

## A trip to Manchester City!

Freddie, Teddy and Finn recently went to the Etihad Stadium (home of Manchester City FC) to play in an Under 7s Tournament and returned with these medals! What an amazing experience!



## Lunchtime matters

### Price increase

Caterlink have informed us this week that they have increased the cost of a lunch to **£2.32** from September. They have also said that from September they will **no longer be offering juice** but water will always be available.

The current menu runs until the end of October so a new one will not be coming home at the start of next term. Spare copies are available at the office.

### Outstanding debts

The kitchen staff would appreciate all payments for lunches to be completely up to date by the end of term. Please pay in advance if you can.

## Land's End Airport visits

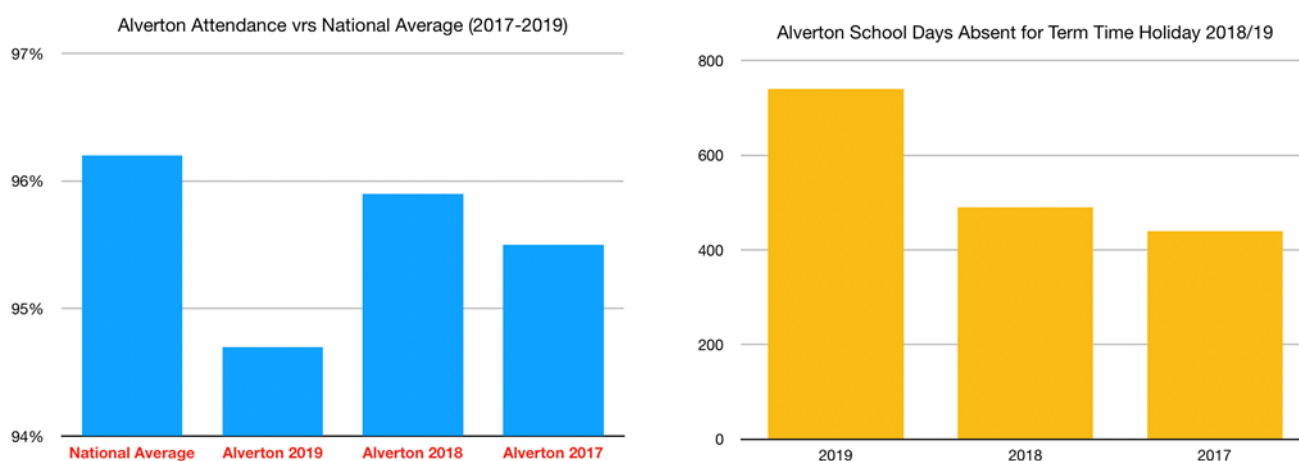
All our Year 3 and 4 children have been lucky enough recently to visit Land's End Airport as part of their enjoyment of local days out. They went into the hangars to see where the planes are maintained, sat in aircraft, went into check-in and were given boarding passes, sat on the fire engines and even went up into the control tower. Everyone had a fantastic time. A big thank you to Mr Roucefield (Logan and Summer's Dad) for arranging it for us.



## ATTENDANCE CONCERNS

We have a huge amount to celebrate as a school this year, with great success being achieved across the curriculum and exciting developments to our environment. However, there is one area of school life where we have not achieved well, in fact we have had our worst set of results for several years. That area is pupil attendance.

As you will see in the table below we have fallen well below the national average for overall attendance this year, with a significant proportion of this being down to term time holidays.



As a school we have tried to apply a common sense approach to this and avoid going down the line of referring families for fixed penalty notice fines. This is an approach which is now a standard response in many parts of the country and is being used by a large number of schools locally. We have avoided using this deterrent up until now as we have no desire to see our parents fined, and had hoped that the constant appeals not to take holidays in term time would be effective.

Unfortunately, as the figures for this year show, this approach has not been successful. In the current academic year there have been **740 days of pupil absence across the school as a result of family holidays. This equates to 148 weeks of school which has been missed.**

We are well aware that the financial savings of taking holidays in term time can be significant, and that for many people this means the difference between having a family holiday in a desirable destination or not. We also know that many of our families are involved in seasonal work that prevents them from taking time off in the school holidays. This is why, as a school, we have tried to manage the term-time holiday situation without resorting to fines. However, the current situation is untenable.

What many parents don't realise is that if our attendance significantly drops, as it has done, and the school is not doing everything in its power to improve this situation, the consequences for the school can be very serious indeed and the repercussions could significantly affect the way the school is run and its overall ethos.

**Governors of the school have therefore, extremely reluctantly, taken the decision to follow other local schools in adopting the Local Authorities guidance on fixed penalty fines for holidays taken in term time with effect from September 2019.** We would therefore, once again, ask parents not to book holidays in term time next year and remind everyone that under the DfE's rules we can only authorise term-time absence in exceptional circumstances. Please note that none of the money taken in fines from these fixed penalty notices comes to the school.

We're sorry to have to put this into a newsletter so close to the end of term, but as we're sure you appreciate this is a real concern for the school, and having tried all other approaches we feel that there is now no real alternative.

Please see below for some excellent advice about Screen Addiction. We will be publishing a different information page each week.

**At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold their conversations about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one topic of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.**

# What parents need to know about SCREEN ADDICTION

It can be challenging for parents and carers to know whether children are spending too much time on their devices. Furthermore, it's even more of a challenge to know whether a child is addicted to the internet and social media. As technology is becoming more pervasive, children and young people are experiencing tech-related dependencies. Do we as parents and carers have the knowledge to identify and support children and young people who may be developing an addiction to their devices?

**47%** of parents said they thought their children spent too much time in front of screens

## HEALTH & WELLBEING

Children as young as 13 are attending 'smartphone rehab' following growing concerns over screen time. There are now help centers in the UK which deal with screen addiction for children and adults showing the seriousness of device addiction. The World Health Organisation (WHO) has officially recognised gaming addiction as a modern disease. The condition was confirmed as part of their International Classification of Diseases (ICD) which serves as an international standard for diagnosing and treating health conditions.

## LACK OF SLEEP

7 out of 10 children said they had missed out on sleep because of their online habits and 60% said they had neglected school work as a result. It is important that children get the sleep they need in order to focus the next day.

## LOSS OF INTEREST IN OTHER THINGS

Your child may become less interested in anything that does not include their device. You may notice that your child is missing school time and generally being less engaged with other activities in the home. It is important to discuss this with your child as soon as you notice a behaviour change.

## CONFIDENCE, SUPPORT & ADVICE

The Children's Commissioner report 'Life in Likes', explored how children aged 8-11 are using social media today. It showed that children are using their devices to speak to their online friends about their problems and seek acceptance and support, removing face-to-face interactions.

## APPS CAN BE ADDICTIVE

Apps have been designed with 'psychological tricks' to constantly keep grabbing your attention. One example of this is on the app Snapchat, where you can gain 'streaks' when interacting with your friends. If you don't respond, you lose the streak. This addictive nature of apps aims to engage children and keep them coming back for more.

## Top Tips for Parents

### LIMIT SCREEN TIME

In today's digital age, technology is an important part of a child's development so completely banning them from their device will mean they're missing out on a lot, including conversation and communication with their friends. Rather than banning them from using their device, we suggest setting a screen time limit. Work out what you think is a suitable and healthy amount of time for your child to be on their device per week. Remember that your child may need to use devices for their school homework so only set screen limits on recreational time on their device. Once you have established this, have the conversation with them to discuss why you are implementing a screen limit. There will be others in your child's friendship group who will not have screen limits set and will be sending messages when they do not have access to their phones.

### LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Children model their behavior on their peers, so if their parents are constantly on their device, they will see this as acceptable. Try limiting your own screen time and follow the same rules you have set for them. If you have asked your child to not use their device at the table, make sure you don't. Try setting house rules that the whole family abide by.

### LESS TIME MEANS LESS EXPOSURE

There are many risks associated with devices, such as cyberbullying, grooming, sexting, viewing inappropriate content etc. Less time spent on a screen means that a child will be less exposed to these risks.

### MOBILE-FREE MEAL TIMES

Have you tried to settle your child by giving them a tablet at the dinner table or restaurant? This may seem like a quick fix to calm them down but in reality, it is encouraging them to use their device as a distraction from conversation and dealing with their emotions. We suggest removing all technology from the dinner table and having conversations with your family about how their day has been.

### REMOVE DEVICES FROM THEIR BEDROOM

Setting a rule about removing devices from bedrooms will help your child to get the sleep they need and be more focused the next day at school. 20% of teenagers said that they woke up to check their social network accounts on their devices. Even by having a device switched off in their bedroom, they may be tempted to check for notifications.

### ENCOURAGE ALTERNATE ACTIVITIES

It may seem like an obvious solution, but encouraging children to play with their friends, read a book, or playing outdoors will help them realize they can have fun without their device. Playing football, trampolining, camping, going for a walk or swimming are all healthy replacements for screen time. Try to join them in their outdoor activities to show your support.

### STATISTICS

- 52%** of children aged 3-4 go online for nearly 9hrs a week
- 82%** of children aged 5-7 go online for nearly 9.5hrs a week
- 93%** of children aged 8-11 go online for nearly 13.5hrs a week
- 99%** of children aged 12-15 go online for nearly 20.5hrs a week

Children and Young People's Survey and Monitor Report 2018

**NOS National Online Safety**

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[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)
Twitter - @natonlineasafety
Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety

## STARS OF THE WEEK

|               |           |   |
|---------------|-----------|---|
| Robins        | Jacob H   | for outstanding perfection every single moment of every day all year  |
| & Choughs     | Sonny     | for never giving less than 100% no matter what                        |
| Puffins       | Lani-Rose | for her creative illustrations in her stories                         |
|               | Sophia    | for her creative illustrations in her stories                         |
| Owls          | Logan-Jay | for being a very helpful member of our class                          |
|               | Megan     | for always sharing her ideas in class                                 |
|               | Saphron   | for lovely illustrations in her sea story                             |
| Kingfishers   | Ciaran    | for his great sea story   |
|               | Kaelan    | for his great sea story   |
|               | Seb       | for his great sea story   |
| Trencrom      | Kaiden    | for being a wonderful model of behaviour whilst at the airport        |
|               | Cove      | for writing a great information text                                  |
| Lanyon        | Annie     | for writing a great information text                                  |
|               | Jackson   | for completing times table challenges with lightening speed           |
|               | Barnabas  | for trying really hard with his presentation of his information text  |
|               | Bea       | for producing a beautiful piece of portrait art                       |
| Kerris        | Freya     | for being a superstar all year  |
|               | Grace     | for being a superstar all year  |
|               | Isabella  | for being a superstar all year  |
|               | Jasmine   | for being a superstar all year  |
|               | Meri      | for being a superstar all year  |
| Bodrifty      | Eia       | for her quiet determination, hard work and general loveliness         |
| Bosigran      | Rex       | for his brilliance at rounders  |
|               | Lily      | for being a complete all round superstar                              |
|               | Annilu    | for being a complete all round superstar                              |
|               | Jake      | for being the most vocal member of the class & great friend of Bernie |
|               | Arthur F  | for being a hard working all round superstar                          |
|               | Jessica   | for being such a fantastic librarian                                  |
| All of Year 6 |           | for doing so well in their SATs                                       |
| Dinnertime    | Evelyn    | for lovely manners  |



### Outstanding debts

Please ensure that all money owing is paid by **Tuesday 23rd July** so that our finance systems can be closed down for this school year. This includes outstanding debts for swimming, breakfast club, trips, and nursery sessions. **Please check your school money account which will tell you if anything remains to be paid.** If you cannot get onto your account, please contact the office who will help you or let you know if anything is owing. The kitchen staff would also appreciate payments for all lunches to be completely up to date by the end of term.

### Lost property

Once again the lost property box is overflowing with lots of clothing including coats and footwear. All unnamed items will be sent to the charity shop on the last day of term. If you are missing anything please check the box in the hall any day before then **after school**.

## Books

Please return ANY library, novel study, classroom or Reading Passport books by Tuesday at the latest as we are missing lots and will not be able to replace them. Please have a good check at home and drop them into the office or to your child's teacher as soon as possible.

## Minibus drivers wanted

Are you available and willing to drive our school minibuses for trips and outings? If you have a D1 on your driving licence and would be willing to take a Cornwall Council minibus test and a DBS (Disclosure Barring Service) check, please let the office know. Thank you very much.



## CLASS ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

|                           |       |    |
|---------------------------|-------|----|
| Choughs                   | 97.5% | 2  |
| Robins                    | 90.0% | 11 |
| Puffins                   | 93.1% | 9  |
| Owls                      | 97.6% | 1  |
| Kingfishers               | 96.6% | 5  |
| Trencrom                  | 92.9% | 10 |
| Lanyon                    | 93.8% | 8  |
| Kerris                    | 97.1% | 3  |
| Bodrifty                  | 97.0% | 4  |
| Bosigran                  | 94.0% | 7  |
| Kenidjack                 | 96.7% | 6  |
| Overall school attendance | 95.2% |    |

Our collective target is 96.5%

## 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!



Please can you ensure that your child brings a water bottle to school with them each day. It is very hot and it is important that the children drink plenty of water. Thank you.



## Lost

Thomas G in Lanyon has lost his PE kit - a pair of red shorts and a white T-shirt which are both named. Please check and hand in if found.

## 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

### July

23<sup>rd</sup> Y6 Leavers assembly at 2.15pm

**SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 3.15pm TODAY**

24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> Staff training days

**SCHOOL REOPENS FOR THE AUTUMN TERM ON THURSDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER.**



**HARVEY'S FOUNDRY TRUST**

**HAYLE HERITAGE CENTRE**

# FREE Summer Craft Afternoons

Inspired by our new exhibition **HAYLE UNEARTHED**

From Iron Age hillforts to Roman coin hoards, Hayle is the place to be for budding young archaeologists!

Join in the fun this summer by taking part in our free craft sessions, inspired by Hayle's ancient history; one week you might be making a Megalithic monument and the next crafting a Bronze Age tool!

Drop-in between 1-3pm on Tuesdays throughout the school summer holidays:

- 30th July
- 20th August
- 6th August
- 27th August
- 13th August

All materials provided. Suitable for children of all ages. Must be accompanied by an adult.

**HAYLE HERITAGE CENTRE**  
John Harvey House, 24 Foundry Square, Hayle TR27 4HH  
01736 757683 • [www.hayleheritagecentre.org.uk](http://www.hayleheritagecentre.org.uk)  
@hayleheritage Hayle Heritage Centre @hayleheritagecentre

HFC Youth Musical Theatre

# SUMMER SCHOOL

**JUNIORS**  
29TH & 30TH JULY  
2 day workshops leading to sharing performance, ages 7-13

**SENIORS** 31ST JULY, 1ST & 2ND AUG  
3 day intensive leading to sharing show 14+

LEARN SONGS, SCENES & ROUTINES FROM MUSICALS  
ON OUR NEW MUSICAL THEATRE SUMMER SCHOOL

AMATA Falmouth University 10-4 each day Juniors – £40 Seniors – £60

**FALMOUTH UNIVERSITY** **HALL** for CORNWALL

The Reading Agency and Libraries Present

# SPACE CHASE

Summer Reading Challenge 2019

Have you seen this crew?

Join **FREE** at your local library!

Illustrations © Adam Sower 2019

## SUMMER SOCCER CAMPS

Mounts Bay Football Development Centre

**Dates**  
Wednesday 7th August 2019 - The Striker Camp (master scoring goals!)  
Thursday 15th & Friday 16th August 2019 - Main Event: The Crossbar Challenge  
Wednesday 21st August 2019 - Main Event: The Curling Corner Challenge  
Thursday 29th & Friday 30th August 2019 - Main Event: The Speed Challenge

**Soccer Tots (4-6yrs)**  
10am - 12pm  
£6 per day | £10 for 2 days | £13 for 3 days

**Soccer Pros (7-13yrs)**  
10am - 3:30pm  
£15 per day | £25 for 2 days | £35 for 3 days

**\*\*SUPER SAVER DEALS\*\***  
Soccer Tots - All 6 camps for £25.00  
Soccer Pros - All 6 camps for £65.00

**Venue - Mounts Bay Academy Sports Centre, Penzance, TR18 3JT**

Come and have some fun with the MBFDC coaches during the 2019 school summer holidays, all players welcome from any school or club

Register & pay online or turn up on the day

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

**Contact**  
Kevin Lawrence - Head of Football Development  
Mounts Bay Football Development Centre  
01736 352323 ext-2  
klawrence@mountsbay.org