

Just two more days to go!

As the elves reach their busiest time of the year, we are just starting to think about relaxing and beginning our Christmas holiday with our families. As always it's been a hectic end to the Autumn Term, but overall a really successful one for Alverton School.

The Christmas Concerts have seen three very different styles and interpretations on the nativity, with the Early Years 'Mouse's Tale' which was a Gruffalo inspired Christmas Story, Key Stage 1 showing what experts they have become on knights and castles in their Medieval Christmas Spectacular and of course the more traditional Key Stage 2 Carol Concert at the Chapel on Tuesday of this week.



What all of these concerts had in common, apart from the story, was that they showed what fantastic children we have in our school in terms of their ability

to rise to any occasion and to always do their best. They also demonstrated the high levels of commitment which parents and staff show in making sure that these events are a real success: staff through the long hours they put into the preparation and delivery of ambitious projects and you as parents always being there to support your children and the school. It is of course this combination and partnership which makes our school the special place it is to learn and work.



The school will be carrying on as normal until 3.15pm on Tuesday of next week; this differs from many local schools as we will be returning later than most (Thursday January 5th). We did this to try to make the holiday more balanced around Christmas and New Year and reduce the time children spend at home in the build-up to the big day. We would therefore ask you to make sure that your children attend school for the two days next week please.

On behalf of all our staff and Governors I would like to wish all of our families the Christmas you wish for, and I hope that Santa recognises just how good you have been!

Best wishes

Martin Higgs



Early Morning Arrangements

We would like to thank all those children from Year 1 to Year 6 who come into school so brilliantly in the mornings through the hall door. We would especially like to thank the parents who have worked hard with us to make sure any children who were initially reluctant to come in on their own now do so cheerfully and enthusiastically.

Sometimes, it is necessary to give a message to your child's teacher at the start of the day. From the beginning of next term, any parents wishing to come into school in the morning will need to go to the school office and sign in in the usual way. You will also need to sign in (and out) at the office if, for example, you wish to pay your child's dinner money at the canteen or to have a look for a lost item of clothing.

Alternatively, our office staff and the staff who welcome the children into school at the hall door each morning, would be able to give a message to your child's teacher. You could also send a note with your child to give to their teacher if that was easier.

Many thanks for your support and co-operation with this.

Schools Games Gold Award

Alverton School has been awarded the highest level of Sports Award, the gold standard for our PE and sport provision. Pictured are our two Sports Ministers, Gonzalo and Alfie and our new PE co-ordinator, Mrs Dennison, proudly displaying our award. This is recognition for the quality of our sports provision, the amount of clubs the children take part in and the number of leagues and competitions we enter.



School camp payments

A reminder that the total payment for camp are due on the following dates:

Year 3/4 Bude (£85 total): **10th February**

Year 6 London (£310 total): **21st April**

Year 5 Porthpean (£150 total): **26th May**

You can pay as much or as little as you want anytime up to the final date. Don't forget to pay online at schoolmoney.co.uk. Click into the amount box and change the total payment to the amount you'd like to pay.

Attendance

To support our work improving school attendance, Mrs Daylak is available to answer any questions you might have regarding attendance, absences and holidays, after school every Tuesday until 4pm. She can be found in Robins classroom.



Thank you

Thank you to everyone who so generously donated money at all the Christmas concerts. We have raised an amazing **£635** for St Petroc's, the local homeless charity.

Payment of debts

Please could all debts for schools meals and nursery sessions be paid by Monday at the latest please.


Year 5/6 trip to Tanglewood

Don't forget that all Year 5 and 6 are off to Tanglewood garden on our first day back, Thursday 5th January. They will need to come to school in their own clothes, suitable for getting muddy, with a coat and a packed lunch and drink.

LOST

Lily in Choughs has lost her pink cardigan at the EYFS party on Wednesday. Please check and hand in if found.

CLASS ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

Choughs	94.8%	5
Robins	91.4%	7
Puffins	79.6%	11
Owls	85.7%	10
Kingfishers	91.1%	8
Trencrom 	99.6%	1
Lanyon	98.3%	3
Kerris	98.5%	2
Bodrifty	90.0%	9
Bosigran	96.8%	4
Kenidjack	94.4%	6
Overall school attendance	92.6%	

Our collective target is 96.5%

Reception places for 2017

If your child was born between 1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013, you need to apply for a school place for September 2017 **by 15th January 2017**. 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 Christmas CD

An 11 track Christmas CD has been made by Darren Roberts from Mounts Bay Academy featuring two songs from Alverton KS2 children as well as four other Penzance schools. If you'd like to buy a copy, they are on sale at the office costing £5. Please buy before the end of term. Thank you.



Twitter

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter @alvertonschool to keep up-to-date with all the exciting things that are going on and to see some great photos!



DIARY DATES

DECEMBER

20th SCHOOL CLOSSES at normal time 3.15pm

The spring term begins on Thursday 5th January 2017

JANUARY

9th Music lessons start

16th Clubs start

18th Swimming starts today for Kingfishers, Owls and Puffins

