



Dear Parents/Carers

This week we need to give a special mention to our Year 6 children following their SATs assessments. No matter how hard we try and take the pressure off and reassure the children that it is 'just another day', their dedication to do their very best always adds an element of stress. All week, the children have approached the assessments with maturity and focus and I know that each child gave it everything they could. We are so very proud of them! I also want to give a special shout out to the staff for all of the work that went on behind the scenes to provide breakfast, set up the rooms, find resources, arrange a party and support children all week. Mrs Stellon, Mrs Rigby, Mrs Higgs, Mrs Williams, Miss Evans, Mrs Small, Mrs Andrews, Mrs Ashurst, Miss Jenkin, Mrs Stacy and the Queen of SATs herself Mrs Petty - we are all so grateful for everything you have done to help the week go off without a hitch! Our Year 6 children will be finishing the week with a special gift - I'm sure you will see them coming!

Today all children from Years 1 to 6 took part in a cricket workshop with Rob from Cornwall Cricket. They all had a great time and learned a lot of new skills - we are hoping to enter a few cricket tournaments over the summer to show them off! On Wednesday, Elliot, Layton, Violet and Isla represented the school in a Red Tennis tournament at Penzance Tennis Club. Miss Jones said that they played fantastically throughout and went on to win! Well done everyone - what a great achievement!

Next week is show week! We are so very excited to show off all the hard work in what will be an amazing performance.

Have a great weekend,

Nichola Smith  
Headteacher

**Remember – safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility**

If you have a safeguarding concern, please contact Nichola Smith (Designated Safeguarding Lead) at [nsmith@alverton.tpacademytrust.org](mailto: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](mailto:multiagencyreferralunit@cornwall.gov.uk)

**Clubs**

All clubs continue as normal after half term except Drama Club which has now finished. Year 5/6 Rounders club will start on Thursday 4th June for 5 weeks if your child has been given a place.

If your child was attending one of the following clubs before half term, they have now finished and the next group of children will start:  
Tuesdays - Diablo, Field Fun  
Thursdays: Gardening, Photography  
Fridays - Science  
Please check with the office if you are unsure if your child has a place.

**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 Reception children would be delighted if you have any spare sand toys that they could have for playing in their sand pit. Things like buckets, spades, moulds, small diggers, etc would be gratefully received. Please drop them into the office. Thank you.

**Calling all Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents!**

**Please can you help?**

**Thursday 21st May** is School Census Day and one of the things which is measured is Universal Free School Meals (all Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) children who have school dinners on that day. This makes a big difference to our funding so we would like to ask for your help.

**We need as many children as possible in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to have school dinners next Thursday.**

Even if your child brings a packed lunch please could you book them a school lunch for them to try?

Thursday's menu will be

**Mini planet meatballs with Out of this World tomato sauce and pasta and green beans**

**Veggie Big Bang Bangers with Cosmic mash and green beans**

**Rocket lolly**

With the increasing costs at the moment, our school budget needs all the help it can get and we would be hugely grateful for your support.

Thank you very much.

## Year 3/4 Hockey

Some of our Year 3 and 4 children have been going to Penzance Hockey Club on a Thursday after school. Yesterday there was some fantastic playing from them against Ludgvan School which was only the second time playing together. There was great team spirit and they picked up the rules quickly. Well done all! Thank you to our Year 6 children Hollie, Sienna and Joshua for helping to coach and play alongside them.



## Unclaimed bike

This bike has been left in the school bike racks by the Nursery for several months. If nobody claims it by next **Friday 22nd May** we will take it to the St Erth Recycling Centre shop. If it belongs to your family please collect it before then.



ALVERTON PRIMARY SCHOOL  
PRODUCTION



**SOLD OUT!**  
**NONE AVAILABLE ON THE DOOR.** Any returns for waiting list gratefully received.

WEDNESDAY 20TH MAY 2026 AT 6.30PM  
THURSDAY 21ST MAY 2026 AT 6.30PM

Music and Lyrics by **Elton John** and **Tim Rice**  
Additional Music and Lyrics by **Lebo M**, **Mark Mancina**, **Jay Rifkin**  
and **Hans Zimmer**

Book by **Roger Allers** and **Irene Mecchi**  
Based on the Broadway production directed by **Julie Taymor**

#### **Tickets**

£5.00 adult / £2.50 children over five.

Free tickets for pupils of Alverton School.

Please ask at the office if you have younger children  
who would like to attend.

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music  
Theatre International

All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI

[www.mtishows.co.uk](http://www.mtishows.co.uk)



## 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 & Educators Need to Know about ONLINE GROOMING

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Online grooming is when someone builds a relationship with a child or young person online to gain their trust for the purpose of sexual abuse, exploitation, radicalisation, or criminal activity – such as county lines or financial scams. According to the NSPCC, police in the UK recorded over 7,000 offences involving sexual communication with a child in a single year – an increase of 89% since 2017/18.

## STRANGERS USING FAKE IDENTITIES

Groomers often pose as children or teenagers online to build trust. They may create convincing fake profiles, share photos stolen from real people, or mimic the interests of the child. By pretending to be someone their age, they make conversations feel safe and relatable. Over time, they may ask for personal details, photos, or suggest meeting in person, exposing children to significant emotional and physical harm.

## EXPLOITATION THROUGH GIFTS AND FLATTERY

To gain trust quickly, groomers often send gifts, gaming credits, or money. Alongside material offerings, they use excessive compliments, affection, and attention to create emotional dependency. These tactics make children feel valued and special, lowering their defences. Once trust is secured, groomers may escalate their requests, often asking for photos or private conversations, making the child feel pressured or indebted to continue.

## GROUP CHATS AS HIDDEN PATHWAYS

Unmonitored group chats on platforms like WhatsApp or Discord provide a cover for groomers. They can watch how children interact, identify those who seem vulnerable, and then move conversations into private messaging. This transition makes detection difficult for trusted adults. The seemingly harmless group setting often masks the presence of predators, giving children a false sense of security.

## THE RISE OF SEXTORTION

Sextortion involves pressuring children into sharing explicit content, then blackmailing them for more. Offenders may claim to have hacked a child's device, threaten to share images with friends or family, or demand money. Many victims remain silent out of fear and shame. This growing crime is particularly dangerous because children often feel trapped, believing there's no safe way to escape the situation.

## GAMING PLATFORMS AS GROOMING GATEWAYS

Games like Roblox, Fortnite, or Call of Duty, which include live chat features, are frequent targets for groomers. Conversations often begin casually during gameplay and can become manipulative over time. Groomers may offer in-game gifts, credits, or exclusive add-ons to build rapport. Children using headsets or private chat features are especially at risk, as conversations are harder for adults to monitor.

## CRIMINAL & RADICALISATION RISKS

Grooming is not always sexual. Some offenders manipulate children into criminal activities such as drug running or online fraud. Others attempt to radicalise young people with extreme ideologies. Groomers often use fear, money, shame, or promises of belonging to control their victims. These forms of exploitation can be just as harmful as sexual grooming, and often leave lasting psychological and social consequences.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### KEEP CONVERSATIONS REGULAR

Rather than having one "big talk" about online safety, weave conversations into everyday life. Ask questions about children's online friendships and interests. Share real-life examples to make discussions relatable and encourage honesty instead of secrecy. When children feel comfortable discussing their digital lives, they are far more likely to share concerns or admit when something feels wrong, reducing the chance of risky interactions going unnoticed.

### CREATE A "TELL ME" CULTURE

Children often keep silent because they fear being punished or losing access to their devices. Reassure them that coming forward with concerns won't get them into trouble. Emphasise that you are there to help, not judge. Creating a safe, open environment encourages children to speak up if something feels wrong, and helps to ensure they don't suffer in silence when facing potential grooming risks.

### UNDERSTAND THE PLATFORMS CHILDREN USE

Take time to learn about the apps, games, and social platforms children are on. Familiarise yourself with privacy settings, parental controls, and group chat features. Use resources like The National College guides or conduct quick searches to stay updated. By understanding how these platforms operate, you'll be better equipped to set boundaries, guide safe use, and notice any unusual or concerning online behaviour early.

### STAY ALERT TO WARNING SIGNS

Be attentive to both behavioural and digital red flags. Sudden secrecy, mood swings, or new online contacts may signal a problem. Watch for unexplained gifts, new social media profiles, or changes in sleep patterns. Increased anxiety or reluctance to attend school can also be indicators. Regularly checking in and showing interest in those whom they communicate with online help prevent small issues from escalating into serious risks.

### Meet Our Expert

Staffordshire Police is dedicated to keeping people safe and tackling crime across both the physical and digital world. The force continues to strengthen its digital investigation and safeguarding capabilities to protect children and vulnerable people online, working in partnership with local, regional and national organisations, schools, and the wider community.



See full reference list on our website

@wake\_up\_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

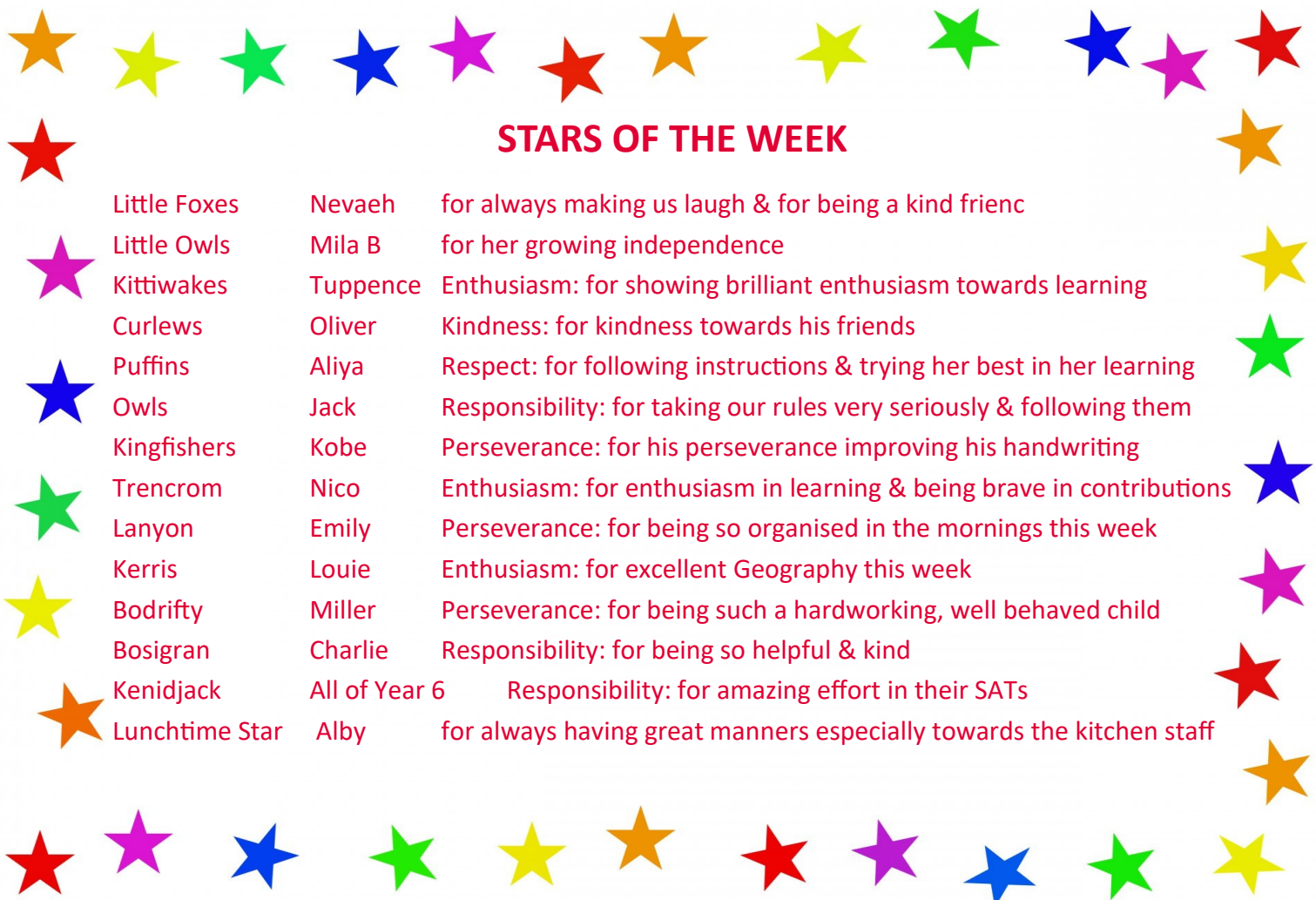
@wake.up.wednesday

@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: 18.03.2026

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](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



- |                |               |   |
|----------------|---------------|---|
| Little Foxes   | Nevaeh        | for always making us laugh & for being a kind friend                  |
| Little Owls    | Mila B        | for her growing independence  |
| Kittiwakes     | Tuppence      | Enthusiasm: for showing brilliant enthusiasm towards learning         |
| Curlews        | Oliver        | Kindness: for kindness towards his friends                            |
| Puffins        | Aliya         | Respect: for following instructions & trying her best in her learning |
| Owls           | Jack          | Responsibility: for taking our rules very seriously & following them  |
| Kingfishers    | Kobe          | Perseverance: for his perseverance improving his handwriting          |
| Trencrom       | Nico          | Enthusiasm: for enthusiasm in learning & being brave in contributions |
| Lanyon         | Emily         | Perseverance: for being so organised in the mornings this week        |
| Kerris         | Louie         | Enthusiasm: for excellent Geography this week                         |
| Bodrifty       | Miller        | Perseverance: for being such a hardworking, well behaved child        |
| Bosigran       | Charlie       | Responsibility: for being so helpful & kind                           |
| Kenidjack      | All of Year 6 | Responsibility: for amazing effort in their SATs                      |
| Lunchtime Star | Alby          | for always having great manners especially towards the kitchen staff  |

You know as a parent when your last glimpse of your child is a teary one. Tears streaming (both you and your child), grasping hold of you tightly, pleading with you not to leave them. Been there. And then you spend the whole day feeling like the most hideous person ever for not taking them home with you and rescuing them from the school they say they really don't want to be left at. But leave them we do. And then you call and ask how they are (and please do, because the lovely ladies in the office will ALWAYS come and find your child and their teacher and make sure they know exactly how your child is coping). And at least 9 times out of ten they have completely forgotten the emotional mess they were first thing at the school gates. But you haven't. You have carried that image with you all day and even the reassurance of Veryan or Adele can't quite eradicate it fully. Know that feeling? Trust me when I say I do too. I was that nightmare parent who really really struggled to leave my weeping child at the school gates. Teachers must have hated me. So I totally understand and get it. And I can listen. And I will. With tissues. Because it's hard. But know that when you leave them they're often fully settled within minutes. And know this. You. Are doing. The. Right. Thing. Because leave them you must. Because one day they will be in the big world and they will have the resilience to cope and be independent. And self-reliant. All of the qualities we want and need for our children when they grow up and become adults. So well done. It's hard, I know. But you are tough. Because you have to be to succeed as a parent. Well done and huge congratulations. Lots of love, Mrs Daylak xxx



## DIARY DATES

<b>Wednesday 20th - Thursday 21st May</b> <b>6.30pm</b>	School show - The Lion King <i>Sorry - TICKETS SOLD OUT</i>
<b>Monday 25th - Friday 29th May</b>	Summer half term holiday
<b>Wednesday 3rd - Friday 5th June</b>	Year 5 camp at Porthpean
<b>Monday 8th June</b> <b>1.30pm</b>	LKS2 Sports Day
<b>Tuesday 9th June</b> <b>1.30pm</b>	UKS2 Sports Day
<b>Wednesday 10th June</b> <b>1.30pm</b>	KS1 Sports Day
<b>Thursday 11th June</b> <b>1.30pm</b>	Reception Sports Day
<b>Tuesday 16th June</b>	Hatchbox class photos
<b>Saturday 27th June</b>	Mazey Day
<b>Tuesday 30th June</b>	Year 6 transition day at MBA & HDS
<b>Wednesday 1st - Friday 3rd July</b>	Year 6 London trip
<b>Friday 17th July</b> <b>2.30pm</b>	FOAS Summer Fair

### Upcoming Fixtures

Tuesday 19th May

Year 3/4 Football Tournament at MBA (after school)

Wednesday 20th May

Year 5/6 Tennis Tournament at Pz Tennis Club (12.30-2.30pm)





# BOOK CLUB ON THE PROM

JOIN US ON THURSDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> MAY FROM  
10AM TO 12PM, FOR STORY TELLING AND  
MAKE YOUR OWN BOOKMARK.  
ALL DONATIONS WILL GO TOWARDS NEW  
BOOKS FOR KS1 AT ALVERTON SCHOOL.  
GUEST APPEARANCE FROM MARY POPPINS



@roos\_ontheprom

**Play in a Day**  
**Tempest**  
**With a Twist**

**M**  
**MINACK**  
**THEATRE**

**Free for 7-11 year olds**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June**

**9.30am start. Performance at 4pm**

**Work with professional directors, choreographers, a musical director and makers to brave stormy seas, survive a shipwreck, and discover a little magic along the way - all in one amazing day on the Minack stage.**

**For more information and to book visit [minack.com](http://minack.com), or**

**call the box office 01736 810181**






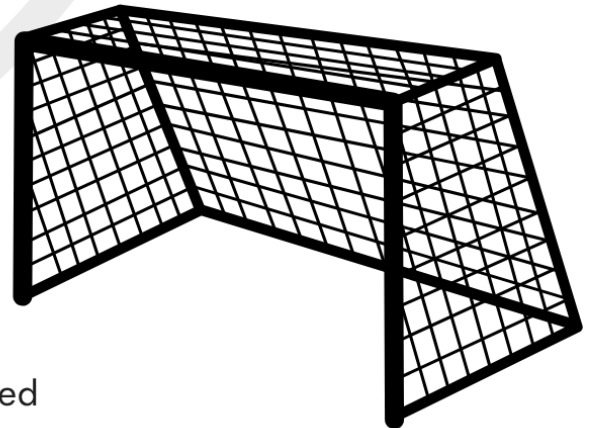
# MBFDC FOOTBALL CAMPS



## MAY HALF TERM

All children welcome to attend   
Have fun, score goals & play football!

**TUES 26<sup>TH</sup> & THURS 28<sup>TH</sup>  
MAY 2026**



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

### **TIMES / AGES:**

School Years 2 - 8  
U7s - U13s  
10am - 3pm  
£18 (1 day), £33 (2 days)

### **PLAYERS NEED:**

Packed lunch & drinks  
Wet weather clothing & spares!  
Football boots & shin pads  
Indoor Footwear (in case of poor weather!)

### **MOUNTS BAY ACADEMY 3G PITCH**

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

**Online Registration Link**  
[www.mbfdc.co.uk](http://www.mbfdc.co.uk)

Visit the MBFDC website for further details

