



28/4/23

FRIDAY NEWS

N<sup>o</sup>. 28

Dear Parents and Carers,

For many years now we have tried all manner of ways to persuade those parents who drive their children to school not to drive into Toltuff Crescent and up to the school gates. We are extremely grateful to the vast majority of you that park away from the school and walk the last few hundred yards as this significantly reduces the chances of an accident involving another vehicle or a pedestrian, of which there are many at peak times.

The reality is that we seem to have a growing number of people driving down to the school gates at drop off and pick up times. Many of these cars park near the school gates, creating a situation where cars become gridlocked as they meet one another heading to or coming from the end of the crescent. Drivers then become frustrated, tempers fray and drivers resort to mounting the pavement, reversing blindly, or shouting at one another. None of these things are healthy in an environment where hundreds of parents and children are walking into school.

Today (Thursday) we had another complaint that a motorist had driven down the length of the pavement close to a large number of children in an attempt to avoid the gridlock. Parents and motorists often tell me that this is a 'ridiculous' situation and want to know 'what I am going to do about it?'

There are a few things to be aware of...

-The school was built in 1955 and no one envisaged that by 2023 car ownership would be so commonplace, or indeed that people who live nearby would want to drive their children to school. If we were building a school in Alverton now, it probably wouldn't be in this crescent. However, it is here so we need to find ways of keeping everyone safe.

- As I have been told on many occasions, Toltuff Crescent is a public road and as long as someone pays Road Tax they are perfectly entitled to drive to the school gates if they choose to. The school has no right to tell parents where or how to drive unless they are breaking the law. I've had many, many debates with motorists on the moral responsibility of being part of a community and acting in the common good. Unfortunately, not everyone is convinced by the argument that whilst driving to the school gates may be convenient for you, it is causing a potentially serious problem for everyone else.
- Some people do need to drive to the school gates, for example if either they or their child are disabled. Occasionally, people have other specific circumstances that mean they really do need to drive to the gates.

The good news is I do have a solution, I apologise that it's the same solution I've been promoting for nearly ten years; it is however the only one that I can see is going to make an immediate difference in keeping parents and children safe, that is...

## **PLEASE DON'T DRIVE INTO TOLTUFF CRESCENT IF YOU HAVE A CHOICE**

It causes problems everyday and one day someone will be seriously injured or worse.

The pupils have raised this as a concern via the Pupil Parliament and have been designing posters to encourage a change in habits. The first of these is included here and was designed by Eva Clemens in Bosigran. Thank you Eva!

Thank you in anticipation of your support,

Martin Higgs

## Remember – safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

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

## Staffing update

This week we have said goodbye to Miss Cooke who has been working in Bodrifty class. We wish her all the very best for the future.

## Year 5 camp

If your child is going to camp at BF Adventure in Penryn in June there will be a meeting next **Wednesday 3rd May at 3.15pm** in Bodrifty classroom. Information packs will be given out and there will be a chance to ask any questions you may have. Please come along if you can.

A reminder that dogs are not allowed on the school site and should be left or kept outside the school gates. Please let anyone who may be dropping off or collecting your child know.



## 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.**

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.

## Important

Please can you ensure that your child has a **named, filled water bottle** in school every day (water not squash or juice please). On sunny days please can you apply **suncream** to your child before school and send them in with a **named sun hat**.

**PE kits** should be in school ALL week and only be taken home so that it can be worn on PPA days and on a Friday for washing.

**Coats** are still needed on days when the weather is cooler. Thank you for your support.

Show You Care  
Park Elsewhere



Keep us safe!



Tolluff Crescent



Alverton Primary School  
presents

TICKETS NOW  
ON SALE!



ROALD DAHL'S  
**Matilda**  
THE MUSICAL JR.

Wednesday 24th May 2023 at 6.30pm  
Thursday 25th May 2023 at 6.30pm

Tickets

£4.50 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.

Book by  
Dennis Kelly

Music and Lyrics by  
Tim Minchin

Roald Dahl's *Matilda The Musical JR.* is presented through special  
arrangement with, and all authorized materials are supplied by,

Music Theatre International, New York, NY  
(212) 541-4684 [mtishows.com](http://mtishows.com)

## Daisy's Diary

Hurrah hurrah the chickens are freeeeee! Bird flu is over and finally the hens can have days at school. Honestly it's been awful for them. I think being bored in the greenhouse has been as bad as our worst Chicken Lows. Like when the man trimmed the hedge and Lemon fell out and ended up down The Crown. Or when Rabbit got got by the Dreadful Cat and was missing for a whole night and day and my neighbour found her walking down the road and recognised her and gave her a lift home in her car and Rabbit didn't speak for four whole days (and then it was just a buuuuuuuuur). It's just so boring in the greenhouse, even with me making it as clean and nice as possible and putting lots of compost in and reading Pride and Prejudice out loud to them (very short chapters and lots of good voices to do although we are on chapter 12 and Mr Darcy is still being a complete plonker).

It is very confusing having one of the chickens named Rabbit. I had no idea I'd ever have a rabbit as she was a surprise rabbit, so what was a jokey name is now a bit tricky as at home we call Benjamin the rabbit....the rabbit. Benjamin is also down the greenhouse at the moment as she ate through the broadband wire just before my husband had a big deadline so she's keeping a low profile.

Anyhow, Rabbit the Chicken is sooo pleased to be back at school. She has helped with the weeding and did an outdoor maths lesson.

But Lemon the Chicken is still in the greenhouse! After all those months she still doesn't want to leave because - she is sitting on 5 of the tiniest eggs you have ever seen. I got them from the flock of Serema hens (they are the same tiny kind as my girls) at Tanglewood Wild Garden and hopefully they are fertilised which means - chicks!!!! Bring it on!



## FRIENDS OF ALVERTON SCHOOL

### ANNUAL DUCK RACE

SATURDAY 13<sup>th</sup> MAY

### AT WHERRYTOWN BOATING POOL

To raise funds for the school we are holding our annual Duck Race on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May starting at 11.00am. Please come and support us. Ducks are £1 each and can be 'bought' from the office. You will be allocated a number for each duck and there will be a board with all the numbers on at the duck race. Cash prizes for the winner and runners up. Refreshments available.

Please come along to support us and enjoy a lovely, family experience.





## 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

# WIZZ

AGE RESTRICTION  
**12+**

12+ App Store  
Teen Google Playstore

Wizz is a networking app which allows users to connect and chat with other people around the world. Its principle is similar to a dating platform: users have a profile with up to three photos, along with optional interests and hobbies tags. This allows other like-minded people to be recommended in searches. If a user likes what they see on someone's profile, they can initiate conversation through the instant message feature; otherwise they swipe on. The app does use age verification technology when an account is created and groups users by age.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### OVER-SHARING

Immediately after setting up an account, users start receiving friend requests (mainly from the opposite gender). For many young people, this will be exciting and a boost to their confidence. As young people tend to be more trusting online and may believe what others tell them, however, this can lull them into dropping their guard and revealing personal information to strangers.

### CATTISHING AND PREDATORS

Wizz uses Yoti, a digital ID system, to verify users' age. The AI only detects approximate age, though – so an older person who looks younger could be grouped with teens (or vice versa). Also, profile pics on Wizz don't have to match the face of the person who did the initial age verification: it would be fairly easy to create a fake account using another person's photos with a made-up name and age.

### EXPLICIT CONTENT

During our research, conversations on Wizz very quickly turned sexual. Users frequently suggested 'taking it to snap' (Snapchat's disappearing image feature can make it conducive to sharing explicit selfies), connecting on other social media, swapping nude or semi-nude pictures, or holding sexual chats. These users created an impression of the platform being sleazy and unsafe for young people.

**18** MEET STRANGERS

### INTIMATE IMAGES

It's not unheard of for young people to be coaxed into sending suggestive images of themselves over apps of this kind. Given that Wizz connects users with strangers, who may not be honest about their real intentions, a teenager might conceivably be persuaded to share sexually suggestive selfies by someone who they believed they had a trusting relationship with.

### NO PARENTAL CONTROLS

The app claims to provide a secure and inclusive environment, but our researcher couldn't find any parental controls or safety features in evidence. If you report another user for inappropriate behaviour, you are offered the option to block them – but there's no indication as to whether the block has actually been successful, and there was no follow-up contact from the developers.

### SECRETS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Wizz sent our researcher occasional 'mystery' friend requests from a blurred-out profile. To discover the sender's identity, users can either watch a video (usually an ad for a game or app) or take out a monthly subscription. Cynics might suggest this could be a way to exploit young people's curiosity into making them pay for the app, and that the 'secret admirers' are bots rather than real people.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### TALK IT OUT

If your child has downloaded Wizz, talk to them about why they like it and who've chatted with. Have they shared any personal details with this person or connected with them on other social media platforms? Refresh your child's memory of the various risks that can arise from engaging with strangers online and get them to consider using a similar app with more robust safety features.



### BE SUPPORTIVE

When connecting with strangers on apps like Wizz, seemingly innocent chats can quickly progress to become sexually explicit and lead to nudes being sent. Make sure your child knows to come to you if they're uncomfortable about anything they've been sent or been asked to send. If they've already shared something that they now regret, reassure them that you'll support them no matter what.

### EMPHASISE CAUTION

Young people are far more inclined to see the good in others; they often overlook the fact that scammers set up fake accounts on apps like this with the intention of getting money or personal data. Remind them that not everyone online is who they claim to be, how easy it is for someone to create a bogus profile, and why it's vital to think twice about sharing anything on networking apps.



### KEEP THINGS TRANSPARENT

It might feel awkward, but regular chats about your child's online life can be beneficial. If they seem suddenly anxious or secretive around their phone or tablet, they may have something they need to get off their chest. You could also consider not allowing digital devices in their bedroom, especially overnight – that's when a lot of the riskier conversations on apps like Wizz tend to take place.



### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: [https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=info.wizzapp&hl=en\\_GB&gl=US](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=info.wizzapp&hl=en_GB&gl=US) | <https://www.met.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/sexual-offences/sexortion/>



@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: 28.04.2023

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](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](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</p> <p>★ Curlews</p> <p>★ Puffins</p> <p>★ Owls</p> <p>★ Kingfishers</p> <p>★ Trencom</p> <p>★ Lanyon</p> <p>★ Kerris</p> <p>★ Bodrifty</p> <p>★ Bosigran</p> <p>★ Kenidjack</p> <p>★ Lunchtime Star</p>	<p>Evan</p> <p>Rosie</p> <p>Arlo</p> <p>Tegen</p> <p>Matilda</p> <p>India</p> <p>Austin</p> <p>Lola</p> <p>Lily</p> <p>Olivia</p> <p>Kaelan</p> <p>Maksim</p>	<p>for amazing behaviour &amp; interactions in circle time</p> <p>for being a super member of our class</p> <p>for sharing his wonderful ideas &amp; asking great questions in class</p> <p>for always being so enthusiastic to share her knowledge</p> <p>for being a happy, hard working &amp; friendly member of Kingfishers</p> <p>for being so polite &amp; well mannered &amp; working so hard on her handwriting</p> <p>for his brilliant retrieval and questioning in RE</p> <p>for being so enthusiastic about her learning &amp; always being so polite</p> <p>for working so hard in English &amp; writing a fantastic diary</p> <p>for amazing focus &amp; hard work in the run up to SATs</p> <p>for super hard work in the run up to SATs</p> <p>for lovely manners</p>
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Where oh where is the summer? I thought it was on its way, and in some ways it is, the days are definitely getting longer and I'm loving the lighter mornings and evenings. Now all we need is some warmth and sunshine then we can actually enjoy them. I'm often really cold and this makes me, to be honest, a bit fed up. If it makes you fed up, do something lovely to feel better. And if your fed up is a bit more serious chat to somebody. And that somebody can be meeeeeeee. I'm always here, in reception class, armed with the knowledge of where the cupboard is for biscuits and, more importantly, I know where the key is. Let's open the

bourbons together. Mrs Daylak xxxx

### DIARY DATES

<b>Monday 1st May</b>	Bank Holiday - school closed
<b>Thursday 4th –Friday 5th May</b>	Year 3 Zoo trip & sleepover
<b>Monday 8th May</b>	Bank Holiday - school closed
<b>Saturday 13th May</b> <b>11am - Wherrytown Boating Pool</b>	FOAS Duck Race <i>More details have come home. Please buy your ducks at the office.</i>

Hub



JOIN THE YOUTH CELEBRATION OF THE  
**CORONATION**  
ON BANDSTANDS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

6 - 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023

**TAKING PLACE AT** Morrab Gardens, Penzance

**ON** Saturday 6 May, 1.30pm to 4.30pm



Awarding funds from  
**THE NATIONAL LOTTERY®**



Find out more at [www.mfy.org.uk](http://www.mfy.org.uk)