

14 December 2020

Dear Parents

## SCHOOL YEAR 2020/2021 - NEWSLETTER NO 15

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

Mrs Goode and Mr Allen	-	Aironas Petrulenas
Mr Baykaa-Murray and Miss Winter	-	Neve White
Mr Dean	-	Maya Frankcom
Mrs Long and Mrs Duffy	-	Poppy l'Anson
Miss Moore and Miss Ramli	-	Leo Bowen
Mr Evens	-	Theo Young
Mr Garcia	-	Eli Gardner
Mrs Leonard	-	Oscar Estcourt
Miss Hake	-	William Jarvis
Mrs North	-	Ameera Rowe
Miss Wingett	-	Diana Savill



### COVID UPDATES

As you know from the press the DFE announced last Tuesday that schools would be able to take this Friday 18 December as an INSET day. We decided that this was far too late for parents to arrange care for your children. Also to suddenly organise a training day is a difficult task. Therefore, we will be in school as normal on Friday.

Over the Christmas holidays we will still need to be informed of any positive tests within each of your direct family settings. Please follow the instructions on how to inform us of any positive cases by seeing the information on the poster attached from PHE. You will need to email the following address -

[ey-schoolscovidincidents@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:ey-schoolscovidincidents@southglos.gov.uk) Please do make sure that you let us know as well through the [office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk) email address. If positive tests occur over the weekend 19-20 December and into the beginning of next week we will still need to know so we can inform everyone within classes, if a child tests positive, as they will then need to self-isolate over the holiday period. We hope that this will not be the case and we can all enjoy our time at home over the coming fortnight.

An update for Years 3 and 4 swimming – we have not been able to re-start this in Term 3 but are hoping to do so in Term 4. Whole class swimming has not been allowed to take place but is constantly under review by the LA and PHE.

### CHRISTMAS



Our Christmas week has started and the children enjoyed the virtual pantomime this afternoon. Don't forget to send the children into school with their Christmas jumpers on for our Christmas lunch tomorrow. (There won't be any PE or Forest Schools tomorrow so just non-uniform plus a Christmas jumper). This will be very different but we hope to make it as enjoyable for the children as possible.

The children have helped create a joint whole school Christmas Carols Service for you to enjoy. This will be on our website and on my YouTube channel from Wednesday. We will send out the URL when it has been posted. Thank you to Mrs Williams and Mrs

Vicary for helping the classes with their songs/carols and recording. A special thanks to Mrs Williams for putting the service all together.

It was lovely to see the Year 6 children on the Carols for Bristol on Friday night in the diocese carol service. Thank you to Mrs Williams for working with the children and recording.

**HOUSE POINTS** - The children have been busy collecting House Points from a variety of people in school and for lots of reasons, good learning, behaviour, tidy uniform, having correct PE kit, etc. We have been totaling up the number of house points each week and now have a term total. The winning team this term is Earth with 1853 points. As their reward for collecting the most house points they are able to come into school on Thursday this week in their own clothes or the colour of their house team. Well done to everyone in Earth. We will see how well we get on next term.

### MESSAGE FROM ST MARY'S

The **Christmas services** this year are:

**The Christingle** Do join us for our service online, available from 20 December. You can pick up a kit for making your Christingle from under the Lichgate. Available from 20 December up to Christmas Day (or until stocks run out). Please pick up your kit (one per child) before watching the video. Further details are on the attached poster accompanying the newsletter.

- **On Christmas Eve** Holy Communion at 11.30pm in St Mary's Almondsbury. Attendance at this service is by **pre-booking only** so please contact me at Almondsbury Vicarage to book in. This service will be live streamed on the usual Sunday Facebook setting.
- **On Christmas Day** the services are:

10am Morning Service at St Mary's Almondsbury

10.30am Holy Communion at St Peter's Pilning

10.30am Holy Communion at All Saints Compton Greenfield

**PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION** – Just a reminder that the ballot closes on Wednesday 16 December at 4pm. There are two candidates Nilesh Babariya and Nadeem Arshad. 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.

### PA NEWS

**RAFFLE** – A huge thank you to everyone who bought raffle tickets this year for the Colour Hampers. The sales managed to raise £1,355! Great news. The yellow (Mrs Duffy and Mrs Long's class) and the blue hamper (Mrs Leonard's class) won the class prizes of sweets and £25 per class.

**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](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.

### LOTTERY NEWS

You can still sign up to the lottery by going to [www.onelottery.co.uk](http://www.onelottery.co.uk) and searching for Almondsbury School.

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

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

## 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/almondsburypta>
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.

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...

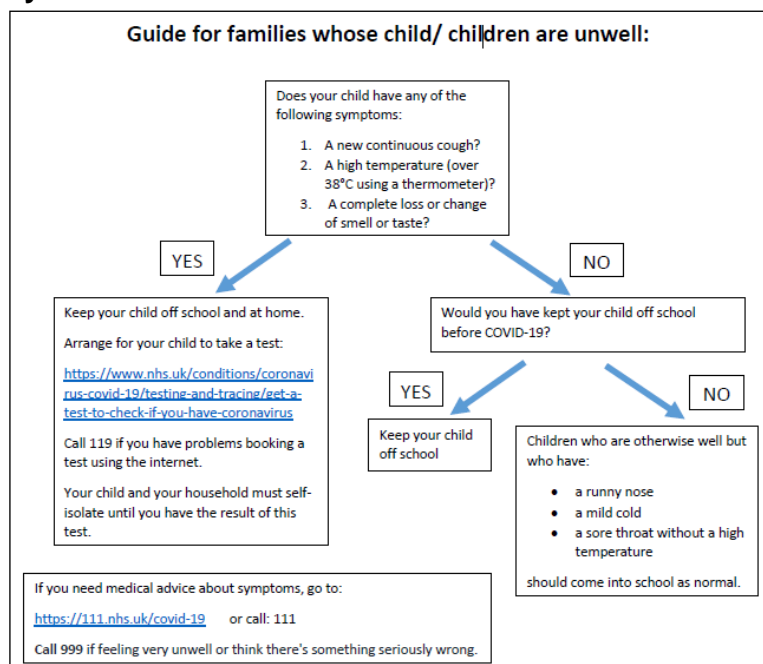
Once we are able to run 'events' again, we'll be administering the majority of events via the website.

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.

## 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



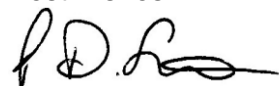
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-parents-and-guardians-when-you-should-book-a-coronavirus-test-for-your-child/letter-to-parents-and-guardians-when-you-should-book-a-coronavirus-test-for-your-child>

## 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.northpole.com/](http://www.northpole.com/)

**I would like to wish all parents and children a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We have had a year of many challenges, of different ways of teaching and learning, of coping with the unexpected and unprecedented. We should all be very proud of how we have supported each other to get through those difficult days, weeks and months. I would like to thank the children for how well they have coped with all the changes, staff for their tremendous hard work and for keeping the children safe and well (handwashing supremo's). I would also like to thank parents for their continued support, adaptability and patience. We have a great school community and I am pleased that this has not been lost during this pandemic. I am looking forward to 2021 and the challenges and successes it will undoubtedly bring. We will see you all during this week and then again on Tuesday 5 January 2021.**

Best wishes



Mr Paul D Smith  
Head Teacher

Email address: [office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk)  
Website: [www.almondsburyprimary.co.uk](http://www.almondsburyprimary.co.uk)

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

#### **DATES 2020/21**

##### **TERM 2**

Tuesday 15 December  
Friday 18 December

Christmas Lunch day with Christmas jumpers  
End of Term 2

##### **TERM 3**

Monday 4 January  
Tuesday 5 January  
Thursday 7 January  
Thursday 14 January  
Thursday 11 February  
Friday 12 February

School closed INSET DAY  
Start of Term 3 for all children  
Virtual tour of school for Reception 2021 intake  
PA meeting – held via Zoom 7.30pm  
PA meeting – held via Zoom 7.30pm  
End of Term 3

##### **TERM 4**

Monday 22 February  
Friday 26 February  
Thursday 11 March  
  
Tuesday 16 March  
Friday 19 March  
Monday 29 March  
Wednesday 31 March  
Thursday 1 April

Start of Term 4  
Start of Mrs Duffy and Mrs Long's class swimming (TBC)  
Parents Evenings 4-7pm  
PA meeting – held via Zoom 7.30pm  
Parents Evenings 4-7pm  
Comic Relief Day  
Arts themed week in school  
End of Term 4  
INSET DAY – School closed to children

##### **TERM 5**

Monday 19 April  
Mon 10 – Wed 12 May

Start of Term 5  
SAT's week for Year 6

#### **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 Thursday 1 April 2021 Friday 28 May 2021	