

## Cycle to School Week - next week!

Next Monday 4th November we will start our Cycle to School week. Please see the dates below to see when we'd like your child's class to participate. Please encourage your child to cycle to school on their day. As part of this week we will be offering cycling lessons to every child during the afternoons as well as trying to collectively cycle the distance from Land's End to John O'Groats!

Monday 4th November	Robins & Choughs
Tuesday 5th November	Puffins, Owls & Kingfishers
Wednesday 6th November	Trencrom, Lanyon & Kerris
Thursday 7th November	Bodrifty, Bosigran & Kenidjack
Friday 8th November	Lands End to John O'Groats Challenge

## Change of dates - KS1 and EYFS Christmas performances

Please note new dates:

<b>Tuesday 10th December</b>	KS1 Performances at 2pm & 6pm
<b>Wednesday 11th December</b>	EYFS Performance at 4pm
<b>Thursday 12th December</b>	EYFS Performance at 2pm

## Year 5 camp meeting

If your child is interested in going on Year 5 camp at Porthpean next June, please come along to a meeting on **Monday 4th November** at 3.15pm in Bodrifty classroom. There will be lots of information given out and a chance for you to ask questions.



The new school gardens outside Trencrom and Lanyon have done well for their first year. The flower patch has flowered for months and, amongst other things, we have grown cucumbers, peppers, chard, an aubergine and a lovely yellow pumpkin!

## Change of dates - Lanyon and Kenidjack assemblies

Lanyon's sharing assembly which was to have been on Friday 15th November at 2.45pm has been postponed until the Spring term. New date to be confirmed.

Kenidjack's sharing assembly which was to have been on Friday 8th November has now been moved to **Friday 29th November.**

## Online safety

Please see the information below with some excellent advice about Fortnite Chapter 2. 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](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Fortnite: Chapter 2 has finally landed! With a whole host of new in-game features including a brand-new map, more water-based activities, upgraded character skins and a more streamlined arsenal of weapons, this Fortnite is promising to be the best yet. Almost all of the changes are cosmetic which means the concept of the game remains the same, with players still aiming to be the last man standing. Players will no doubt find the game much more enjoyable with so much more to explore. For parents and carers however, it pays to remain vigilant.

AGE RECOMMENDATION  
**13+**

# What parents need to know about FORTNITE CHAPTER 2

### BATTLE ROYALE

Battle Royale games have become very popular over the last couple of years, and most tend to follow a very similar setup. Taking Fortnite as an example, 100 players drop into a map, loot buildings for weapons and armour and attempt to beat all the other players to be crowned victor at the end. If you've ever seen the Hunger Games movies, you'll have an idea of what this entails. Each game can take up to 20 minutes (assuming you last to the end) and can be restarted relatively quickly once 100 free players have been found.

### IS FORTNITE ADDICTIVE?

Fortnite is at the forefront of gaming addiction discussions because it is so popular with young people. But whether it actually contributes to gaming addiction is up for debate. WHO (World Health Organisation) have classified gaming as a legitimate addiction, but this is not solely a concern with Fortnite. Signs of addiction can include irritability when not playing, lying about the amount of time played and a preoccupation with thoughts of the next gaming session. Realistically, it must be down to parents and carers to recognise these symptoms and act accordingly if they think they are developing.

### FREE TO PLAY... OR IS IT?

While Fortnite is technically free to play (in that you can download and play it without paying) it does come with the caveat that spending money on things like skins and emotes in-game is heavily pushed to players. The currency used in-game is called 'V-Bucks' and can be bought with real money through the game's online store. It's worth remembering that these purchases are absolutely not necessary, are cosmetic only and that V-Bucks can be earned in-game with enough play time.

### SEASONAL UPDATES

Every 10 weeks or so Fortnite is updated with a new season. This essentially adds new things like skins and emotes to the game, while also sometimes changing up the game map in interesting ways. These seasons are free to everybody and don't require additional money to play, though battle passes for each season can be bought with V-Bucks. A battle pass will typically allow a player to earn experience faster and gain fun in-game items by completing a host of daily challenges.

### CROSSPLAY IS AVAILABLE

One of the wonderful things about Fortnite is that it can be played cross-platform. This means that no matter what platform a person plays on (PC, PlayStation 4, Xbox One etc) they can play with friends who own the game on a different platform. To do this, an Epic Games account must first be created online (which is free) and then linked with your platform account. Doing this removes the age-old boundary of not being able to play together because you don't have the same console and opens up a whole new world of playing online with friends.

### IS FORTNITE VIOLENT?

Fortnite has been rated by the ESRB (Entertainment Software Ratings Board) as teen, as it contains cartoony violence and the weapons and acts depicted in the game are some way removed from their real life inspirations. Characters don't draw blood when shot and instead of dying, they are simply beamed up off the map. Naturally, players younger than the recommended age limit will want to play the game and that should be at the discretion of parents and carers.

## Top Tips for Parents

### BUYING V-BUCKS

As mentioned, Fortnite does contain in-game purchases and microtransactions in the form of V-Bucks which can be bought with real money. If you do decide to let your young one spend money in the game, be sure to delete your card information afterwards as it can be very easy to purchase more items at the press of a few buttons. It's important to set a limit on any purchases (as mentioned they are absolutely not necessary to play the game) and a suggestion would be capping the spending at around £50 - this is the normal retail price of a game.

### GAMING WITH STRANGERS

Fortnite Battle Royale is an online game, and as such, there is a chance that young children could come into contact with strangers who are randomly placed into their groups in a game. It's difficult to predict what another person might say or do in a game, so it's a good idea for friends playing together, to be grouped together. The only real countermeasure to interacting with strangers offered by Fortnite is to turn off all mic communications, which can be done in the game's settings. Using outside chat apps, like Skype or Discord while playing, is a great way to make sure you know who you're talking to and that nobody else is listening in.

### LIMIT TIME, BUT BE FLEXIBLE

A game of Fortnite can last up to 20 minutes, so be flexible when it's time to put it away. The approach of 'one more game' as opposed to '10 more minutes' will stop any complaints that a match is still ongoing. Better still, play with your child and take it in turns; that way you're helping control the time played and can keep an eye on what they're experiencing.

### TALK TO OTHER PARENTS / CARERS

If you're concerned about play time or spending money in the game, talk to other parents and carers of your child's friends. If you approach as a collective, it will be easier to know when their friends are online and you don't have to worry about who they're playing with. It can also help curb expectations on spending money on battle passes and skins if you stick together.

### CAN DEVELOP SOME IMPORTANT SKILLS

It's often overlooked just how good gaming can be for young people. Fortnite encourages team play, quick and complex problem solving and communication; that's not to mention the lightning fast reflexes gamers can develop. While taking breaks to do other activities is of course important, there are benefits to screen time which might not be immediately obvious.

### PLAY THE GAME YOURSELF

There's no substitute for sitting down and playing the game yourself to learn all about it. Fortnite is available for free on almost anything you can imagine, even your smartphone, so there's never been a better time to get involved and see what all the fuss is about. You never know, you might even be able to impress your children when you show them your impressive Victory Royale tally!

### Meet our expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGBible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.

<https://www.theguardian.com/games/2018/mar/07/fortnite-battle-royale-parents-guide-online-game-gaming-addiction>, <https://www.polygon.com/2018/12/14/fortnite-crossplay-ps4-xbox-one-2018/>, <https://www.polygon.com/2018/3/22/17144846/fortnite-crossplay-ps4-xbox-one-2018>, <https://www.polygon.com/2018/3/22/17144846/fortnite-crossplay-ps4-xbox-one-2018>, <https://www.polygon.com/2018/3/22/17144846/fortnite-crossplay-ps4-xbox-one-2018>

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## Parents Evenings - KS1 and KS2

Our Parents Evenings this term will be held in the week beginning **Monday 18th November** from 3.30—6.30 pm and we are really looking forward to meeting you and discussing your child's progress.

We are going to use our system for booking appointments through our eschools facility on our school website ([www.alverton.eschools.co.uk](http://www.alverton.eschools.co.uk)) as we did last Spring.

You will previously have been sent log in details for eschools. If you are unsure what this is, please ask at the office and they will arrange for new details to be sent to you. These details will be needed in order to go online and book the appointment slot that suits you best when **the booking period opens next Thursday 6th November**.

**If you have had or will be having a review meeting with Mrs Hughes and your child's class teacher, you don't need to book an appointment.**

## BAG 2 SCHOOL - please start saving your donations

Having a pre-Christmas clear-out? The Friends of Alverton School has organised another fundraising Bag2School collection. Please help the school by donating good quality clothing for re-use in Eastern Europe or Africa. Bags have now come home. You can bring your filled bags in to school on the morning of **Thursday 14th November** - why not start collecting now? The more we donate, the more money we earn for the school!

Yes please: clothing, paired shoes, handbags, hats, bags, scarves & ties, jewellery, lingerie, socks, belts, soft toys, household linen, curtains, towels, bedding.

No thanks: duvets, blankets, pillows, cushions, carpets, rugs and mats, soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing, school uniforms, corporate clothing and workwear, textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material.

**Please bring them to school on the morning of Thursday 14th November** (not before, please, as we have nowhere to store them).

Thank you very much for your support.



## Cross Country

On Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October while we were on Inset days following half term Susie, Holly, Fred S and George C went to the Penwith schools Cross Country at Mounts Bay Academy. This event was well attended by lots of children from other local schools. This was Susie's first ever cross country race she came 9<sup>th</sup> in the Year 4 girls race which is an amazing result as she is only in year 3. Holly ran in the Year 5 girls race and led from the start finishing in 1<sup>st</sup> place well ahead of the rest of the field. This was a challenging run with a very strong head wind and the ground was wet and muddy, making it very slippery. George and Fred ran in the Year 5 boys race, unfortunately Fred got a stitch but managed to finish in 17<sup>th</sup> place. George had a strong run finishing in 1<sup>st</sup> place.



*Report by Holly*

THE  
ALVERTON  
SCHOOL  
BOOK FAIR



FABULOUS  
BOOKS AND  
STATIONERY  
TO BUY!



ALL  
PROCEEDS  
GO TO OUR  
SCHOOL  
BOOK SHOP  
AND LIBRARY



REFRESHMENTS  
AVAILABLE TOO!



MONDAY 18TH NOVEMBER  
TO WEDNESDAY 20TH NOVEMBER  
3.30 - 4.30

## Being Passionate About Parenting

Ever wondered why your child behaves a certain way?

Feel alone?  
Not sure who can

Are you thinking  
that something  
needs to change?

Come along to our free **One Day Parenting Workshop** on **15th November 9.30 to 2.30** at **Alverton School** to learn some new skills on how to manage difficult behaviour and improve you and your child's relationship at home.

Our next workshop is below, please call soon as places are limited.



To request a place, please speak to the office or your child's teacher.  
Tea and coffee provided  
Please bring lunch with you!

## STARS OF THE WEEK

Choughs & Robins	Crabs	for being a super group and working as a team
Puffins	Blake	for his effort in his handwriting this week
Owls	Elowen	for believing in herself and knowing that she CAN do it
Kingfishers	Saphron	for working so hard in school and at home
Trencrom	Logan P	for his hard work and perseverance in Maths
Lanyon	Logan U	for beautiful artwork on his hieroglyphic writing
Kerris	Thomas J	for magnificent ideas for mystery story writing
Bodrifty	Mia	for super contributions to all of our discussions in RE
Bosigran	Sienna	for fantastic focus and work during Black History Month
	Layla	for fantastic focus and work during Black History Month
Kenidjack	Ruan	for great work on Harriet Tubman for Black History Month
Dinnertime	Sonny M	for always having exceptional manners



### 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!



### 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	96.7%	6
Robins	90.0%	1
Puffins	95.4%	8
Owls	97.8%	3
Kingfishers	93.3%	10
Trencrom	97.9%	2
Lanyon 	98.9%	1
Kerris	97.8%	3
Bodrifty	96.6%	7
Bosigran	93.5%	9
Kenidjack	97.6%	5
<b>Overall school attendance</b>	<b>96.1%</b>	

**Our collective target is 96.5%**

### DIARY DATES

#### NOVEMBER

- 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Parent Consultation evenings - **Choughs & Robins only**
- 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> Parent Consultation evenings – **Year 1-6** – details of how to book to follow
- 25<sup>th</sup> M & M Theatre Production of Jack & the Beanstalk – please pay online
- 27<sup>th</sup> Last swimming for Kerris, Lanyon and Trencrom
- 29<sup>th</sup> Sharing assembly – Kenidjack at 2.45pm – **please note new date**
- 29<sup>th</sup> Non uniform day in aid of the FOAS Christmas Fair – details to follow
- 29<sup>th</sup> ALL CLUBS FINISH TODAY

#### DECEMBER

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent Service at 9.30am – followed by mince pies and coffee for parents
- 6<sup>th</sup> FOAS Christmas Fair – details to follow
- 10<sup>th</sup> KS1 Christmas performance at 2.00pm & 6.00pm – **please note new date**
- 11<sup>th</sup> EYFS concert at 4.00pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> EYFS concert at 2.00pm – **please note new date**

