

Christmas Performances

Woodlands pre-school on **Monday 9th December at 9.30am** in the school hall.

Key Stage 1 performances on **Tuesday 10th December at 2pm and again at 6pm** in the school hall.

Reception performances on **Wednesday 11th December at 4pm** and again on **Thursday 12th December at 2pm** in the school hall.

Key Stage 2 Carol Concert on **Tuesday 17th December at 6.30pm** at the Methodist Chapel in Chapel Street. Please see the attached letter about arrangements for that day.

Decorated window

If you are in town, please, please vote for our Christmas window display which is in the Q-tec computers window towards the top of Chapel Street on the left hand side as you go down. You can collect a voting card from one of the thirty six participating shops. The winning school window will receive £250 and one lucky voter will receive £100. Many thanks to Miss Williams and her team of creative staff.



Woodlands pre-school closure

Due to the pre-school room being used for polling in the General Election, Woodlands pre-school will be closed on **Thursday 12th December**.

Christmas charity collection

Our chosen charities this year for our retiring collections at all our Christmas performances are St Petrocs and the CTIPA Penzance Foodbank. These local charities help hundreds of people a year who find themselves homeless or who need support. We would be grateful for any amount you could give. Thank you.

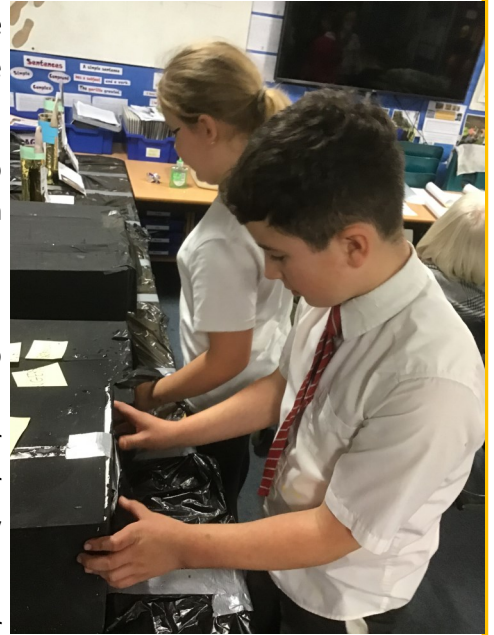


A Night at the Museum

Anyone who came along to the Key Stage 2 exhibition "A Night at the Museum" this week will agree that it was an evening of which everyone involved can be extremely proud.

From living gods to Cleopatra, shadow puppets to embalming or shabtis to shadufs, this was a true celebration of the children's fabulous work on Ancient Egypt this term.

As you will know, we follow the principles of project-based learning and an end-of-term exhibition is a key aspect of this as the children strive to produce high quality work for a real purpose. Touring the classrooms, visitors were able to see many such examples, whether written, artistic or in the children's articulation of their knowledge. A particular highlight for many was the flashmob, for which the children have been secretly practising for weeks.



Mrs O'Rourke, our Key Stage 2 leader who masterminded the event said, "This was certainly our most inspiring challenge task this term! It was incredible to see such a child-led event reach such a professional outcome".

Something which particularly impressed our staff was the way in which the children worked together this week across classes and year groups to help each other and prepare their museum.

Support for the event was overwhelming, both in respect of the number of family and friends who came along and



in their lovely comments and appreciation of everyone's efforts.

Mr Higgs said, "What a fantastic culmination of the project! The children all got a lot from the exhibition and it was great to see so many people support us. It is possibly the largest number of people we have had at an event and certainly the most positive feedback. Many thanks to everyone involved."

Many thanks go to everyone involved, both children and staff who work so hard across the term to make sure that your children enjoy an exciting and inspirational time at school.



Online safety

Please see the information below with some excellent advice about Snapchat. 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 an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

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Snapchat is a photo sharing app for mobile phones and tablets. The app allows users to share images, videos and chat with friends through voice call or text message. Users can share images and videos directly to specific friends, or through a 'story' shared with their entire friend list, which documents the previous 24 hours. In a study, Snapchat was ranked the 4th most negative app in terms of having an impact on young people's health and wellbeing, with children feeling that they can use the app Snapchat to "make you look pretty."



AGE RESTRICTION
13+

What parents need to know about SNAPCHAT

EXPOSING YOUR CHILD'S EXACT LOCATION

The 'Snap Map' lets you share your EXACT location in real-time through a map on the app. The user's location updates when the app has been opened on the device. There is a warning on the Snapchat website about uploading images and videos to 'Our Story' stating that "snaps you submit to 'Our Story' can still show up on the Map, no matter which location setting you choose!" When uploading to 'Our Story', your child's image or video could appear in "Search results and Stories on or off Snapchat - today or in the future."

ADDICTIVE SNAPSTREAKS

'Snap Streaks' are gained when snaps have been sent back and forth consecutively between friends. The longer that snaps are sent between users, the longer the streak becomes. Furthermore, Snapchat rewards users who have achieved high Snap Streaks, by gifting emojis, adding incentives for users to keep the streaks. Children invest time into making their streaks as long as possible, which can put an incredible amount of pressure on both themselves and their friendships.

SEXTING

While Snapchat's gimmick is that all photos, videos and text disappear eventually, users still have the capability to screenshot or record anything which has been sent to them. Users may sometimes forget that screenshotting is possible and send a compromising image or message to somebody who they think they trust. Due to 'Snaps' disappearing, (users can even send a one-second photo or video), Snapchat has become the chosen platform for children and young people to send sexually explicit images or 'selfies'. Once a photo/video has been screenshot, or recorded using another device or software, this can lead to further dangers, such as blackmail and cyberbullying.

It is illegal to make, possess, download, store and share sexual images, photos and videos of a person under the age of 18. This also includes any sexual images, photos and videos that a child may have taken of themselves. However, if a young person is found creating or sharing images, the police can choose to record that a crime has been committed, but taking formal action isn't in the public interest.



EXTRAS TO MAKE YOU STAY

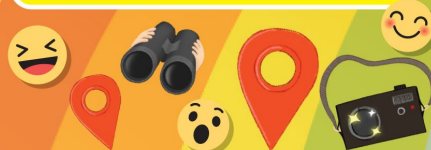
Aside from taking photos and videos, Snapchat has other elements to keep users coming back for more. 'Snap Games' is a feature within the app where users can play minigames with others on their friends list. The games function is easily accessed by tapping on the rocket button during a conversation. Another feature on the app is 'Snap Originals', which allows users to watch content created by Snapchat, celebrities and other accounts, including a mixture of comedy shows, drama, news and more. These features are designed to encourage users to stay on the app, which may be quite addictive.

DAMAGE TO CONFIDENCE

Snapchat's selection of filters and lenses are seen as a great way to enhance your 'selfie game'. Although the filters are often created to promote entertainment and humour, using the 'beatify' filters on photos can set unrealistic expectations and create feelings of inadequacy. Children may strive for admiration and appreciation by sending these 'edited' photos to their friend list. Judging themselves against other users on the app might threaten their confidence or self-worth.



Top Tips for Parents



THE RISKS OF SEXTING

It can be slightly awkward talking about this topic with your child, but if it helps them protect themselves, it is worth it. Talk to them about the consequences of sexting and make sure that they're aware of the risks. Ensure your child knows that 'Snaps' can be screenshot. Teach them that if they post anything potentially embarrassing or harmful (either of themselves or someone else) it can have severe consequences as the message, image or video can be shared further.

REPORTING A STORY, LENS, FILTER, SNAP OR MESSAGE

If your child comes across inappropriate Snapchat content sent directly to them or in another person's story, advise them to report it immediately. This may include an inappropriate lens filter, message or snap. To report an offensive lens, they should open the app and select the lens they want to report. An info button will appear above the lens. Click this, followed by the flag icon. This will send a report to Snapchat for further investigation. Reports can also be made on the Snapchat support website: support.snapchat.com.



USE 'GHOST MODE'

We highly recommend enabling 'Ghost Mode' on the app so that your child's location will no longer be visible to anyone on the 'Snap Map'. To enable this, go onto the Snap Map and tap the cog in the top-right corner. Here, change the setting to 'Ghost Mode'.

HOW TO DELETE A MESSAGE

Advise your child never to send any negative messages (or images through gallery in the chat on the app) as screenshots can still be taken. You should also advise your child to screenshot any negative comments they receive as the sender can also delete them. To delete a message, simply press and hold the sent message and press delete.

TURN OFF 'QUICK ADD'

'Quick Add' helps friends find each other on the app. This is based on mutual friends or if their number is in their phone book. Explain to your child that this feature can open up their profile to strangers. We highly recommend that your child turns off the 'Quick Add' feature. This can be done in the settings.

RESTRICT STORY VIEWS

Your child can add videos and images to their 'Story' throughout the day which will last for 24 hours. By default, anyone in a user's friends list can see their story. We recommend checking the privacy settings to ensure that this has not been edited. This can simply be done in the app settings under the 'Who Can View My Story' section. The options to choose from are 'My Friends', 'Everyone' or 'Custom' - we suggest that it is set to 'My Friends'.



Status of Mind: Social media and young people's mental health | Life in Likes - Children's Commissioners Report | Google Play Store | <https://support.snapchat.com/en-US>
<https://natsanity.net/snapchat-parent-review/> | BT.com | Independent.co.uk

www.nationalonlinesafety.com

Twitter - @natonlinesafety

Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of date of release: 29/05/19

Advent Service

Thank you to everyone who came to our Advent Service on Monday. Here are Hollie and Sienna from our Reception class who turned on the Christmas tree lights so beautifully.



Lunches next week - IMPORTANT!

Wednesday 11th December - menu change

No roast meal. The menu will be fish and chips or cheese quiche. Jacket potatoes and packed lunches will be available.

Friday 13th December

Christmas lunch - this must have been ordered. **No jacket potatoes or school packed lunches available.** If you have not ordered a Christmas lunch please send your child in with a packed lunch from home as there will not be any spare meals available on the day.



Applying for a school place for September 2020

If you have a child born between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016 you need to apply for a school place in a Reception class to start in September 2020. The deadline for applications is 15th January 2020. The easiest way is to apply online at www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions. For more information call the Admissions team on 0300 1234 101 or visit the website.

KS2 Cinema trips

If you haven't done so already, please pay for your child's trip to the cinema online **and** ensure you return the form so that we know where you are going to collect them from afterwards.

Year 3/4 Tuesday 10th December

Year 5/6 Wednesday 18th December

Lost Property

The lost property box is overflowing again. If you are missing anything, please come in and check after school. We will be emptying the box at the end of term and sending everything that is not named to the charity shop unless it is claimed.

Minack Theatre auditions

We are currently looking for young people to come and audition to be part of 2 really exciting opportunities for young people here at the Minack theatre this spring.

An adaptation of the Jacqueline Wilson story 'Hetty Feather' will be performed during the Easter holidays. We are looking for young people aged 8-16 to come and audition to work alongside a cast of professional actors and be a part of this heart-warming show.

On the 2nd and 3rd May 2020 alongside the British Theatre Academy we are producing 'Footloose'. Open auditions are being held for keen dancers and singers aged 8-18. <https://www.minack.com/taking-part/>

Reminder

School finishes for the Christmas holidays on **Friday 20th December at 3.15pm** (normal time). The Spring term starts on Monday 6th January 2020 at 9am.

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!



CLASS ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

Choughs	95.5%	6
Robins	94.2%	8
Puffins	88.6%	11
Owls	91.7%	9
Kingfishers	98.0%	3
Trencrom	99.1%	2
Lanyon	94.7%	7
Kerris	99.3%	1
Bodrifty	96.9%	4
Bosigran	96.8%	5
Kenidjack	89.6%	10
Overall school attendance	95.0%	

Our collective target is 96.5%

100 Word Challenge



Dear Alverton pupils,

Welcome to the Christmas 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 13th December** and there will be prizes for the winners!

Good luck!

Mrs Clive.

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

DECEMBER

- 10th KS1 Christmas performance at 2.00pm & 6.00pm
- 11th EYFS concert at 4.00pm
- 12th EYFS concert at 2.00pm
- 12th Woodlands pre-school room **closed** for polling
- 13th Pupils Christmas lunch
- 17th KS2 concert at 6.30pm at the Chapel Street Methodist Church
- 20th **SCHOOL CLOSSES** at normal time 3.15pm

The spring term begins on Monday 6th January 2020

