

12 October 2020

Dear Parents

SCHOOL YEAR 2020/2021 - NEWSLETTER NO 7

CERTIFICATE - Well done to these children who received the certificates for the last week from their teachers.

Mrs Goode and Mr Allen	-	Caitlyn Hodder
Mr Baykaa-Murray	-	Ellie Suggitt
Mr Dean	-	Leah Brooke Detheridge
Mrs Long and Mrs Duffy	-	James Green
Miss Moore and Miss Ramli	-	Imogen Sander
Mr Evens	-	Shay Drewitt
Mr Garcia	-	Clara Harrex
Mrs Leonard	-	Jessica Vine
Miss Hake	-	Izzy Tyson
Mrs North	-	Jenson Bennett
Miss Wingett	-	Maverick Haynes

COVID UPDATES

Thank you to everyone for adhering to our request for face coverings on the school site. This is much appreciated as are the efforts being made to set examples of social distancing.

The trial of the Reception and Year 5 and 6 children eating in the Hall at lunchtime has been very successful. Although, it is not like it used to be, it's a little bit of normality back for the children has been positive. We are not able to extend this to have another key phase into the Hall over lunch time due to the amount of time we have to allow for each set of children to eat and then the Hall be cleaned and left inbetween. Therefore, we will be swapping the children eating in the Hall on a rota basis. This week and next it will be Reception and Years 1 and 2.

We have decided as a result of this success that we will extend the bubbles in school to include the key phase. The children go out to play in their key phases already, although in different zones on the field and playground so this is an extension of this. This move will allow us to plan for year groups working to allow the 'catch up' sessions that are being planned to be more effective. The decision has been taken due to the very low number of suspected cases being seen in school (none for the past fortnight) plus the healthiness of the children as we have practically full attendance, which is great to see.

If anything changes I will keep you all updated.

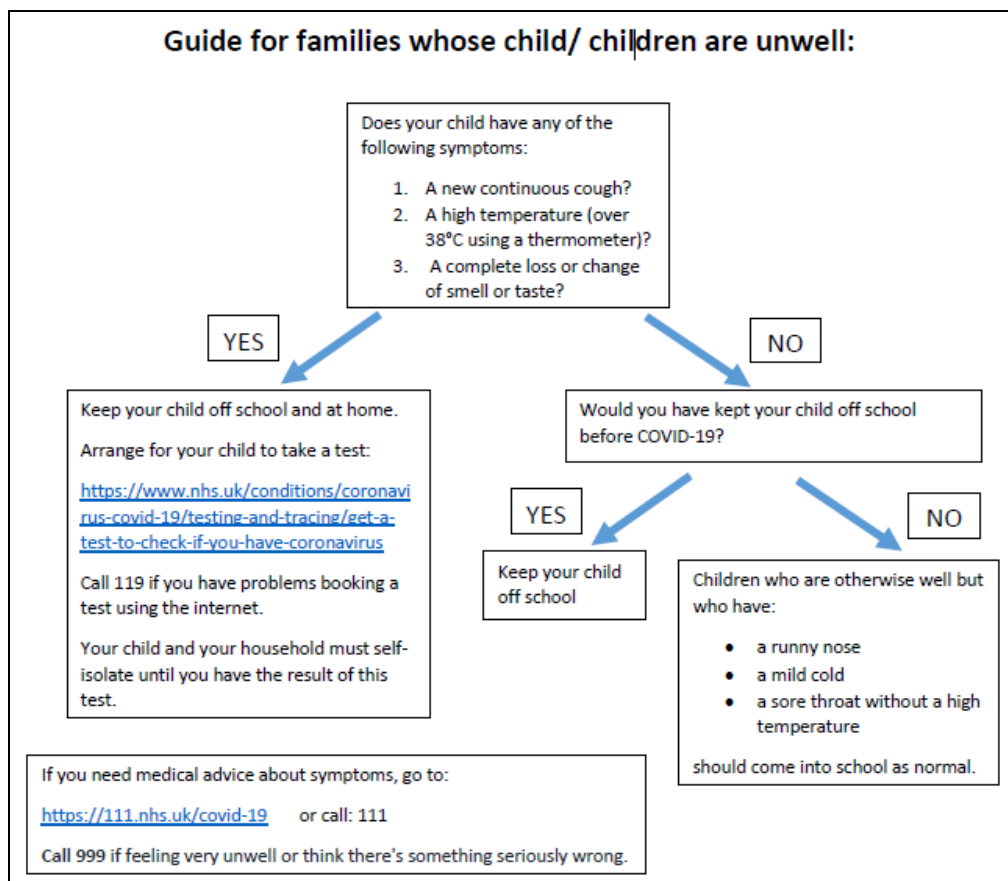
Thank you for being sensible when sending your children to school. Our attendance has increased over the past month with no more than 4 children absent from school on any given day. The first month's attendance has been 97.1% which is down on our usual 98.9% for obvious reasons, but much higher than the national attendance average at 90%.

VIRTUAL HARVEST FESTIVAL

This year we are holding our Harvest Festival via Zoom in each classroom on Tuesday 13 October. As usual we would appreciate donations for the class Harvest display, which will be set up in the classrooms. Once again this year we have decided to aid a charity that is close to us. We will be asking you to provide tinned or packet goods that can be used by Food Banks namely the Five Loaves and Two Fishes charity of St Paul's in Bristol. Please send a donation in with your child on the Tuesday morning. Many thanks in advance.

A reminder about when and when not to send your children to school

If you or your child or older siblings at different school have symptoms of Covid 19 you must self-isolate immediately until you have a test and the results have been returned. Please ensure you inform the school as soon as you can to inform the office as we have to report all suspected and positive cases to Public Health England on the same day. A letter is being emailed alongside the newsletter with information about work being sent home if your child has to self-isolate. Please note work will not be sent home for other absences as is normal practice unless due to a hospital stay and recovery for a specific reason. The government have written a letter to all parents setting out when you should and should not have your child tested. Please follow the link <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-parents-and-guardians-when-you-should-book-a-coronavirus-test-for-your-child/letter-to-parents-and-guardians-when-you-should-book-a-coronavirus-test-for-your-child>



PARKING

I would like to thank the PCSO's for coming down to school over the past week or so to monitor the parking in the village. We are in discussions with Will Price, our named PCSO and the council regarding the parking issues being seen in order to try to resolve these and alleviate pinch points. I know that parking is a contentious issue and always has been, not just at our school but at schools up and down the country. However, please remember to park safely and sensibly. Also remember to be courteous to each other as we are all looking out for what is best for the safety of all of our children in school. I just need to update parents regarding the use of the bus stop for drop offs. As from today this will no longer be an option. The council are sending road enforcement officers to various locations as they do not wish any stopping at bus stops. If an officer is present and do you stop this will incur a fine. This is a change to previous advice, however the advice has now changed from the local authority. Please also do not pull into the school gates.

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS SEPTEMBER 2021

If you have a child in Year 6 a reminder that the admissions portal is open and will close for submissions on 31 October to allow you to choose a secondary school place.

If you have a child aged 4 by 31 August 2021 you will need to apply for a primary school place by 15 January 2021. The admissions portal is now open for applications. We will be holding both virtual and very small group visits to school during November and December.

Small school tours

Thursday 5 November 4pm and 5pm	Tuesday 24 November 4pm and 5pm
Tuesday 10 November 4pm and 5pm	Tuesday 8 December 4pm and 5pm
Monday 16 November 4pm and 5pm	Thursday 7 January 4pm and 5pm

Email address: office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk

Website: www.almondsburyprimary.co.uk

Virtual tour and Q&A these will be through Zoom discussions

Thursday 19 November 4.30pm	Thursday 3 December 4.30pm
Thursday 26 November 4.30pm	

If you would like to join one of these tours then please email the office to book. Please do not just turn up as we are only taking bookings to manage the amount of people entering school at once. The codes for the Zoom meetings will be sent to those who require them prior to the meeting. Please contact the school office for details.

SEND PARENTAL SURVEY

As part of the local SEND offer the LA have created a survey for those parents of children with additional needs. This is a quick and easy survey to complete to provide the LA with information on parental views. Below is the link to the blog which contains the survey should you wish to complete it.

<https://www.sglospc.org.uk/latest-news-main/tell-us-what-you-think-about-sen-support-in-your-childs-school-2-10-2020>

PA NEWS

The Christmas card designs will be sent home (if they haven't been sent already) today. Please return these as soon as possible and by Friday 16 October so the cards can be made and returned in time for Christmas delivery. Thank you.

There are lots of exciting and new events that will be happening over the course of this year. We are unable to hold our normal school based events in person so some of these will be moving online and other events being created to keep us all together and entertained.

Please see the attached flyer for our latest events 'The Spooky Trail' taking place this half term.

PA LOTTERY

Thank you to everyone who has bought lottery tickets through our new lottery. You have helped us to exceed our original target so we have decided to increase our target to 75 tickets. This would raise just under £2,000 a year for the school whilst giving you a chance to win £25,000. There is also the usual guaranteed weekly pot to win. To buy your tickets please visit www.onelottery.co.uk and search for "Almondsbury School". Remember, anyone can play so please share with family and friends.

Spooky Trail 2020

The Almondsbury School Parents Association have organised a 'Spooky Trail' which will run throughout October Half term: 24th October - 1st November. This will help us to raise much needed funds during these strange times where we are unable to hold our annual signature events e.g. Summer and Christmas Fayre, and the children cannot take part in normal 'trick and treating', so we hope this provides a fun alternative. Trail maps featuring the 'ghostly ghettos' will be emailed on Friday 23rd October. To receive a map, please email: almondsburyschoolpa@gmail.com. We are asking for a donation (suggested: £5, but please give generously) to take part via bank transfer to the PA bank account: S/C 30-16-11 A/C 02009804.

LUNCHTIME SUPERVISOR VACANCIES

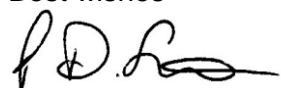
We currently have vacancies for two lunchtime supervisors. If you are interested in becoming part of our lunchtime team, then please contact the office for more details. The hours are 12 noon to 1.30pm Monday to Friday. I hope that we will be able to recruit very shortly.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

There are a number of websites that will be helpful for each child to investigate to help them with their home learning. This week's website is: <http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting>

LETTERS SENT OUT LAST WEEK AND POSTED ON WEBSITE		
CONTENT	YEAR GROUP	INFORMATION OR ACTION
Explorer Dome visit to school	Reception, Year 1 & 2	Information
		Information

Best wishes



Mr Paul D Smith
Head Teacher

Email address: office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk
Website: www.almondsburyprimary.co.uk

DATES 2020/21**TERM 1**

Tuesday 13 October
 Wednesday 14 October
 Monday 19 October
 Friday 23 October

Virtual Harvest Festival during the afternoon
 Reception parents Mathematics workshop via Zoom 9.30am
 Black History Month themed week of activities
 End of Term 1

TERM 2

Monday 2 November
 Tuesday 3 November
 Tuesday 3 – Friday 6 November
 Thursday 5 November
 Wednesday 11 November
 Thursday 12 November

INSET DAY – School closed to children
 Start of Term 2
 Book Week
 PA committee meeting 7.30pm
 Remembrance Day and activities
 Individual photographs
 Parents Evening 4.00 – 7.00pm
 Children in Need Day
 Parents Evening 7.30pm
 Christmas Lunch day
 End of Term 2

Friday 13 November
 Tuesday 17 November
 Tuesday 15 December
 Friday 18 December

Term dates for 2020/21

Term	Starts	Ends
Term1	Tuesday 1 September 2020	Friday 23 October 2020
Term 2	Monday 2 November 2020	Friday 18 December 2020
Term 3	Monday 4 January 2021	Friday 12 February 2021
Term 4	Monday 22 February 2021	Thursday 1 April 2021
Term 5	Monday 19 April 2021	Friday 28 May 2021
Term 6	Monday 7 June 2021	Wednesday 21 July 2021
INSET DAYs confirmed	Tuesday 1 September 2020 Monday 2 November 2020 Monday 4 January 2021 Friday 28 May 2021	1 more date to be confirmed