

7 December 2020

Dear Parents

SCHOOL YEAR 2020/2021 - NEWSLETTER NO 14

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

Mrs Goode and Mr Allen	-	Lauren Williams
Mr Baykaa-Murray and Miss Winter	-	Ollie Stooke
Mr Dean	-	Jake Hartley
Mrs Long and Mrs Duffy	-	Christopher Barnard
Miss Moore and Miss Ramli	-	Jaspa Wilkinson
Mr Evens	-	India Bulley
Mr Garcia	-	Roxie Nelson
Mrs Leonard	-	Danny Gaffori
Miss Hake	-	Whole class and their parents
Mrs North	-	Oscar Blackburn
Miss Wingett	-	Zoe Cheung



COVID UPDATES

Welcome back to Miss Hake's class who returned to school today after their two weeks of self-isolation. Hopefully, all will be very well with everyone both in and out of school for the next fortnight. To aid with this we would ask that all parents do observe the rules within Tier 3, as quite a few children tell us they are going to each other's houses over the weekend or after school. No-one would want to be self-isolating over the Christmas period so we urge you to be vigilant, stay safe, well and healthy.

CHRISTMAS



As we get closer to Christmas we have lots of things planned for the children in school. This Friday is our non-uniform day to say thank you for donating items for the class colour hampers and buying the raffle tickets to try to win one of these. They are being created this evening and will be ready for the big prize draw on Friday at 5pm on Zoom. The code will be sent via text message.

The timetable below list the activities we have planned for the children over the coming weeks.

Friday 11 December	Non-uniform day and raffle draw at 5pm via Zoom
Monday 14 December	Virtual Pantomime 'Jack and the Beanstalk'
Tuesday 15 December	Christmas lunch plus class party games with a very special guest Christmas jumper wearing day
Wednesday 16 December	Entertainment afternoon – presenting a couple of acts per class
Thursday 17 December	Watching the school carol concert
Friday 18 December	DVD in class

Christmas lunch will be different this year. We are going to have each bubble in the hall, in turn, for lunch. This is going to take just over 2 and half hours to get everyone into and out of the hall as well as eating their scrummy Christmas dinner made by Mrs Byrne and the kitchen staff. The children will be able to wear their

Christmas jumpers and will make party hats in class beforehand. They will then have their own class Christmas parties with games, etc.

The children have been learning one song or carol for us to record alongside some Christmas readings to create a virtual carol concert that we will be able to share with you all next week. The details and link will be included in next week's newsletter.

Please make sure you order your child's Christmas lunch in plenty of time on Parent Pay so we have an idea of numbers. These need to be on the system by Monday 14 December. Thank you.



CAROLS FOR BRISTOL

Some Of the Year 6 children have recorded a carol to be included in the diocese Carols for Bristol service, which is being compiled for Friday 11 December. If you would like to watch this please use the link on here www.carolsforbristol.co.uk. It is available [on youtube](#) from **7 pm on Friday 11th December.**

WOW DAYS



On Wednesday, Year 3 and 4 enjoyed their WOW Day based on the Ancient Egyptians. The children wore some amazing costumes such as mummies, pharaohs and princesses. Firstly, the children looked at the work of Claude Monet and painted an Egyptian sunset. Later, a silhouette was added to the painting. Also, the children took part in sewing, creating their own sarcophagus and writing their names using hieroglyphics. Everyone enjoyed the day and are looking forward to finding out what their next topic will be after Christmas.



Year 5 and 6 took part in their Wow Day dressing up as evacuees, soldier and land army soldiers from WW2. They participated in virtual activities making ID cards, ciphers, toy spitfires, pom poms and gas mask bags. The children also had the opportunity to ask questions in a live zoom video with a corporal from the British Army who also showed them real gas used in WW2 as well medals given to soldiers.



PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION – I would like to thank the two parents who have agreed to be willing candidates – Nilesh Babariya and Nadeem Arshad - for their commitment to the school and nominations to become a Parent Governor at the recent election. The ballot closes on Wednesday 16 December at 4pm. You will have received an email with the information and method of voting. Unfortunately, due to the current restrictions we haven't sent home ballot papers in hard copy. However, we do have some printed copies in the office foyer. We also are unable to receive emailed ballot voting papers due to the need for confidentiality of the vote.

PARENT DISCUSSION WITH MR SMITH

Thank you to all those parents who joined me for a discussion on how things are going in school and at home during the current situation. The parents who joined the meeting were complimentary about the school and how their children are enjoying their learning. Those who have experienced home learning this term were also pleased by the structure, the contact and the work being sent home and feedback during the live sessions. One learning point is the number of children all at once and whether we may consider halving this to provide more bespoke learning opportunities. We will consider this. However, we hope that we will not have to deliver home learning for whole classes in the future.

The children are using the field as this is the only way we are able to have the children out at lunchtimes. Please do bear with us and if your child does come home a little muddy we are aware of this but can't help if they fall over unfortunately. We stopped ball games on the field to ensure the boys, in particular, were not getting too messy.

One other aspect was when bubbles may be able to mix. This will only happen once we are probably within Tier 1. At the moment PHE and the LA are very much against extending of the class bubbles. We also will not be able to start after school clubs until we enter Tier 1 or go swimming in Years 3 and 4.

PARKING

Please do remember to be considerate when parking both at the start and the end of the day. We have had a few calls from residents again who have struggled to get out of their drives and down the road as cars are parked on both sides. I know that it is getting colder, however for environmental purposes, please could engines be switched off whilst you are waiting. Thank you.

PA NEWS

PA Christmas Raffle – The raffle tickets were sent home last week. Please return these back to the classes before Friday 4 December. Please do keep the contributions to the colour hampers coming into school. The more the better! The children are being allowed to come into school in non-uniform on Friday 11 December as a thank you. There will be a live draw through Zoom at 5pm on Friday 11 December by Mr Smith. We are welcoming Christmas clothes donations, via the blue box in reception, ahead of our **Reuse and Recycle Christmas jumper sale** at the end of the month.

Elf to Yourself - With no Santa's Grotto this year, as a PA, we are delighted to offer 'Elf to Yourself' - 2 personalised videos sent via email from 'Twinkle Toes', Santa's head elf! The 1st video will be sent at the beginning of December, and then you'll receive a 2nd video for Christmas Eve. Please see the poster attached.

Book via the PA website: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/almondsburypa>

Amazon Wish List – Thank you so much to all those who have bought gifts so far. Most classes only have a couple of items left on the wish list pages. If you haven't gifted to the class just yet there is still time. Please follow the link below

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/HUHI47QHQPJD?ref_=wl_share

Amazon Smile - If you are supporting us via Amazon Smile, please check your devices. The charity needs to be renewed every six months to continue raise money.

Reuse & recycle Christmas jumper sale - Live on the website, ready for Christmas jumper day [on the 15th of December](https://www.pta-events.co.uk/almondsburypa). <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/almondsburypa>

PA Donations - With no Christmas Fayre this year, several parents have asked how they can make a donation instead. If you would like to make a donation, we've set up the following Text Giving options:

- Text 5DONATE to 70490 to donate £5*
- Text 10DONATE to 70490 to donate £10*
- Text 15DONATE to 70490 to donate £15*
- Text 20DONATE to 70490 to donate £20*

*Texts cost the amount selected plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to donate, but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text add NO at the beginning and INFO at the end e.g. NO5DONATEINFO.

COOKIES FROM SANTA – Please see attached poster.

LOTTERY NEWS

You can still sign up to the lottery by going to www.onelottery.co.uk and searching for Almondsbury School.

PA WEBSITE LIVE!

Some exciting news.... The PA website is now live! Please follow the registration process below:

1. Click on the following link to register: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/almondsburypa>
2. Click on 'register' and enter your details
3. Once you've completed your registration, you'll be advised that your registration requires approval by the website administrator (aka the PA team).
4. Once approved, you'll receive an email confirmation.

Email address: office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk

Website: www.almondsburyprimary.co.uk

We'll be selling a number of Christmas goodies via the website in the next few weeks, and if you registered your interest in a Christmas Wreath Kit, please login and select the quantity required and pay online... Once we are able to run 'events' again, we'll be administering the majority of events via the website.

Benefits of website:

- online booking and ordering
- secure online payment
- List of volunteers needed
- List of affiliations and fundraising e.g. easyfundraising/ Amazon Smile/ One Lottery.

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS SEPTEMBER 2021

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. Due to the changes brought about by the national lockdown, we will not be able to invite prospective parents into school. Therefore, all tours will now be held online as follows.

School Virtual Tours

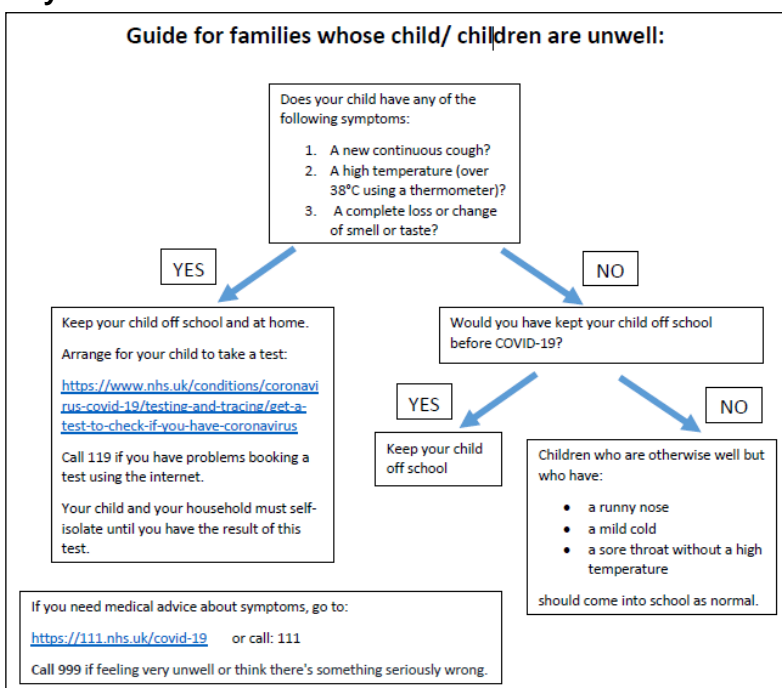
Tuesday 8 December 4.30pm

Thursday 7 January 4.30pm

If you would like to join one of these tours then please email the office to book. The codes for the Zoom meetings will be sent to those who require them prior to the meeting.

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



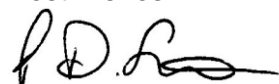
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-parents-and-guardians-when-you-should-book-a-coronavirus-test-for-your-child/letter-to-parents-and-guardians-when-you-should-book-a-coronavirus-test-for-your-child>

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: www.merry-christmas.com

LETTERS SENT OUT LAST WEEK AND POSTED ON WEBSITE		
CONTENT	YEAR GROUP	INFORMATION OR ACTION
		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 2**

Friday 11 December
Tuesday 15 December
Friday 18 December

Non uniform day and Colour hamper raffle prize draw at 5pm
Christmas Lunch day with Christmas jumpers
End of Term 2

TERM 3

Monday 4 January
Tuesday 5 January
Thursday 14 January
Friday 12 February

School closed INSET DAY
Start of Term 3 for all children
PA meeting – held via Zoom 7.30pm
End of Term 3

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