

Welcome back for the start of another school year at Alverton. I hope that everyone was able to enjoy the summer break and make the most of living in our fantastic county.

Since the children left in July, the school has been anything but the quiet and deserted place you might imagine. The site has been filled with construction workers for most of the holiday, with three major projects overlapping one another, plus the normal maintenance and deep cleaning programme run by Mr Penn and his team.

The main development was to remove the rather dilapidated and unsightly Elliot Hut and to replace it with a lovely new classroom for Trencrom. We are delighted with the outcome, especially as this classroom is attached to the main school building and allows the children direct access to the Year 3/4 workspace without needing to go outside. The building has also been designed to make the most of our fantastic views across Mounts Bay, with full-length panoramic doors which open onto a decked area where children can easily work outside. In fact, the new classroom is so lovely that someone has already requested hiring it as a holiday let next summer!



In addition to the new classroom, we have had some major Disability Access work being carried out around the site. This involves adaptations to the Key Stage 1 toilets and the creation of an access ramp from the Key Stage 1 shared area to the playground. Unfortunately, this project has overrun, hence the builder's compound in the car park and the evidence of on-going work in the playground. To maintain safety and minimise disruption for the school, the works are only being carried out from 3.30pm to 10.30pm using floodlights.



The final project was to create a 10m Traversing Wall in the playground. This is a safe lateral climbing wall which is designed to be used by numerous children at one time and is proving to be really popular.



As well as changes to the site we have also had some changes to personnel.

We say a sad farewell to Carol Kettless (wife of Eddie our previous caretaker) who has decided to take a well-earned retirement after many years of helping to keep the school looking clean and safe for our children. Our thanks go to Carol, along with our best wishes for a long and happy retirement. She will of course still be part of our community in her important role as Grandmother to Rowan in Year 1.

The school welcomes three new members of staff. Abbie Dennison will be working with Amy Clemens in Lanyon Class and Louise Hanley will be leading our Nursery setting.

Both Abbie and Louise are experienced teachers who I am confident will be excellent additions to our team. We also welcome Jonathan Fitchett who joins us as an IT Technician apprentice and is already making a big difference to the constant challenges which new technology seems to present.



I look forward to working in partnership with you during the coming year in order to make sure that your children get the best learning opportunities and provision possible. On this note, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for ensuring that your children have come back looking so smart, happy and enthusiastic to learn. Thank you.

New Caterlink menu

The new menu has come home and there will also be jacket potatoes and packed lunches with various fillings available daily as well as a choice of hot meal.

Please pay either on the day or in advance either by cash or cheque (payable to 'Caterlink') as debts cannot be accrued. The cost remains at £2.20 per day (£2.45 with juice).

A reminder that all Reception children and Year 1 and 2 are eligible for a free lunch under the Government's Universal Free School Meals initiative. A reminder to Year

3 parents that payment must be made for meals from now on.



Meet the Teacher

Please come along and meet your child's new teacher next week at 3.30pm in their classroom.

Mon 12th - Bodrifty, Bosigran & Kenidjack

Tues 13th - Puffins, Owls & Kingfishers

Weds 14th - Trencrom, Lanyon & Kerris

MUSIC LESSONS

If your child has signed up for music lessons, all start next week with the exception of violins (please see below). **Please note the new lesson days and times for violins and woodwind.** There are currently spaces available for KS2 children to learn keyboards, drums, violins, woodwind and brass and we have a waiting list for guitars. Please ask at the office for more details.

If your child does keyboards or guitars you should have received an invoice. Please ensure it is paid in full by the first lesson or your child will not be allowed to start. Drums, woodwind, brass and violins are invoiced by the Cornwall Music Service Trust who should be in contact with you directly.

Monday 12th	Keyboards	Maria Heseltine	12.15-2.45pm
Tuesday 13th	Drums	Ross Hamilton	1.30-2pm
Thursday 15th	Guitars	Julyan Wallace	12.15-3.15pm
Friday 16th	Woodwind	Siggy Hawken	12.15-1.15pm
Friday 16th	Brass	Kirsten Burden	1.30-2pm
Tuesday 19th	Violins	Chris Bennett	8-8.45am



PAYING ONLINE

Thank you to everyone who has used our online payment system so far but we need many more people to use it. It is very quick, easy and secure and the feedback from parents who have used it is very positive. Save yourself time queuing at the office and save our trips to the bank please! For more details or if you need help logging in, please contact the office.

Go to **Schoolmoney.co.uk** and log in with the mobile number that receives the school texts, your email address and your unique password which can be texted as a reminder to you. You can pay for swimming, trips and camp at present and we are looking at increasing this to cover more payments soon.

Clubs

Club lists will be coming home on Monday and if your child wishes to join a club, please complete and return the form as soon as possible. Forms will be returned to you by Friday to show which clubs your child has a place in. All clubs start the week commencing **Monday 19th September**. Please ensure you collect your child promptly. Some popular clubs are oversubscribed so your child will need to commit to attending every week or their place will be filled by the next person on the waiting list. Unfortunately if a club does not have enough children for it to run, it will be cancelled.

Year 3 & 4 swimming

Swimming for Kerris, Lanyon and Trencrom starts next **Wednesday 14th** for 10 weeks. Please pay as soon as possible unless you are planning to pay weekly. If so, please pay either before or on Wednesday every week. All the money we collect is spent on the hire of the coach, pool and two swimming teachers.



Hope Church Kids Club

The primary age Kids Clubs on Fridays has been stopped for the time being until further notice.

Twitter

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



CLASS ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

Choughs	★	100%	1
Robins	★	100%	1
Puffins		96.4%	11
Owls		97.6%	8
Kingfishers	★	100%	1
Trencrom		97.3%	9
Lanyon		99.4%	5
Kerris		98.1%	7
Bodrifty	★	100%	1
Bosigran		98.9%	6
Kenidjack		97.3%	9
Overall school attendance		97.4%	

Our collective target is 97.5%

Year 1 & 2 Pendennis trip

If you haven't already paid for the Pendennis trip next Wednesday, please do so as soon as possible and by Monday at the latest. All payments must be in before the trip so that it can go ahead.

CONTACT DETAILS

Please ensure that if you change your mobile number, landline or address, you let the office know as soon as possible. We may need to contact you if your child is ill and we also use your mobile number to text important reminders.

DIARY DATES

SEPTEMBER

- 14th Swimming for Y3 and Y4 begins today – Kerris, Lanyon and Trencrom
- 19th All clubs start today – letter for choices will be sent home on Monday

OCTOBER

- 4th Year 6 taster day at Humphry Davy
- 6th Year 6 taster day at Mounts Bay
- 6th FOAS AGM at 7.00pm – details to follow
- 7th Sharing assembly – Kerris at 2.45pm
- 13th Harvest Festival at 9.30am
- 14th Sharing assembly – Bodrifty at 2.45pm
- 17th – 19th Parent Consultation evenings – how to book your appointment to follow
- 16th Sharing assembly – Kingfishers at 2.45pm
- 20th Individual and Family photographs – details to follow
- 20th FOAS Halloween Disco – details to follow

Monday 24th – Friday 28th October – HALF TERM

