

Dear Parents and Carers,

There will be some changes in our teaching staff in September and, over the next two pages, our new staff will introduce themselves to you.

Mr Brown

I have enjoyed working in a wide range of schools throughout my teaching career. Most recently I have been a Headteacher in Wiltshire. Prior to this I was a Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher at a large school in the suburbs of Bristol. I have experience in schools with mixed year group classes, schools with resource bases, large schools in city suburbs and smaller rural primary schools. Throughout my career, I have loved learning. I have a Fine Arts Degree and over the last 10 years completed a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership and Management, as well as undertaking postgraduate training as a Primary Mathematics Specialist Teacher. I'm fortunate to have led a varied and rewarding career to date, both in teaching, and before-hand, coming from an arts background, working in the design and advertising industry. I cannot wait to step forward and join the wonderful Alverton family in September.



*Hello! My name's **Miss Bowman** and I am delighted to be going into my first year of teaching with Lanyon Class in September. I live in Penzance, surrounded by my family and pets - I'm a huge animal lover! Through studying Psychology at the University of Bath I discovered my interest in Child Psychology, which opened my eyes to a future of working with children and has ultimately led me here - an occupation to which I wholeheartedly feel I belong. When I'm not working, you can either find me outdoors walking and exploring (I love adventures!), or at home playing guitar. I try my hand at songwriting from time to time and also enjoy singing! Words cannot describe how excited I am to be working alongside the Alverton team, to deliver the best possible education to your children.*



*Hello! My name is **Miss Field** and I am so excited to begin my teaching career at Alverton School with Kittiwakes class in September. I am just completing my teacher training after studying for a degree in Early Childhood Studies with Plymouth University. I am passionate about the benefits of learning and exploring outdoors and spending time in nature. Outside of work you'll usually find me on the beach or in the sea. I love to travel and have worked abroad in Malaysia and Vietnam, and most recently spent time travelling around Europe in a campervan with my dog. Looking forward to meeting you all soon!*



*My name is **Miss Green** and I am looking forward to joining Alverton as a Key Stage 2 class teacher. I previously worked in the fashion industry which allowed me to live in Sweden for two years. I love to travel and all things creative! I'm always painting or at the beach whenever I can. I'm very much looking forward to September and meeting you all.*



*My name is **Mrs Williams** and I am from Newport in South Wales. I have nearly 18 years' experience teaching in Primary and Secondary Education. I studied at Falmouth College of Arts many years ago and I am very excited to be returning to Cornwall with my husband and two daughters in August. I am very creative and enjoy bringing these skills into the classroom and school environment whenever I can. As an animal lover I have two beautiful cats named Hedwig and Dobbie. I feel very lucky to be joining Alverton Primary School in September and look forward to meeting all the children and their families.*



We will be sharing the details of your child's new class with their report towards the end of term.

Best wishes,

Cathryn Wicks
Head of School

Our teaching structure for 2023 – 2024 will be:

Headteacher: Mr Brown
Deputy Head: Mrs Wicks

Early Years Foundation Stage

Nursery: Mrs Simpson
Kittiwakes: Miss Field
Curlews: Mrs Daylak and Miss Hooton

Key Stage 1

Puffins: Mrs Hughes and Mrs Goddard
Owls: Mrs Clive
Kingfishers: Mr Dawe

Lower Key Stage 2

Trencrom: Miss Green
Lanyon: Miss Bowman
Kerris: Mrs Clemens and Mrs O'Rourke

Upper Key Stage 2

Bodrifty: Mrs Williams
Bosigran: Mrs Stellon and Mrs Hanley
Kenidjack: Mr Hammond

Mazey

Thank you to everyone who came and supported us on our "Alverton Parade" yesterday. The images are all looking fantastic and special mention must go to the staff, led by Mrs Stevens, Mrs Petty, Miss Ching and Mrs Ashurst, who have done a simply amazing job on our main image.

We really hope that you will come along and parade with us tomorrow afternoon at 3pm. Details have already been sent home and we look forward to seeing you!



Remember – safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility

If you have a safeguarding concern, please contact Martin Higgs (Designated Safeguarding Lead) at head@alverton.tpacademytrust.org 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

Matilda photos

All the photos taken of the Matilda show are now available to see in a folder in reception where you can order copies. Please complete a form and hand in with the correct amount in cash to the office **by Friday 30th June** at the latest. Prints cost £1 each.

THIS IS OUR

HELP YOUR SHELF

How it Works

It’s all free.

Take what you need, whenever you need it.

No Questions Asked – No Judgements Made

Give what you can if you would like to.



We currently have lots of items on our Help Your Shelf ready for collection which are free for anyone to take at any time.

If you prefer, you can buy a reusable bag for £1 and fill this with items from the shelf. Once you’ve bought your bag, you can fill it with as much as you want, as many times as you want. Whichever way you choose, the Help Your Shelf is available all day and you can pop in at any time.

Macmillan Fundraising Day

Thank you to everyone for taking part in the fundraising day last Friday. We raised £275 for this fantastic cause.



**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

FOAS Summer Fair

Friday 30th June from 3.15pm-4.45pm



Live Music

Kids Activities

Kids wristbands cost £2.50 and give access to all the activities. Available to buy now from the school office. Cash only please.

Activities include water splat, face painting, badge making, spin bike art, and many more.

Cash stalls

- BBQ
- Tea and cake
- Preloved books and school uniform
- Raffle

Help needed

FOAS is entirely run by volunteers, and we would appreciate any help you can provide to make the fair a success.

We'd like the following from parents please:

- Raffle prizes
- Buy raffle tickets
- Good quality books
- Cakes **on the day** (please bring to the office)

Volunteers on 30th June - any small amount of time that you can spare would be appreciated. There will be a sign-up board in the office from 20th July.

- Stall and activity set up between 9am and 3.15pm
- Assistance running fair activities and stalls between 3.15 and 4.45pm

Help with tidying away afterwards.

If anyone has any great ideas for activities and would like to run a stall, please contact foas@alverton.cornwall.sch.uk. All proceeds must go to FOAS.



Mackerel Sky
SEAFOOD BAR



SUMMER FAIR RAFFLE

ENTER FOR A
CHANCE TO
WIN ONE OF
THESE
FABULOUS
PRIZES!

£1 PER TICKET

Tickets and instructions
have come home with
your child this week.
Additional tickets
available from the
office.



RIDE  ON

Daisy's Diary

Boom! Look at all these poppies! I can't remember where all the seeds came from now but some of them are seriously posh - and massive!



And ooh look how many bottles we have collected for Surfers Against Sewage already - pretty much a whole dumpy bag! I've ordered two more bags for us to fill so please keep those single use plastic bottles coming in -
Washed
Not squashed
Labels off
Lids on
Thank you very much.



This week I have been really proactive and super organised and begun to get ready for the change which will take place soon in school with a new class of children. It's odd for all of us I think, parents, children and staff, as we have, quite literally, a foot in both camps. Part of us is still with our current class of children while another part is thinking about next year. Parents are worrying/wondering, staff are too (no, we still don't know who we will be teaching yet so you're not alone) and children have all, with few exceptions, outgrown the current classrooms and teachers and are more than ready for a long summer break, a new start, fresh faces, new rooms and new learning. Yet I feel odd, all mixed up about it. I love my class and always wonder how I'll feel with new children. Will I like them? What if I don't? Then I worry. So this year I'm going to try really hard not to be concerned, because it's been this way for many years and quite frankly it's always been absolutely fine. Please don't worry, we're all there for you... but not everyone knows where the biscuits are...Mrs Daylak xxx





NHS

Cornwall Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust

Mental Health Support Team in Schools:
Parent Drop-Ins

Worry

Is your child worried? This drop-in will focus on strategies to support your child with managing their worries.

3 - 4 pm on: **Wednesday 14th June 2023**

School staff will be available to look after your school-aged child/ren who attend the school during this session.

Open to all Alverton Primary School parents.

Sleep

Is your child struggling with sleep? This drop-in will explore ideas for supporting your child with going to/staying asleep.

3 - 4 pm on: **Wednesday 21st June 2023**

School staff will be available to look after your school-aged child/ren who attend the school during this session.

Open to all Alverton Primary School parents.

Behaviour

Is your child struggling with tricky behaviour at home? This drop-in will focus on positive strategies to support your child.

3 - 4 pm on: **Wednesday 28th June 2023**

School staff will be available to look after your school-aged child/ren who attend the school during this session.

Open to all Alverton Primary School parents.

Transition to Secondary

Is your child moving to Secondary School in September? This drop-in will explore strategies for supporting your child.

3 - 4 pm on: **Wednesday 5th July 2023**

School staff will be available to look after your school-aged child/ren who attend the school during this session.

Open to Year 6 Alverton Primary School parents only!



All Drop-Ins will be held by Channon Gray our NHS Education Mental Health Practitioner (EMHP) working as part of the Mental Health Support Team in Schools (MHST). The MHST is an early intervention and prevention service.

If you have any questions about the drop-ins above, then please let your child's Class Teacher know so they can be passed on to Channon in advance.



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

ChildLine

0800 1111



0300 123 3393

www.mind.org.uk



for better mental health

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

If you're worried about a child:

0808 800 5000

help@nspcc.org.uk

www.nspcc.org.uk

Penzance CTIPA Foodbank

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

citizens
advice

0344 411 1444

ON YOUR SIDE
NO MATTER WHAT

0800 58 58 58

THECALMZONE.NET/WEBCHAT

5PM-MIDNIGHT | FREE | CONFIDENTIAL | ANONYMOUS

CAMPAIGN
AGAINST
LIVING
MISERABLY
CALM

"It's alright to ask for help"

SAMARITANS

116 123

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

AT HOME
SHOULDN'T
MEAN
AT RISK

#YOUARENOTALONE

FIND SUPPORT AT:
gov.uk/domestic-violence

WCWAid

West Cornwall Women's Aid

01736 367539

https://www.wcwaid.co.uk/helpline

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AI VIRTUAL FRIENDS

Artificial intelligence – particularly in terms of how it generates natural language – has seen significant development over the last six months, with companies releasing new AI-based software or adding an AI element to existing apps (such as Snapchat, for example). One form of AI to become especially popular has been the 'AI friend' or chatbot, as children eagerly experiment with these new-found computer-generated companions. There are now numerous apps available with this 'virtual friend' functionality, with the likelihood of it being added to other successful platforms soon.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONTENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

AI chatbots may not always be able to recognise when content is age inappropriate or harmful and should be filtered out. So there's a possibility that children could be exposed to offensive language or explicit material while conversing with their virtual friend. The companies producing such AI solutions are also unlikely to take responsibility for any content that their algorithms generate.

REDUCED SOCIAL CONTACT

An excessive reliance on chatbots for social interaction could potentially cause a child to begin reducing the amount of face-to-face communication they have, leading to social isolation. If young people become dependent on chatbots to provide companionship, it could very likely hinder the development of their real-life social skills.

LACK OF SENSITIVITY

Chatbot software isn't always sophisticated enough to pick up on subtle emotional cues or recognise signs of distress in children, as most humans would. It might therefore fail to respond appropriately. AI misinterpreting what it's being told or replying insensitively to a young user who's already struggling could potentially impact a child's emotional wellbeing or exacerbate any existing emotional issues.

UNINTENTIONAL BIAS

AI companions are only as reliable as the information they've been programmed with. The algorithms they use, therefore, may unintentionally promote bias, stereotypes or discriminatory behaviour (as many originate from the USA or the UK, for instance, they can display a distinctly western-centric worldview). This could lead to children developing skewed attitudes and behaviours.

COGNITIVE LIMITATIONS

Although many are now undeniably advanced, AI-powered chatbots still have limitations in terms of understanding complex concepts, context and nuance. Depending heavily on chatbots to help with learning or solving problems may stunt the development of a child's own powers of critical thinking, creativity and ability to engage in open-ended discussions with other people.

PRIVACY CONCERNS

Chatbots typically collect data about users, including personal information and conversations. This is ostensibly to improve their performance as they gradually learn about our behaviour – but many experts are warning that there may be significant risks associated with how this information is stored and used (the possibility of potential breaches or misuse by third parties, for instance).

Advice for Parents & Carers

CHAT ABOUT CHATBOTS

If your child is already expressing an interest in AI apps, a relaxed, natural chat should help you to discover which ones they're aware of and how they're using them (or are planning to). Discuss these options with your child and perhaps do your own research to ensure you think they're suitable. Once you're totally happy, you could sit with your young one and begin exploring AI chatbots together.

CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

If your child is keen to engage with AI chatbots, encourage them to do so in a safe environment: ideally in a shared space at home, so you can easily keep an eye and ear on their progress. Set up appropriate content filtering measures in advance – and gently remind them that you'll be close by and ready to help with any questions or concerns that may arise.

FIND A BALANCE

Work alongside your child to establish the right balance in terms of how they might use AI-powered chatbots – and when it's appropriate. It's important to make sure that children are still getting plenty of opportunities to learn to solve problems for themselves, as well as building their interpersonal skills through face-to-face conversations with friends, family members and teachers.

TAKE CONTROL

As with any form of app or game, when it comes to AI chatbots we'd strongly recommend that you consider employing parental controls (either on the device being used or within the software itself) to manage which apps your child can download and use. This is particularly important for younger children, who may be more at risk of being upset or frightened by inappropriate content.

RECOGNISE THE RISKS

It's unlikely that most children will have even considered the potential risks attached to having a virtual companion. So it's probably wise to explain some of the possible hazards and challenges of AI chatbots to your child. In particular, emphasise that AI isn't a real person (however much it might sound like one) and may occasionally tell them something that isn't entirely impartial or accurate.

Meet Our Expert

A Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at a large boarding school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East. With a particular interest in digital citizenship and cyber security, he believes it is essential that we become more aware of the risks around technology, as well as the benefits.



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety



@national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 21.06.2023

There is a lot of help and advice available to help you keep your children safe online. Have a look at the Online Safety section of our website for lots of useful information and links http://www.alverton.org.uk/website/online_safety_for_families/246722. Your child's teacher will also always be happy to talk to you about online safety.

Free School Meals / Pupil Premium

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/schools-and-education/schools-and-colleges/school-meals/>

Registering a child as eligible for free school meals (as described below) means that your child receives a free meal every day (though they can, of course, bring a packed lunch should they prefer) but there are additional benefits too. Pupil Premium brings more money into the school to help children achieve and learn. Children in receipt of the Pupil Premium also receive other benefits (eg contributions towards Key Stage 2 camps and funding to use for uniform, music lessons, trips etc). At some times, there are further benefits for these children such as food vouchers during holiday times where these are given. Please see the Pupil Premium Provision Map in the Pupil Premium section of our website http://www.alverton.org.uk/website/pupil_premium/172518 or speak to Mrs Gill or Mrs Stacey in the office or contact Mrs O'Rourke who leads our Pupil Premium provision.

The easiest and quickest way to apply for free school meals is online through the Cornwall Council website but, if you are unable to do this, 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.

A child is eligible for free school meals if their parent / carer (or the child themselves) 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

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 entitlement to benefits-related free school meals and it is important to apply for these if you think your child may be eligible.

Registering for free school meals / Pupil Premium is confidential. If you think that your child is eligible, we strongly recommend that you contact Cornwall Council as detailed above. Mrs Gill and Mrs Stacey in the office will also be able to help you and answer any questions you may have.

Thank you.

STARS OF THE WEEK

											
	Kittiwakes	Alice	for super writing & amazing creativity in her play								
	Curlews	Jasper	what a star! You have such a great attitude to everything								
	Puffins	Rex	for his creative design of a poster from the past								
	Owls	Raya	for her sunshine smile & enthusiasm for learning								
	Kingfishers	Matilda	for her enthusiasm in all our history learning								
	Trencrom	Riley	for working so hard & having such an amazing attitude to his learning								
	Lanyon	Ella	for always being an excellent role model in school								
	Kerris	Scarlette	for always being so sensible & mature								
		Mani	for his fantastic co-ordinates skills this week								
	Bodrifty	Evie	for coming to the morning hub every morning & completing 100% on Reflex Maths								
	Bosigran	Willow	for her fantastic attitude towards her learning								
	Kenidjack	Leona	for such hard work & amazing football all year								
	Lunchtime Star	Mark	for looking after the chickens at lunchtime with Daisy								
	Breakfast Club Star	Matilda H	for her lovely manners & smile								
											
											
											

DIARY DATES

Saturday 24th June	Mazey Day <i>3pm parade - information has been emailed</i>
Friday 30th June 3.15pm	FOAS Summer Fair
Tuesday 4th July	Year 6 transition day at Humphry Davy & Mounts Bay
Wednesday 5th-Friday 7th July	Year 6 London trip
Friday 7th July	All clubs finish
Friday 21st July 1.30pm	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Friday 21st July 3.15pm	School closes for Summer holidays
Monday 24th July	School closed - INSET Day
Tuesday 25th July	School closed - INSET Day

Summer Reading Challenge 2023

Ready, Set, Read!

Presented by The Reading Agency.
Delivered in partnership with libraries.



summerreadingchallenge.org.uk



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

**SUMMER
READING
CHALLENGE**



**YOUTH
SPORT
TRUST**

**INSPIRING
ACTIVE
READERS**

**THE
READING
AGENCY**