



6/3/26

FRIDAY NEWS

Nº 22

Dear Parents/Carers

What a fantastic week it has been! The week 'kicked off', quite literally, with Year 5's trip to St John's Hall to meet the author Tom Palmer. Tom writes children's books about sport, as well as focusing on historical fiction. The children had a great time and found the session both fun and informative.

On Thursday Year 6 took part in the annual St Piran's Day parade. I was very impressed with both their enthusiasm to parade their dance through town, and their confidence to do so in front of a large crowd! They represented the school wonderfully - well done to all!

Friday was our celebration of World Book Day. We were all blown away with the effort that went into the costumes the children wore - I don't think I have ever seen such a creative set of outfits! Well done and thank you to everyone for making the effort to make the day so special. At the time of writing this, the Oscars haven't taken place. The children worked very hard on their reviews. Teachers were very impressed at the quality of writing and the amount of time they put into making them special.

Hockey has been the sport of choice this week. We have a group playing in the league at a tournament today. The final is in Millfield and the boys have their sights set on getting through! A huge well done to them for their dedication so far, this is a great quality to have.

Next week, Year 5 & 6 girls football league starts - I know they will approach with as much energy as the boys!

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 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

**Global Boarders Surf Club
Year 3-6**

Global Boarders may run an after school surf club after Easter for 6 weeks if there is enough interest. The cost is £108 and you would need to transport your child to and from Praa Sands beach. For more information please see the email sent earlier today or ask for a letter at the office. The deadline is 27th March to sign up.

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.

Club cancellations next week

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

Monday 9th - Y1/2 Football, Y4-6 Netball, Y1/2 Construction, Y1/2 Book

Tuesday 10th - Y6 SATs Booster, Y3-6 Gymnastics, Y5/6 Art, Band with Miss Williams

Thursday 12th - Y5/6 Drama, Y3-6 Gardening

Friday 13th - Y1/2 Ball Skills, Y1-4 Dance (Steph away)

Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 Football on Wednesday 11th will be ON (weather permitting).



Easter Disco

Thursday 26th March

All proceeds
to FOAS



£2
Suggested donation
Includes crisps
and a drink

Reception
and KS1
4:30 - 5:30pm

KS2
(Year 3 and up)
6-7pm

Are you the parent or carer of a child with SEND?

Come along to our coffee morning hosted by the Family Help Team on

***Tuesday 10th March 2026 at 9:30-11:30am
at St Johns Hall, Penzance.***

**Meet with other parents/carers and have a chat with our
friendly guest professionals from:**

SENDIASS

Children's Disability Team

SEND System Navigator

Family Information Service

Parenting Worker

Targeted Youth Worker

Family Workers



No need to book, please just pop in on the day 😊



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

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

CREATIVE WAYS TO ENCOURAGE READING

Reading regularly has a life-long impact, yet recent data from the National Literacy Trust shows a decline in reading for pleasure among 8- to 18-year-olds, with just 32.7% enjoying it in 2025. Despite growing distractions, there are practical ways adults can spark a love of reading. This guide offers strategies and resources to help inspire young readers.

1 VALUE ALL READING

When we think about reading, it's very easy to picture a young person reading a fictional novel; however, reading is so much more than this. To help them understand, why not show them how to create a 24-hour reading diary? Jot down all reading and then discuss this with them. By doing this, you can demonstrate the many ways we turn to reading.

2 WIDEN THE SELECTION

Once we know reading can be varied, we need to think about the selection of reading material they can access. Visit a shop selling magazines, the library and a bookshop, and consider the range of material that is available within them. Then consider how you might broaden their reading choices, so all young people have access to a wide and varied selection.

3 GIFT A BOOK

One simple way to encourage reading is to make books feel special. Gifting a book adds value and shows it's something to be treasured. Whether it's as a reward or for a celebration like a birthday, let the young person choose a title or pick one you know they will enjoy. You could also include a personal note inside.

4 CONNECT WITH AUTHORS

Meeting authors can certainly spark an interest in their reading material. This might be through a live event in a school/bookshop or by using the wealth of online material that is now available. Encourage young people to look at ways to connect with authors using free resources such as Authorly and Just Imagine's Children's Authors Live.

5 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Access training about reading for pleasure to widen your understanding of this topic and, more importantly, how to develop it. Explore a wide range of free resources that can be found online. The more you know, the better placed you are to inspire a love of reading in others.

6 TALK BOOKS

There are times when we need silence to read and focus on our book; however, we know that reading is a social experience, so we must also factor in discussion time. Reading the same book gives two people a connection and the opportunity to voice their thoughts and questions about it. Why not buy two copies of a book and read it together? Start the connection.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

As well as talking about the content of books, we can share what we are reading or have read recently. This can often act as a trigger for someone else to explore it. How often have you watched a film or series because someone else has recommended it? It's the same with books. If you know the young person well, you can tailor your recommendations and share why you think they'll enjoy it.

8 GO DIGITAL

With the rise in online digital material, we can easily focus on the negatives; however, it also brings a wealth of opportunities. Resources can aid and enhance the reading experience for young people. They can read along with audiobooks, translate, and track their reading goals with resources like PolyIno and apps like Goodreads for older children. Augmented reality books also bring books to life and offer a great way for engagement.

9 RECONNECT

There can come a time when a love of reading seems to disappear. It does not mean it's gone forever; it generally means they have lost the connection. How do we get it back? Find the next piece of reading material that sparks their current interests. The National Year of Reading focus of 'Go All In' captures this well as it is their key theme. As children grow and change, so do their interests. A visit to the local library is a great way to support the reconnection.

10 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let them see you reading. If you make time to read, you send a strong message to children: reading matters. Share why you enjoy it. Is it to relax, escape the world, learn something new or to be entertained? When children see reading as a normal and valued part of everyday life, they are more likely to adopt it themselves.

Meet Our Expert

Carl Pattison is a literacy advisor and early reading expert at The National College. Through his programmes, he supports schools to enhance reading and writing. In addition to his independent work, he also works for a large academy trust in the East Midlands as the strategic lead for their English Hub and Literacy Excellence Centre.



See full reference list on our website

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

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YT @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: 04.03.2026

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. Your child's teacher will also always be happy to talk to you about online safety.

Year 6 London

Final payments

A reminder that all remaining payments for this year's residential trip must be paid by the following date:

Year 6 London Friday 1st April

Please log into Arbor check how much you owe and pay by the deadline date.

Any questions, please ask at the office.

As I write this I feel I'm not even going to mention the weather - for a change. I'm bored with me talking about it so I cannot imagine how fed up with me you guys are all feeling. Instead I shall embark on another subject close to my heart - the school run. I was chatting to some colleagues about it and surprised them all by telling them how much I really didn't like it and how uncomfortable it made me feel. I have no idea why I felt this way because it's not my usual character. The only

reason I can think of is that as a new parent I was feeling really shy and lacked confidence in myself because I was convinced I had no idea how to do it as well as others, plus I has so many questions. If I stood in a certain spot was I in somebody else's' place? If I made the effort to chat to parents/carers would I be shunned? I was so very keen to be accepted that I didn't make the effort and instead kept myself to myself. I probably appeared to be rude and aloof? A bit distant perhaps? When the truth was I was none of these things. So many of the other adults who came to drop off or pick up knew the system, what was socially acceptable, what wasn't, who could talk to who, what the hierarchy was. In fact, they probably all felt similar to me but perhaps had been doing it for that much longer and weren't bothered by it. If you notice someone like that maybe they're just very shy? Aloof and shy can appear to be the same when maybe, like me, all they need is for somebody to include them and say hi. Can you make somebody feel better? Can I? Come and let me know if you want to chat, or just say hi. Mrs D xx



DIARY DATES

Monday 9th March - Thursday 12th March	Parents evenings <i>Teacher led clubs cancelled</i>
Friday 13th March	No Dance Club - Steph away
Thursday 26th March EYFS/KS1 4.30-5.30pm KS2 6-7pm	FOAS Easter Disco
Wednesday 1st April	FOAS Break The Rules Day <i>More information to follow</i>
Thursday 2nd April 3.15pm	School closes for Easter holiday (normal time)
Friday 3rd - Friday 17th April	Easter holidays
Monday 20th April 8.30am	School opens for Summer term
Monday 27th April	Clubs start
Monday 4th May	Early May Bank Holiday - school & nursery closed
Saturday 9th May 11am	FOAS Duck Race at Wherrytown Boating Pool
Monday 11th - Friday 15th May	Year 6 SATs
Wednesday 20th - Thursday 21st May	School show - The Lion King
Monday 25th - Friday 29th May	Summer half term holiday
Wednesday 3rd - Friday 5th June	Year 5 camp at Porthpean