



Another near miss - what if it was your child?

Even without our school being sited here, Toltuff Crescent was not designed to have a large number of cars drive in and out of it twice a day. It is simply too narrow, especially for many of the larger cars currently available in today's market.

Add to this equation 330 children plus parents leaving and arriving at the site on foot and the potential for an accident increases significantly, every day. Then of course we could factor in bad weather, poor visibility and, dare I say it, poor driving and we're talking about *when* rather than *if* an accident will occur.

For the past couple of years we have been working really hard to try to improve this situation by:

- Campaigning for and funding our Lollipop Lady so that children can cross the main road safely on foot at a time when crossing patrols are being cut across the county;
- Creating a new car park to remove the dangerous mixture of cars and people in the old staff car park;
- Having a member of staff stand at the end of Toltuff Crescent asking parents not to drive into the cul-de-sac;
- Highlighting where cars can park as an alternative to being 30 yard from the school gates;
- Frequent appeals via the newsletter etc, etc.

The vast majority of you have supported this by parking a short distance from the school and walking the final part of the journey because you recognise the dangers and want to support the school in keeping our children safe. To those people I'd like to say a big thank you.

There are of course some people who have a genuine need to drive close to the school at peak times, for example those with disabilities and parents dropping off children at the Day Nursery.

There are, however, what feels like an increasing number of cars arriving to pick up and drop off children every day who, despite our best efforts, still insist on driving up to the school gates. On days when we can't provide a member of staff to stand at the end of the road, the number of cars outside school is significantly higher, presumably because drivers think that they can 'get away with' parking as close to the school as possible.

We have had two very near misses this week. The first was when a car reversed back onto Toltuff Crescent from the Private Road (the one with the large sign saying no access or reversing) and narrowly missed two children crossing the road behind them. The second was a parent driving out of the staff car park again narrowly missing a parent and child.

There are two safety points arising from these near misses. The first is to make it clear that **the new staff car park is not to be used as a drop off or waiting area for our parents and families at the start and end of the school day**. There are three dedicated drop off bays in the new car park for the parents using the private nursery as they can no longer drive into the old staff car park. New signage has been ordered to make this clearer.

The second is to request, once again, that if at all possible **people collecting or dropping off children at peak times avoid driving into Toltuff Crescent**. As I am frequently told, it is a public road and cars with valid road tax are perfectly entitled to drive up and down the road as they wish. However, we are a school community and in the last survey we carried out, it was clearly the wish of the vast majority of our community that Toltuff Crescent is as car-free as possible when children are being dropped off or collected. We would really appreciate everyone's help in keeping all our children safe and would ask you to share this message with everyone who comes to drop off or collect your children.

Thank you.

Get to know our Governors

Emily Jane

Safeguarding Governor

As a governor, I have responsibility for looking at issues to do with special educational needs and safeguarding. I work as a psychologist and for giggles I like to hang out with my two children and husband in Mousehole, where we live. I think this school is really, really great. Sometimes my job as a governor is to ask questions to help make it even better!



Thanks!

Thank you to every parent in EYFS and KS1 who encouraged their child to have a school lunch yesterday and especially to Kingfishers where every child in school had one! With your support we reached our target which means we get more funding for our school in the coming year.

Year 3/4 camp at Bude (10th-11th May)

A reminder that ALL payments for Year 3/4 camp at Bude (£90 total) need to be made by **9th February at the latest**. This is because Adventure International ask for their final invoice to be paid at that time.

You can pay as much or as little as you want anytime up to the final date. Please pay online at schoolmoney.co.uk as we no longer accept cash or cheques. Click into the amount box and change the total payment to the amount you'd like to pay. If you cannot pay online, please ask at the office for a Paypoint barcode which you can use to pay cash at a local Paypoint retailer.

Catering Assistant vacancy

A catering assistant vacancy has become available working for Caterlink in the school kitchen. The contract would be for 7.5 hours per week to start as soon as possible. For further information please contact Sally Farrell, Caterlink Area Manager on 07884 738519.

Wanted - good quality wooden pallets

The Ducklings outdoor learning equipment is getting rather old and they would like some new things to play with. Do you have any wooden pallets in good condition that you no longer need? They would be very grateful for them so they can rebuild play things in their woods. Please let the office know. Thank you very much.

Can we help you?

Mrs Daylak, who many of you know as she has been teaching our younger children for some time now, is available to meet any parents who might have questions or concerns about their child's attendance (including absences and holidays) or would simply like a chat about anything which might be affecting their child in school. She can be found in Robins classroom on Mondays after school until 4pm.



STARS OF THE WEEK

Choughs	Jake	for super effort, writing in his own learning time
Robins	Bea	for being such a good, kind friend
Puffins	Seb	fro incredible enthusiasm for writing this week
Owls	Tristan	for his amazing skill in PE this week
	Amelia	for her beautiful painting of Mount Everest for her homework
Kingfishers	Alba	for fantastic fluency, expression & comprehension in her reading
Trencrom	Ruby R	for working hard in every lesson. You have a fantastic attitude to learning
Lanyon	Josh	for a super attitude to his school life - kind, helpful, hard working & happy
Kerris	Nelly	for great questioning and super topic work
Bodrifty	Max	for a fantastic attitude in Maths & always having a cheerful smile
Bosigran	Martha	for an amazing piece of writing about the highwayman
Kenidjack	Orla	for excellent work in English
Dinnertime	Charlie R	for showing such kindness to our younger members of the school
	Zachary T	for really enjoying his lunches



Twitter

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



Go Active after school provision

A reminder that if you'd like to book your child into the Go Active after school club you need to contact them direct on **07843 126833**.

CLASS ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK

Choughs	93.5%	9
Robins	90.0%	11
Puffins	92.3%	10
Owls	94.5%	4
Kingfishers	94.3%	6
Trencrom	94.3%	6
Lanyon	100%	1
Kerris	94.4%	5
Bodrifty	95.7%	3
Bosigran	98.4%	2
Kenidjack	94.1%	8
Overall school attendance	89.0%	

Our collective target is 96.5%

DIARY DATES

February

- 2nd Sharing assembly for Trencrom at 2.45pm
- 8th FOAS Valentine Disco – details to follow
- 9th Sharing assembly for Choughs & Robins at 2.45pm
- 9th **School closes at normal time of 3.15pm for half term break**

Monday 12th to Friday 16th February – HALF TERM

PLEASE NOTE CLUBS CONTINUE AS NORMAL AFTER HALF TERM

March

- 1st World Book Day & Book Oscars
- 2nd Sharing assembly for Kingfishers at 2.45pm
- 5th St. Piran's dance for Year 6 – details to follow
- 9th Sharing assembly for Owls at 2.45pm
- 12th-14th Parent Consultations – appointment times will be booked online

