

We're now into the full-on Christmas swing – we've enjoyed two lovely nativity performances this week from Kittiwakes and Curlews. We've also got the nursery nativity this afternoon just ready to ooze cuteness. It's been wonderful to see our youngest children bring the sparkle and smiles to December especially as the evenings get ever darker and the weather ever wetter. I hope everyone who has seen one of our school performances agrees – it can be a wonderful time of year!

Please help reduce dangerous traffic at our school gates

Driving to school has reached a crisis point – children are regularly in danger from reversing traffic and illegally parked cars.

We are all concerned that a child may get seriously injured if things continue as they are. I appreciate we are not 'traffic police' and so school staff have no jurisdiction over individuals driving choices. However, we are appealing to parents and carers better nature to show care and kindness in our community. Therefore would all parents help us to

- Reduce the volume of traffic by parking away from school
- Drop children away from school if they can walk in unaccompanied
- Only use the school car park for nursery children or disabled access
- Do not park on verges

I know there are many parents that are concerned about this – we have written to the local councillor, asked for the installation of speed bumps, requested signage and double yellow lines. Please would you do your best to make sure everyone is safe by following the bullet points above.

Simon Brown
Headteacher



Christmas charity collection

Our chosen charity this year for our retiring collections at all our Christmas performances is Penhaligon's Friends. This local charity supports bereaved families with children and young people in Cornwall. We would be grateful for any amount you could give. Thank you.



Cornwall Council consultation

A consultation is being run by Cornwall Council to improve road safety in and around the vicinity of the school. For all the information and how to comment, please see the attached documents.

Remember – safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility

If you have a safeguarding concern, please contact Simon Brown (Designated Safeguarding Lead) at

sbrown@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

Christmas lunch and wear something Christmassy - Friday 15th December

Bookings for Christmas lunch on 15th December have now closed. If you did not return a slip, you must send your child in with a packed lunch from home as there will not be any spare meals available on the day.

If they would like to, your child may wear something Christmassy with their school uniform (hat/decoration/Christmas jumper, etc)

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.

Key Stage 2 Carol Concert

Please don’t forget to come along to our Carol Concert on **Monday 11th December** at the Chapel Street Methodist Chapel starting at 6.30pm. Key Stage 2 children will need to arrive, in full school uniform (including ties), between 6.10pm and 6.20pm. Please do not arrive any earlier. Parents of Key Stage 1 and EYFS children are also very welcome to attend and to bring their children along.

In order for us to have our final rehearsal at the church, the children will have lunch then walk to the church. We would like to ask you please **to arrange for your Key Stage 2 child to be collected from the church on the afternoon of Monday 11th December at 3.15pm. Please share lifts if possible.** A letter has also been sent home to all KS2 children about arrangements.

Miss Mason's Magical Moments

One more Friday to go before we have had our first full term...where has the time gone? It feels like we have had such a busy term and I cannot wait to see the progress we make and have already made this year.

I am also reminded by the wonderful community we have around us who are so generous. LBS outside St Just kindly donated some wooden pallets for us which I have made into two compost bins. Composting is a wonderful and low cost way to give back to nature, and this will be a great first step in making our school an Eco-School. I must also thank the children who helped to clear the space and help build the bins. I cannot wait to get more of the school involved in composting!



My last full week of Outdoor Learning is next week is going to be with Kingfishers, Kerris, Kenidjack and Bosigran. The rest of you I will see you in the New Year. Until next week, take care - Miss Mason xx

The Christmas holidays are fast approaching and that means it's time for **Christmas Holiday Reading Bingo!** Just complete all the challenges, get them signed off by a grown up and you could be in with a chance of winning a voucher for the fantastic Edge of the World Bookshop! You'll find the bingo sheet attached to this newsletter or just ask at the office if you'd like a paper copy. Happy reading!



FOAS Christmas Jumper Swap

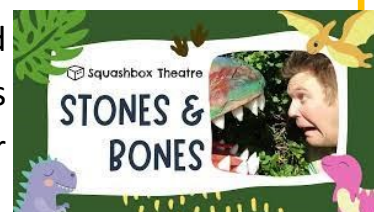
Save money and help the environment by taking part in the FOAS Christmas Jumper Swap.

From Monday 4th December: Bring preloved kids Christmas jumpers to the uniform rail in reception.

From Monday 11th December: Help yourself to a preloved jumper from the uniform rail in reception.

Squashbox

All the children in the school had a fantastic time yesterday afternoon watching the Squashbox show "Stones and Bones". Many thanks to FOAS for organising and paying for this Christmas treat for our children.





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

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.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Little Foxes	Teddy	for involving everyone in his play
Little Owls	The Whole Class	for their outstanding work in their first ever Nativity
Kittiwakes	Toby	for joining in with the Nativity so brilliantly
Curlews	Felix	for singing in the Nativity & all round super effort in all we ask of you
Puffins	Rosie	for always listening well & being a fantastic member of Puffins
Owls	Xavi	for such super progress in reading over the last term
Kingfishers	Ruby	for her positive attitude to all her learning & her beautiful handwriting
Trencrom	Kitto	for always working hard & having a positive attitude
Lanyon	Iris	for her beautiful singing all week when practicing for the Carol Service
Kerris	Elsie-Rae	for having such a mature attitude in school
Bodrifty	Noah	for being a hardworking and fantastic member of the class
Bosigran	Ava	for always working hard & showing kindness to everyone
Kenidjack	Alarna	for such a brilliant attitude to her learning this week
Lunchtime Star	Jacob H	for being such a kind friend

I'm so very sorry I haven't written for a couple of weeks (don't you just love my assumption that you've even noticed?). Well, if you have, apologies. If you haven't, let's quickly move on...talking of which, where is the term going? Can you believe it's coming to an end? And the next holiday is looming fast, with all that it brings?



The pressure may be on for some of you to spend, spend, spend. Perhaps money you don't have. It can be hard to resist the temptation to buy things, and things, which may well be forgotten soon after they've been unwrapped. I was recently given a thank you gift and it's inspired me. It was a small pebble, plucked from our local beach, roughly the shape of a seal. It had been painted to look just like a little seal lying contentedly on the beach, like they do. I know the giver of my seal doesn't have much money, and she's incredibly creative, either because of, or regardless of, her financial situation. But it reminded me that the best presents are the hand-made gifts. Always. So perhaps this is the time to be crafty, in more ways than one. If you see me on the beach I may well be searching for pebbles that look like seals, or anything else that takes my fancy. If you feel something is all too much, if anything is getting to you, come and find me. I won't always be on the beach, but I will always be here for you.

Take care, Mrs Daylak xxxx



PS - my seals won't look this good, trust me

DIARY DATES

Monday 11th December 6.30pm	KS2 Carol Service at Chapel Street Methodist Chapel
Wednesday 13th December	Nursery pupils Christmas lunch
Thursday 14th December 9am at the Savoy Cinema	Year 5/6 cinema trip <i>Letters have come home. Please return the permission slip & pay online asap</i>
Thursday 14th December 2pm and 6pm	KS1 Christmas performance - school hall <i>Details to follow for KS1 parents</i> <i>Please can children attend both performances</i>
Friday 15th December	Pupils Christmas lunch (main school)
Monday 18th December 9am at the Savoy Cinema	Year 3/4 cinema trip <i>Letters have come home. Please return the permission slip & pay online asap</i>
Tuesday 19th December 3.15pm	Last day of term for main school and Woodland Nursery
Thursday 4th January 8.25am	First day of Spring term for main school and Woodland Nursery
Monday 15th January	Clubs start

Lost property box

The lost property box needs emptying and any un-named items will be taken to the charity shop at the end of term. If your child is missing something, please come in and check the box before 19th December.

LOST

Sid in Kerris has lost his red PE hoodie, size 9-11 years. It is named. Please check and hand in if found. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS FOOTBALL CAMP

Festive Football Fun @ MBFDC



Date

Friday 22nd December 2023

Soccer Tots, 3 - 6 Year Olds

School Years Reception & Year 1
10am - 12pm
£6.00

Soccer Pros, 7 - 13 Year Olds

School Years 2 - 8
10am - 3pm
£15.00

Venue

Mounts Bay Football Development Centre (MBFDC)
Mounts Bay Academy Sports Centre, Heamoor, Penzance, Cornwall, TR18 3JT

Other Info

All children are welcome to attend from any school or club
The MBFDC coaching staff are UEFA / FA qualified & DBS checked

Register

Pre-booking only, register & book online
Visit the website for further information!

Website link - www.mbfdc.co.uk



CORNWALL CRICKET CENTRE

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CAMPS

Softball £15, 20th Dec, 10am to 3pm for school years 1 to 4.

<https://booking.ecb.co.uk/d/zpqdnw>

Hardball £20, 21st Dec, 10am to 3pm for school years 4 to 8.

<https://booking.ecb.co.uk/d/hpqdnx>



SOFTBALL



HARDBALL

www.cornwallcricket.co.uk