

Statement from Truro and Penwith Academy Trust on the death of Her Majesty the Queen

It is with sadness that we have heard the news of the death of Her Majesty the Queen. We send our condolences to the royal family and remember her lifetime contribution in service of this country.

The Trust will monitor guidance from the Department for Education with regards to arrangements for the funeral and all schools within the Trust have been requested to pause social media during the period of national mourning for the Queen's death.

We share this quote from a 14-year-old Princess Elizabeth, from her broadcast to the children of the Commonwealth in October 1940:

"And when peace comes, remember it will be for us, the children of today, to make the world of tomorrow a better and happier place".



Welcome Back!

The Autumn term is now officially off and running and it's been lovely to welcome all of our children back for a new school year at Alverton.

Thank you all for making sure that the children arrived looking so smart in their uniforms and ready to learn. They have settled into their new classes really well and as always there is a lovely atmosphere around the school. We have been pleased to welcome several new members of staff into school this week too with Mrs Simpson taking up the lead role in the EYFS, Mrs Mabbett teaching alongside Mrs Dennison in Lanyon and Miss Richards, Miss Angove and Mrs Woodcock joining our excellent team of Teaching Assistants.

Staying on the theme of school uniform, I'm aware that there has been a lot of publicity regarding the cost of school uniforms across the country, with examples of some being prohibitively expensive. We are very aware that the cost of living crisis is having a huge impact upon everyone in our school community, and have tried hard to ensure that our uniform costs are as low as possible. Indeed, Mrs Gill undertook a piece of work before the holiday to ensure that the uniform suppliers we use are providing a cost-effective service to our families. I'm pleased to say that the results showed that our uniform is amongst, if not *the*, most affordable in the area.

My own belief is that, alongside creating a sense of belonging, school uniform makes life so much simpler for parents as there is no need for the daily chore of deciding what your children will wear. It also stops the potentially damaging, upsetting and expensive competition between children as to who has the best trainers or the most exclusive labels on their clothes. In order to ensure that none of our children or parents are put under pressure by their children to buy expensive items of clothing for school, and to engender a pride in the school, we will continue to monitor and enforce the school uniform expectations throughout this year.

It was good to be able to get back to having whole school assemblies this week, and on Tuesday I led the first of these held in school since March 2020 and the start of the Covid lockdown. It was a sobering realisation that a large proportion of the children in the hall had never been to a school assembly at Alverton before. Following the sad news that HRH Queen Elizabeth II died yesterday we changed our plans for today's assembly, and spoke to the children about her life and why this is such a significant event in the history of our country.

We look forward to working with you this year to ensure that all of our children have the best possible year in their new class. As a school we will have a strong focus on reading as this is perhaps the key to learning and a life skill that our children really need to master. In fact, if there was one thing that you can do to really help your child achieve their potential in school and open up doors for them in their future, it is to hear them read, read to them and encourage them to read independently as often as you possibly can.

As Albert Einstein is often quoted as saying: "If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. if you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairy tales."

Martin Higgs
Headteacher

Remember – safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility

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

Keeping Children Safe at Alverton School

Keeping children safe is a key part of what we all do. Our website has a Safeguarding section <http://www.alverton.org.uk/web/safeguarding/85998> and a separate Online Safety section http://www.alverton.org.uk/web/staying_safe_online_-_who_can_help/550827 both of which contain a lot of information which can help you ensure your child remains safe. Our Safeguarding Parent Guide can be downloaded from the safeguarding page as well as our termly Safeguarding newsletters which provide information about different aspects of safeguarding. At Alverton, the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Mr Higgs and the Deputy DSL is Mrs Wicks who are both always available to meet with you should you be concerned about a child’s safety in any way.

Meet the Teacher

Our meet the teacher days will be next week and will give you a chance to come into school and hear from your child’s class teacher.

Monday 12th at 3.15pm Upper Key Stage 2 (Year 5 and 6) - **please meet in Kenidjack classroom**

Tuesday 13th at 3.15pm Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and 2) - **please come into the hall**

Wednesday 14th at 3.15pm Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 and 4) - **please come into the hall**

Please collect your child and make your way to the appropriate place as detailed above.

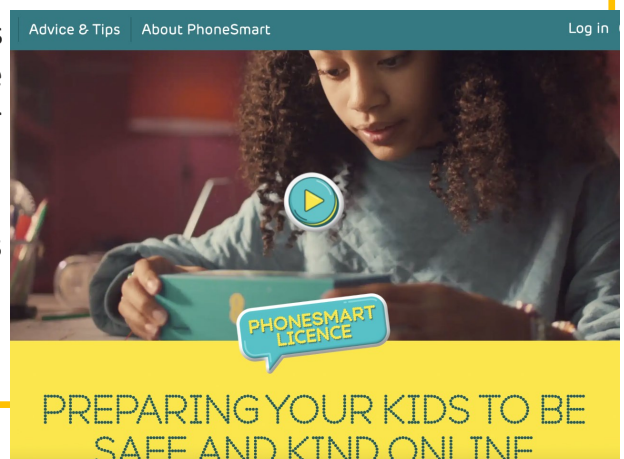
EE Phonesmart

EE have partnered with child experts and charities to create the PhoneSmart Licence. It’s a fun, interactive and educational course to help children learn how to stay safe and be kind online, and to encourage them to use their phones appropriately. It has been created for children age 10-13 who have just received their first smartphone.

Parents get their own Dashboard where they can check on their child’s progress, follow the episodes they are doing and get extra support and resources. It can help parents gauge their child’s readiness for the responsibilities of smartphone ownership, as well as helping to start the bigger conversations about the risks they might face online.

If your child has a mobile phone, this is definitely worth a look!

<https://eephonesmart.co.uk>



Advice & Tips About PhoneSmart Log in

PHONESMART LICENCE

PREPARING YOUR KIDS TO BE SAFE AND KIND ONLINE

Clubs - start Monday 19th (not next week)

Clubs lists have now come home and will be returned to your child by next Friday at the latest so that you know whether your child has a place and can pay if there is a cost involved.

Please encourage your child to attend their club regularly as there will be waiting lists for many of them and non-attendance will mean their place will be given to someone else.

If a club requires payment, please ensure it is paid before the first session or your child won't be able to start.



After School provision

Mr T is continuing to run after school childcare every evening until 5.15pm. He now works for DT Sports Coaching but the arrangements remain the same. Please see the attached letter and form for more information. To contact him please ring 07843 126833 or email clubs@dtcoaching.co.uk

Wanted!

Our Reception classes would be very grateful for any spare school skirts, shorts, trousers and socks (aged 4-5 years) which you no longer want.

Please drop them into the office. Thank you very much.



School lunches

Our new catering providers are Chartwells. The cost of a school lunch for all Year 3 children upwards, unless your child is receipt of free school meals, is £2.41. The menu has been sent home and can also be found on the school website under Parent Pages, What's on this term. Payment for meals is by cash or cheque (payable to Chartwells) and pupils should not be in arrears by more than 5 days lunches (£12.05). Please ensure that you pay whatever is owed by the Friday of the week your child has lunches.

Music lessons

Keyboard, violin and guitar lessons start again next week. Please send your child in with their instrument. If your child (Year 2 upwards) would like to start music lessons, please contact:

Keyboards & Guitars

Cornwall Music Service Trust

www.cmst.co.uk

Violins

Emma Stansfield -
violastansfield@gmail.com



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>

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

ROBLOX

PEGI RATING
7+

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA play it. As a 'sandbox' title, Roblox offers a huge amount of creative freedom: it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio to build custom levels and games, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Roblox encourages players to communicate online (including a group chat facility). This could expose children to risks such as scammers, online predators, harassment, griefters and more. The in-game chat has some filters, but isn't perfect: players can still send harmful messages to others – such as scam links or general hostility – while predators can reach out to children directly.

ONLINE DATERS

These are also called 'ODers' and are quite common in Roblox. An ODer is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this usually doesn't deter ODers. Some player-built Roblox game worlds have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind.

PUBLIC SERVERS

Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction. Some games and servers, therefore, will put children more at risk of contact from strangers than others.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Roblox is actually free to download and play, but bear in mind that there are some hidden costs. Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game, for example, using real money. People can also buy extra Robux (the in-game currency) to spend on cosmetic items in the game, while it's possible to purchase a private or VIP server.

Advice for Parents & Carers

SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for your child, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply the appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. The game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your child's account.

PRIVATE SERVERS

If your child has some genuine friends to play Roblox online with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, some players could invite other people – who might not necessarily be child friendly – into the private server. If your child is a Roblox fan, it's important to talk with them regularly about who they are playing the game with.

MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that you have two-factor authentication on your payment accounts also makes it harder for your child to spend money inadvertently.

DEALING WITH STRANGERS

At some point in their development, your child will need to learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's OK to discuss – and what they should never tell a stranger online – will help them understand how to communicate with other people online safely.

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

Sources: <https://www.theverge.com/2020/7/21/2133343/roblox-over-half-of-us-kids-joining-virtual-parties-fortnite>
<https://corp.roblox.com/parents/>



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 07.09.2022

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 Wicks 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.

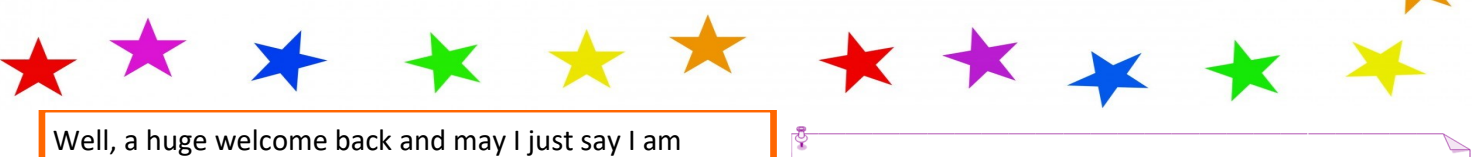
Registering for free school meals / Pupil Premium is confidential. If you think that your child is eligible, we strongly recommend that you contact Cornwall Council as detailed above. Mrs Gill and Mrs Stacey in the office will also be able to help you and answer any questions you may have.

Thank you.



STARS OF THE WEEK

 Puffins	Lottie	for an excellent start to the year. Well done!
 Owls	Frankie	for such an excellent start in Owls class
 Kingfishers	Iris	for her brilliant start to life at Alverton
 Trencom	Izzy	for making a fantastic start, for being a brilliant listener & a lovely individual
 Lanyon	Charlie DK	for such an excellent start to the year. Very well done!
 Kerris	Lamorna	for starting Year 4 with a great attitude. Well done!
 Bodrifty	Saphron	for making such a great start to Year 5, working hard & being a lovely member of Bodrifty
 Bosigran	Finn	for being such a brilliant Year 5 already - you are working so hard
 Kenidjack	John	for great ideas in our descriptive writing
 Lunchtime Star	Izzy W	for always being so helpful



Well, a huge welcome back and may I just say I am delighted to be here. I have had a lovely summer break and thoroughly relaxed with friends and family, which has allowed me to come back refreshed and ready for another year.

I hope you are all pleased to be here too, though I do know that isn't the case for everyone. I know that I sometimes felt as if six whole weeks stretched ahead, when I was out of routine, away from the school support network of my colleagues, parents, and the children who are, after all, the reason I am here.

It may have been tricky for some of you too, not seeing other parents, school children, teachers, staff or anybody else related to school unless you were really close friends. That can be stressful and lead to challenging feelings of isolation, loneliness and wondering what everyone else is doing and are they all having fun without me. Which in turn can make home life hard to deal with, things may happen or are said that are challenging. Once again, I really am here for you, anyone who may be feeling isolated, unsupported, facing challenges.

Please just come and chat, please don't feel alone. I will do whatever I can to help. It doesn't have to be out of school hours. Just come and find me.

Mrs Daylak

PS - I am back in the school building, in reception class.

Diary Dates

12th Sept	Meet the Teacher UKS2 - 3.15pm
13th Sept	Meet the Teacher KS1 - 3.15pm
14th Sept	Meet the Teacher LKS2 - 3.15pm
19th Sept	Clubs start
21st Sept	Year 3 swimming starts (letter coming home next week)

Don't forget.....

Your child will need:

Named wellies (left in school)

Filled named water bottle (taken home every day)

PE kit (left in school all week)

Please label everything with your child's name and it will be returned if it gets lost.



COACHED BY WORLD
CHAMPIONSHIP & NATIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIP COACHES!!

LEARN TO CHEER, DANCE, STUNT & TUMBLE!

FREE
TRIAL

NON-COMPETITIVE / COMPETITIVE
TODDLERS TO ADULTS
ALL STAR CHEERLEADING / POM / JAZZ / HIP HOP / LYRICAL / TUMBLE



MULTIPLE LOCATIONS!
LUDGVAN SCHOOL
HUMPRHY DAVY
& MORE!

TO BOOK YOUR FREE TRIAL,
MESSAGE US 07415638948 OR EMAIL
PIRATESCHEERDANCE@GMAIL.COM

WWW.PIRATESCHEERANDDANCE.CO.UK

 PIRATES CHEER & DANCE