

8 November 2021

Dear Parents

SCHOOL YEAR 2021/2022 - NEWSLETTER NO 9

CERTIFICATES

Well done to these children who received the certificates for the past week from their teachers.

Mr Dean	-	Mawgan Smart
Mrs Goode and Mr Allen	-	Lewis Maddock
Miss Abraham	-	Ashton Dunn
Miss Ramli	-	Noah Sanderson
Miss Moore and Mrs Williams	-	Eli Gardner
Mr Evens	-	Amber Michael
Mr Garcia	-	Lia Drewitt
Mrs Leonard	-	Eli Horsfield
Miss Hake	-	Diana Savill
Mrs North	-	Matilda Milton
Miss Wingett	-	Ava Cotter

GENERAL SCHOOL UPDATE

We still need to be very vigilant in terms of Covid as the cases in school are still being reported. At the moment the number of cases are not enough to re-impose the restrictions we had previously however, we still need to be extremely careful as not to spread the virus further and wider. As you know the cases locally have remained high and we will therefore request that we move all Parents Evening meetings online to protect the staff and yourselves. This will ensure we maintain the staffing levels in school.



BOOK WEEK

Once again our annual Book Week has been a great success. The children thoroughly enjoyed the texts they have been studying linked to Remembrance and created very good pieces of writing and artwork linked to the activities. There was



a huge amount of books that were brought into school for the Book Swap on Thursday. It all goes to help the planet, recycling the books we read to save on paper and printing especially in the week when COP26 took place. Drop and read was also a great success.



Book at Bedtime was very well attended with just under 100 children coming back to school to listen to different stories read by the staff and enjoy their hot chocolate and cookies before going home to bed. The fires were roaring (virtually) as the children listened intently. Thank you to the PA and parental helpers for the making of the drinks.



Reception enjoyed their first ever Book Week at Almondsbury. They especially enjoyed their Year 6 buddies coming down to them for the afternoon to share a story and going to the library for the first time to borrow a book. On Friday they dressed up as their favourite book day characters and all looked fantastic!

KS1 had an exciting book week packed full of activities. In class, we looked at the book 'What we'll build' by Oliver Jeffers. We discussed the importance of building things like cars and houses but also the need to build confidence and friendships. It was great to see so many children come back to school for Books at Bedtime, enjoying stories and delicious hot chocolate! The week ended with the children dressing up as their favourite book characters, they all looked amazing as they strutted down the catwalk in our KS1 fashion show!

Year 3 and 4 have based their activities during Book Week on The Lion and the Unicorn by Shirley Hughes. The book is based on the experiences of a young boy during World War II called Lenny, who became an evacuee and moved to the countryside. The children have enjoyed writing diary entries based on Lenny's events as well as arts and crafts based on the book. The children are looking forward to discovering more about the book during Remembrance Week.



Year 5 and 6 have spent Book Week reading Archie's War. The children created their own scrapbook pages based on WW1 and even had chance to interview a soldier! They had a fantastic time sharing books with the younger children during The Big Read and were very pleased with their new books from our Book Swap. They had some great ideas for costumes on Friday too!

PARENTS EVENINGS

Thank you to those who have managed to book onto the website their time slots for Parents Evenings. There is still time to do so. If you continue to struggle please contact the office as Tracey or Carlene will be able to book your time slot for you. The online meetings will be via Zoom and the class teachers will provide the codes and passwords via the text messaging service.

PHOTOGRAPHS – A reminder that this Tuesday 9 November, tomorrow, we have Sarah Purnell, our photographer, in school. We will be taking individual photos and sibling photographs this year. **The children will all need to be in their uniform on Tuesday and not in PE kits or Forest School clothing.**

Anti-Bullying Week 2021
15-19 Nov 2021

ANTI BULLYING WEEK

Next week is Anti-bullying week and to mark the start of this we will be asking the children to wear **odd socks** to school on Monday 15 November. Over the week in their lessons,

PSHE and class workshops will be focusing on being aware of what bullying is and isn't as well as how to help report if the children feel they are being bullied or see someone else being bullied.

Last week the Key Stage 2 pupils watched a video presentation from the NSPCC about how to keep themselves safe from harm, which also included verbal and physical abuse. We feel this is important as safeguarding is a serious issue and our children need to be aware of how they can report or support each other. If you wish to discuss this issue with your child you may find the website helpful: <https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week/parents-and-carers>

CHILDREN IN NEED

Also at the end of next week Children in Need takes place. Once again we will be participating in collecting money for the Children in Need charity. This year the School Parliament have decided that our school participation will be all the children coming into school in their pyjama's. They children can also wear their dressing gowns to help them stay warmer. The suggested donation is as usual a £1 coin to be brought into school on Friday for the collection. Thank you in advance for your support.



THANKFULNESS HOME DISCUSSION SHEET

This term's theme for our Collective Worship is Thankfulness. We have attached the home discussion sheet for you to read through and talk to your child/ren about the themes within it. As you know the theme runs throughout the term and we will also be looking at 'Too much selfie isn't healthy' within our Heartsmart PSHE programme and Respect within our British Values. Below is our Bible reading linked to our Heartsmart theme for this term.

Mark 12:31

"Love your neighbour as you love yourself."



POPPY SALES AND MERCHANDISE

We do have poppies for sale in school and associated merchandise (see the image below). These will be on sale at the end of the day at the front of the school for parents and children to buy. There are suggested prices for the merchandise and a suggestion of 20p for a poppy (or more if you would like to donate more). Although there won't be the usual services up and down the country with different uniformed groups we will still be completing activities next Wednesday to mark the day.



SUPPORT FOR PARENTS

The Bridge Foundation is launching a therapy group for parents of anxious teenagers. If you think this may help any parents at your school, could you include the details in your next school newsletter?

Covid has brought many pressures and difficulties for teenagers, and we have seen a high level of demand for help from parents. To help parents struggling with anxious teenagers, we have created a therapy group for parents to come together and share their experiences in a safe and confidential place.

The group will be on Thursdays from 3.15-4.45 and will start in January. The group will meet at The Bridge Foundation in Cotham in Bristol. Two therapists will facilitate the group at the Bridge Foundation – Anita Bradford and Ros De Silva experienced facilitators.

We are offering three free taster group sessions on 18 and 25 November and 2 December for parents to see if the group will work for them. Any interested parents can contact us on info@bridgefoundation.org.uk or 0117 9424510 for an initial chat or to arrange an online meeting to see if the group would work for them.

PA NEWS

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

3rd December: Non uniform Day and Christmas Movie Night

14th December: Reindeer Run plus stalls (more info to follow)

Looking towards Christmas

We're hoping to do a Christmas themed movie night as well as the Colour Hamper Raffle.

Normally we'd be planning for the Christmas Fayre, but we're shaking things up this year in favour of an outdoor event. The Reindeer Run will take place from 3pm on Tuesday 14th December. Each child will be given some festive reindeer antlers to decorate in school during the day, and then will do a lap of the field in their antlers. We'll ask the children to gain sponsorship, but to take part, this event is free. We're hoping to do some stalls too to get into the Christmas spirit such as cakes, parents gift shop, lucky dip and hot chocolate. This is all weather and covid restrictions permitting, so watch this space!

Within the Parents' Association we are planning a fun filled year of fundraising which will ensure we can continue to support the School. Our fundraising goal is to raise enough to transform the KS1 and KS2 playgrounds. If you would like to donate directly please click here:

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/almondsburyplayground>

Please do get in touch if you like to volunteer to support the PA. We can only fundraise for the school when parents support us and offer to help or lead on events/ initiatives- if you can give some time, please speak to Caroline, Amy, Nat or Carly or email: almondsburyschoolpa@gmail.com

Email address: office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk

Website: www.almondsburyprimary.co.uk

AMAZON WISHLIST

Thank you to everyone who has bought items so far from the Amazon Wishlist for the new Forest School area. We are looking forward to bringing the plans together for the children to enjoy more experiences. If you can help, please take a look at the Wishlist, items start from £2

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/WA57Q7YFH4Y6?ref_=wl_share

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.activityvillage.co.uk/remembrance-day>

Best wishes



Mr Paul D Smith
Executive Head Teacher

LETTERS SENT OUT LAST WEEK AND POSTED ON WEBSITE

CONTENT	YEAR GROUP	INFORMATION OR ACTION
		Information and action
		Information and action

DATES 2021/22

TERM 2

Tuesday 9 November	Individual children's and sibling photos taken
Friday 12 November	Swimming for Miss Ramli's class starts 12.30 – 1.30pm
Monday 15 November	Odd Socks day for Anti-Bullying week New Parents tours 9.30am and 11.00am
Thursday 18 November	New Parents tours 1.30pm and 2.30pm Parents Evening 4.00- 7.00pm
Friday 19 November	Children In Need Day Swimming for Miss Ramli's class starts 12.30 – 1.30pm
Tuesday 23 November	New Parents tours 1.30pm and 2.30pm Parents Evening 4.00 – 7.00pm
Friday 26 November	New Parents tours 9.30am and 11.00am Swimming for Miss Ramli's class starts 12.30 – 1.30pm
Friday 3 December	Non Uniform day and Movie Night 6.00pm – 8.00pm
Wednesday 8 December	Year 1 and 2 Christmas performance 2.00pm
Thursday 9 December	Reception Christmas performance 2.30pm Year 1 and 2 Christmas performance 6.00pm
Friday 10 December	Reception and KS1 Christmas party 5.00pm raffle draw for Coloured hampers on Zoom
Tuesday 14 December	Whole School Christmas lunch From 3.00pm Reindeer run and stalls
Wednesday 15 December	Year 3 and 4 Christmas party Year 5 and 6 Carols by Candlelight at St Mary's Church
Thursday 16 December	Year 5 and 6 Christmas party
Friday 17 December	End of Term 2

Term dates for 2021/22

Term	Starts	Ends
Term 1	Thursday 2 September 2021	Friday 22 October 2021
Term 2	Monday 1 November 2021	Friday 17 December 2021
Term 3	Tuesday 4 January 2022	Friday 18 February 2022
Term 4	Monday 28 February 2022	Friday 8 April 2022
Term 5	Monday 25 April 2022	Friday 27 May 2022
Term 6	Monday 6 June 2022	Thursday 21 July 2022
INSET DAYS confirmed	Thursday 2 September 2021 Friday 3 September 2021 Tuesday 4 January 2022 Friday 18 February 2022 Friday 27 May 2022	

Email address: office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk

Website: www.almondsburyprimary.co.uk

