

Dear Parents,

Thank you to all the parents who responded to our Homework survey earlier this term. It was really useful to have your input. It is safe to say that homework certainly divides opinion!

As part of our review of homework, we have also spoken with some of the children and surveyed the staff. What came through overwhelmingly was that everyone (parents, pupils and staff) considers reading to be the most important thing that children can do at home. Similarly, each group considered spellings and, particularly, times tables to be really important.

All three of these key skills (reading, times tables and spellings) have a huge impact on a child's confidence and ability to learn and succeed right across the curriculum and they form the core areas of our revised homework policy.

It was clear that expectations surrounding the topic grid require some clarification. Activities on the topic grid are optional. We encourage children to complete a selection of the activities across the term but there is no pressure to do so as we recognise the challenges that this can cause. We have listened to your suggestions and will be including fitness and wellbeing activities on the grid. If there are any questions about any aspect of the topic grid, please don't hesitate to talk to your child's teacher and, most importantly, please don't worry!

Our revised Homework Policy and Parent Guide can be found at <http://www.alverton.org.uk/website/homework/119161>

Thank you again,

Cathryn Wicks
Deputy Head

Schools Covid 19 Guidance

As you know, the government has recently released its "Step 4" guidance. We will be continuing with our existing measures until the end of term and will let you know the arrangements which will be in place in September as soon as we can.

Reminder

School closes for the Summer holidays on **Wednesday 21st July** at 3.15pm. We open again on **Tuesday 7th September** at 8.45am.

Remember – safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

If you have a safeguarding concern, please contact Martin Higgs (Designated Safeguarding Lead) at head@alverton.cornwall.sch.uk or, if it is out of school hours, please contact the Multi Agency Referral Unit on 0300 1231 116;

E-mail: multiagencyreferralunit@cornwall.gov.uk

School uniform - change of shorts

From September we are changing our PE shorts from black to red. If you currently have red shorts that fit your child there is no need to buy new black ones unless you wish to. We will have a period of time when your child can wear either colour. Our uniform supplier will source some black football type shorts which will be included on the uniform order sheet if you would prefer to buy them through them. We will email out a new sheet next week. Please ensure any you buy are plain black and have no logos on them. Thank you.

Book amnesty

Please could you have a really good look round at home and return any library, class or banded books to your child's class teacher or the office as soon as possible. We are missing lots and really need them back. Thanks.

FOAS tea towels

If you missed out on ordering a school tea towel FOAS have some spare. Please email or ring the office and we can help. The cost is £3.50 for one or £10 for three. Please let us know whether you'd like the Reception/ KS1 or the KS2 one.

Lost property

All the unnamed lost property currently in school will be taken to the charity shop at the end of term. If it is named it will be returned to your child. If you are missing anything please let the office or your child's teacher know so that we can check in the lost property box. **Please remember that you if you name your child's clothing we will always return it to you if we find it.**

Coronavirus symptoms

The main symptoms are:

A high temperature (hot to the touch on chest or back)

OR

A new, continuous cough (coughing a lot for more than an hour or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours)

OR

A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste (you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything or things smell or taste different to normal)

If you or your child have any **ONE** or more of these you must get a COVID-19 test as soon as possible and stay at home and do not have visitors— only leave home to get the test. Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get your result. **Please ring or email the school office as soon as possible to let us know.**

If your child tests positive over the weekend please email
head@alverton.cornwall.sch.uk

You can book at test online at:

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>
or phone the NHS test line 119.

Are you joining the Summer Reading Challenge? Find out more details here!

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk>



Job vacancy

Caretaker

Do you know of anyone who may be interested in becoming our new Caretaker? John is leaving us for a new job in August and we would like to welcome a new person into our team. Please see all the details below.

Alverton Primary School is looking to recruit a caretaker to look after the school premises. The caretaker will be responsible for the general maintenance of the school building and facilities, practical support in arrangements for meetings/events and assistance in maintaining the security of the school buildings.

The caretaker will be required to work from 7.00 am to 12.00 pm (5.00 hours per day, Monday-Friday, 25 hours per week in total) over a 52 week year (ie not restricted to term time). It may be necessary, on occasion, to be flexible about the hours worked in order to accommodate the school's needs. This is not a term time post and the post holder is entitled to 23 days holiday per year.

He/she will work closely with the senior leadership team, staff and pupils as well as suppliers of goods and services, Cornwall Council departments, contract maintenance/cleaning staff, parents and visitors to the school. Please see the job description/person specification by following the link below for full details.

We require a practical person with a robust work ethic who has high standards and a strong sense of pride in their work to complement our school and our team.

If you are an enthusiastic, friendly, flexible and outgoing team player who would like the opportunity to work alongside a team of committed, highly motivated staff, we look forward to hearing from you.

For further details and to apply please go to the TPAT website, Vacancies tab at

<https://www.tpacademytrust.org/category/vacancies/>

School lunches from September

Truro and Penwith Academy Trust have advised us that we have new catering providers for September who will be Chartwells. The cost of a school lunch for all Year 3 children upwards, unless your child is receipt of free school meals, will be £2.34. As soon as we have a menu we will send it out but if this is after the end of term we will try and email it home before we start in September. Payment for meals will be by cash or cheque (payable to Chartwells) and pupils should not be in arrears by more than 5 days lunches (£11.70). Please ensure that you pay whatever is owed by the Friday of the week your child has lunches. **If you have not settled the debt by the following Monday the kitchen staff will not be able to let your child have a meal and you must send your child in with a packed lunch from home until payment is received.** The school office will contact you if your child has not brought in a packed lunch and will ask you to bring one in.

Go Active Summer Holiday Club

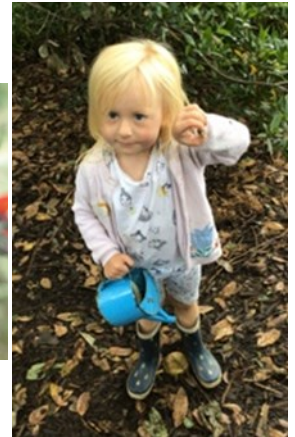
Mr T will be running a Holiday Club during August on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9am-1pm. Please see the information attached and if you're interested please return the form and cash payment to the office by Wednesday 21st July at the latest.

Any queries, please contact Mr Timmons direct on 07843 126833 or by emailing him on alvertonkidsclub@outlook.com

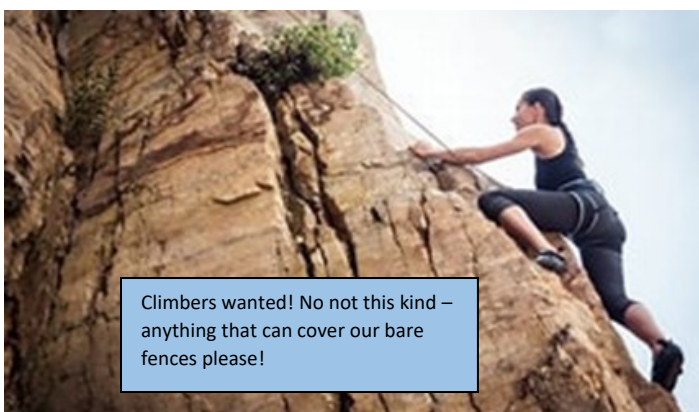
Daisy's Diary

Small school things that are making me very happy -

Our first school pear! Blueberries! Fox and cubs (beautiful bright orange flowers), tree bees nesting in the compost bin, tiny baby newts in the Chobins pond, the charming pottery bees back in the wildlife garden, Luna and her total love of slugs and snails, a micro moth (the size of a thumb nail) Logan Jay found that looked like a pencil shaving....



Here are the Owls in front of our new wishing tree. I don't know whether anyone has noticed but Miss Williams loves a sparkle or two (actually she likes a big sequin covered bucket full of sparkles). She wanted one of our trees in the woods to be a wishing tree so every child in the school could make a (sparkly) wish, and here is the tree so far!



Climbers wanted! No not this kind – anything that can cover our bare fences please!



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: 24h
Emotional support to anyone in distress, struggling to cope, or at risk of suicide.

☎ **116 123**

Shout: 24h
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

NSPCC

Help for children worried about COVID

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/childrens-mental-health/depression-anxiety-mental-health>

Penzance CTIPA Foodbank

The CTIPA Foodbank in Penzance provides food for anyone in need. If their support would be helpful to you, just phone Vryan 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.

ON YOUR SIDE NO MATTER WHAT

☎ **0800 58 58 58** 🌐 THECALMZONE.NET/WEBCHAT

5PM-MIDNIGHT | FREE | CONFIDENTIAL | ANONYMOUS

CAMPAIGN
AGAINST
LIVING
MISERABLY
CALM

citizens
advice

0344 411 1444

"It's alright to ask for help"

SAMARITANS

☎ **116 123**

COVID-19 isolation may cause tensions to rise and domestic abuse to increase. Help is available.

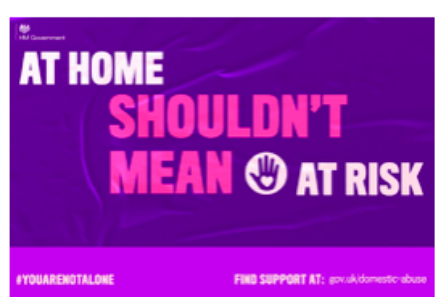


NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELPLINE
0808 2000 247
24/7 CONFIDENTIAL FREEPHONE

WCWAid

West Cornwall Women's Aid
01736 367539

<https://www.wcwaaid.co.uk/helpline>



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 educators with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. Please visit nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Part of our Online Mental Health & Wellbeing Series

NOS
Online Mental Health & Wellbeing

Brought to you by
NOS
National Online Safety
www.nationalonlinesafety.com

What you need to know about... AGE RATINGS



What are they?

'Age Ratings'

A game's age rating can be used by adults to make an informed choice as to whether or not a game is suitable for their child. The PEGI (Pan European Game Information) system rates games and, instead of indicating the level of ability required to physically play a game, it indicates the suitability of content for that age group. 3, 7, 12, 16 and 18 are the labels that can be awarded to games and a variety of content descriptors such as violence, bad language and fear are used to further clarify why the label was assigned.

Know the Risks

18+ **Inappropriate content**

The biggest and most obvious risk of not following the age rating system is that children may view or hear age-inappropriate content. Many games now include scenes of a violent or graphic nature which could be upsetting or considered too intense for younger players.

Peer pressure

Peer pressure has a large role to play in age ratings being overlooked. Children don't want to be the ones left behind and can put their parents under pressure to allow them to play a game beyond the recommended suitability, especially when all of their friends are playing it already.

Level of 'Kudos'

Playing a game with a label that is higher than their age can be viewed by some children as a challenge and to gain a good reputation amongst friends. Kudos is attributed to the child playing the age inappropriate game resulting in more children wanting to follow suit.

Free Platforms

In order for a game to be released on popular platforms, such as PlayStation and Xbox, game developers must pay for a PEGI rating. However, smaller development teams are sometimes reluctant to pay these fees and games are often released on other platforms, such as Steam, without any age restrictions.

Spot the Signs

Being vague

Be aware of children being vague around the content of what they want to play. If they are unwilling to supply you with information about what the game is about, this can be an indicator that they wouldn't allow them to purchase it if you knew.

Unofficial sites

There are plenty of indie games that can be bought using online stores that don't necessarily have age restrictions. If you notice your child using sites such as GOG or itch.io rather than official channels such as the Google Play Store, they might be accessing games that aren't officially rated but still aren't age appropriate.

Unfamiliar terminology

Your child might start using phrases or terminology that is new to them or mimicking actions that they have learnt from a game without realising their inappropriateness.

Wanting to be secluded

Be aware if suddenly your child wants to move the device that they play their games on into a more secluded area of the house away from adults. It is a good idea for your child to play online games in a shared area where you can see the screen.

Be aware of spending

Setting up accounts with online stores require bank account details. Keeping an eye on your bank balance means that you will be able to tell if there has been a new purchase and can provide you with an opportunity to ask about what new game they've purchased.

16 & UP ONLY

12-15

Safety Tips

Do your research

If you've noticed a new game that your child has downloaded then use quality resources to make sure that your knowledge is up to date. Online websites, such as National Online Safety, can provide you with the information you need.

Review parental controls

Review your parental controls on the stores where you buy games from. Most sites allow parents to set passwords to block games with certain age restrictions from being downloaded.

Encourage open dialogue

Encourage open dialogue with your child. You don't want to be in position where they won't talk to you if something has made them feel uncomfortable in a game because they are worried they will get in trouble for playing the game in the first place.

Discuss ratings

Talk to your child about why the game has been awarded a certain label. Debate the positives and negatives of playing a game and decide on some ground rules together.

Our Expert

Heather Cardwell

Heather Cardwell is a practising Online Safety Lead and senior school leader who is passionate about safeguarding online and educating children around online risks. She has over 10+ years as a Computing Lead and has successfully developed and implemented a whole school approach to online safety in schools, delivering online safety training to both school staff and parents and helping to roll-out a bespoke online safety policy across her local network of education settings.

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 15.07.2020

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.

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 / withheld number.

NB All 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.

However, some children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 may also have an underlying entitlement to benefits-related Free School Meals. Please ensure that you check this and apply if appropriate, even if your child is in one of these year groups, because of the additional benefits (eg food vouchers during holiday times where these are given by the Government).

Your child may be eligible for benefits-related free school meals if their parent / carer (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.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Choughs	Ted	for always smiling, staying positive & being an absolute delight to have around
Robins	Charlie	for constant hard work, a beaming smile & making every day in school a delight for us all
Puffins	Jackson	for his fabulous Science this week & his investigation of different materials
Owls	Benny	for his utter determination & perseverance in reading leading to richly deserved success
Kingfishers	Kieran	for being an all round superstar
Trencrom	Kai	for always trying his best & having a mature attitude towards learning
Lanyon	Miss Williams	for being the best, most colourful, most fun TA in the whole world!
Kerris	Lilly T	for her superb attention to detail drawing a map on our field trip
Bodrifty	Kai	for a fantastic attitude in everything he does
Bosigran	Poppy	for filling her pyramid on Reflex
Kenidjack	Bailey J-W	for being so creative & imaginative in his game creation
	Jack	for being ultra enthusiastic about every activity we do
Dinnertime	Noah P-M	for exceptional manners
	Archie P-M	for exceptional manners



Mrs D

We are nearing the end of what feels like many things at the moment. The current school year is almost over (where did that go?) and of course, the mask wearing is nearing its end too. I don't know how I feel about lots of things to be honest, mask wearing being one of them and I've had lots of chats about it. On the one hand, hoorah, I never want to see a mask again, let alone wear one. On the other hand, I don't want to let it go and cannot decide how save I'll feel without one. So I suspect I shall compromise and wear it when I feel the need. I feel slightly panic stricken too, as the end of the school year looms. It's always the same each summer. It's so hard to let a class go but this year and last were too short and I feel sort of cheated. So there are lots of new changes, especially around the pandemic, which are making me feel, to be honest, unsettled. This isn't a feeling a like too much, however I shall put on a brave face and move forward. I will talk to friends and family about how I feel, they will listen, make the right noises, nod a lot, perhaps even offer their opinion or perspective, maybe even suggest something. No matter, I'll feel better. And I can do the same for you. I can make the time. I will find it in my day, to suit you, if you feel just having a chat, a good old moan or even a weep, will help. I am never too busy for you. And of course, I know where the biscuit stash is. The chocolate ones too.

Mrs D xx

Your School Nurse

Your child can have access to a School Nurse at any time if you have any health concerns, in addition your School Nurse offers a full health assessment in reception and year 6.

The School Nurse can check:

- Your child is growing healthily and support with healthy eating
- Support with access to dental care and general support for dental hygiene
- Help with day / night time wetting or soiling
- Provide information about immunisations
- Guidance re healthy lifestyles
- Support with general hygiene issues including head lice and worms
- Support with general emotional health issues
- Support to access other health professionals
- Routines, including sleep

Additionally in Year 6:

- Friendships
- Relationships
- Development, including periods and puberty
- Access to specialist services – including dietician, healthy weight programmes and voluntary services
- Developmental issues
- Transition to secondary school
- Healthy lifestyles



Referrals via the Early Help Hub
www.cornwall.gov.uk/earlyhelp
Tel: **01872 322277**
Client advice line: **01872 322779**

 **www.cornwall.gov.uk/schoolnursing**

LITTLE ARTISTS FAMILY ART SESSIONS

July 30th
'Secret Super Heroes'

Aug 13th
'Under the Sea Adventures'

Aug 27th
'Deep Space Explorers'



FRIDAYS
10.00 - 11.00
Or
11.30-12.30

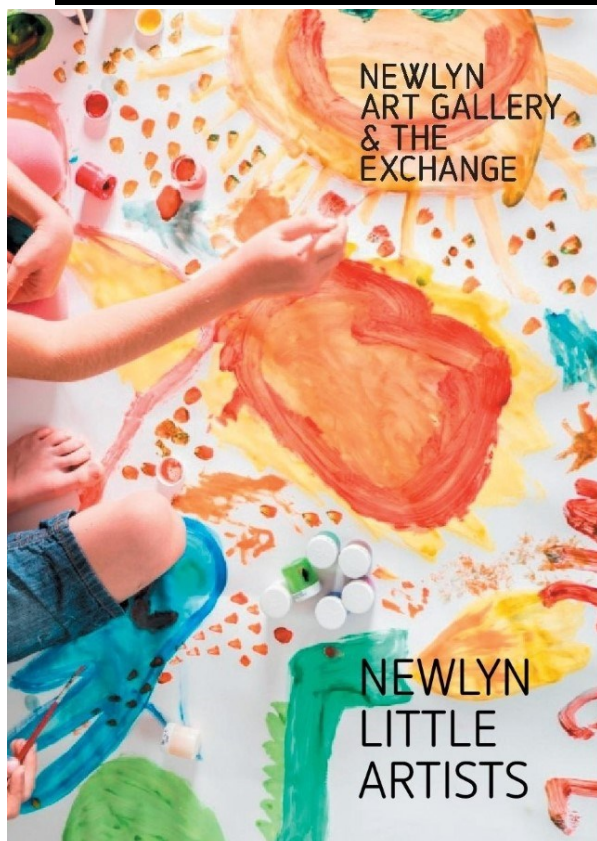
Ages 2-6yrs
£5 per child
Per session



**BOOKING
ESSENTIAL**

**ANNIE:
NEWLYNLITTLEARTISTS
@YAHOO.COM**

**@ Newlyn
Art Gallery**



NEWLYN
ART GALLERY
& THE
EXCHANGE

NEWLYN
LITTLE
ARTISTS

ART CLUB

NEWLYN
ART GALLERY
& THE
EXCHANGE

WEDNESDAYS 15:45-16:45

A weekly after school club, for key stages 1&2, giving kids the opportunity to explore and express themselves through a range of exciting, creative projects. Discovering new materials and techniques, with the freedom to develop new skills in a safe and nurturing environment.

Autumn term starts Sept 8th

Spaces are limited. Sessions are £5 each, paid in half term blocks.

This is a drop-off session, parents are welcome to wait in the Garden Café.

Enquiries to: newlynlittleartists@yahoo.com

Telephone: Annie 07891 862670

Tutor, Annie Vigar, has had 5 years' experience running tailored art classes for babies, pre-schoolers and KS1&2

Afterschool Art Club KS1&2 (Yr1-6 not reception)



ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND



CORNWALL
COUNCIL

NATIONAL
PARTNERS
PROGRAMME



Arts Council
Cornwall

JERWOOD
ARTS