

Dear Parents,

Thank you all for another great week for children, staff and parents!

We really do all say everyday how pleased we are to be back.

The children have all settled in really well and are working very hard. Wherever you walk around the school, you see classes fully engaged in their learning and the work the children are doing is reflecting their great efforts and attitude.

## Reading

One of the areas with which we need to ask for your help is reading. I know that so many of you read every day, or very regularly, with your children and this is really appreciated and makes such a difference, not just to their reading ability but to their writing and right across the curriculum. Usually, we have a fantastic team of volunteers who come in to listen to children read each week but, at the moment, we are unfortunately unable to do this. This makes it even more important that children read at home. We know that it can be very difficult, sometimes, to find time for this but it really will make a difference to your child.

## PE

We are all getting out and about as much as possible – as I write this, I am listening to the very happy voices of Puffins Class who are doing PE with Mrs Hanley on the playground! It is really important that your child's PE kit stays in school all week and, as we are unable to do PE inside at the moment, they can of course bring their school tracksuit to wear for PE outside because we will be heading out if at all possible!

It has been great to say hello and talk to some of you at the beginning and end of the school day – if you need to get in touch and have not caught up with Mr Higgs or me when you drop off or pick up your children, please don't hesitate to email [secretary@alverton.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:secretary@alverton.cornwall.sch.uk) and they can forward your message on.

Best wishes,

Cathryn Wicks  
Deputy Headteacher

## After school childcare provision - IMPORTANT NEW INFORMATION

Mr Timmons has now started after school provision for children. **Unfortunately as no children were signed up for the Year 1 and 2 provision this is now no longer being offered.** If you would like your child to be put on a waiting list for KS1 childcare, please contact Mr Timmons. If there is enough interest he may be able to restart it.

Take up has been very slow for both Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 childcare so if you are interested in booking a place, please do so as soon as possible. This will be reviewed at the beginning of October but if numbers remain low, he may no longer be able to offer this provision.

Please contact Mr Timmons for details and to book by emailing [alvertonkidsclub@outlook.com](mailto:alvertonkidsclub@outlook.com) or by phoning 07843 126 833.

### COVID information letter

Please see the attached letter from the Director of Public Health with useful information and advice.

### Transfer to Secondary School

If your child is currently in Year 6, you need to apply for their place at your preferred secondary school by 31st October 2020. The easiest way is to apply online at [www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions). For more information call the Admissions team on 0300 1234 101 or visit the website.

### Reception & Year 6 health check booklets

All Reception and Year 6 children will be bringing home a health check booklet next week. **You only need to return the form if you wish to opt OUT of the health checks that will be carried out.** These include height and weight screening for Reception and Year 6 children which will be carried out in school later this term.

### WANTED!

Woodlands would love a new boat for their garden as their old one is worn out and they love it. Do you (or anyone you know) have a small boat that is no longer seaworthy that could be donated to us? Please contact the office if you can help. Thank you.

### Applying for a school place for September 2021

If you have a child born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017 you need to apply for a school place in a Reception class for starting in September 2021. The deadline for applications is 15th January 2021. The easiest way is to apply online at [www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions). For more information call the Admissions team on 0300 1234 101 or visit the website.

### Birthday cakes

We are very sorry but due to the current situation, at the moment children are unable to bring in cakes, etc to share for their birthday. We appreciate your understanding.

### Date reminder

Please note school is closed on Monday 2nd November for an INSET day so the first day back after half term will be **Tuesday 3rd November**. Half term is 26th to 30th October.

## Daisy's Diary

Mrs Hall has plans for a GIANT SANDPIT in the nursery. The whole of this space filled with sand! To make it we need to put planks around the edges or the sand will all escape and we need people to plonk on the planks! If you might be free at a weekend to come help please let Mrs Hall or Daisy know. Thank you. PS there will be cake for helpers....



## Chickens!

Chickens have been visiting school this week! This is Snowy and her two chicks who are about 4-5 weeks old.

## Reading area

Kerris have a new outdoor reading area! It's quite posh as it had to be up to Mrs Knowles standards...I was thinking of giving it a bit of a tidy but in the holidays Maili and family did such a good job of transforming the whole area I just added a bit of AstroTurf ( thank you to the Pirate pub who had some leftovers they donated) and it looks splendid! I think it could do with one or two climbing plants for the walls so if anyone has any spares from their garden please bring them to school. Thank you!







## 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:** Emotional support to anyone in distress, struggling to cope, or at risk of suicide.  
☎ **116 123**

**Shout:** 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)

## Penzance CTIPA Foodbank

The CTIPA Foodbank in Penzance has let us know that it is no longer necessary to obtain a voucher to receive food from them and that they are open every day at the moment. If their support would be helpful to you at this time, 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.



SafeToNet is an app for parents to help them safeguard their children from online risks like cyberbullying and sexting, whilst respecting their child's rights to privacy.

## Online Safety

The BBC have a website and app called Own It. The website has a lot of content for children to help them navigate their online lives, and the free smartphone app comes with a special keyboard which can intervene with help and support in the moments that children need it the most.

Whilst there are huge benefits to being online in order to stay connected to family and friends, many parents may feel concerned about the activities and content their children are accessing. This guidance outlines resources to help keep children safe from different risks online and where to go to receive support and advice. This information is updated as needed (it's recently added new information on apps) so it's worth another look.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-online/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-parents-and-carers-to-keep-children-safe-online>

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 issue 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.

# ONLINE CONTENT

## 10 tips to keep your children safe online

The internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.



### 1 MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.



### 2 CHECK ONLINE CONTENT

Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.



### 3 CHECK AGE-RATINGS

Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age-limit.



### 4 CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.



### 5 SPEND TIME ON THE APP

Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.



### 6 LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE

Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.



### 7 ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.



### 8 LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK

Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.



### 9 KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

If a child sees distressing material online; listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.



### 10 SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT

If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.

**NOS** National Online Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday



### STARS OF THE WEEK for week ending 11th September

Puffins	Elsie-Rae	for her positive attitude towards learning & coming into school with a smile
Owls	Archie	for settling so beautifully to a new class of a new school. Well done!
	Noah	for settling so beautifully to a new class of a new school. Well done!
Kingfishers	Bella	for great attitude to learning
Trencrom	Tyler H	for always putting in 100% effort, listening & caring for others
Lanyon	Willow	for making such a brilliant start to life in Lanyon class
Kerris	The Whole Class	for settling in so brilliantly
Bodrifty	Rowan	for his effort & enthusiasm & being an all round superstar
Bosigran	Bailey M	for being such a great friend & help to everyone. Keep it up
Kenidjack	Max	for having a brilliant first week at Alverton & settling in fantastically



### STARS OF THE WEEK for week ending 18th September

Puffins	Lealou	for her enthusiasm for learning & beautiful writing
Owls	Alby	for giving 100% in everything he does
Kingfishers	Kieran	for his super attitude towards all his learning
Trencrom	Brodie	for fantastic writing in English
Lanyon	Henry	for his perseverance with tricky Maths & succeeding. Well done!
Kerris	Leona	for settling into Year 4 so fabulously
	Katie	for settling into Year 4 so fabulously
Bodrifty	Levan	for his excellent attitude & focus in Maths. Well done!
	Jenson	for his enthusiasm & hard work in every lesson. Well done!
Bosigran	Lauren	for her fabulous attitude to work & brilliant helpfulness
Kenidjack	Reuben	for writing hard & being a kind & generous member of the class
Dinnertime	Charlie D-K	for sitting beautifully at the dinner table all week



### Wellies and coats!

Please ensure that your child has a pair of named wellies in school at all times and a coat so that they can use the field and woods at times during the school day.



### Twitter

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter @alvertonschool to keep up-to-date with all the exciting things that are going on.



### Breakfast Club

A reminder that all places for Breakfast Club must be pre-booked as places are limited. **Places in the Year 5 & 6 bubble are now full.** Your child's name can be put on a waiting list for if a space becomes available. Please do not bring your child in if they are not booked in.

## Free School Meals

At this time, many families may find themselves eligible for Free School Meals and Pupil Premium who previously did not meet the criteria. Please read this page carefully to find out if you are now eligible. Our Pupil Premium Parent Guide is being sent home alongside today's newsletter to provide you with more information.

Cornwall Council are continuing to process new applications for Free School Meals. **Please ensure that you read the eligibility criteria before applying** and complete the online application form if you are eligible.

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/school-meals/application-for-free-school-meals-and-pupil-premium/>

Postal applications are currently not being accepted but, if you are unable to apply online, 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. Please make sure that your phone will accept calls from a private number.

*NB All Key Stage 1 (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. Whilst schools are closed to most pupils during the current Covid-19 pandemic, schools are not required to provide meals or vouchers to Key Stage 1 children who usually receive free meals under the Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme but are not currently attending school.*

**However, some children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and receiving Universal Infant Free School Meals (as well as all Key Stage 2 children) may have an underlying entitlement to benefits-related Free School Meals. Schools will make arrangements for these children to receive free meals through food parcels or supermarket vouchers.**

Your child may be eligible for benefits-related free school meals if you, or the child themselves in their own right, 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

However, you will be temporarily eligible to claim free school meals if you receive a **Working Tax Credit run-on**, which is the payment you may receive for a further four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

**If you think that your child is eligible for Free School Meals, we strongly recommend that you contact Cornwall Council as detailed above.**