



# Veryan Primary School News

Friday 1st March 2019

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celtic cross  
education



Expected average attendance for a child is 96.1%. Our attendance for last week was:

Carne: 98.68% Pendower: 92.5% Kiberick: 96.67%

Congratulations **Carne Class** you are our attendance heroes this week.



## Thursday 28th February



Thank you to everyone who brought bags of textiles and clothing for the bag2school collection. We had a fantastic number of bags and raised £64.00 for the school library. If you missed this collection or just want to start popping things aside for our next one, then you can put Wednesday 5th June into your calendar!

### Parent-Teacher consultations

On Monday 25th March and Tuesday 25th March we will be holding parent's afternoons/evenings. This is an opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher to discuss their progress and next steps. The appointments are bookable from 4pm on Thursday 28th February on [www.veryan.parenteveningsystem.co.uk](http://www.veryan.parenteveningsystem.co.uk)



The appointment slots are for 10 minutes. Please can we ask that all parents are mindful of the 10 minute timescale so that we don't hold up the next appointment. If you have something to discuss that you feel will require longer than 10 minutes then please speak to Mrs Allan in the school office to arrange an appointment at another convenient time.

## After School Club 'Friday Funhouse'

**Eyes down everyone—we'll be playing Bingo and board games this week!!**

**Please remember your weekly subs (20p) and spending money for refreshments if required.**

**Subs will remain at 20p, but our snacks and refreshments will have to increase by 10p each this term. All prices will be clearly marked.**

With thanks from Year 6's

## Year 6 fundraising tuck shop



Our tuck shop is still running at break times for children to buy a healthy snack in the morning. Due to increased food prices the year 6 children have decided that it will be necessary to increase the cost of the snacks they offer by 10p.

If your child would like to buy snack from the tuck shop please ensure they have money (no more than £1) in a clearly marked purse/wallet or envelope.





## Pendower bridge building

On Tuesday afternoon we were lucky enough to be able to enjoy some sunshine while we built some bridges in the playground as part of our topic 'Brilliant buildings.'



We worked really hard problem solving, sharing ideas and constructing our bridges to make them strong and stable enough to carry us across...Mrs Knowles decided that the safest and surest way to test the finished bridges was to sit on them herself!

We were very proud of our finished constructions.



Our finished bridges!



# Student of the Week



Carne class: Ruby and Teddy for collaborating in their problem solving.

Pendower class: Leo for being such a kind and thoughtful member of Pendower class.

Kiberick class: George for great effort in all areas of his



## Red Nose Day at Vryan 2019

Comic relief is an excellent charity, helping many worthy causes and we would like to support them again this year at Vryan, but in an attempt to help reduce the use of

single use plastics we would like to encourage all our children to donate £1 to comic relief and come to school **without** a red nose—instead the year 6 children will paint you a red nose for the day!! You can also wear non-uniform.

All proceeds will be donated to Comic Relief. Don't forget you can pay donations on Parentpay too!



**My Clothing**  
YOUR **NEW** UNIFORM EMBROIDERY SERVICE

**5% CASH DONATION TO YOUR SCHOOL\***

Tesco UES has now changed to My Clothing. You'll find all your school uniforms on our website and ordering is as simple as it was before. Nothing changes except the name. For more info or to order visit: [www.myclothing.com](http://www.myclothing.com)

Just a reminder that our school uniform can now be purchased from either My Clothing or School Trends - details and links can be found on our school website.

## Spring dates for your diary

### Wednesday 6th March

- Mid Cornwall Sports Network presentation evening for Par Cross Country competitors and their guests. 4pm Penair School (letters sent home)



### Thursday 7th March

- World book day—£1 donation to come to school dressed as one of your favourite book characters...don't forget your books!

### Monday 11th March-Wednesday 13th March

- School office unmanned—Mrs Allan is on a 3day first aid course so the school office will be unmanned during the day, someone will be available in the morning to take messages and phone calls.

### Wednesday 13th March

- Mid Cornwall cross country year 1-3 (individual letters sent home) leaving school approx 2.30pm

### Friday 15th March

- Comic relief—red nose day £1 donation(see box left) non-uniform.

### Wednesday 20th March

- Funfest at the Roseland Academy tbc (individual letters to come home)

### Friday 22nd March

- Open the Book in collective worship. Vryan Church 9:10am. All welcome.

### Monday 25th March

- Parent-teacher consultations 2-5.30pm

### Tuesday 26th March

- Parent-teacher consultations 2.30-6.00pm

### Thursday 28th March

- Year 1&2 continuous cricket tbc. (Individual letters to come home)

### Monday 1st-5th April

- National Autism Week - various activities and events going on in school this week. More details to follow.

### Friday 5th April

- Non-uniform day organised by the PFA in lieu of a chocolate egg donation (see below)

**Keep an eye on this section as there are more events and activities added through the term!**



## PFA Easter Fair—Saturday 20th April 10.30-12.30

The PFA are in the processes of organising an Easter Fair and would like to invite the children to wear non-uniform on Friday 5th April (last day of term) in exchange for a small foil wrapped egg. (No bigger than a Crème egg) that can be used as part of the festivities .

## **Veryan Sports News**

Tuesday was a busy day for sport this week—our team of dancers went to St Austell college to learn some contemporary dance routines with the college students and then performed to an audience. Miss Danks reported that the children were all extremely professional, demonstrating focus and projection whilst dancing. We hope the children will show their peers what they have learnt and pass on their new found skills to the younger pupils in school.

Thank you to Mrs Morgan for taking everyone to this event and to the parents/carers who were able to attend and collect their children at the end.



Mr Peters also went with a group of children to Grampound With Creed School where they met Mr Paul 'Tiny' Sturgess a basketball pro from the Harlem Globe Trotters. Paul delivered an inspirational talk to the children—teaching them that we

should not beat ourselves up about being different, but celebrate who we are, as we all have different personalities and skills. The children then finished the morning learning some basketball skills.

Thank you to all the parents that drove their children to and from this event and made it possible for us to take part.



As you know over the past few months we have been sharing various internet safety tips with you after our concerns were raised at school. We are sure you will have heard in the news and on social media this week of further inappropriate content in children's online viewing.

We have been made aware by parents at Veryan school that some of our pupils may well have seen the images of 'Momo,' or played games which have 'Momo' imagery in them, at home. In light of this we thought we would share the article overleaf to help you keep your children safe from harmful images and suggestion.

This information is taken from [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) This website can also be found on Facebook and has lots of useful "What Parents need to know about...." leaflets including Snapchat, Tik Tok, online gaming age recommendations etc.

Of course we will continue to teach the children about safe internet use and encourage open discussions about this in school.

If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to speak to our Safeguarding Lead—Mr Tyers or our Deputy Safeguarding Lead—Miss Goodall.



It's important to note that new challenges are arising on the internet all the time. We have created this guide to raise awareness of the issue and offer advice on helping parents to talk to their children about making safer decisions online. See also our '7 conversation starters' guide for more tips on better communication with your child.



Momo is a sinister 'challenge' that has been around for some time. It has recently resurfaced and once again has come to the attention of schools and children across the country. Dubbed the 'suicide killer game', Momo has been heavily linked with apps such as Facebook, WhatsApp, YouTube, and most recently (and most worryingly)... YouTube Kids. The scary doll-like figure reportedly sends graphic violent images, and asks users to partake in dangerous challenges like waking up at random hours and has even been associated with self-harm. It has been reported that the 'Momo' figure was originally created as a sculpture and featured in an art gallery in Tokyo and unrelated to the 'Momo' challenge we are hearing about in the media.

# What parents need to know about **MOMO**



## CHILDREN'S VIDEOS BEING 'HIJACKED'

There have been recent reports that some seemingly innocent videos on YouTube and YouTube Kids (such as 'surprise eggs', unboxing videos and Minecraft videos) have been edited by unknown sources to include violence provoking and/or other inappropriate content. Even though YouTube monitor and remove videos that include inappropriate content, clips can be uploaded and viewed thousands of times before they get reported and removed. As a parent, it's difficult to spot these videos as the harmful content doesn't appear until partway through the video.

## DISTRESSING FOR CHILDREN

Popular YouTubers and other accounts have been uploading reaction videos, showing their experience of the MOMO challenge. Some of the videos include a disclosure message warning that the content may be "inappropriate or offensive to some audiences" and that "viewer discretion is advised" but these videos are still easily accessed by clicking 'I understand and wish to proceed'. The image of the 'Momo' character can be deeply distressing to children and young people and it's important to note that it may slip through parental settings and filters.

## SUGGESTED VIDEOS ON YOUTUBE

Video apps such as YouTube include an 'up next' feature which automatically starts playing another video based on the video just watched. Due to YouTube's algorithm, users are shown 'suggested videos' that they may be interested in. The thumbnails used on suggested videos are purposefully created in a way to encourage viewers to click them. During our research, we found that when watching one Momo related video, we were shown countless other Momo themed videos and other scary content which would be age-inappropriate for children under 18.



**National  
Online  
Safety**

## Top Tips for Parents

### TELL THEM IT'S NOT REAL

Just like any urban legend or horror story, the concept can be quite frightening and distressing for young people. Whilst this may seem obvious, it's important for you to reiterate to your child that Momo is not a real person and cannot directly harm them! Also, tell your child to not go openly searching for this content online as it may only cause more distress.

### BE PRESENT

It's important for you, as a parent or carer, to be present while your children are online. This will give you a greater understanding of what they are doing on their devices, as well as providing you with the opportunity to discuss, support and stop certain activities that your child may be involved in. As the nature of each task become progressively worse it's also important to recognise any changes in your child's behaviour.

### TALK REGULARLY WITH YOUR CHILD

As well as monitoring your child's activity, it's important for you to discuss it with them too. Not only will this give you an understanding of their online actions, but those honest and frequent conversations will encourage your child to feel confident to discuss issues and concerns they may have related to the online world.

### DEVICE SETTINGS & PARENTAL CONTROLS

Ensure that you set up parental controls for your devices at home. This will help to restrict the types of content that your child can view, as well as help you to monitor their activity. In addition to this, it's vital that you are aware of your device and account settings to ensure your child's utmost safety. For example, on YouTube you can turn off 'suggested auto-play' on videos to stop your child from viewing content that they have not directly selected.

### PEER PRESSURE

Trends and viral challenges can be tempting for children to take part in; no matter how dangerous or scary they seem. Make sure you talk to your child about how they shouldn't succumb to peer pressure and do anything they are not comfortable with, online or offline. If they are unsure, encourage them to talk to you or another trusted adult.

### REAL OR HOAX?

As a parent it is natural to feel worried about certain things you see online that may be harmful to your child. However, not everything you see online is true. Check the validity of the source and be mindful of what you share as it may only cause more worry.

### REPORT & BLOCK

You can't always rely on parental controls to block distressing or harmful material. People find ways around a platform's algorithm in order to share and promote this type of material. Due to this, we advise that you flag and report any material you deem to be inappropriate or harmful as soon as you come across it. You should also block the account/content to prevent your child from viewing it. Also encourage your child to record/screenshot any content they feel could be malicious to provide evidence in order to escalate the issue to the appropriate channels.

### FURTHER SUPPORT

Speak to the safeguarding lead within your child's school should you have any concerns regarding your child's online activity or malicious content that could affect them.

If your child sees something distressing, it is important that they know where to go to seek help and who their trusted adults are. They could also contact Childline where a trained counsellor will listen to anything that's worrying them.

The Childline phone number is  
0800 1111.



SOURCES:  
<https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/world-news/sick-videos-youtube-kids-14052196>  
<http://www.bbc.com/news/health-47359623>