

Staffing News

We will be saying goodbye to lots of different people at the end of term.

First of all, our **Year 6** pupils will be off to secondary school. They have been an absolute delight from the moment they set foot in the school and we are very proud of everything they have accomplished over the last seven years. We know that they will go on to be hugely successful and we look forward to hearing about their many achievements as the years progress.

We also have to say goodbye to three members of staff.

Mrs O'Rourke has been working at Alverton for fourteen years and has been a very important member of the Alverton team. She has held many roles during her time at Alverton, including Key Stage 2 Lead, Music Lead and RE Lead and has been integral to our work on developing teaching and learning. All the staff will miss the support she has given us all and we really value the impact she has had on the children who she has taught.

Mrs Goddard is leaving us for new adventures! She joined us as a teacher in Puffins Class when she returned to Cornwall after teaching in China and is heading off to Dubai with her family where she and her husband will be teaching. We will miss her smiling and positive presence around the school.

Miss Roberts has recently worked in Puffins and as one of our HLTAs, working with children in classes across the school. She has been at Alverton since 2013 and is a very popular member of staff whose kind and calm nature will be much missed.

On behalf of all the staff and children, we would like to say thank you to Mrs O'Rourke, Mrs Goddard and Miss Roberts. You have all left your mark on Alverton and we will miss you all very much.

This means that we will be joined by some new faces!

Nichola Smith – My name is Nichola Smith and I will be taking up the role of Headteacher in September 2024. I am currently head at Sennen School, where I have been for the last 5 years and have loved every minute of it. Before relocating to Cornwall with my family, I helped lead a large 2 form entry Primary school in Margate in Kent, where I worked for 17 years. I live in one of the villages surrounding Penzance with my husband and am a mum to three soon-to-be teenagers and a fluffy pup called Obi.

I absolutely love my job and feel privileged to be able to do it. As well as a real passion for developing teaching and learning, I believe that building relationships with children and their families is key to a successful education, and I am very much looking forward to doing this with you all. I always put the children at the heart of everything I do because I believe they deserve the absolute best. I also have a real love for the outdoors, and am so excited by the wonderful environment you have at Alverton and what it has to offer.



Maddi Atkins – Hello! My name is Miss Atkins and I am so excited to be teaching Puffins class in September. I am very creative and enjoy bringing these skills into the classroom. I love teaching and inspiring young minds to become creative thinkers and independent learners. When I am not at school, you'll often find me walking along the beautiful Cornish coast or at the beach. I am incredibly excited to be joining the Alverton team and look forward to meeting all the children and their families.



In other changes, Mrs Wicks will be working part-time next year and Mrs Simpson will join her as Deputy Head. Mrs Hughes will no longer be teaching in Puffins and will be working part-time as our SENDCO.

Our teaching structure for 2024 – 2025 will be:

Headteacher: Mrs Smith

Deputy Heads: Mrs Wicks and Mrs Simpson

Senior Leadership Team

Key Stage 1 Lead: Mr Dawe

Key Stage 2 Lead: Mrs Clemens

SENDCO: Mrs Hughes

Early Years Foundation Stage

Nursery: Mrs Simpson (Head of Early Years)

Kittiwakes: Miss Field

Curlews: Mrs Daylak and Miss Hooton

Key Stage 1

Puffins: Miss Atkins

Owls: Mrs Clive

Kingfishers: Mr Dawe (Key Stage 1 Lead)

Lower Key Stage 2

Trencrom: Miss Green

Lanyon: Miss Bowman

Kerris: Mrs Clemens (Key Stage 2 Lead) and Ms Holliday

Upper Key Stage 2

Bodrifty: Mrs Williams

Bosigran: Mrs Stellon and Ms Holliday

Kenidjack: Mr Hammond

The last day of the Summer term is Tuesday 23rd July at normal time 3.15pm. There is an INSET Day on Tuesday 3rd September when school is closed to pupils and the Autumn term begins on Wednesday 4th September at 8.45am.

Remember – safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

If you have a safeguarding concern, please contact Laura Simpson (Designated Safeguarding Lead) at

lsimpson@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, swimming and lunches. 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 **Friday 19th July** at the latest. Please check your Schoolmoney account to see if you owe anything. All debts for lunches and for lunches on 22nd and 23rd July must be paid to Chartwells by **Friday 19th 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.

Thank you

A big thank you to Jewsons Penzance for donating all the paint for refreshing our picnic benches. We are very grateful for their generosity.

Summer holiday clubs

DT Coaching will be running a 2 day club during August at school. Please see the attached information. Please sign up and pay by Wednesday 17th July.

Other holiday clubs on offer through Time2Move can be found at:

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/schools-and-education/schools-and-colleges/school-meals/time2move-holiday-programme/>

Important information about school lunches from September

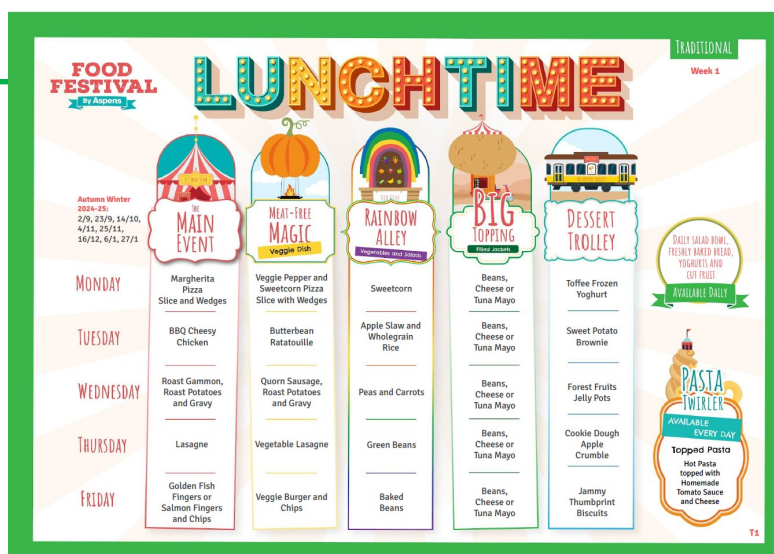
TPAT have changed catering suppliers as a Trust which means that we will have a new contractor, Aspens, from September.

The new menu from September to February half term is attached and is on the website under Parents, What's on this Term.

The cost for a lunch has not changed. It remains at £2.65 per meal.

As Chartwells contract will be ending, they have asked that ALL debts for school lunches must be paid by **Friday 19th July** at the latest. If your child is going to have lunches on the last two days of term, Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd July, you must pay for these **in advance** by Friday 19th July or your child will not be able to have a school meal and will have to bring in a packed lunch.

From September, we will be using the online Schoolmoney payment system to pay for school meals. There will be no cash or cheques accepted from 1st September. You will also continue to be able to pay an amount in advance if you wish, which will be taken off your total every time your child has a meal. Unfortunately, you will be unable to accrue a debt for lunches.



IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE LAW REGARDING PENALTY NOTICES FOR UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

I write to inform you that a new National Framework for Penalty Notices for school absence, including unauthorised holiday absence, is being introduced following changes to the law. These new Government regulations will come into effect from 19 August 2024 and will affect when penalty notices are issued in Cornwall.

What are the changes?

1. There will be a new national threshold of 10 unauthorised sessions for any reason (equivalent to 5 school days) within a rolling 10 school week period for when a penalty notice must be considered.
2. The new rules mean you will no longer be able to take your child out of school for one week's holiday without the consideration of a penalty notice being issued.
3. There will be an increase in the penalty fine from £60 to £80 if paid in 21 days. If the fine is not paid by the first 21 days, it will rise to £160 if paid within 28 days of being issued.
4. If a second penalty fine is issued to the same parent for the same child within a 3-year rolling period, the fine will automatically rise to £160 with no option to pay the lower rate of £80.
5. If a parent then commits a third offence in a 3-year rolling period, the local authority will need to consider other enforcement options available to them. This could include prosecution.

Please see FAQs overleaf with more information about how the new rules may affect you.

This law changed, introduced by the local government, will affect Alverton families.

If you have any questions, please do get in contact.

Mrs Simpson and Mrs Stacey
Alverton Attendance team

FAQs

If I have been issued with a penalty notice before 19 August 2024, will this be counted if I am issued with another penalty notice from September onwards?

No, the new limits come into effect from 19 August 2024.

If I have already booked a holiday for next year, could I receive a penalty fine at the new higher rate?

Yes, absence from school can only be agreed when the explanation of the leave of absence is considered as exceptional circumstance by the Head Teacher.

Who can be issued with a penalty notice?

- Each parent can receive a fine for each child who has had unauthorised absence from school.

- In education law, anyone who lives with a child and who has day-to-day care of the child is also considered to be a parent whether they are the biological parent or not. This will include step-parents and partners.

Do the new rules only apply to holidays during term time?

No, it applies to all unauthorised absence from school including holidays. Unauthorised absence includes other absence that has not been agreed such as truancy, arriving late after the register has closed and failing to provide acceptable reasons for absence.

How do I request for my child to have leave granted during term time?

You must submit a Leave of Absence Request form to the Head Teacher before the proposed absence (a minimum of 15 days before the Leave of absence is due to commence). Each request will be considered on its own merit, but where the leave of absence could be taken outside of the school term the absence will not be authorised. Do not assume that the absence will be granted until you have received confirmation from the school.

Do the 10 sessions of unauthorised absence have to be taken all at the same time before a penalty fine is issued?

No, a penalty fine can be issued for any combination of absences over a 10-week rolling period. They can be consecutive or non-consecutive and can span over two terms (including between academic years).

What happens if I am issued with a penalty fine and I don't pay it?

Unauthorised absence from school is an offence under S444 of the Education Act 1996. A penalty fine is an opportunity for you to settle out of court. If you don't take this opportunity, you can be prosecuted for the offence of failing to ensure your child's regular attendance.



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

FAIR PLAY AND FRIENDLY COMPETITION

In school sports, fair play and friendly competition are important for character development. Fair play embodies respect and integrity while good-natured competition balances rivalry with camaraderie. This guide addresses potential challenges — like the pressure to win — and offers practical tips on instilling values of fair play and cultivating a positive sporting environment for young athletes.

1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Parents, carers and teachers should try to exemplify fair play: demonstrating respect for opponents, coaches and officials. Children frequently learn by observing adult behaviour, so displaying a sense of fair play sets a powerful precedent for them to follow in their own actions on and off the field.

2 EFFORT OVER OUTCOME

Encourage children to focus on giving it their all, rather than basing their entire performance on whether they win or not. This fosters a growth mindset, where the journey and the process of improvement are valued just as much as the end result. It also reduces the pressure to “win at all costs”, which can be a harmful outlook in some situations.

3 SET CLEAR EXPECTATIONS

Establish clear guidelines and expectations for behaviour before, during and after sporting events. Ensuring that children understand what is considered acceptable conduct helps prevent misunderstandings and promotes a positive, respectful atmosphere.

4 HIGHLIGHT COOPERATION

Underline the value of teamwork and cooperation in achieving success. Success isn't just about individual achievements, but about how well the team communicates, encourages each other and works together towards a common goal. A strong focus on cooperation fosters camaraderie and mutual support among players.

5 DISCUSS ACCEPTING DEFEAT

Help children to understand that they can't win every contest — that losing occasionally is a natural part of both sport and life in general. Teaching them to accept defeat gracefully and learn from their mistakes promotes resilience, humility and the ability to bounce back stronger from setbacks. Taking a loss in one's stride is also an admirable trait and can help children and young people garner respect in their future life.

6 ENCOURAGE INCLUSIVE PARTICIPATION

Promote an environment where all children feel welcome and valued, regardless of their skill level. Prioritise the importance of participation and enjoyment over winning, creating a supportive atmosphere where every child can thrive and develop their abilities without unnecessary pressure.

7 FOSTER CONFLICT RESOLUTION SKILLS

Teach children how to resolve conflicts peacefully and respectfully, both on and off the field. Providing them with strategies for effective communication and problem-solving helps build stronger relationships and enhances their ability to navigate challenges, which can be a huge boon to them throughout their adult lives.

8 TEACH RESPECT

Emphasise to children the importance of respecting everyone involved in the game, regardless of the outcome. Respect for your teammates, opponents, coaches and officials helps to create a positive, inclusive sports environment where everyone can feel valued and appreciated.

9 GIVE CONSTRUCTIVE FEEDBACK

Offer feedback that focuses on areas for improvement rather than unfiltered criticism. Praise what a child has done well and advise on how to improve, rather than simply pointing out shortcomings. Encouraging a growth mindset and highlighting progress helps children to develop confidence, resilience and a desire to continue striving for excellence.

10 CELEBRATE GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP

Try to avoid solely drawing attention to children's physical performance on the field. Recognise and celebrate acts of sportsmanship, fair play and kindness, too. By spotlighting positive behaviour, you reinforce the importance of such conduct and inspire children to practise this in the future, creating a culture of respect and camaraderie within the sports community that does wonders for morale.

Meet Our Expert

Caroline Holder is a PE consultant based in Staffordshire. Having worked across all age ranges delivering PE in schools, she now trains teachers and works with schools to develop their provision and ensure it achieves maximum impact for pupils. She passionately believes in the impact that PE, sport, and activity can have on children.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/friendly-competition>

X @wake_up_weds

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@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: 12.06.2024

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 Simpson 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.

We are recruiting at the Woodland Nursery!

We are looking for a passionate, experienced, qualified (Level 2 or above) Nursery Practitioner to join our dynamic, friendly team at the Woodland Nursery, Alverton School, which is part of Truro and Penwith Academy Trust. This is a hugely rewarding role for the right person, offering great benefits while having the chance to make a real difference to children's lives.

The Nursery is open from 8am-6pm and days and hours will be discussed at interview. This role will start as soon as possible, subject to relevant checks, and is offered as maternity cover. This will include working in school holidays.

This is an exciting opportunity to join our successful, hardworking and friendly team.

The successful applicants must:

- provide a high standard of physical, emotional, social and intellectual care for children in the setting.
- give support to staff within the setting.
- work as part of a team in order to provide an enabling environment in which all individual children can play, develop and learn.
- build and maintain strong partnership working with parents to enable children's needs to be met.

When writing your application please refer to this advert and to the essential and desirable criteria detailed in the job description.

For more information or an informal chat about the role, please contact Kayla Statham, Nursery Lead on 01736 351135.

Closing date: Wednesday 17th July

Interview date: Monday 22nd July

Alverton Primary School is committed to safeguarding children and young people and the successful candidate will be required to undertake an enhanced DBS disclosure.

Please see our website <http://www.alverton.org.uk> for details about our nursery, school, including our prospectus. Our Child Protection and Safer Recruitment Policies are included in the School Policies section.

We are committed to safeguarding children and the successful applicant will be required to undertake an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, and will be assessed against the Childcare Disqualification Regulations.

For further information, application form and how to apply please see the Vacancies page on the school website.



STARS OF THE WEEK

- Little Foxes
- Little Owls
- Kittiwakes
- Curlews
- Puffins
- Owls
- Kingfishers
- Trencrom
- Lanyon
- Kerris
- Bodriftly
- Bosigran
- Kenidjack
- Lunchtime Star

TO BE ANNOUNCED ON MONDAY



I cannot understand where the year has gone, but gone it has. It feels as if one moment we were at the start of a new academic year, then suddenly Christmas was upon us, followed quickly by Easter and now we have one week and 2 days left! The speed of the year whizzing by never ceases to surprise me and I suspect the same may be said of you as parents and carers. The fact remains that the year has almost reached its end and we are all shattered and gearing up for the summer holidays. Is it exciting for you? Is it easy for you? For some of you it will be, for others, no. Child-care arrangements to be made, grandparents to be cajoled, work hours to be juggled, and that's just the practical arrangements. I haven't even mentioned the cost, the weather and the potential bickering from children who are out of routine and possibly missing the familiarity of school. How are you all? Will you be okay? Can you manage? If you feel it's too much I can't help with many things but if you want a good moan before the holidays or even if you need one after, remember I'm here to listen. Mrs Daylak xxxx



DIARY DATES

Tuesday 23rd July 1.30pm	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Tuesday 23rd July	School closes at 3.15pm for the Summer holidays
Wednesday 24th July	INSET Day - school closed
Thursday 25th July-Monday 2nd September	Summer holidays
Tuesday 3rd September	INSET Day - school closed
Wednesday 4th September	School opens for the Autumn term

Roo's

Fancy dress & craft morning

Join us at Roo's on the prom
10am to 12pm July 13th
for a morning of dressing up, crafting,
and having the best time!

All dressing up and crafts will be provided
we just please ask for a donation on the
day to raise money for new balance bikes
for reception class Alverton CP School

See ya soon!
@Roo's_ontheprom

SUMMER FOOTBALL CAMPS

12 Camps Available

Mounts Bay Football Development Centre



Summer Dates | 2024

'Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays throughout the Summer'

Week 1 : Tues 30th July, Weds 31st July, Thurs 1st August

Week 2 : Tues 6th, Weds 7th, Thurs 8th August

Week 3 : Tues 13th, Weds 14th, Thurs 15th August

Week 4 : Tues 20th, Weds 21st, Thurs 22nd August

Soccer Tots (3-6yrs)

10am - 12pm

£7 per day | £12 for 2 days | £18 for 3 days | £35 for 6 days | £70 for all 12 dates

Soccer Pros (7-13yrs)

10am - 3pm

£18 per day | £33 for 2 days | £45 for 3 days | £90 for 6 days | £180 for all 12 dates

Venue

Mounts Bay Football Development Centre
Mounts Bay Academy Sports Centre, Penzance, TR18 3JT

Other Info

All children are welcome from any school or club
Coaching staff are UEFA / FA / DBS qualified

Register

Pre-booking only, register & pay online
Visit the website for further information
Website link - www.mbfdc.co.uk

