



6/6/25

FRIDAY NEWS

N^o. 33

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an exciting start to this half term! It may only have been a four-day week but it's been a busy one!

I have been away with Year 5 at Porthpean on camp and we have all been having an amazing time! We are so proud of the children – they have thrown themselves into all activities with enthusiasm and shown great resilience and support for each other. The children's behaviour has been exemplary and has drawn many compliments from the staff at the centre. Well done Year 5 – you have been brilliant!

Back at school, preparations from Mazey are moving apace with some children from Year 6 visiting PK Porthcurno to work with an artist on this year's main sculpture and all Year 6s working as a great team to create lots of sea creatures. Half of Year 6 have been surfing today with the other half going next Friday – it's a great time to be one of our oldest pupils!

At this time of year, we complete an annual whole school review to think about our progress and plan our actions for next year. In November, many of you completed a survey and we would be very grateful if you could find five minutes to do this again before the closing date of Wednesday 18 June. You can either click on the link or follow the QR code below. Thank you – we really value your opinion.

I hope to see many of you tomorrow at the Duck Race – another Alverton tradition! The ducks have been selling fast but there should still be some for sale before the races begin at 11am.

Next week is sports day for many children – let's hope the fine weather holds!

Nichola Smith
Headteacher

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/D7XVDN6>



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

Sun hats and water bottles



Don’t forget that your child needs a filled, named water bottle with them every day and if the weather is hot and sunny, please ensure they have a sun hat and have had sunscreen applied before school. Thanks.

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.

FOAS Meeting – Everyone Welcome!

The Friends of Alverton School (FOAS) are meeting at **6:30pm on Monday 9 June** at **The Bath Inn**, and **everyone is welcome!**

Come along to find out about our summer fundraising plans and how you can get involved—there’s absolutely no commitment, and even an hour of your time can make a big difference.

Whether you’re a past volunteer, thinking of getting involved for the first time, or just curious about what FOAS is all about, we’d love to see you there!

Contact: friendsofalvertonschool@gmail.com

Sports Days

The dates for our Sports Days this term are as follows:

UKS2 (Year 5/6)	Monday 9th June
LKS2 (Year 3/4)	Tuesday 10th June
KS1 (Year 1/2)	Wednesday 11th June
Nursery	Thursday 12th June
Reception	Wednesday 18th June

All start at 1.30pm on the school field. Entry will only be through the side gate next to the Nursery. The bottom field gate remain locked for safeguarding reasons.

Children should wear their PE kit to school on the day of their Sports Day as well as on their normal PPA day.

School lunches

Aspens have changed the menu on Thursday 19th June. **If you have already booked your child's lunch on the Select site, your booking will have been cancelled so you need to log in and re-book for the new menu.**



Welcome back! This is it! The last stretch before what some view as six weeks of fun with children to hang out with and others will view rather differently; it can be hard juggling child care, extra costs, lack of routine, unpredictable weather, questions about the next school year such as "will we like the new teacher and will my child settle" and many more. It's even harder if your child is leaving primary school and heading for the next major stage in their lives, secondary school, filled with even more uncertainties and concerns. But it will all be fine, it will settle and sort itself and before you know it you'll be reading about the end of the next academic year all over again. But until then, let's enjoy what I hope is going to be lovely sunshine, warm days, light evenings and mornings and outdoor fun. If you have questions, worries, concerns, niggles, anything that is bothering you, come and seek me out, I'm not hard to find and I won't mind. You can just come to say hi and informally ask me or tell me your worries, I'll always listen. Until such time as I'm needed, I hope to be in the sea or close to it as it's my personal favourite for mending everything, worries, blues, niggles, anxieties; it washes them away. Much love, Mrs Daylak, teacher in Reception (the one with really short grey hair and big earrings in case you didn't know) xxx

ALVERTON
SCHOOL

Tomorrow!
Please come
along!

DUCK RACE

FOAS

Saturday 7th June at 11am
Wherrytown Boating Lake

£1 per duck from the office

ALVERTON
SCHOOL

FOAS

SUMMER FAIR

SAVE THE DATE

FRIDAY 18 JULY





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 EMOJIS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Emojis are more than playful expressions — they form a fast-evolving digital language that many adults struggle to decode. For young people, this 'secret code' is central to how they communicate identity, humour and emotions. With over 5 billion emojis sent daily on Facebook Messenger alone, understanding these symbols is key to engaging meaningfully with digital youth.

GENERATIONAL MISCOMMUNICATION

An emoji like 👍 (thumbs up emoji) might seem friendly to adults, but teens often interpret it as sarcastic or passive-aggressive. These differing interpretations can create confusion or unintended tension in cross-generational conversations.

SHIELDING BULLYING OR PEER PRESSURE

When embedded in emojis, mean-spirited jokes or exclusionary language can fly under the radar. Terms like 'mid' or 'delulu' may seem harmless, but they can be used to undermine peers in subtle ways.

RAPIDLY SHIFTING MEANINGS

Emoji meanings can change overnight. A person standing emoji (🧑) once signified awkwardness but might now be repurposed for something entirely different. This ever-changing lexicon can leave adults in the dark and young people vulnerable to misunderstanding or misuse.

MASKING DISTRESS OR HARM

Some emojis are used to discreetly signal troubling behaviours. For instance, 🍃 (falling leaves emoji) or 💊 (pill emoji) might suggest drug use, while 🌸 (wilted flower emoji) could hint at emotional struggles. Such usage can obscure serious issues, making them harder for trusted adults to detect.

NORMALISING RISKY BEHAVIOURS

Emojis can make harmful actions seem light-hearted or fashionable. Strings like 🔥👤 (fire + 'woozy' face + pill emojis) may appear humorous but can reference partying, intoxication or dangerous challenges, which might otherwise raise red flags.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LEARN THE LINGO

Stay updated with emoji trends and definitions using resources like emojipedia.org or Urban Dictionary. Knowing current meanings builds confidence when engaging with young people and helps spot potential concerns early.

CREATE SAFE SPACES FOR DISCUSSION

Encourage casual chats about emojis, online slang, memes, or social media trends. Showing interest without judgement reassures young people that they can talk about their digital world openly and safely.

ASK, DON'T ASSUME

Approach unfamiliar emojis with curiosity rather than suspicion. A light-hearted "What does 🍷 (juice box emoji) mean these days?" can open conversation and show that you respect their knowledge.

PRIORITISE TRUST OVER SURVEILLANCE

While parental controls and monitoring tools can be useful, emotional safety matters most. Be someone children and young people feel they can come to — not just someone who's watching them.

EMOJI CHEAT SHEET - The following slang terms and emojis are some common examples - please be aware this isn't an exhaustive list.

COMMON EMOJIS:

- 🤡 (Clown face) Foolishness or clowning around
- 🙄 (Pleading face) Over-affectionate or 'simping'
- 😎 (Calm face) Cool, stylish or ruthless
- 👁️ (Eyes) Watching drama unfold
- 😘 (Hot face) Intense attraction or excitement
- 🐐 (Goat) Greatest of all time (G.O.A.T.)
- 😐 (Moa!) Stone-faced, unbothered
- 👉 (Nails) Confidence, sassiness, or indifference
- 👑 (Crown) 'Slaying', as in doing great
- 🚩 (Triangular flag) Red flag; a warning sign about someone's behaviour

POTENTIALLY CONCERNING EMOJIS

- 🍷 (Ear of corn) Slang for pornography (avoids censorship algorithms)
- 🌸 (Wilted flower) Often used to convey emotional struggle or sadness
- ❄️ (Snowflake, snowman, snow cloud) Can symbolise cocaine
- 🐍 (Snake) Can represent betrayal or being 'two-faced'
- 🔑 (Key, lying face) Related to cocaine use
- 🔫 (Water pistol) Sometimes used to reference violence or self-harm
- 🍃 (Falling leaves, herb, maple leaf) Can symbolise cannabis
- ⚠️ (Warning) Used to emphasise drama, threats or emotional turmoil
- 💊 (Pill) May reference drug use or prescription misuse
- 🍜 (Steaming bowl) Refers to nudas ('noods' is an abbreviation of noodles)

Meet Our Expert

Keith Broni is a globally renowned emoji expert and the Editor in Chief of emojipedia.org, the world's number one emoji resource. He has an MSc in Business Psychology from University College London and an MBA from Quantic School of Business and Technology.



The National College

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

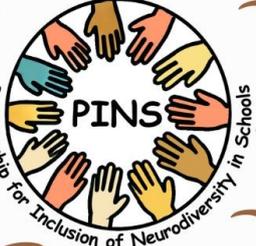
@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 04.06.2025

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.



**PINS CORNWALL
PARTICIPATION GROUP
ON FACEBOOK**



Access signposting to other events and services

Network with other parents

Get in touch with your locality worker

See upcoming events in your school and locality

Be part of the PINS community

SEARCH: PINS CORNWALL PARTICIPATION GROUP ON FACEBOOK AND REQUEST TO JOIN

Autism & the 4 areas of difference

Thursday 12th June 10.30 – 12.30pm via Teams

with Lauren Ladd – PINS Locality worker



To book please email:
georgiepc@outlook.com

Autism & Girls Workshop with
Lauren Ladd (PINS Locality
worker)




Date: Tuesday 17th June
Location: St Austell Printing Company
(PL25 4FD)
Time: 10.30am – 1pm
To book a place please email:
georgiepc@outlook.com

PINS Coffee Morning



Parent Carer Cornwall
Office (PL25 4FD)

JUNE 25TH 2025
10.30AM – 12.30PM

A chance for all the parents/families of
PINS schools to come together, talk and
enjoy a cup of tea or coffee.

Hosted by locality worker Lauren Ladd - to book
your place please email: laurenlpcc@outlook.com




DIARY DATES

Saturday 7th June 11am	FOAS Duck Race at Wherrytown Boating Pool <i>Please buy your ducks from the office.</i>
Monday 9th June 1.30pm	UKS2 Sports Day
Tuesday 10th June 1.30pm	LKS2 Sports Day
Wednesday 11th June 1.30pm	KS1 Sports Day
Monday 16th June	Class photos (Hatchbox)
Wednesday 18th June 1.30pm	Reception Sports Day
Wednesday 25th June 5pm	New Reception Parents Meeting
Thursday 26th May am	Alverton Mazey Event - school field
Saturday 28th May	Mazey Day
Tuesday 1st July	Year 6 transition day to Humphry Davy & Mounts Bay
Wednesday 2nd - Friday 4th July	Year 6 London
Friday 18th July	FOAS Summer Fair
Tuesday 22nd July 1.30pm	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Tuesday 22nd July 3.15pm	Last day of Summer term
Wednesday 23rd July	INSET Day - school closed

PENZANCE

LEISURE CENTRE

LEARN TO SWIM

Scan the QR code



Working in Partnership
with your Local Authority



Following the

Learn to Swim
Programme



KING ARTHUR



CREATE A PLAY IN A DAY

Work with professional directors, choreographer,
musical director and makers to explore a
mythical world of adventure.

22ND JUNE 9.30AM

AGES 7-11 YEARS

FREE TO PARTICIPANTS

PERFORMANCE 4PM

For more information please visit minack.com,
email education@minack.com or call the
Box Office on 01736 810181



THE MORRAB LIBRARY

CHILDREN'S SHORT STORY



COMPETITION 2025

Closing date Friday 11th July 2025.

For 4-16 year olds who live in Cornwall.

Free to enter.



More information and entry guidelines
on our website:
morrablibrary.org.uk/shortstory2025
or scan the QR code.

Instagram: @morrablibrary