

19 October 2020

Dear Parents

## **SCHOOL YEAR 2020/2021 - NEWSLETTER NO 8**

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

Mrs Goode and Mr Allen	-	Tobias Payne
Mr Baykaa-Murray	-	Thomas Board
Mr Dean	-	Libby Ryan
Mrs Long and Mrs Duffy	-	Alex Laczik
Miss Moore and Miss Ramli	-	The whole class
Mr Evens	-	Liam Detheridge
Mr Garcia	-	Euan Laing
Mrs Leonard	-	Jessica Price
Miss Hake	-	Evie Gardner
Mrs North	-	Viaan Parmar
Miss Wingett	-	Felicity Street

### **COVID UPDATES**

All seems to be going well at the moment. Thank you to the vast majority of parents for complying with our request for parents to wear masks when on the school site. This has also had a positive effect on parental social distancing especially in the car park waiting area. Can I though remind you in the KS1 playground that your children should be waiting with you at the end of the day, if you still have to pick up older or younger siblings, and not playing on the ship, etc. Also, that when you have your children please leave the school site quickly. Thank you.

The use of the Hall for school lunches is going well. This is encouraging us to work well across the key phases. Therefore, as long as the number of any local cases does not rise, we will move to extend the bubbles in school to key phases i.e. all of Year 1 and 2. This will enable us to work better to provide the children with addressing their needs across the year groups rather than just classes. This will not have an impact on the closing of bubbles if we ever experience a positive case within school. The current advice is that only those who have been in contact with each other for more than 15 minutes inside will have to then self-isolate i.e. just the class where the positive case is.

As part of our school risk assessment we have to ventilate the classrooms, as per the guidance from the DFE and HSE. Therefore, despite the heating being on in school, the classrooms may become colder than normal. Therefore, please ensure that the children have plenty of layers to keep them warm.

We are also going to have to continue to use the field at lunchtimes to accommodate all of the children and maintain the key phase bubbles. As a result, we will need all of the children to have a change of footwear in school to enable them to use the field. Thank you.

### **PARENTS EVENING NOVEMBER 2020**

We are coming up to our first Parents Evening of the year. This year we have invested in an electronic booking system linked to our school website. All parents will be sent an email providing them with a log on username and password to be able to book your time slots over the two evenings. The meetings will take place virtually this year via Zoom. If you are not able to join the Zoom meeting please let your child's teacher know as they will then have a telephone conversation with you instead. There will be one zoom code provided per class for all parents to join. There will be a waiting room system to allow you into the meeting at your specific time. Therefore, all meetings will be kept to a strict 10 minute time slot. If you then require further discussion with your child's class teacher then you will be able to email them to arrange this at a later date and time.

## VIRTUAL HARVEST FESTIVAL

We held our Virtual Harvest Festival last Tuesday, which was very successful with the children participating from their classrooms. This year we looked at the distribution of food across the world and the inequality of this especially in Asia and Africa, but also with the UK. This is why we have been working with the local foodbanks to share the food we collect to support local children and adults. Thank you to everyone who sent in tinned and packet goods for us to share this. The classes created their own smaller displays, which in Miss Hake's class was supplemented by the hedgehog bread they had made on Monday. The food will be collected and distributed on Monday.



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH AND BOOK WEEK

This week and the first week after half term are our themed weeks linked to Black History and Books. We have merged these together across the school. We are looking at books and texts written by BAME (Black, Asian and minority ethnic) authors or have BAME characters as their focus. There will be many different activities that the children will be undertaking across the fortnight. We will also be looking at influential BAME figures from across the world and throughout history both past and recent.



The Book Week will be different this year, as the letter from the English team highlighted last week. Please look out for the Zoom codes for the Book and Bedtime, which will be sent daily to you. We also look forward to seeing the book character day and the efforts that the children (and their parents) make. The Book Fair will be an experiment this year with only children allowed. Please do though peruse the catalogue that will be sent home and buy the books to encourage your child's reading.

A plea from the English team – There are quite a lot of library books which are at home. Please could you look for these and return them so they can go back into the library stock as we will be starting to use the library after half term. Thank you.

## 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

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.

## PA NEWS

Due to the lack of cake sales this year, the funds that are collected for each class are now not being able to be funded. Therefore, we have decided to create Amazon wish lists for each class. These wish lists have many different resources that can be purchased for the class to use. There are lots of different items for you to look at and purchase. Please follow the link below and look for your child's class wish list. We would like to thank you in advance for your support and generosity on behalf of the children and staff. [https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/HUHI47QHQPJD?ref\\_=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/HUHI47QHQPJD?ref_=wl_share)

Email address: [office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk)

Website: [www.almondsburyprimary.co.uk](http://www.almondsburyprimary.co.uk)

## PA LOTTERY

Thank you to everyone who has bought lottery tickets through our new lottery. The first draw for our new lottery is this Saturday so make sure you have bought your tickets for your chance to win £25,000!! 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](http://www.onelottery.co.uk) and search for "Almondsbury School". Remember, anyone can play so please share with family and friends.

## Spooky Trail 2020

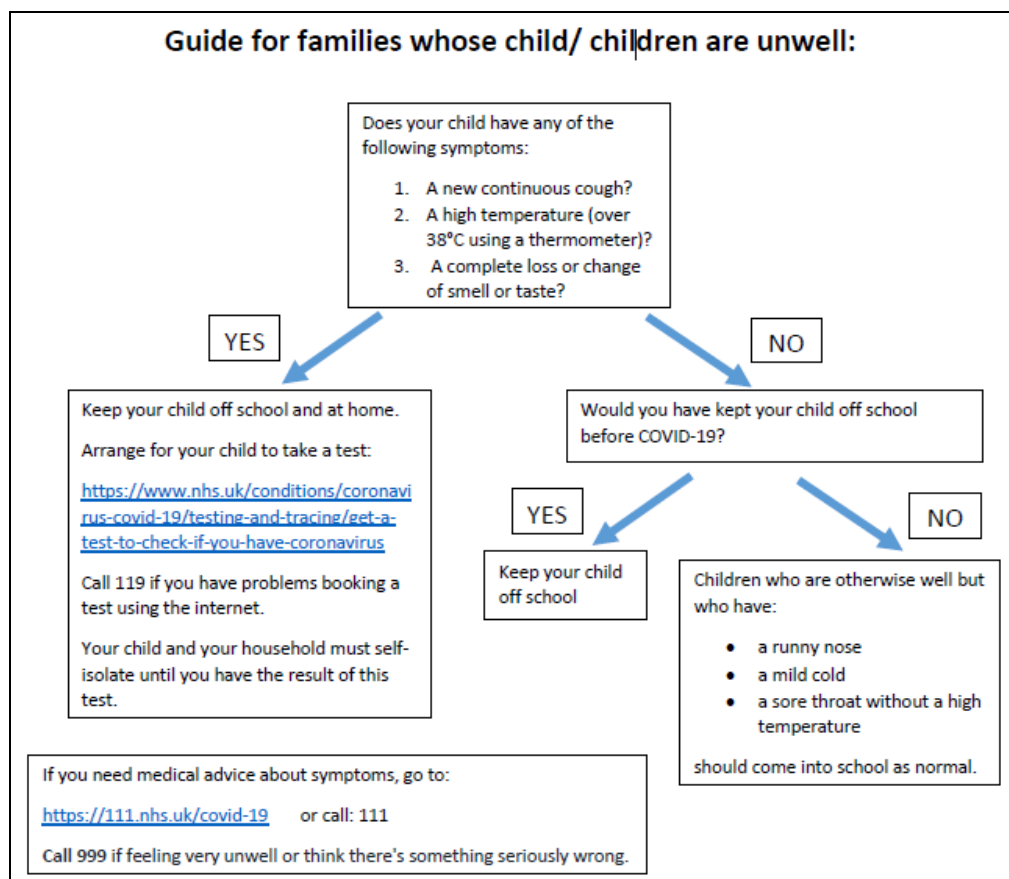
The Almondsbury School Parents Association have organised a 'Spooky Trail' which will run throughout October Half term: 24 October - 1 November. This will help us to raise much needed funds during these strange times where we are unable to hold our annual signature events e.g. Summer and Christmas Fayre, 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 23 October. To receive a map, please email: [almondsburyschoolpa@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## Rags2Riches

A huge thank you to everyone who donated bags of clothing and footwear to the Rags2riches collection last week. We raised a fantastic £189.36!!

## 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 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>



## 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/english-games/7-11-years/punctuation>

**REMINDER THAT WE HAVE AN INSET DAY ON MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER THEREFORE SCHOOL IS CLOSED TO ALL CHILDREN.**

LETTERS SENT OUT LAST WEEK AND POSTED ON WEBSITE		
CONTENT	YEAR GROUP	INFORMATION OR ACTION
Book Week Letter	All year groups	Information
		Information

Best wishes



Mr Paul D Smith  
Head Teacher

### DATES 2020/21

#### TERM 1

Monday 19 October

Black History Month themed week of activities

Friday 23 October

End of Term 1

#### TERM 2

Monday 2 November

INSET DAY – School closed to children

Tuesday 3 November

Start of Term 2

Flu Immunisations

Tuesday 3 – Friday 6 November

Book Week

Wednesday 11 November

Remembrance Day and activities

Thursday 12 November

Individual photographs

Parents Evening 4.00 – 7.00pm

PA Meeting 7.30pm

Friday 13 November

Children in Need Day

Tuesday 17 November

Parents Evening 4.00 - 7.00pm

Tuesday 15 December

Christmas Lunch day

Friday 18 December

End of Term 2

### 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