



Veryan CofE Primary School News



Friday 12th March

Veryan, Truro, Cornwall, TR2 5QA
veryan.secretary@celticcross.education

Message from Ms Jarrett

Unbelievably, we are coming to the close of our first week back in school—it seems to have flown, and I am thrilled to say that our pupils have been incredible—as parents and staff we should be extremely proud of them! All the children have shown a fantastic attitude to coming back into school; embracing change, engaging in lessons and reminding us all of the importance of being together. Well done to all of the children for making this first week such a pleasure and well done to parents and staff who have supported and encouraged along the way!

It's super to see everyone back in school and the activities already underway; as well as watching events begin to fill the calendar again for later in the year. You will see in this newsletter that our calendar dates section is back as events and activities can begin to tentatively re-start and we can make 'pencilled in' arrangements for trips and visits. Don't forget our 'repeat' World Book Day this week to show off our costumes and share our favourite words and books with each other, as well as Comic Relief next week.

I hope you all have a restful weekend; I imagine many of our children will be feeling quite tired by the end of the week after getting used to being back into another routine, so please enjoy spending some 'down time' together and perhaps a few Mothering Sunday treats to look forward to!

With very best wishes
Caroline Jarrett

Reminder—Please remember to keep the school informed of your most up to date emergency contact details and those of extended family/trusted adults we hold. Please email any changes to:
veryan.secretary@celticcross.education



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Mrs Green has availability for piano and woodwind lessons which have re-started on a Tuesday morning in the village hall following Covid-19 regulations and hygiene guidelines.  
Please see Mrs Green (Charlie and Archie's mum) or contact via school for more information.  
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Please can we remind parents/carers that our re-opening plan sent home for this week's wider opening of schools stated that:

"All parents & carers must wear a face covering when dropping off/picking up."

It is one of many steps we can take to try to minimise the spread of the virus, keep our school open and the children and staff safe.

Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding.





Kiberick back in full swing from the first lesson; reading with Mr and Mrs Webb at the field. As you can see we had idyllic weather for this activity.



Pendower Class—Don't forget to bring your wellies and water-proofs for visiting the Wild Tribe field on Monday!

RE resources box

Miss Goodall would like to put together a new RE resource box but we are a little short of a few items and wondered if anyone had something suitable laying around at home that they might consider donating?

We need the following (small items to fit together in a shoebox)

- * A Virgin Mary figurine
- * Small crucifix
- * Small Celtic Cross

If you can help please contact veryan.secretary@celticcross.education. Thank you!

Calendar dates for Spring/Summer term



March

12th—Wear your World Book Day costume to school.

19th—Comic Relief day: wear red for the day £1 donation on Parentpay.

29th—4th April - World Autism Awareness Week

April

End of term—Friday 2nd April

New term begins—Monday 19th April

INSET Days

2020-21

1st April - schools open as day exchanged for
28th November 2020

11th June 2021

2021-22

Monday 6th September 2021

Tuesday 7th September 2021

Monday 1st November 2021

Monday 25th July 2022

Tuesday 26th July 2022

Our previous supplier of school milk is no longer able to serve Veryan School. We have made alternative arrangements for our Under 5 children who would like a portion of milk to still receive this under the Government NMRU scheme, as well as providing for our Free School Meal children.



To ensure we only buy what we need and to avoid waste, please inform veryan.secretary@celticcross.education if your child is in receipt of Free School Meals and **would** still like to receive their 189ml portion per day. Equally, if your child is Under 5 and **would not** like to receive a 189ml portion please contact us to update our records.

If you receive correspondence from our previous supplier 'CoolMilk' these can be disregarded as the company no longer has a supplying dairy able to cover Veryan School.

Welcome to our new School Monitoring Council (SMC) member

My name is Sam and I'm a stay at home mum to a little girl who currently attends the nursery at Ladock C of E School. My working background is in business administration with many years experience gained in diverse working environments.



There is so much organisation that goes into providing a full broad educational experience for our children and helping young people achieve their full potential. Ladock & Veryan C of E Schools strive, continuously, to provide the best opportunity for our children to succeed whilst helping them grow into responsible and caring individuals. I hope my contribution helps to support this effort.



Comic Relief—Friday 19th March



Next Friday we will be taking part in all sorts of activities to celebrate and raise funds for Comic Relief.

You will have seen that there is a payment item on Parentpay for any donations in lieu of:



https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/45769379/winter-grant-application_cep-form_interactive_final_2.pdf

Reminder that applications for the Covid Winter Grant will close on **March 31st**. This was set up to help those most in need across England with the cost of food, energy and water bills.

More information can be found at <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/winterwellbeing>

Or follow the link above to the online application form.



Why not get out in the fresh air and get creative with our

'Spring into Action' photo/video/art competition?

The challenge is simple: go for a walk/scoot/cycle ride, look for signs of spring, and illustrate them with a photo(s)/video/artwork & caption.

First Prize: choice of a bike or scooter - Runners up: high street vouchers

Closing date: **Wednesday 31st March**

Entries can be posted on Sustrans' Facebook @SustransCornwall or emailed to

cornwall@sustrans.org.uk

Car sharing on school run

At this time please **avoid car sharing**, but if you have to, please follow these simple steps.



Wear face coverings



Sit as far apart as possible



Share with the same small group only



Keep windows open



Wash hands or use sanitisers before and after



Clean the car after every journey

[cornwall.gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/coronavirus)

Truro Cathedral are recruiting for boy choristers and are seeking to audition boys in year 2,3 and 5.

If you enjoy singing and may be interested in finding out more, please email:

christophergray@trurocathedral.org.uk

video link for more information: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zRyzQW7hYME&t=22s>

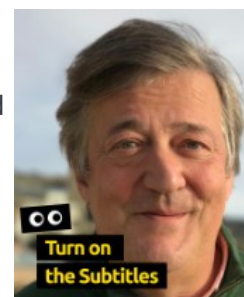


Kids read more when we Turn On The Subtitles.

We wanted to let you know how this brilliantly simple, free, small change to children's existing TV viewing habits can drastically improve their reading skills. Here is Stephen Fry to explain the benefits of turning on the subtitles in more detail. www.turnonthesubtitles.org/parents

Children often watch television between 4pm and 6pm. A text to parents around this time could be a really handy way to remind them of the benefits of subtitles. Here's one we made earlier:

Just a reminder that turning on the subtitles while children are watching TV can greatly improve their reading skills. A quick and simple way to make TV time, reading time. #TurnOnTheSubtitles



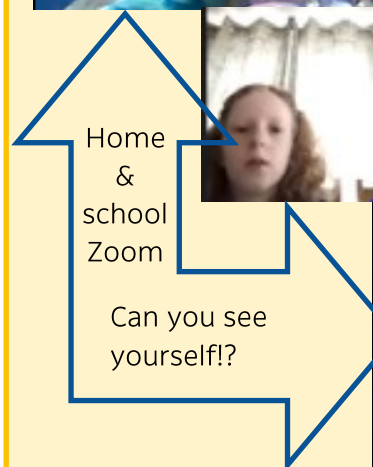
World Book Day

Thank you for the donations on Parentpay, your contributions will go to the World Book Day charity towards giving a child a book of their own. <https://www.worldbookday.com/about-us/our-impact/>



Don't forget to wear your costumes again on Friday 12th March to show your friends

(Please be advised that we will be working on our buggies for Science week and this may still involve using some of our tools so please pack a spare outfit/ hairband if your costume may cause a hazard when using the tools!)



Science Week

Mr Hall came to school to demonstrate how to construct the buggies and use our tools safely. It was very interesting!



We're looking forward to sharing more photos of the finished buggy designs and the winners of our competitions!



Don't forget, there is still time to donate produce for the local Foodbanks or make a donation on Parentpay to thank Mr Hall for giving up his time and resources to make our science week such a success!



What Parents & Carers Need to Know About SIGNAL



Signal is a multimedia messaging service (previously known as TextSecure) which provides secure chats between users. It is encrypted, so any intercepted communication cannot be read by attackers. Users can send one-to-one messages or set up group chats. The service is free, has no adverts and doesn't track users' location like many other messaging platforms. The app experienced a popularity boom in early 2021 as large numbers of users left WhatsApp over perceived privacy issues.

Disappearing Messages

Messages on Signal can be set to disappear (from both the sender and the recipient's devices) a specified time after they are first opened – potentially as little as five seconds. So it is difficult to monitor the app and see what your child is talking about. Should someone behave inappropriately towards them, unless they record evidence instantly there is no way to prove what has happened – making it difficult to take the proper action.

Risk of Screenshots

Because messages can be set to disappear on Signal, some young people assume that nobody else will ever see them and let their guard down as a result. But a recipient could still capture a screenshot of your child's message before it vanishes from their device. This screenshot – which might be of something inappropriate or deeply personal – can then be shared with others or even made public on the internet.

False Sense of Security

The feeling of total privacy and security within the app can make young people feel like they are invulnerable – and possibly that they could get away with behaving in ways they normally wouldn't. This behaviour could range from the harmful (such as participating in cyber bullying or sharing age-inappropriate images or videos) to the extremely dangerous: perhaps chatting to strangers, who might potentially be predators.

Vulnerability to Hackers

Like virtually any piece of software, Signal has been shown to have flaws in its security. One hacker was able to make a call to a target device using the app and could then listen in on the victim through their phone – without needing them to even answer the call. Afterwards, the hacked user was completely unaware that the eavesdropping had taken place.

Advice for Parents & Carers

Gather Any Evidence Quickly

If your children are old enough to use Signal, they will likely already know how to take a quick screenshot on their phone. It's best to confirm this with them, however, because if they're sent something inappropriate or offensive, they will only have a very short opportunity to screenshot it as evidence of misconduct before the message disappears. Once they've captured the screenshot, they should then come to you or another trusted adult.

Talk about Online Bullying

Before your child downloads Signal, have an open discussion about the potential risks of this app and others like it. Ensure your child is aware of the possibility of bullying or hurtful messages on such platforms. They should understand that the app makers themselves do not help with investigating incidents – and that it may be difficult to prove someone has done something to upset them.

Think before Sending

The messages a young person sends on Signal don't last forever, but the effects of those messages very well might – for your child and for others. You could suggest to your child that, if they're unsure whether to send a particular message, they should ask themselves if they would be comfortable showing the content to you. And if they wouldn't, should they really be sending it at all?

Stay Updated

It's wise to make sure your child knows how to keep their software up to date by downloading the latest version. Developers will often release software updates that (as well as occasionally adding new features or improving functionality, etc.) help to fix any security flaws and stop hackers from exploiting possible weak points in the app.

Consider Online Reputation

Talk to your child about the implications if a message they sent was made public without their consent. Remind them that once an image (for example) is out there, there's no way to control what happens to it or erase every single copy. It's a good way to get young people to start considering how their digital footprint might have repercussions on their future prospects.

Meet Our Expert

Emma Davis is a cyber security expert and former ICT teacher. She delivers cyber awareness training to organisations nationally and has extensive knowledge and experience of managing how children access services and apps online.

SOURCE: <https://smartsocial.com/signal-app/>, <https://www.signal.org>



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