

Dear Parents,

There has been lots to celebrate at Alverton this week!

Inclusive Dyslexia Friendly Schools



Yesterday, we were successfully accredited for the Inclusive Dyslexia Friendly Schools Quality Mark. Led by Mrs Hughes, our SENDCo, we have been working towards this for a while and it was great to be recognised as the fantastic school we are.

The British Dyslexia Association describes Dyslexia Friendly schools as schools that identify and select best practice where pupils are supported to be the best they can be. A particular feature of such schools is the awareness among all staff of what each pupil should be able to achieve.

The two assessors went on a child led tour of the school, visited classes and observed lessons, talked to children, looked at children's work and chatted to parents (thank you!), Mr Higgs, Mrs Wicks, Mrs Clive, Mrs Stevens and Mrs Hughes. It was a full day but this meant they got a real understanding of the culture and inclusive, supportive environment the children at Alverton enjoy.

Well done to the whole staff team and especially Mrs Hughes, our SENDCo, who leads our work on this and was absolutely brilliant yesterday! Well done too to those pupils who spoke to the assessors about their work and how they learn and especially to our three Year 6 pupils who led our assessors on a learning walk around the school and were simply phenomenal.

We were absolutely delighted to have had such positive feedback about our school and the things that we do here. Thank you to everyone who has been involved.

Millie's Mark



Millie's Mark is awarded to childcare providers "that go above and beyond minimum requirements by having 100% of staff trained in paediatric first aid and ensure that everything learned during the course is kept alive and in the forefront of practitioners' minds so that they are confident, ready and capable".

Achieving Millie's Mark acknowledges that children's safety is paramount when we care for children and we are delighted that the Woodland Nursery has achieved this award.

Have a lovely weekend,

Cathryn Wicks
Deputy Headteacher

TERM TIME HOLIDAYS AND SCHOOL ATTENDANCE - FINES

Over the years, we have tried to take a common sense approach to term-time holidays, being mindful of the fact that the travel industry charge a premium rate during the school holiday period. We are also aware that, for many families, holidays to certain destinations during these peak times are simply unaffordable.

However, as stated in previous newsletters, we are simply unable to authorise term-time holidays.

Our overall school attendance figures for last year were well below those expected by the DfE. This was in large part due to the number of holidays that have been taken in term time during that year. This is certainly linked to Covid with families either taking holidays that were postponed due to the pandemic, or wishing to take a holiday after a long and difficult period.

Please be aware that as a result of:

- a) our poor attendance figures last year, and,
- b) revised Government guidance on school attendance in the wake of Covid 19 and the detrimental impact that it has had on pupil attendance nationally

Parents who take unauthorised holidays in term-time will face a fine from the Local Authority. Please do not book term time holidays for this school year(details below).

If your child is absent from school without authorisation, you will be committing an offence under the Education Act 1996. We may submit a request to Cornwall Council for a Penalty Notice to be issued, in accordance with Sections 444A and 444B of the said Act. Penalty notices are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £60 if paid within 21 days of £120 if paid after this but within 28 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice may result in legal action. Absence not authorized by the school may result in a prosecution in the Magistrates' Court under Section 444(1) or Section 444(1A) of the Education Act 1996, leading to a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a custodial sentence. Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court.

We are issuing this information now by way of providing fair notice as we absolutely do not want to see our families fined, particularly as the economic situation at the moment is difficult for everyone.

In addition, the Educational Welfare Service and the school will be monitoring pupil attendance very closely and, again, the focus will be on pupils who have patterns of poor attendance and unauthorised absences.

Non uniform day - Friday 21st October

The first FOAS event this year will be held next Friday (21st October). This will be a Halloween fancy dress day and your child can come to school dressed in their finest (appropriate) Halloween costume! No wigs, masks, face paint or props please. If they would prefer, they can wear something black or orange or some sort of Halloween accessory or just come in their uniform – it really is up to you. If your child could bring a donation (we suggest £1) towards FOAS funds, this would be very much appreciated.

FOAS Halloween Disco - Wednesday 2nd November

FOAS are holding a Halloween Disco on **Wednesday 2nd November** (the first Wednesday back after half term). Times are as follows:

Reception and KS1 4.30-5.30pm

KS2 - 5.45-6.45pm

The cost is £1.50 to include a drink. All proceeds raised will go to FOAS funds. Fancy dress optional but please remember that young children may be scared by some costumes.



Parents Evenings - Year 1-6 - next week

Booking for parents evening has now closed. If you have booked an appointment please come to the school hall a few minutes before your appointment time and your child's teacher will come to get you.

If you didn't book your own appointment via the school website for an appointment time will have been made for you and has been sent to you via text.

If you are going to be unavailable to see your child's teacher at the allotted time, please contact the school office either by phone or by email so that the teacher can be informed.

Club cancellations - next week

All the following clubs will be **cancelled** next week due to parents evenings:

Monday 17th - KS2 Football, KS1 Story club

Tuesday 18th - KS1 Football

Wednesday 19th - Drama, Hockey and Baking

All other clubs will run as normal next week.

Advanced notice of club cancellations

Wednesday 2nd November

Due to the Disco **ALL clubs will be CANCELLED** on 2nd November - Drama, Hockey, Baking and Cycling. They will all start the following Wednesday 9th.

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

Healthy tuck

As we are a healthy school, please provide your child with healthy snacks for tuck such as fruit, vegetable sticks, cheese, crackers or rice cakes. No crisps, sweets or chocolate please. A packet of crisps is allowed as part of their packed lunch eaten at lunchtime. We also ask that water bottles are filled with water only and not squash or juice. Thank you for your support.

INSET Day - Monday 31st October

Don’t forget that school will be **CLOSED** on Monday 31st October (the first day back after half term) due to a staff training day. Woodland Nursery and pre-school will be open to children who stretch their funding (not term time only) and to those who pay for their childcare.

New menu after half term

Chartwells have a new menu starting after half term on 1st November a paper copy of which will come home with your child next week. It can also be found on the school website under Parents, What’s on this term.

Flu immunisation - all years

If you would like your child immunised and haven’t yet applied, please go online by midday on Wednesday 19th October. **Your child will not be given the nasal spray without your consent so if you do not wish them to have it done, you do not need to do anything.**

Date of Visit: Friday 21st October

School Code: EE142240

Link: <https://www.kernowimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu>

Tel No.: 01872 221105

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

Daisy's Diary

I took Owls out for a picnic on the field this week as the weather was so glorious! We tried lots of school grown produce - grapes, fennel flowers, parsnips and celery.

Surprisingly lots of children loved the parsnip and the celery also went down well. We then tried one of the pumpkins we had grown in the top playground, in the form of scones, which were also surprisingly popular.

In other news, Nikolas found the sweetest baby snails in the woods.....



Reception and Year 6 school health screening

Tuesday 1st November

All parents of children in Reception and Year 6 should have received an email this week with a link to information about school health screening for their child. The links can also be found below. You do not need to do anything if you are happy for your child to have health screening done in school. **If you do not wish your child to take part in any or all of the health checks in school you must opt out by following the links.**

Reception Year - <https://mailchi.mp/2ac4f2cab3f4/child-health-programme-health-information-reception-22-23>

Year 6 - <https://mailchi.mp/5f334c487f43/child-health-programme-health-information-y6-22-23>

Grandparent benefits

Martin Lewis, the money expert, has been tweeting recently about missed benefits for grandparents. Please see the link below:

<https://twitter.com/MartinSLewis/status/1579437034229608448?>



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

FIFA 23

FIFA 23, like its many predecessors, is a massively popular football simulator featuring lifelike recreations of thousands of real-world players, drawn from teams around the globe. While the gameplay is subtly improved year on year, the publisher EA Sports' tweaks tend to focus on FIFA Ultimate Team mode, which can tempt gamers of all ages to spend real money recruiting better players for their side. With each new release of FIFA comes a host of new players to unlock – meaning that youngsters can feel pressured to keep buying to compete with their friends.

AGE RATING
PEGI 3

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

RELEASE RAZZAMATAZZ

FIFA 23 will be the last in the blockbuster series, before EA goes solo with its own football title next season. This 'end of an era' vibe – coupled with a huge advertising budget making the new release almost impossible to miss – will elevate FIFA 23 into even more of a 'must have' for football-mad young gamers, no matter how minor the updates are on last year's version.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CHAT

Based on a popular sport which appeals to people of all ages, the FIFA franchise draws a huge audience of both children and adults. Communication is a key element, with many players enjoying in-game audio chat via headsets. With the mixed age range of players and a lack of regulation, however, chats can often turn offensive or toxic – especially in the heat of competitive matches.

IN-GAME PROMOTIONS

Unless precautions are taken, dedicated FIFA fans can spend significant sums when attempting to improve their Ultimate Team. Most top-level players can be unlocked by simply participating in matches, but some sought-after stars can be obtained more quickly in limited-time promotions which cost a large amount of FIFA points (the in-game currency, often paid for with real money).

CIRCLING SCAMMERS

The popularity of FIFA Ultimate Team (FUT) mode has led to online scammers convincing many impressionable gamers to pay real money for non-existent FUT coins and player cards, or directing unwary FIFA fans to phishing sites. If your child gives these individuals their login details, the scammers can access not only their carefully built team but potentially your payment information.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

One match on FIFA (usually around 15 minutes, but often lengthened by extra time and penalties) almost invariably leads to another. It can be a powerful temptation for young players, regardless of unfinished homework or an approaching bedtime. If the "just one more game" mindset starts to impact a child's daily routine, it could be a sign of gaming disorder: a recognised mental health issue.

GAMBLING-ADJACENT BEHAVIOUR

Ultimate Team has become a major feature in FIFA due to the revenues it generates. It can also be addictive, with children striving to earn coins and level up while swapping, selling and buying players. Spending FUT coins to open a player pack (which many experts have likened to gambling) is designed to be an exciting act – with bright lights, fanfare and attention-grabbing prizes.

Advice for Parents & Carers

BE SELECTIVE WITH CHATS

It's enormous fun for FIFA players to chat online with friends, even as their teams do battle in the game. It's probably the safest idea, though, to restrict contact with strangers. By turning off voice chat in FIFA and allowing cross-party chat in their device's settings, your child can speak to people who are already on their friends list but won't be able to talk to (or hear) strangers online.

CONTROL SPENDING

If your child plays Ultimate Team mode on FIFA, ensure their account isn't linked to your payment methods – so they'll need your permission to make in-game purchases. Alternatively, you could use parental controls to limit spending – or set up a pre-paid 'allowance'. When excitedly clicking options on screen, it's easy for a young person to forget the real-world repercussions of online purchases.

STAY ALERT FOR SCAMS

There are some key things to remember about potential FIFA scams. Firstly, EA never contacts users via any method other than emails to the account holder (which may well be you). Neither will they ever ask for a player's username or password outside the game itself. EA's terms and conditions outlaw the buying of FUT coins, so anyone selling them should be treated as suspicious.

AVOID 'EXTRA TIME'

If your child's spending a lot of time on FIFA 23 and seems less enthusiastic about other activities in their life, you could consider restricting how long they can play for each day with the parental controls in their device's settings. Even if they're not playing on their console or computer, there's a FIFA companion app for smartphones – but that can be limited through parental controls, too.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Games Editor of technology and entertainment website Dexerto and has been working in the gaming media for three years. A long-time fan of the FIFA franchise, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have also been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar, among others.



NOS
National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.ign.com/articles/fifa-23-ultimate-team-mode-is-the-most-expensive-thing-you-can-buy-in-the-game>, <https://www.ign.com/articles/fifa-23-ultimate-team-mode-is-the-most-expensive-thing-you-can-buy-in-the-game>, <https://www.ign.com/articles/fifa-23-ultimate-team-mode-is-the-most-expensive-thing-you-can-buy-in-the-game>, <https://www.ign.com/articles/fifa-23-ultimate-team-mode-is-the-most-expensive-thing-you-can-buy-in-the-game>



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: 12.10.2022

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 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	Marissa	for her energy & enthusiasm in Phonics & contributing her ideas with a smile
	Curlews	Luna	you've made such a fabulous effort in school especially with your Maths
	Puffins	Enys	for your fantastic Dinosaur dance moves
	Owls	Hattie	for always putting 100% into everything she does
	Kingfishers	Flinn	for such a super effort in his descriptive writing
	Trencrom	Riley	for being a lovely member of our class & working so hard at his writing
	Lanyon	Sasha	for writing a wonderful Stone Age story. It was wonderful
	Kerris	Joey	for always having such a fantastic attitude towards his learning
	Bodrifty	Joe	for being such a brilliant representative of the school this week
	Bosigran	Logan Jay	for being an amazing Sports Leader & a fantastic guide for our visitors on Thursday
	Kenidjack	Alfie	for being an amazing Sports Leader ALREADY!
	Lunchtime Star	Millie J	for always having a beaming smile.

Dear everyone, it's Friday and the weeks are storming by as always, though that's simply supporting the saying 'time flies when you're having fun'. Only one week left and then the half term is upon us. I am really looking forward to my week, and I can only hope that you are too. For some parents it's easy, while for others the demands of juggling jobs with child care and everything else that being part of a busy family entails, it can be really challenging when faced with a break from school. I am still here, always available and will always make time for you. Best wishes, Mrs Daylak

Diary Dates

17th - 19th Oct	Year 1-6 Parent teacher meetings. Some clubs cancelled
21st Oct	Non uniform day in aid of FOAS
24th-28th Oct	Half term holiday
31st Oct	INSET day - school closed
2nd Nov	Swimming for Year 3 (Group 2) starts
2nd Nov	FOAS Halloween Disco

LOST

Reuben in Kerris has lost his wellies. They are blue striped ones, size 5. Please check and hand in if found. Thank you.

Mondays 4 – 5.30pm
10 Parade St. Penzance TR18 4BU



Penzance Junior Strings

for young violin, viola, cello and bass players

A **free** afternoon music club for string players, offering top quality music tuition in a friendly, engaging and inclusive environment.

Young people enjoy a range of musical activities, enhancing and growing their musical understanding and skills alongside group ensemble playing

Led by inspiring musicians and teachers Emma Stansfield & Tim Boulton

Emma combines a dedicated teaching practice in Cornwall with her work at Guildhall School of Music & Drama, Junior Department, London.

Tim is one of the UK's most experienced string teachers, sharing decades of experience with top professional orchestras and chamber groups.



www.musicabilitycic.uk



For string players of approx. school year 3 to 8 and recent beginner to grade 3

MusicAbility provides safe and nurturing activities where young people can achieve their full potential – copies of all policies can be provided on request.



**OCTOBER HALF TERM
SOCCER CAMP**

LOCATION: Marazion F.C

TIME: 9AM-3PM

DATES: 25th, 26th, 28th of October

COST: £15 per day

AGE: 7-13 Girls & Boys

Contact Jared on **07584 125 847** to book now!
(Limited spaces)



October Half Term 2022

**OPEN TO MEMBERS
AND NON-MEMBERS**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
 Holiday Club 9am-3pm £30	Pre-School Holiday Club 9am-12pm £18 Flips & Tricks 10-11am £12 Bars & Beam 11.15-12.15 £12 Badge Testing- BRONZE 12.30-1.30 £12	Holiday Club 9am-3pm £30	Pre-School 9.30-10.30 £12	Parent & Toddler 9.30-10.30 £4.50 Family Fun 10.45-11.45 £4.50
Book via our website or through the Coacha App www.penzancegymclub.co.uk 01736 449608				



FIND A ROLE THAT WORKS FOR YOU

Social care providers in Cornwall are recruiting now and want to hear from you.

Explore job vacancies today at
[proudtocarecornwall.org.uk/jobs](https://www.proudtocarecornwall.org.uk/jobs)

