



"Learning that lasts a lifetime"

Newsletter

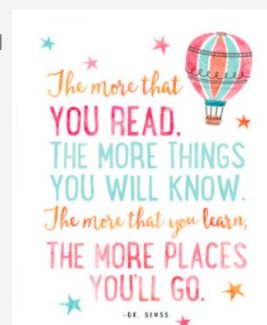
HEAD'S BLOG

I hope you all had a relaxing half-term break, despite the wet and windy weather. I'm very much relieved to see some sun and blue skies sticking around for a bit!

I am sure the vast majority of you will be pleased that the government announced on Monday that primary schools are to fully reopen from Monday, 8th March. We are really pleased too and can't wait to welcome everyone back. Obviously, this has to be done safely, adhering to the operational guidance that the DfE has issued. We have therefore been reviewing our risk assessments, procedures and plans to ensure that the transition back into school will be as smooth as possible. We will send out full information about how we will meet the guidance as a 'Parent Guide' early next week. There are very few changes, you'll be glad to hear! In addition, wraparound will be recommence and bookings will open on Monday. Please read the booking letter for full guidance on this, which we will send out on Monday too.

We would like to support everyone as much as possible to ensure a smooth transition back into school life. To help us with this, please complete the very short survey [here](#). We understand that there may be some anxieties about the return and we will support families to ease any worries. If you feel you or your child are particularly anxious and need support, please contact your child's class teacher on Class Dojo. Alternatively, you can call the office or email bishopbronescombe.secretary@celticcross.education to request a call from a member of our Senior Leadership Team.

In the meantime, remote education and key worker provision continues as normal. As before, engagement is really good and we have loved seeing your Reading Challenge creations! The reading fun doesn't stop though—it's World Book Day next week and Mrs Bray has been working with teachers to provide a wealth of activities relating to a wonderful book by the fabulous author, Oliver Jeffers. Some information to help you make the most of the day can be found later in the newsletter.



Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Ms Carmichael



Relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education

In 2020, the DfE introduced a new curriculum for Relationships, Sex and Health Education. Schools should start teaching this as soon as they meet the statutory requirements and at least by the beginning of the 2021 summer term. As you will know, for many years this aspect has been a feature of our Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship Education (PSHCE) curriculum and we have reviewed the new guidance to ensure we meet the new statutory requirements. Our curriculum mainly draws upon the Cornwall / Brook resources to ensure it not only meets the needs of our pupils but also reflects the community in which we live. We are obliged to consult with parents and have therefore published our policy and parent information on our website for you to view. You find this [here](#).

Should you wish to make comment or ask questions on this, we ask that you do this via our online suggestion box [here](#). This will remain open until Friday, 5th March.

NOTICES

World Book Day

Thursday 4th March

We will be celebrating World Book Day which is next week, Thursday 4th March. If you are at home, your class teacher will post what is happening that day on Class Dojo, just as they would any other day. However, on World Book Day, all the learning will be about books and reading, there won't be other subjects. Details about what is happening were sent via Class Dojo on Thursday.



We won't be dressing up, either at home (unless you want to) or at school – there are lots of things we are having to deal with at the moment, without the stress of having to come up with a costume. We will do 'dressing up' when everyone is back and school and we can see each other! Just like any other day, we would love to see what you get up to on World Book Day, so please post photos on Class Dojo.

Can you help?



We would love to have a reading shed – a comfortable and sheltered place outside for children to read. If you know of anyone who is looking to replace or no longer wants their shed, we might be interested. It would need to be in reasonable condition and would need to be relatively big – 8ft x 10ft or thereabouts. Please can you contact the school office, if you think you can help us.

[Menu change for Friday 5th March!](#)

To mark St Piran's Day next week there has been a change in the menu.

Please order as usual via ParentPay.

caterlink
feeding the imagination

**Cornish steak patsy
with chips & beans
or
Jacket potato**

Cornish Shortbread

ST. PIRAN'S DAY

5TH

March

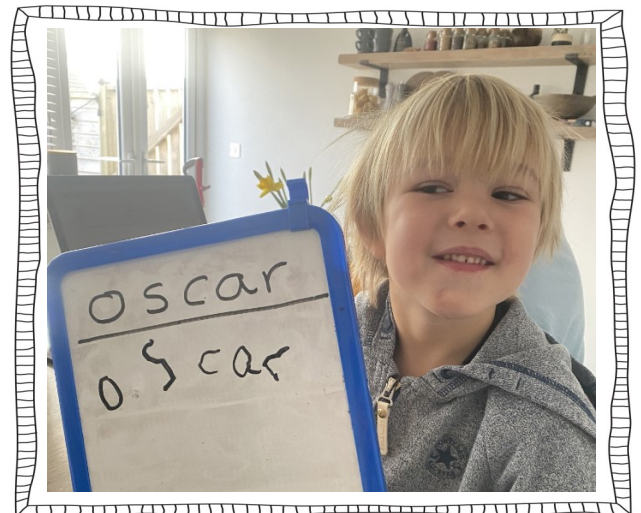
Early Years and Key Stage 1 'WOW work'

Exploring shape through 'tap a shape' - a great way to develop maths and fine motor skills



Busy making delicious cakes this week focusing on counting and measure skills.

Well done on writing your name here!



Learning about the 4 UK countries and their capital cities this week

Fantastic representations of the 4 UK countries and their flags.

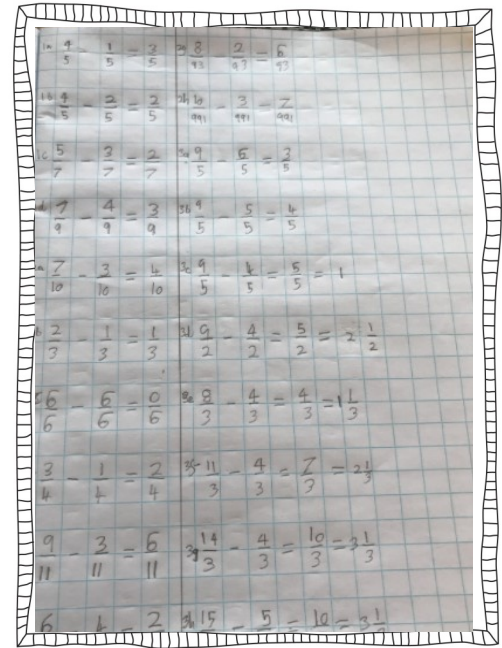


Key Stage Two 'WOW work'

Elizabeth carefully painting the clay model she created this week.



Amazing fraction work from Tyler.



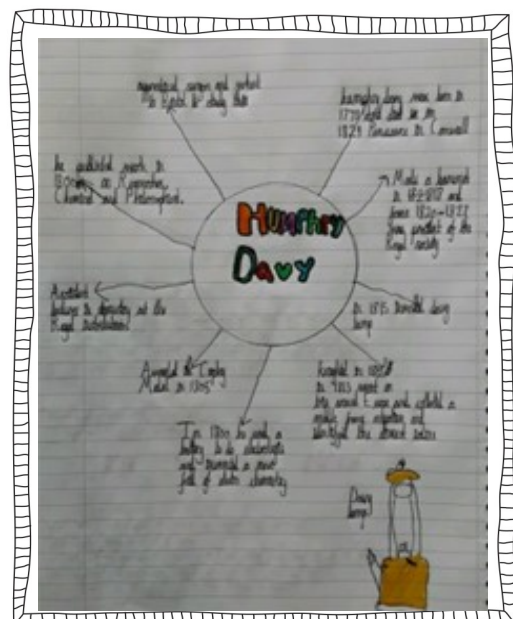
Rowan is busy concentrating on how to maintain a pulse when using your voice and body.



Year 3 and 4 have engaged brilliantly in music this week!



Take a look at Morveren's creative representation of the Last Supper



Dylan has been doing some fantastic research on a Cornish historian for this week's topic work- great work!



This week's Achievers



BBeebies

Isla

For super independence putting on her all-in-one suit and showing real determination when practising writing her name.

Rainbows

Violet

For her enthusiasm and perseverance with all her learning. She always tries her best and is a fantastic role model to her peers!

Stars

Jowan

For engaging in lots of different home learning activities!

Year 1

Ami

For engaging in work with a constant spark and enthusiasm.

Year 2

Emily

For working so hard in school and sharing her ideas in class.

Year 3

Poppy

For her incredible food technology project

Year 4

Cathryn

For excellent engagement and presentation in all of your work.

Year 5


Grace

For engaging with home learning and producing some lovely work this week. Well done Grace!

Year 6

Morveren

For her creative interpretation of The Last Supper using her Sylvanian family as inspiration.



PARENT SUPPORT

Parent/Carer 'Time to Talk'

Monday 1 March, 12:00-13:00

For families encountering child anxiety, challenging behaviour or living with a child with additional needs or diagnosis.

On Mondays throughout March, we are offering families who are encountering challenges a safe space to come together for advice and support..

Parenting is a big enough challenge without feeling isolated, alone or misunderstood. You may be having a specific issue or perhaps would just benefit from chatting with others who may really understand the kind of challenges you've encountered.

If you have a specific topic that you'd like to see being discussed please contact Terri-Anne.

I will plan to move the times around each week to try to accommodate more people - please do message/comment if you have a preference.

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YmFmNDk4ZTk4ZTUzOS00N2FiLWI5MjQ0ZDc0ZTk4ZW1MjEz%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2201398f75-2fae-4e02-9926-832eec032036%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22d712396d-8d9e-4345-ba47-02ca6d01e0bb%22%7d

BB-Conn-ect Virtual Coffee and Chat

Wednesday 3 March, 12:00-13:00

Finding ways to Connect with others continues to be so important right now.

Meet (from the comfort of your own home) with our Parent Support Advisor Terri-Anne for an informal, warm and friendly opportunity to chat

We are trialling setting these with the link below but would appreciate it if parents hoping to attend can let Terri-Anne know by texting 07903 613074.

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_Y2RhYzIxZTEtMTIjNi00MzRiLWI4NGYtNmQ1YjJN2FmMTBj%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2201398f75-2fae-4e02-9926-832eec032036%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22d712396d-8d9e-4345-ba47-02ca6d01e0bb%22%7d

PARENT SUPPORT

What is the Covid Winter Grant Scheme?

To help and support “Stay at Home” guidance we can help with staying warm—help pay for household energy (heating oil, LPG gas, gas, electric, solid fuel, wood or coal) and other relevant essential household items:

Community Energy Plus have said that

“Help is targeted to householders living in property tenure on low income ([less than £30k after housing and energy costs](#)) who are in economic hardship due to COVID-19 and living in cold homes.”

[Winter grant application—CEP \(\[cornwall.gov.uk\]\(http://cornwall.gov.uk\)\)](#)

If anyone would like support to fill out the form please get in touch so that we can link you up with someone that can help. Text Terri-Anne on 07903 613074.

Alternatively you can contact advice@org.uk or Freephone 0800 954 1956

Cornwall Council say:

“Many residents we are working with are facing financial hardship due to the impact of the pandemic and many are struggling to put on the table, stay warm and buy essentials.

The Covid Winter Grant can be used to provide financial help to any households we are working with who are facing financial hardship and who would benefit from support with things like:

- Energy and water bills for household purposes (including drinking, washing, cooking, central heating and sanitary purposes) and sewerage.
- Other essentials (including sanitary products, warm clothing, soap, blankets, boiler service/repair, purchase of equipment including fridges, freezers, ovens etc.)

The Energy Element of the scheme—provided through Community Energy Plus

They are able to provide the following practical help:

- Pre-pay energy meter vouchers
- Payments to energy supplies
- Deliveries of heating oil, bottled or bulk LPG and firewood
- Heating repairs
- Heated blankets
- Emergency plug-in radiators

Applicants will also benefit from advice to help reduce their energy bills, including tariff switching, claiming the £140 discount from their energy supplier, access to grants for heating and insulation upgrades and referral/signposting to other partners for wider assistance and advice.

Please note—The Winter Grant is available on a first come first served basis and must be awarded by 31 March 2021.

PARENT SUPPORT

Early Help Newsletter – Spring 2021

Information Classification: PUBLIC

Parenting Update

Online Parenting Support

We are continuing to support parents and carers and offer interactive parenting courses online. We are reviewing all groups continually within the guidance to ensure we are offering a full service to parents in the safest way.

Service requests are made through the Early Help Hub.

www.cornwall.gov.uk/earlyhelphub

The courses available are:

- Being Passionate About Parenting - Early Years 1 - 3 years
- Being Passionate About Parenting 4 - 11 years
- Being Passionate About Parenting with a basic introduction and an awareness to ADHD 5 - 11 years
- Being Passionate About Parenting with a basic introduction and awareness about the "Spectrum" 5 - 11 years
- Being Passionate About Parenting - The Teenage Brain 12 - 17 years
- Take 3 - Supporting Teenagers 12 - 17 years
- Incredible Years - sessions include Understanding behaviour and discussing positive strategies, promoting self-esteem, developing routines, problem solving, looking at communication and strengthening parent /child interactions. At present Incredible Years is delivered for Parents/ Carers of children 3 to 5 years and 6 to 11 years.

Family Work

Early Help Family Workers provide support for families with children aged pre-birth - 12 years with their consent.

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/childrens-services/early-help/parents/>

Youth Work

Early Help Targeted Youth Workers provide support for young people (aged 13-18 years) with their consent.

For more information please see below:

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/childrens-services/early-help/parents/>

Family Information Service and Parenting Podcasts

For useful parenting information please access the Family Information Service website (search understanding feelings and emotions) and Parenting Podcasts - (search Podcasts) www.supportincornwall.org.uk

Solihull Parenting

As well as a range of free courses The Solihull Approach have released a NEW online course for TEENS: 'Understanding your brain' (this programme is for teenagers) We think they will find it fascinating!

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/childrens-services/childrens-community-health/free-online-parenting-courses-the-solihull-approach/>

Home-Start Kernow Groups

With the new lockdown, we understand that families might be under further stress at home and have expanded our groups to include Under 8's now at home due to the restrictions.

We continue to offer a Baby, Toddler and Twins and Multiples group, as well as a Parent-to-Parent support groups for families in Cornwall.

The sessions are usually 1 hour each and run for 6 weeks, using Zoom.

If you would like a referral form and any further details, please get in touch or visit our website -

<http://homestartkernow.org.uk>

Parent Advice Line

Do you need some support and advice to understand your child's needs and behaviour?

- Advice on positive parenting
- To understand the importance of routines for your family

Follow the below link to find the relevant contact details for your local area.

<https://www.supportincornwall.org.uk/kb5/cornwall/directory/service.page?id=IVXuaOkj1Mg>

Bump to Baby

An ante-natal course - all presentations are available to watch here

<https://www.supportincornwall.org.uk/kb5/cornwall/directory/advice.page?id=3eUP45FLH3>

Parent Support Pages
[Emotional Resilience for Parents and Carers - Cornwall Council](#)

The page is updated weekly to include relevant content to help Parents/carers and child(ren). It is full of ideas and resources and links to many useful websites, blogs and podcasts.

Contact us

Email:

North Cornwall Family Hubs - northcornwall.familyhubs@cornwall.gov.uk

Caradon Family Hubs - caradon.familyhubs@cornwall.gov.uk

Restormel Family Hubs - restormel.familyhubs@cornwall.gov.uk

Carrick Family Hubs - carrick.familyhubs@cornwall.gov.uk

Kerrier Family Hubs - kerrier.familyhubs@cornwall.gov.uk

Penwith Family Hubs - penwith.familyhubs@cornwall.gov.uk



Together
for Families

www.cornwall.gov.uk



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Supporting Primary Aged Children

An informative and practical workshop, designed to equip you with playful strategies for supporting anxious children. This interactive session will teach you how to use playfulness, games and mindful activities to support your child's emotional development. Whilst helping you to harness and enjoy your own playfulness.

- Understand the influence stress and anxiety has on the body.
- Learn how to support your child to recognise and regulate their emotions in fun and engaging ways.
- Learn how to access a playful presence, harnessing your own creativity and playful spontaneity.
- Connect with likeminded parents, teachers and carers who are passionate about play, mental health and preventative interventions.

DETAILS

Date: 4th March 2021
Time: 7-8.30pm
Where: From your living room via Zoom
Price: £10

CONTACT

w: www.thebestmedicine.co.uk
e: thebestmedicine@outlook.com
t: 07540954269

ONLINE SAFETY



What Parents & Carers Need to Know About

AVAKIN LIFE

12+
App Store
Rating

Described as a place where teens and adults can make new friends, Avakin Life is a mobile game that has more than 1.4 million daily users. The game lets players create a virtual avatar (an 'Avakin'), style it in fashionable outfits, buy and decorate properties, and interact with others in communal spaces. It's this social aspect which has caused safety concerns, with many parents and carers unsure if the game is suitable for teenagers at all.

Age Rating

Listed as 12+ on the iOS store (and 'Teen' on Google Play), Avakin Life asks for a player's age at the start – but doesn't ask them to verify it. The game states that players found to be a different age to the one entered will be banned, but all that's needed to create an account is an email address, which anyone can set up. This has led to cases of adults entering the game under a false identity to groom children.

Adult Themes

Avakin Life is full of suggestive and adult themes. While the game itself leans into ideas of gambling (users are encouraged to spin a prize wheel for free coins each day) and customising avatars with revealing outfits and seductive dance moves, the primary risks stem from other users. The in-game chat can often move onto sexual topics, while depression, suicide, and disabilities are discussed openly.

Potential Addiction

MMO (massively multiplayer online) games like this have often raised worries over their addictive gameplay. Avakin Life employs lots of techniques to prolong its appeal. Glamorous in-game rewards for playing, unlocking exotic new items and levelling up can all give a feeling of accomplishment that can quickly become consuming – especially for those who aren't aware of the signs.

Advice for Parents & Carers

Block and Report

Other players can be blocked by clicking on their in-game avatar, selecting their name and going to their profile. Blocking the player means they can't contact your child or be put in the same social space again. Players can be reported by repeating these steps but selecting 'Report' instead of 'Block'. Follow the on-screen prompts and your report will be assessed by a human member of the development team.

Warn about Strangers

Young people should not be communicating with strangers: that's as vital a lesson online as it is in real life. This game has a less-than-stellar reputation for attracting predators and scammers who prey on the innocence of younger players. Talk to teens about how not everyone online is who they claim, and make sure they know how to deal with such situations if they occur. Report, report, report!

Download It Yourself

Avalon Life is a free download, so if your children use it or are talking about it, you could try it yourself: see how it works and if you feel it's safe. If you're not convinced, explain that to your child. Listen to what they think about the game; discuss alternatives that might be safer. If a device has parental controls that prevent age-restricted apps being downloaded, it's best to set them up as soon as possible.

Be Alert to Addiction

If you're worried your child might be addicted to an online game, it's vitally important to intervene before it's too late. A child may become irritable when not playing, lose interest in other hobbies and personal hygiene, and stop seeing friends or communicating with others outside the game. If you spot any of the symptoms of gaming addiction, it might be wise to limit (or stop) time on the game.

Disable Payment Methods

It's easy to make an accidental purchase on mobile games like *Avakin Life*; children might not even realise they're spending actual money on in-game items. Ensure that whatever device your child is using to play doesn't have any credit cards or other payment options linked to it. If you do notice that money has been spent without your permission, the game's website states you can apply for a refund.

Meet Our Expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for five years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINOBLE. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



<https://www.common-sense-media.org/app-reviews/avakin-life/#user-reviews/adult>, <https://www.ferret.com/app-reviews-for-parents/avakin-life>, <https://www.fathandsafety.org/games-reviews-latest-publisher/niwa2asack/voocontent/avakin-life/#inlet/Redirectfalse>, <https://nomashitecoms/nhs.uk/using-gaming-addiction>



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Safety®**

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