

13 December 2021

Dear Parents

## SCHOOL YEAR 2021/2022 - NEWSLETTER NO 14

### CERTIFICATES

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

Mr Dean	-	Elijah Chapple
Mrs Goode and Mr Allen	-	Emmie Pocock
Miss Abraham	-	Imogen Sander
Miss Ramli	-	Honey Jenkins
Miss Moore and Mrs Williams	-	Henry Wrigley
Mr Evens	-	Amar Voual
Mr Garcia	-	The whole class
Mrs Leonard	-	The whole class
Miss Hake	-	Maverick Haynes
Mrs North	-	Alice Gheti
Miss Wingett	-	Andile Bwalya



### GENERAL SCHOOL UPDATE

Thankfully, we have seen just one case within school over the past week and we were really pleased that we were able to go ahead with 'live' performances of the Reception and Year 1 and 2 Christmas productions last week, as well as the Year 5 and 6 Carol service this week in the school playground now. We would ask that parents from Years 5 and 6 do try to maintain social distancing whilst in the school grounds. We are lucky to have Black Sheep Coffee Shop coming along to provide refreshments for free – all we ask is that you give a donation towards the charity we are collecting for this year 'Save the Children'.

We will be maintaining the wearing of masks in school, staff testing regime and childrens' hand washing and the ventilation in school as well into the New Year. We have been using the CO2 monitors now provided by the DFE to ensure that we can keep the classes well ventilated but also try to keep the children warmer. Hopefully, we will return in January to no new cases and you at home, as well as the staff, will all have a Covid free Christmas period.

### CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

It was a real treat to be able to invite parents in to watch the performances by Reception and Years 1 and 2. Well done to all of the children.

The Reception children performed 'The Nativity' to their family members. They all sang, danced and spoke their words really well. It is always a joy to see the Reception children perform their nativity. It was a magical memorable performance.





'A Midwife's Crisis' was performed by Years 1 and 2. The three performances were also warmly received by their family, who appreciated all of the hard work they have put in to delivering a great production. The children performed their lines really well. All of the children were clear in their dictation both in their speaking parts as well as their singing. A particular mention to the soloists and main parts for their great performances, plus all the narrators who learnt and delivered their lines so well.



Thank you for your support with practicing words and coming along to support your children. We would like to thank you for your support in the social distancing and only coming to the performance for your own child's class. There are more photos on the school website.

A special thank you to all the Reception and Key Stage 1 staff for all their efforts in producing the performances so well.

**CHRISTMAS LUNCH** is tomorrow Tuesday 14 December this year. We will be holding this in key phase bubbles in the hall. 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.



### CHRISTMAS PARTIES

The PA have agreed to provide the food for each party once again for the KS2 parties this week. There will be biscuits and drinks. Usually not a lot is eaten and we have wastage as the children have not long had their lunch. Don't forget the children all bring their own clothes for their parties.

### COLOUR HAMPERS RAFFLE

It was great to see those who could join me on Friday for the PA Colour hamper draw, which was very exciting. The eleven winners were drawn in turn for the hampers. Thank you so much to all those parents who donated items for the hampers, which looked fantastic as ever. The winning hampers for the key stages were in Key Stage 1 – Mrs North's class the purple one and in Key Stage 2 – Mr Evens's class the pink one. These classes received some prizes for the class as well as a £25 gift voucher to spend on whatever they want. The PA raised a phenomenal total of £1,250!! What a great sum of money to go towards the playground improvements.



### MESSAGE FROM ST MARY'S CHURCH

This year St Mary's Church will be holding one Christingle service in Almondsbury Vicarage garden at 3pm on Christmas Eve. Please download an order of service from the Church's website: <https://almondsburychurch.org.uk>

We are open for worship every Sunday at 8.30am for Holy Communion and 10.00am for the All-Age Service. **CHRISTMAS SERVICES** Carols by Candlelight 6.30pm Sunday 19th December 2021 followed by mince pies and mulled wine

Also keep an eye on the website in case there are any changes. Everyone is invited. Please wrap up warm and bring a chair if needed.

### RECEPTION SCHOOL TOUR

We have added an additional date for a tour of the school. Please contact the office if you would like to come along on Friday 7 January 2022 at 13.30pm.



## YEAR 4 UKULELE PERFORMANCE

Since September, the Year 4 children have been taking part in weekly ukulele lessons with Mr Davis as part of the Music curriculum. The children have thoroughly enjoyed these lessons and learnt a lot in a short space of time. On Thursday, the children performed in a ukulele concert to showcase their songs. We were joined on Zoom by many Year 4 parents and the rest of Key Stage 2. The children performed amazingly well and we were astounded by their talent. Thank you to all those who were able to share this special moment. The children had so much fun!



## 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 2549** 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 THE HEALTH AND PLAY TEAM IN SCHOOL

### Enriching Our Children's Playtime Experience

The Sports Council are working hard at looking at how all the children can make the most of the outside areas during their playtimes and lunchtimes. So that the school can build on and make the most of all that the PA are doing to raise money for the **Playground Project**.

We want the children to be able to explore the field in the winter months. To achieve this we have timetabled the different areas of the field and playground so that all children will have days they can access the field. This will also give children much more space on the playground to make use of the playground activities and equipment that the PA are already purchasing.

### We need your Help!



We need everyone's help to ensure the children have the right outdoor wear to access the activities available to ensure that we are able to keep clothing and the indoor spaces as clean and looked after as possible.

### After Christmas, the children will need the following:-

- A pair of named **WELLIES** (*that they can leave in school*).
- Waterproof warm clothing e.g. coats, gloves, neck scarves, gloves, hats.

### Please help us make this happen!

We would like to thank the PA for all their hard work and support over the past year, which has been another difficult one for fund raising for them. The PA members have worked around the lack of large events taking place and worked tirelessly to find alternative fund streams and grants. They have raised a very impressive £4,000 in total plus and other £6,000 in grants (this does not include whatever is raised on the Reindeer run tomorrow). This is a fantastic amount to have raised within restricted activity. Many thanks especially to Caroline McCarthy and Carly Little who have been instrumental in organising and coordinating the events.

## PA NEWS –

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- o Elf Christmas shop, Christmas Jumpers and Letters from Santa - open until the end of term
- o Reindeer Run- Tuesday 14 December.

### HELP REQUIRED

We have been kindly gifted a wonderful Playhouse from someone who lives in the village. We need some help to transport the base and build the house on Sunday. Please get in touch if you are available to help.

### COLOUR HAMPER RAFFLE

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Colour Hamper Raffle: gave donations, bought tickets, helped organise, wrapped and attending the live zoom call on Friday evening. Congratulations to those 11 lucky winners-the office will contact you on Monday if you have won one. The total funds raised for the Playground Project is £1250!

### REINDEER RUN:

Tomorrow is our first Reindeer Run! Here's all the key info! For online donations, please click here:

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/Almondsburyreindeerrun2021?invite=true>

For a printable version of the donation form, see attached. All donation to be back in school by Thursday 16th December.

Reminder of start times for each year group:

- 2.30pm: Reception
- 2.45pm: Year 1 & 2
- 3pm: Year 3 & 4
- 3.15pm: Year 5 & 6



Bring some cash and a bag... stalls available:

- cakes	- parents gifts
- tuck shop	- fidgets
- name the elf game	- elf goodies
- lucky dip	- reindeer food

There will also be the opportunity to sign up for Easyfundraising (and free sweets for the kids if you do). We haven't got any hot drinks facilities being an outdoor event, so bring a flask of tea or coffee! Have fun and enjoy...

The PA are welcoming Christmas clothes donations which can be resold to raise funds for the playground project. Please drop items into the blue box in reception and to purchase items, visit: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/almondsburypta>

### LETTERS FROM FATHER CHRISTMAS

Enter Discount Code ALM21 at the checkout of the Lapland Mailroom to get a discount on your personalised Santa letter and activity pack <http://www.laplandmailroom.com/>

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](mailto:almondsburyschoolpa@gmail.com)

### 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](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: [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 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 year. I am looking forward to 2022 and the challenges and successes it will undoubtedly bring. We will see you all during this week and then again on Wednesday 5 January 2022.



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 14 December

Whole School Christmas lunch

From 2.30pm Reindeer run and stalls

Wednesday 15 December

Year 3 and 4 Christmas party

Year 5 and 6 Carols by Candlelight at school starting at 5.45pm

Flu Immunisations

Thursday 16 December

Year 5 and 6 Christmas party

Friday 17 December

End of Term 2

#### TERM 3

Tuesday 4 January

INSET DAY – school closed to pupils

Wednesday 5 January

Pupils start Term 3 in school

Friday 7 January

Miss Moore's and Mrs William's class swimming 12.30 – 1.30pm

Reception School Tour – 13.30pm

Friday 14 January

Miss Moore's and Mrs William's class swimming

Friday 21 January

Miss Moore's and Mrs William's class swimming

Friday 28 January

Miss Moore's and Mrs William's class swimming

Friday 4 February

KS1 Number Day

Miss Moore's and Mrs William's class swimming

Tuesday 8 February

Paralympic athlete visiting school for the day and working with pupils

Friday 11 February

Miss Moore's and Mrs William's class swimming

Thursday 17 February

Last day for pupils of Term 3

Friday 18 February

INSET DAY – school closed to pupils

### 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

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

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

<b>Term 3</b>	<b>Tuesday 4 January 2022</b>	<b>Friday 18 February 2022</b>
<b>Term 4</b>	<b>Monday 28 February 2022</b>	<b>Friday 8 April 2022</b>
<b>Term 5</b>	<b>Monday 25 April 2022</b>	<b>Friday 27 May 2022</b>
<b>Term 6</b>	<b>Monday 6 June 2022</b>	<b>Thursday 21 July 2022</b>
<b>INSET DAYS confirmed</b>	<b>Thursday 2 September 2021</b> <b>Friday 3 September 2021</b> <b>Tuesday 4 January 2022</b> <b>Friday 18 February 2022</b> <b>Friday 27 May 2022</b>	