

What a privilege it has been to be Headteacher of Alverton this week! We had our Ofsted inspectors in on Tuesday and Wednesday, who had a very thorough look into our lovely school and got to see all the great things we have to offer. I was incredibly proud of the staff, who worked so hard to ensure that all of our learning and wider curriculum offer was shared. The staff spoke so highly of the children in their class and made sure the positive relationships we have with them shone through. I was most proud of the children though - from Nursery right up to Year 6. Respectful, courteous, smiley and polite were all words used to describe them. They spoke articulately to them, held doors open for them and even included them in their activities. I couldn't ask for any more! Thank you all so much for your support, we very much appreciated it and it definitely helped to keep us going! We look forward to sharing the report with you as soon as we get it and will be putting a plan together to work on our actions.

We are all now very much looking forward to our Christmas celebrations beginning and rehearsals for the various events are in full swing! Bring on the tinsel!

Nichola Smith
Headteacher



Thank you and well done!

Last Friday our Nursery children took part in a Welly Walk around the school field and they raised an incredible **£1337.45** for Children in Need. What a brilliant effort from all the children and staff. A huge thank you to all the parents, relations and friends who donated.



Remember – safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility

If you have a safeguarding concern, please contact Nichola Smith (Designated Safeguarding Lead) at nsmith@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

Club cancellations

Year 3/4 Computing will be cancelled on **Wednesday 27th November** as Mrs Stellon has a course. The last one will take place on Wednesday 4th December.

Year 5/6 Art will be cancelled on **Wednesday 27th November** as Mrs Williams has a course. The last one will take place on Wednesday 4th December.

The last tennis club will be next Thursday 28th November.

All clubs (apart from Computing and Year 5/6 Art) finish in the week ending Friday 29th November.

Late arrivals

Anyone arriving after 8.45am should come into school via the main reception and report to the office staff. Please do not try and enter or exit the school ground via the side gate or Reception gate as they will be locked at 8.45am.

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.

Wanted!

Our current mud kitchen is looking very old and sad. If anyone has any suitable wood they could spare or even volunteer to build a new one, we would be very grateful. Please get in touch with the office. Thank you.

Important information

Change to communications and online payment system

From January we have been advised by TPAT that we must change the way we communicate with parents and how you pay for all items such as swimming, trips, ties, breakfast club and after school club. **We will no longer be using Eduspot (Schoolmoney) after the end of December.** School lunches will continue to be booked and paid for via the Aspens Select site.



The new system we will be using is Arbor. In the next few weeks we will be emailing all primary guardians a welcome email and link from Arbor. Please log in and familiarise yourself with this system. Please also download the Arbor App. We will be continuing to use emails in the same way for letters and newsletters but we will be also using in app messages as well. These will replace texts which will only be used for urgent messages.

All outstanding debts in the Schoolmoney system must be paid by the end of term **apart from any remaining payments for Year 5 camp and Year 6 London.** The balance of these will be moved to the new system before the Spring term starts. All other payments should be paid in full including breakfast club, after school club, swimming and any trips.

If your child is looking for inspiration for books or authors, or you're looking for something new for family reading time, then head to booksfortopics.com who have a huge range of fantastic book recommendations and reading lists! We always have their recommended book lists for each year group available for you to pick up in our foyer and, while you're there, why not check out the Book Swap too!





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



0800 1111

0300 123 3393
www.mind.org.uk
mind
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

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators EDUCATING CHILDREN ON SPENDING AND SAVING

Evidence shows that children's spending habits begin to form as early as seven years old. With primary schools in England not required to teach financial literacy, many young people are reaching adulthood without knowing the basics of budgeting. This guide explains how to teach young people about money in a practical way, giving them the understanding to become savvy spenders and savers.

1 PROVIDE POCKET MONEY

Giving children money – even a small amount – can help them learn to make their own budgeting decisions about how to spend or save it. Research shows that youngsters who receive pocket money are more likely to become adults with strong financial skills and significantly less debt.

2 USE A PREPAID CARD

Being able to pay by card is essential these days, with some retailers not accepting cash since the pandemic. Prepaid debit cards are available for children from the age of six, allowing them to get used to spending like they will as adults with no risk of dipping into an overdraft. Learning about money is like learning to swim – you need to get in the pool and have a go!

3 PRACTISE BORROWING

Although official borrowing is only available to over 18s, kids need to understand how debt and interest works before they become adults and are exposed to credit cards or 'buy now, pay later' schemes. For a safe means of teaching them about this, parents could offer them extra pocket money but explain that it needs to be paid back by a certain date, plus an extra couple of pounds as interest.

4 ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATION

Chatting about money and how much things cost will teach children that finance is a part of everyday life and not some "scary adult thing". Parents can involve them in budgeting for the weekly shop, for example, working together to get everything on the list while keeping the total below a certain number. Letting young ones make spending decisions in a safe space can build up their confidence regarding money.

5 DISCUSS THE PRESSURE TO SPEND

Whether it's YouTube ads or a hint of envy at a friend's recent purchase, spending triggers are everywhere. Encourage children to notice how clever shop design (like placing sweets at the checkout) and offers such as '2 for 1' deals entice us to spend more. Challenge them to resist impulse buys by getting them to sleep on it before deciding to spend.

6 TELLING 'NEED' FROM 'WANT'

Learning how to prioritise spending is an important life skill: the difference between life's essentials and "nice to haves" is key to budgeting. If children pester you for treats while shopping, it's the perfect time to say "That's a want. We're getting our needs first." You could show how you budget for food, electricity and so on before buying fun things.

7 ENCOURAGE SAVING

Getting children saving early can set them up with a useful habit for their adult life. Suggest that they set something aside every time they receive money and help them set a target for how much to put away, so they feel motivated to continue. For example, encouraging them to save for a friend's birthday gift can get children much more invested in what they buy.

8 SPARK INTEREST IN INTEREST

Motivate children by telling them about interest; you can describe it as a reward for saving money. Explain how everything they put away will grow over time. As an exciting example, explain that 1p doubled every day for a month would amount to approximately £10 million. Some prepaid cards for young people also offer interest; parents and carers could also add a little to supplement what their child saves and show how it works.

9 PAYING FOR CHORES

This is a complex debate with no right or wrong answer: it depends on what works for each individual family. However, it can be one of the best ways to teach children that money needs to be earned and helps to create more mindful spenders. If parents aren't keen on paying for everyday chores, they could ask the children to suggest their own ideas for earning a little extra.

10 PROTECT CHILDREN FROM SCAMS

Scams are a terrifyingly easy way to lose money, and children are generally more likely to be taken in due to a lack of experience with these financial criminals. As a minimum, make sure they're aware of the most common scams they could be exposed to – by text, email and phone, for instance. Young people should tell a trusted adult about any unexpected message or call and never give out their personal information.

Meet Our Expert

GoHenry is a prepaid debit card and financial education app with a mission to make every young person smart with money. Co-founder and CEO Louise Hill is a passionate campaigner for better financial literacy among school children and strongly believes that money management is a crucial life skill.

gohenry

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/spending-and-saving>

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 20.11.2024

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.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Little Foxes	Albie	for being kind to his friends & for his outstanding tidying up
Little Owls	Ned	for brilliant work in Phonics
Kittiwakes	Dougie	Enthusiasm: for showing enthusiasm for all of his learning
Curlews	Stefan	Responsibility: for making a huge effort to make really good choices
Puffins	Joseph	Responsibility: for great listening & responsibility working well in a group
Owls	Bella-Rose	Perseverance: for perseverance even when things are tricky
Kingfishers	Jaden	Responsibility: for much improved behaviour & a super attitude
Trencrom	Wilbur	Perseverance: for working extremely hard in Maths
Lanyon	The Whole Class:	for an absolutely amazing week & for being a pleasure to teach
Kerris	Ted	Enthusiasm: for contributing so well in our discussions for our project
Bodrifty	Emily	Kindness: for kindness to her classmates & staff at all times
Bosigran	Eva-Grace	Kindness/Responsibility: for supporting other pupils in the class
Kenidjack	Piper	Responsibility: for showing great responsibility & maturity this week
Lunchtime Star	Izzy G	for always being so kind & helpful

The week has been a challenging one in many ways for me, but I'm delighted that Friday has rolled around, as it always does and the weekend looms once again. I know I love my weekends, a chance to relax, see family and friends, catch up on the things I never manage to do in the week because I'm too busy and generally be the other me, the one that isn't a teacher. As a parent, you're never off duty really, even when the children aren't with you you're probably thinking about them, getting things done or ready for them, worrying about them, making plans for them or doing any of the millions of tasks that happen behind the scenes. And as I relax over my weekend, you perhaps don't. It may be fun, you may manage to catch up with friends and family, but chances are you'll be immersed in activities, trips, parties, days out, shopping, homework and the jobs that need doing when the children are with you plus the other ones that you have to do any way, regardless of how you feel, whether you want to or how tired you are. I'm always happy to listen, to a worry, a grumble or anything else you may want to chat about, because I do have the time for you. Always will. Take care, enjoy the weekend (though I suspect the weather may make that a challenge) and I shall see you all next week. Mrs D xx



DIARY DATES

Wednesday 27th November	Last swimming for Kingfishers
Friday 29th November	All clubs finish (except Computing & Year 5/6 Art)
Monday 2nd December 9.30am	Advent Service <i>Followed by coffee and mince pies</i>
Tuesday 3rd December	Last swimming for Kerris (Group 2)
Tuesday 10th December 9.30am and 2pm	Reception Christmas performance - school hall <i>Details to follow</i>
Thursday 12th December 2pm and 6pm	Key Stage 1 Christmas performance - school hall <i>Details to follow</i> <i>Please can children attend both performances</i>
Friday 13th December	Pupils Christmas lunch (main school) <i>Please book online via Aspens Select</i>
Wednesday 18th December	Nursery Christmas lunch
Thursday 19th December 6.30pm	Key Stage 2 Carol Concert at Chapel Street Methodist Chapel
Friday 20th December 3.15pm	Last day of term for main school and Woodland Nursery
Monday 23rd December - Friday 3rd January	Christmas holidays
Monday 6th January 8.30am	First day of Spring term for main school and Woodland Nursery
Monday 13th January	Clubs start
Monday 17th - Friday 21st February	Spring half term holiday



ALVERTON COMMUNITY
**CHRISTMAS
EVENING**

Friday 13th December

The Pirate Inn

6pm



Local Choir
Performance



Festive Music



Special Guest...

Father Christmas

(Booking Essential)

Free gift for Alverton residents aged 10 years and under funded by the residents committee.
(Non-resident children accommodated for a £2 fee)

Forms available at Alverton School, The Pirate Inn and Alverton Shop

ACTION 4 ALVERTON