

17/7/26

FRIDAY NEWS

Nº 37

Dear Parents/carers

This is the last newsletter of what has been a long and busy term! The Year 5/6 swimming gala was amazing this week. All the children swam their hearts out and the smiles on their faces were more than worth it! Thank you so much to Mrs Williams for organising and to all the staff and parents for sweating it out whilst cheering the children along!

I hope you all enjoy the Summer Fair this afternoon, thank you in advance to FOAS for all your hard work in setting it up - it's going to be a great afternoon!

Nichola Smith
Headteacher

Reception Café Day

This week Kittiwakes and Curlews had a very successful café day! The children welcomed the nursery children who will be starting school in September into the classroom and served them cakes and drinks. This was a lovely opportunity for the new starting children to spend a bit more time in the setting and get to know the room and the adults. Kittiwakes and Curlews loved being the waiters and waitresses! In the afternoon, the parents, carers and grandparents of Kittiwakes and Curlews children joined us, and the children served them more sweet treats and drinks and had a lovely time playing and hanging out altogether. Finally, at the end of the day, we sold even more cakes to the rest of the school! Over the day, we managed to raise **£202.60** for new resources for the EYFS classroom! Thank you SO much to everyone who donated cakes and goodies and to those who came along and bought cakes. It was a fantastic day and the children loved it.



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

Outstanding money owed

At present there are a sizeable number of debts owing for breakfast club, after school child care, trips and swimming. TPAT cannot allow any debt to be carried over to September and certainly none for anyone leaving the school. Please ensure that any money owed for any outstanding amounts are paid by **Tuesday 21st July** at the latest. Please check your Arbor account to see if you owe anything. All debts for lunches must also be paid on Aspens Select by the 23rd July.

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.

After school child care

There will be **NO** after school child care on the last day of term **Thursday 23rd July** for any children including Reception. Please collect your child at 3.15pm.

Sporting success!

Tegen went to the National finals for gymnastics in Liverpool. She won first place in vault, third in bars and 8th overall!



Jamie-Leigh has been awarded Gold and Silver Brownie Awards! Some of the awards she has won include game master and explorer.



A group of KS1 children were invited to compete in the multi-skills event at the Cornwall Summer Games finals at Mounts Bay Academy this term! The teams were encouraged to display the School Games Values of Respect, Teamwork, Determination, Honesty, Passion and Self Belief, and Alverton team certainly did that! Well done



Primary League.

The Y3/4 team were awarded their medals for coming second in the Penwith Primary League. The Y5/6 girls were awarded their medals for coming third in the Penwith



Music lessons in September

If your child (from Year 2 upwards) would like to have music lessons in September, there are spaces available for guitar, drums, keyboard, singing and violin. Lessons take place during the school day, usually in the afternoon. For more information and costs, please contact the Cornwall Music Service Trust for guitars, keyboards, singing and drums. [CMST - Cornwall Music Service Trust](#)

For violin lessons, please contact Emma Stansfield by emailing violastansfield@gmail.com

The Y5&6 Swimming Gala was a great success! The children showcased their amazing talent and demonstrated fantastic team spirit. We have seen so much progression in the children's swimming abilities, especially in those children that found swimming more difficult at the beginning of the year. It is amazing to see the children's confidence grow in such an important skill that is so vital living so close to the sea.

Well done everyone!



Lost property

The lost property box is nearly full again. Please check if your child is missing anything. Any un-named items left at the end of term will be taken to the charity shop. **Please name ALL your child's belongings.**

School closes at the normal time of 3.15pm on Thursday 23rd July. We re-open on Wednesday 2nd September at 8.30pm.



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



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 Vryan 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



"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.wcwaaid.co.uk/helpline>

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SKIN BETTING

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

'Skin betting' is the term used when players gamble using virtual in-game items, such as weapon 'skins' or character cosmetics. Although these items appear purely decorative, some can hold significant real-world value. Research suggests that children as young as 13 have engaged in this type of betting, often on sites with limited age checks or safeguards, blurring the line between gaming and gambling.

UNREGULATED PLATFORMS

Skin gambling typically takes place on third-party websites that are not licensed or regulated. These platforms often lack age verification, making them easily accessible to children. By linking their gaming accounts, users can deposit skins, place bets, and withdraw winnings as cash or higher-value items – often without adults being aware these activities are happening.

REAL-WORLD VALUE

Skins may look like simple cosmetic upgrades to in-game items and characters, but some are worth hundreds or even thousands of pounds. They can be traded or sold on online marketplaces, meaning they function much like real money. When young people bet with skins, they are risking items of genuine financial value, even if no physical cash is exchanged directly.

INFLUENCER PROMOTION

Some gaming influencers and streamers have promoted skin betting sites in their content. This can make the behaviour appear normal or even desirable, potentially encouraging younger audiences to engage in these activities without fully understanding the risks involved.

SOCIAL STATUS PRESSURE

In games such as Counter Strike: Global Offensive (CS:GO) and Fortnite, rare skins can act as status symbols. Young players may feel the pressure to own high-value items to fit in with peers. This can lead them to take risks – such as using gambling sites – to obtain desirable skins, similar to how branded goods can influence behaviour offline.

LIMITED OVERSIGHT

Skin betting can take place both in-game and on external websites that parents and educators may not be familiar with. Because skin betting does not always resemble traditional gambling, it can go unnoticed until significant losses have occurred, in both items or money.

GATEWAY BEHAVIOURS

Skin betting mirrors many aspects of traditional gambling, including chance-based outcomes, reward systems and excitement. Early exposure to these mechanics can normalise betting behaviours before children and young people even reach legal gambling age. Research indicates that this may increase the likelihood of developing unhealthy habits later, particularly if early wins create a false sense of control or skill.

Advice for Parents & Educators

UNDERSTAND IN-GAME ITEMS

Familiarise yourself with the games young people are playing and learn whether they include tradable or sellable items. Titles like CS:GO and Rust are known for skin marketplaces, but similar systems are increasingly common across games.

DISCUSS VALUE AND RISK

Help children and young people understand that cosmetic items like skins can carry real-world value. Explain that losing them through betting is comparable to losing money, therefore reinforcing the connection between in-game actions and real financial consequences.

LOOK FOR WARNING SIGNS

Be alert to changes in behaviour, such as secrecy around gaming, a strong focus on acquiring specific skins, or a sudden loss of in-game items. These could indicate involvement in skin gambling and provide an opportunity to start a conversation about it.

USE CONTROLS AND SAFEGUARDS

Make use of parental controls and platform settings to restrict trading, purchases, and access to external websites. Where possible, disable marketplace features on games and monitor young people's account activity to reduce the risk of unauthorised transactions.

Meet Our Expert

Nathan David is Head of Foundation and Programme Lead for Esports Coaching at the University Campus of Esports.

Bubba Gaeddert is a Senior Lecturer and Head of Events at the University Campus of Esports, as well as President and Co-Founder of the Videogames and Esports Foundation.

The National College®

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/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: 15.07.2026

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.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Kittiwakes	Chloe	Enthusiasm: for showing endless enthusiasm towards all learning
Curlews	Harrison	Enthusiasm: for super effort with all aspects of school life
Puffins	Mabel	Enthusiasm: for an amazing start to her Alverton journey
Owls	Eiva	Perseverance: for amazing perseverance over your year in Owls
	Ragnar	Perseverance: for amazing perseverance over your year in Owls
	Ruben	Perseverance: for amazing perseverance over your year in Owls
Kingfishers	Adrianas	Enthusiasm: for being enthusiastic every day
Trencrom	Odin	Kindness: for always being a great friend & welcoming to all
	Otto	Responsibility: for always being ready to learn & supporting others
Lanyon	Bowen	Resilience: for such a fantastic year of personal growth
Kerris	Arlo	Resilience: for the most fantastic effort with his writing all year
	Kiera	Kindness: for being so incredibly kind & sweet
Bodrift	Flinn	Enthusiasm: for fantastic progress throughout the year
Bosigran	India	Respect: for always being respectful & kind to adults
	Joshua	Enthusiasm: for working so hard within sport this year
	Kit	Enthusiasm: for working hard in every lesson
Kenidjack	Jackson	Enthusiasm: for enthusiasm during the swimming gala
Lunchtime Star	Iris	for being a very kind friend



Where did it all go????? Really? A whole year? I feel as if it's just been eaten up and swallowed. My only clue to the fact that it was indeed an entire year is that I am, quite simply, beyond tired. And the children are too. Bless them. Every day they come to school, shattered, and get on with their day in the heat as best as they can. Well, it's nearly over, so in a few days I hope you can relax and enjoy some time with your children (though obviously the summer break is a long one and many of you will be juggling the school holidays with childcare and work so I really do wish you the very best of good luck over the next few weeks). And then another school year will begin again. Plus by now you will all know whose class your children will be in next year. And you will have had reports too. So that really does bring this academic year to a close. What next? It may seem a bit daunting to think about next year, it may feel strange for you and your children and it will seem odd too, in September, but that won't last long, trust me. Remember how odd it felt this time last year? And here we are again. Anyway, here I am, until next week for sure. So come and chat if you need words of support or encouragement, come say hi, come for a hug. Know that it will all be absolutely fine and dandy in the end. Much love, have a delightful summer and I have my fingers crossed that you get some time to chill, enjoy the sunshine and come back refreshed and full of zest with a bounce in your step. Much love and my very best wishes, Mrs D xxxxxxxxx PS - if none of that makes much sense please accept my apologies and blame my fatigue on my inability to type sentences that make sense xxxxx



DIARY DATES

Thursday 23rd July 1.30pm	Year 6 leavers assembly
Thursday 23rd July 3.15pm	School closes for Summer holidays at normal time
Friday 24th July	INSET Day - school closed
Monday 27th July-Monday 31st August	Summer school holidays
Tuesday 1st September	INSET Day - School & Nursery closed
Wednesday 2nd September 8.30am	School opens for Autumn term
Monday 19th - Friday 30th October	Autumn half term holiday
Friday 18th December 3.15pm	School closes for Christmas holiday

Time2Move Holiday Programme

This is now open! Please follow the link below to find out more



[Time2Move Holiday Programme – Active Cornwall](#)

If your child is eligible for Pupil Premium funding please click on the link below to generate a code. This will allow you to book places for free.

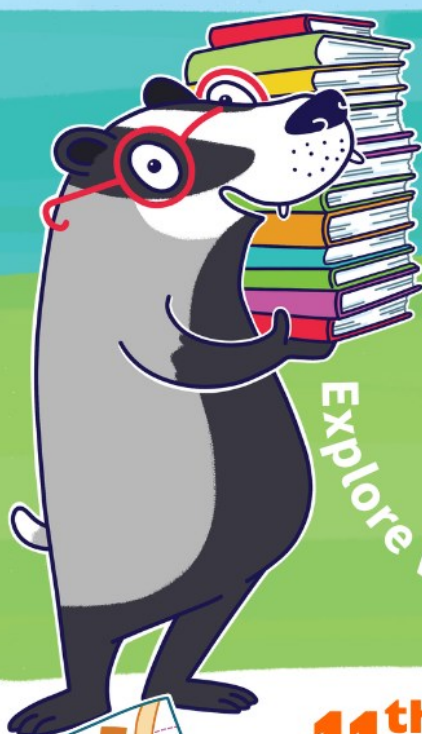
[Time2Move Holiday Programme - Cornwall Council](#)



The Cornwall Reading Challenge

Extraordinary Explorers

FREE for children of all ages!



Explore with Cornwall Libraries this summer!

11th July - 12th Sept



Libraries

**GO
ALL
IN.**



MBFDC FOOTBALL CAMPS



SUMMER 2026

All children welcome 

Come & have some fun during the School Holidays!

DATES | TUES, WEDS & THURSDAYS:

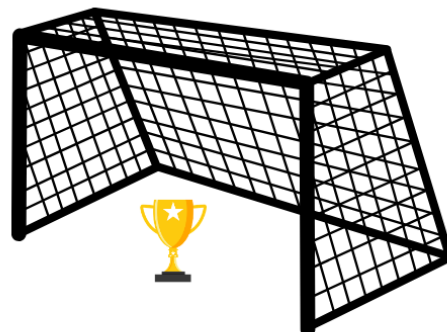
WK 1 - 28TH, 29TH, 30TH JULY

WK 2 - 4TH, 5TH, 6TH AUG

WK 3 - 11TH, 12TH, 13TH AUG

WK 4 - 18TH, 19TH, 20TH AUG

- ✓ UEFA/FA Qualified Staff & DBS Checked
- ✓ Skills & ball techniques
- ✓ Fun activities, matches & tournaments
- ✓ Penalty shootouts, prizes & more!



SOCCER PROS:

10am - 3pm (7 - 13 yrs)

School Years 2 - 8

1 day £18, 2 days £33, 3 days £45,

6 days £90, 12 days £180 (Super Saver!)

PLAYERS NEED:

Football boots, shin pads & sun cream

Wet weather clothing & spares!

Packed lunch & drinks

Indoor footwear (in case of poor weather!)

MOUNTS BAY ACADEMY SPORTS CENTRE

Boscathnoe Lane, Heamoor, Penzance, Cornwall, TR18 3JT

Online Registration Link

www.mbfdc.co.uk

Please visit the MBFDC website for further details & to register online!

