

18 January 2021

Dear Parents

## SCHOOL YEAR 2020/2021 - NEWSLETTER NO 18



### REMOTE LEARNING

Many thanks to all of the parents who have completed the survey on how we are implementing the remote learning offer for the children. The responses have been very encouraging and we thank those parents who have been very generous in their praise for the speed in which we set up the systems and how well the live teaching sessions have been received by both children and parents.

There have been issues in setting a system up so swiftly and unfortunately this has led to frustration but please bear with it as it will get easier the more we all use it.

A question was asked about why we are not using Google Meet function within Google Classroom. The simple fact is that this does not work properly on the systems we have within school. There is an issue with sound and responses that we are unable, at this current time, to overcome. In the future our aim is to move over completely, however, we want to concentrate on what we are doing very well right now. Therefore the use of Zoom will continue for live teaching, with as indicated in my letter last week, streamlined codes and information in one place. You will have received an email outlining the timetable for the week of Zoom codes, times and teachers. I hope this is now clearer for you and all in one place.

The engagement for the live teaching and completing of work by the children has been fantastic and we would like this to continue. As stated in the letter this was the preferred option of the majority of parents. I have attached to this newsletter two guides for parents relating to the downloading and uploading of work to Google Classrooms. Hopefully, these will help you find it easier to cope with.

We will be moving to support some small group work and some individual sessions for reading, etc. now we are into a proper routine and mostly settled with the systems we are using. Your child's class teachers will be in touch regarding how this will work for your child's class.

As I said to the children last week, our Value for Life this term is Perseverance. This is most pertinent for this term as we must all try our very best to keep going and not give up on what we have to do or find difficult or troublesome. These will be good life lessons for the children and I hope this value will be demonstrated at home. If you are able to send any photos or comments about this to me for inclusion in the newsletter and for me to use during worship that would be great.

I would like to thank all parents for persevering as well with everything that has come your way over the past fortnight. I have tried to be as honest and as timely with communication as possible. I know that there has been lots of letters coming your way, however I feel it is important that you have all the information to hand. Some of the letters have been lengthy but due to the amount of information I have to give you this can't be helped.

Please do send photos or comments on the learning that children are doing or how you are helping at home. One parent has created a lovely work space for their child at home. Thanks for the picture and I am sure they will enjoy working in that space.



## PA NEWS

Online Bookshop – If you are running short of books to read during lockdown, please browse the PA bookshop at <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/almondsburypa> where we have over 100 books for sale. New books will be added throughout January and we have a selection of books for all age groups ranging from pre-school up to KS2, and a mix of fiction and non-fiction. We are encouraging the recycling of books as well as raising funds towards restocking the school library. Contact free delivery can be arranged to the local area for any books purchased. Please don't donate any more books until we have sold the existing stock.

**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.

## Secondhand Uniform

Running low on uniform? Contact the following parents who hold the secondhand uniform boxes for each age group:

Age 3-4 & 4-5: Jodie 07495 416681

Age 5-6: Cath 07973 341972

Age 6-7: Sarah 07813 777109

Age 7-8: Louisa 07967 975761

Age 8-9: Lucy 07977 449070

Age 9-10: Kelly 07711 508088

Age 10+: Sam 07426 611531

## 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.

## 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: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary>

Best wishes



Mr Paul D Smith  
Head Teacher

### LETTERS SENT OUT LAST WEEK AND POSTED ON WEBSITE

CONTENT	YEAR GROUP	INFORMATION OR ACTION
Remote learning letters No 4	Whole school	Information and action

## DATES 2020/21

### TERM 3

Thursday 11 February

Friday 12 February

PA meeting – held via Zoom 7.30pm

End of Term 3

### TERM 4

Monday 22 February

Friday 26 February

Thursday 11 March

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

Tuesday 16 March

Friday 19 March

Monday 29 March

Wednesday 31 March

Thursday 1 April

Arts themed week in school

End of Term 4

INSET DAY – School closed to children

### TERM 5

Monday 19 April

Friday 28 May

Start of Term 5

INSET day – school closed

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

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

**Term dates for 2020/21**

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