



19/5/23

FRIDAY NEWS

Nº 31

Dear Parents and Carers,

Moving towards the final half-term of my career as a headteacher has perhaps caused me to be a little more reflective about the school and the day-to-day events which have been a part of my working life for so long than I might usually be.

On more than one occasion recently, I've stopped to look around during assembly or in the dining hall at lunch, and been struck by what a fantastic spirit and atmosphere there is within Alverton School. It is often hard for any of us to step outside of the moment and just observe what is going on around you (particularly when you've got a Reception child catching hold of your trouser leg with a yoghurt-covered hand desperate to tell you that they are getting a hamster for their birthday), but it is worth doing. Hundreds of young people operate in this mini community, aware of their roles and the expectations of how to treat one another, which is a massively important part of their primary school learning experience, but not one that we ever write down as part of our planning.

The way in which the children conduct themselves throughout the school is something that we often take for granted but is one of the most impressive and memorable aspects of our school to any visitor. Whether in lessons, around the school or on a visit, Alverton pupils always impress any adults they come in contact with through their excellent behaviour, politeness, and general attitude. This is a massive part of what makes Alverton such a special place to work and to learn, and it's a huge credit to you as parents and to the culture and expectations the school implicitly sets day after day.

I was reminded once again at last Saturday's Duck Race of what a fantastic parent body Alverton has. I'm grateful for the work of FOAS and to the hundreds of people who purchased ducks for the race and came along to support this annual event, helping to raise a great deal of much-needed money for the school. My overriding sense, however, was one of good fortune in being able to have led a school with such a tangible sense of community and with families who are prepared to put the time and effort into making such relatively simple events such a success.

I have no doubt that at next week's Matilda performances, I will again find myself reflecting on my good fortune at having the privilege of being able to lead such an exceptional school with such talented pupils and staff. If you're attending one of these shows next week, and you do find me a little distracted, at least you'll know why. However, I'd be grateful if, before tugging my sleeve to bring me back from my wistful thoughts, you wiped the yoghurt off your hands first. Thank you.

Martin Higgs
Executive Headteacher

Remember – safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility

If you have a safeguarding concern, please contact Martin Higgs (Designated Safeguarding Lead) at head@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

We currently have lots of items on our Help Your Shelf ready for collection which are free for anyone to take at any time.

If you prefer, you can buy a reusable bag for £1 and fill this with items from the shelf. Once you’ve bought your bag, you can fill it with as much as you want, as many times as you want. Whichever way you choose, the Help Your Shelf is available all day and you can pop in at any time.

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.

Dance Club

There will be no Dance Club next **Friday 26th May** as Steph is away. There will also be none on Friday 30th June as it is the FOAS Summer Fair.



Non uniform day and menu change

Friday 26th May

To celebrate the King’s Coronation we will be having a non uniform day next Friday. Please could your child wear red, white and/or blue. We are also holding a picnic on the school field from 12.15-1.15pm and parents are welcome to bring a rug and picnic and join their child for lunch. All parents should enter at the side gate by the nursery. **The bottom gate to the field will be kept locked for safety reasons.**

Menu change

School lunches on Friday will be a sandwich choice and sausage roll with vegetable sticks and cake or ice cream. **There will be no hot meals, jacket potatoes or tomato pasta that day.**

Well done



We are very proud of, and impressed with, Lola in Year 4 who did absolutely brilliantly at a riding competition last weekend with her pony Tiny. Well done!!



Class photos

Hatchbox Photography will be in on Thursday 25th May to take main school class photos. You will be sent information about how to order them after they have visited. Please can your child wear their smartest school uniform. Year 5 and 6 should wear their uniform to school, not their PE kit, and have their PE kit in school to change into for the afternoon.

Football success

It has been a very successful time for Alverton football in recent weeks. In the Year 3 - 4 County Cup, our team came top in the West Cornwall qualifying round winning 4 out of 5 games. This took them through to the County Finals in Charlestown. The boys played some fantastic football, winning two games, drawing one and losing one. In the end they came third on goal difference but only one point behind the winners. Mr Holcroft and Mr Coleman took the team up and were very proud of the way they played and the way they behaved. The referees made a point of commending their sportsmanship.

The Year 5 and 6 team have had an equally good season, winning all of their league games and reaching the final of the Rosewarne Shield - the only county wide competition that every school in Cornwall can enter. The game took place at Archbishop Benson last Monday and the team had some very enthusiastic travelling supporters. It was a very close game with Alverton peppering the opposition's goal with shots and headers. However, the goal just would not come and in the end Alverton lost 1-0 to Truro Prep. We are all very proud of the way the team has played and conducted themselves all season.

Mr Hammond

Duck Race thanks

Many thanks to everyone who bought ducks and came to the Duck Race on Saturday. A magnificent total of **£566** was raised for FOAS funds. The winners were Emily (Mani's Mum), Layla in Year 4 and Cody in Year 4. Thanks also to all the members of FOAS who helped with the event.



Daisy's Diary

Lemon and the Sherbets

On Monday morning I went to the greenhouse to check on the chickens and when I said good morning to the two chickens - there was three answers! Two cluck cluck clucks but one tiny cheep... Lemon had hatched a tiny chick! Later that afternoon I checked on them again and another chick had popped out! They are so tiny they look like the little fluffy chicks you buy in packs at Easter to go on top of an Easter cake. One is yellow with brown splodges and the other is bright yellow like a canary! We aren't sure what to call them yet so for now they are



The Sherbets, and they are so clever. Even though they are only a couple of



days old they can rush about and pop out of Lemon's wings and eat big wriggly centipedes twice as long as their bodies! As soon as they are big enough – probably Tuesday! – they can come in with their mum and we can all meet them! The Year Fives have helped sort out the little polytunnel in the nursery garden so when we are on the field we can look in and see the little chicks' first week at school. Also – the wrens at the top of the field have had their first chicks too, they are out of the nest and are so small and fluttery they look like little moths! I wonder if they will meet The Sherbets?

Half term holiday camp - Wednesday 31st May

DT Coaching are running a one day holiday camp in half term. This is for Alverton children only from Reception to Year 6. Sorry not siblings or friends from other schools. Information has been emailed home already but is also attached to this letter. If you are interested, please ensure your completed form and cash are returned to the office by Friday 26th May at the latest.

DT
Sports
COACHING SERVICES

Wanted

Owls class would be very grateful if anyone had a freestanding bookcase that they could use in their classroom. If you have one, please let Mrs Clive know. Many thanks.



LOST

Troy in Puffins has lost his dark blue Lamborghini cap. Please check at home and hand in if found. Thanks.



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



"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

Looking After Your **WELLBEING ONLINE**

We all know that taking care of our minds and bodies is essential to keep us feeling happy and healthy. The thing is, we spend so much of our time online these days that it's also important that we remember to look after ourselves in the digital world, too. Our poster has got some simple but useful tips for supporting your wellbeing while you're gaming, on social media or just using the internet.

TAKE CARE WHAT YOU SHARE!

CHECK YOUR PRIVACY SETTINGS

AVOID COMPARING YOURSELF TO OTHERS

TRACK YOUR SCREEN TIME

TAKE BREAKS

REPORT INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

PAUSE BEFORE YOU POST

BLOCK BULLIES

SPEAK UP AGAINST HARMFUL BEHAVIOUR

STAY ACTIVE OFFLINE

BE KIND & BE CAREFUL

GO TECH FREE BEFORE BED

NOS National Online Safety® #WakeUpWednesday

LOOK FOR POSITIVE COMMUNITIES

@natonlinesafety **/NationalOnlineSafety** **@nationalonlinesafety** **@national_online_safety**

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 17.05.2023

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

<p>Kittiwakes Curlwews Puffins Owls Kingfishers Trencrom Lanyon Kerris Bodrifty Bosigran Kenidjack Lunchtime Star Breakfast Club</p>	<p>Bowen Riley Millie Rowan Tyler B Oscar Anthony Vivian Lucie Willow Leona Arthur M Izzy W</p>	<p>for your enthusiasm in story time & for bringing your own books in you've worked so hard all year & made great progress for her beautiful art work this week for having such an amazing knowledge on a huge range of things for having a super attitude to all his learning for working incredibly hard with his writing & being an enthusiastic learner for always coming into school with a smile on his face for being such a lovely member of our class & always working hard for working so hard on the story we are writing this week. Well done for working really hard in everything she does & always having a smile for being so hard-working, enthusiastic & full of fun every day for having a great lunchtime this week for being so kind & helpful</p>
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Here is my latest pearl of wisdom - 'When people talk, listen completely. Most people never listen'. There are some people who genuinely listen, don't feel the need to interrupt and will let you do most of the talking. They are great listeners and really care about the words you need to say. I have the privilege to be able to say I have some superb friends who are excellent listeners. These are the ones you may need at various times in your life; those who listen, don't talk and show all the perfect listening signals, smiling if the time is right, commiserating if it's not, nodding every now and then, genuinely listening. It's harder than it looks. If you need a listener, someone who will really listen, let you do the talking and not butt in if you don't want an opinion, come say hi. I'm always here. Happily eating biscuits and drinking tea. Much love, Mrs Daylak



DIARY DATES

Wednesday 24th-Thursday 25th May 6.30pm	School show - Matilda SOLD OUT
Thursday 25th May	Class photos
Friday 26th May 12.15-1.15pm	Coronation Picnic - non uniform day (wear red/ white/blue) <i>Details have come home</i>
Monday 29th May- Friday 2nd June	Half term holiday