOOL CLOSING** at normal time 3.15pm

The spring term begins on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2016



## **Pupil Premium funding for your child**

**Please note: if your child is eligible for pupil premium funding the funding remains with your child for the remainder of their Primary School career. This gives your child access to funding which can help towards breakfast club, after school clubs, school trips and uniform etc.**

If you are in receipt of any of the following benefits, the school may be able to receive Pupil Premium funding which can be used to support your child's education.

- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit Run-On (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit

Please note that anyone claiming Working Tax Credit, Contribution-Based Job Seeker's and/or Contribution-Based Employment and Support Allowance is NOT eligible, regardless of what other credit/benefits are being claimed.

**If you think you are eligible, please ask at the office about how to claim. It really is a very simple process which has huge potential benefits to your child.**