

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of the Spring term, it is an opportunity to reflect on all the amazing things that our children have been involved in.

It was a pleasure to attend our Year 6 Parliament assembly this morning where our ministers delivered excellent presentations about people who have inspired them. Following these presentations, Tyler, our Deputy Prime Minister made a speech which reflects all the opportunities that our Alverton children have been involved in. It was such a great speech and reflection, that I asked if he would also share this with you all in this newsletter. Tyler was delighted to take up this opportunity.

“My name is Tyler and today I am going to talk about all of the exciting things that have currently been going on in our school.

To start things off, I am going to begin with drama club. So far all rehearsing for the play has been amazing, the songs are coming along fantastically and most of the main characters have learned their lines.

Recently we have had world book day, a day to celebrate all things books. My personal favourite thing about world book day is the amazing costumes you get to wear from a three piece suit to a Gruffalo costume! As always, we held our Alverton school book Oscars - congratulations to Finn and all the other book review nominees.

Other exciting things going on lower down in the school include Nursery children learning about the life cycle of frogs. They have kept a frog tank in their classroom to look at frogspawn. In Reception, they have been learning about Easter and have taken part in an Easter egg hunt as well as making Easter gardens. In Key Stage 1 children are currently learning about China and it's fascinating history - as part of this they have been doing dragon dances.

Now onto Lower Key Stage 2. Year 3 and 4 are currently learning about earthquakes and volcanos; they have been writing survival stories as well as learning and performing what they should do if an earthquake strikes, this is called the great shakeout drill. As you all know a dance teacher has been coming to all age groups in the school and helping you make your own dance. Year 3 and 4s dance topic has been everything to do with volcanos and earthquakes. Another thing Year 3 and 4 have been doing is Easter activities such as a hunt and designing Easter eggs.

There have also been lots of sporting events happening over the past few weeks. There have been cross country races, hockey tournaments, netball and football matches and swimming galas. Well done to all who have taken part.

Lots of people across the school got involved in the St Pirans's day celebrations. Some children sang in the St Piran's day concert and all of Year 6 did the St Piran's day dance in Penzance town centre. We were very tired but we had a great time and got saffron buns at the end.

Last week we had our very own talent show here at Alverton and we saw some amazing performances. These included songs, dances and comedy acts. We're lucky to have such talented students.

Finally, last night was Songfest where a number of Alverton children took part in singing 8 songs along with other local schools.”

Thank you Tyler.

I want to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Easter break.

Mrs Simpson
Assistant Head



Remember – safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

If you have a safeguarding concern, please contact Simon Brown (Designated Safeguarding Lead) at

sbrown@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

Menu

A new menu for next term and up to October half term is attached to this newsletter and is available to view on the school website under Parents, What's on this term. Packed lunches will be available from May half term to the end of the summer term. Paper copies are available from the office.

Clubs

A new clubs list will come home on 15th April and clubs start again on 22nd April. **The only club starting in the first week of term is Yr 5/6 Drama Club on Wednesday 17th April.**

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.

Donations wanted

Our Help Your Shelf is looking rather bare. If you are able to bring in any non-perishable food items, cleaning products or toiletries, we would be very grateful. These will all go to helping our families and community. Thank you very much.

The Spring term finishes today and we reopen for the Summer term on Monday 15th April. Have a lovely holiday.



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 & Educators Need to Know about CLICKBAIT

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Clickbait is a controversial online marketing strategy which uses sensationalist (and frequently misleading) headlines to encourage engagement with an article, image or video – often playing on users' emotions and curiosity, while much of the actual content is of questionable accuracy. Clickbait is also sometimes used to disguise scams, phishing sites and malware.

HARMFUL MISINFORMATION

Clickbait tends to play fast and loose with the truth, opting for eye-catching content over objectivity. This is particularly dangerous for younger internet users, who are generally more susceptible to that type of material. A child could be presented with fake news, misleading articles and – in some cases – outright lies without fully understanding what they're viewing and why it's harmful.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Due to the misleading nature of many examples of clickbait, what may seem to be innocuous and child friendly could actually contain age-inappropriate material such as extremist political views or violent, pornographic or sexually explicit content. This is clearly a hazard for young people, who could be upset, disturbed or influenced by exposure to such subject matter.

HIDDEN MALWARE

While most clickbait is simply trying to promote engagement to earn companies additional revenue, some of it does redirect to dubious sites with the potential to infect devices with viruses or malware. This could put a child's sensitive data – such as their name, their location and their date of birth – at risk of being accessed and exploited by malicious hackers.

PRIVACY PROBLEMS

Some clickbait leads to sites which could coax a child into volunteering their personal data – using pop-ups to ask them for their email address and phone number, for example, in exchange for accessing additional content or subscribing to various services. Normally, this harvested information is then sold to third parties, who often utilise it for targeted adverts and other sales schemes.

A DRAINING DISTRACTION

Clickbait encourages spiralling consumption of online content, which could easily result in a young person spending hours scrolling aimlessly instead of doing something productive or interacting with family and friends. This can leave them tired, asocial and lacking focus – and, in the long term, can negatively impact their social skills, education and mental wellbeing.

IMPACT ON BEHAVIOUR

Depending on the type of clickbait a child is interacting with, you might notice negative changes in their behaviour. Weight loss scams, for example, are common among clickbait and have the potential to influence eating habits and body image – while deliberately inflammatory 'rage bait' articles can leave impressionable young people feeling irritable, restless or argumentative.

Advice for Parents & Educators

START A CONVERSATION

The sheer volume of clickbait can make protecting children against it quite challenging. It's vital to talk to young people regularly about the types of content they encounter online, so that they understand the risks of engaging with clickbait. If you're still concerned, it may also be wise to keep an eye on children's online activity to ensure they're not being tempted by clickbait headlines.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Encouraging children to question the legitimacy of sensational headlines and too-good-to-be-true promises will help them to become savvier online – and far less likely to be drawn in by clickbait content. These critical thinking skills will also serve to protect them in other areas of the digital world where misinformation is becoming increasingly common.

SPOT THE TELLTALE SIGNS

There are certain common elements in clickbait, including headlines and images that use shock and outrage to grab people's attention – as well as numbered lists, such as "8 Facts You Won't Believe Are True". Some clickbait combines several of these tactics to snag users' interest. Learn to recognise these techniques for yourself so you can teach children to notice them as well.

TAKE CONTROL

Many parents opt to place limits on how long their children can spend online each day, which obviously reduces the chance of exposure to clickbait. Alternatively, most internet-enabled devices have built-in controls that allow parents to manage what sort of online content their child can access – including filtering by age, which can screen out a percentage of inappropriate material.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology writer with more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, she is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant who writes for Forbes, TechRadar and Wired, among others.



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 Simpson 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.








Kidslingo

FUN SPANISH CLASSES

INSPIRING YOUNG CHILDREN, FROM BIRTH TO 11 YEARS, TO LOVE LANGUAGES

We teach Spanish using

- ✓ Music
- ✓ Games
- ✓ Let's pretend
- ✓ Storytelling
- ✓ Actions
- ✓ Crafts

More Information

Kidslingo Central & West Cornwall

✉ vicky.rouncefield@kidslingo.co.uk

🌐 <https://www.kidslingo.co.uk/area/spanish-classes-central-west-cornwall/>

📱  

A Kidslingo franchise owned and operated under licence by Vicky Rouncefield

Clubs

A new clubs list will be coming home on 15th April. If your child is interested in learning Spanish, please see the information here. If there is enough interest it will run on Mondays from 3.15-4.15pm for 4 weeks and costs £18. Please don't pay yet in case there are not enough children interested to make it run.

DIARY DATES

| | |
|---|---|
| Thursday 28th March 3.15pm | School closes at 3.15pm for Easter holidays |
| Friday 29th March-Sunday 14th April | Easter holidays |
| Monday 15th April | School opens for summer term |
| Wednesday 17th April | Drama Club begins |
| Monday 22nd April | All other clubs start |
| Monday 6th May | Spring Bank Holiday - school closed |
| Friday 24th May | School closes for May half term |
| Monday 27th-Friday 31st May | Half term holiday |



EASTER 2024

- Activities including multi sports, forest schools, circus skills, water sports and lots more - for children aged 5 to 16
- Every session includes a healthy meal for all children
- Funded places for ALL children eligible for benefits related free school meals

Activities are taking place across Cornwall during the Easter holidays, from April 2nd - 12th

Scan here to book!



www.activecornwall.org/T2MHolidayProgramme/
Time2Move.HolidayProgramme@cornwall.gov.uk
01872 324287

Funded by

