

6 February 2023

Dear Parents

SCHOOL YEAR 2022/2023 - NEWSLETTER NO 20

CERTIFICATES

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

Mr Dean	-	Elijah Reynolds
Mrs Goode and Mrs Owen	-	Emilia McCarthy
Miss Abraham (Miss Maynard)	-	Macy Cheung
Miss Ramli	-	Samuel Roberts
Mrs Williams and Mr Ramshaw	-	Kiaan Lekhi
Mr Evens	-	Jacob Little
Mr Garcia	-	Kiaan Bhandari
Mrs Leonard	-	Leo Sansum
Miss Hake	-	Avika Gahlyan
Mrs North and Ms Hill	-	Henry Jarvis
Miss Wingett	-	Rex Sansum



SCHOOL SECURITY

We have been reviewing our school security over the past few weeks. There have been a number of parents who have innocently come into the building during the after school clubs and at other times when there are still other children around. Therefore from today the gates will be closed at the end of the day when the other children go home. The afterschool club leaders will bring the children to the side gates when they have finished their clubs at 4.20 or 4.30pm. I am sorry but that does mean that those parents who do like to watch will now not be able to do so. It is imperative that we keep all of the children safe and well at all times during the school day and after school is no exception to that.

The children may well have shared with you that we have practiced lockdowns of the school building just in case there is a need to do so. These are part of our routine safeguarding practices just as we have regular fire drills to evacuate the building too.

SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS



After winning the level 2 Sportshall competition at Yate Academy in the Autumn term, Almondsbury were put through to the level 3 competition at UWE on Tuesday 31 January. There were lots of schools competing from all over Avon. With a few butterflies, they knuckled down and put on a great performance. They took part in a range of field and track events, coming 8th overall. A great result and even better experience.



SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE SWIMMING GALA

On Saturday 28 January, 20 children from year 3,4,5&6, entered in the South Gloucestershire Swimming Gala. There was an amazing atmosphere with lots of spectators and some challenging opposition.

The children rose to the challenge and achieved some great results. A particular well done to Isla Maynard for coming first in her race and Leo Bowen and Imogen Thorne for coming third in their races.

ART AT ALMONDSBURY



Just as with mathematics last week we have been honing our curriculum offer and work in Art over the past few months. The children thoroughly enjoy their art lessons and these have changed over time to look very much at an artist, their lives and works and particularly the techniques they use to create their art work. The children are developing their appreciation of art through these lessons and building up a bank of techniques in drawing, painting and sculpture. The artists we are studying come

from a wide range of backgrounds, styles and eras not just classical artists such as Matisse, Mondrian and Monet but also contemporary artists such as Jackson Pollock, Grayson Perry and Stephen Wiltshire. The children study the art of shading, tone, line and structure of drawing, colour mixing, tinting and shading in paint and the form to create sculptures such as Barbara Hepworth. We also study artists from a range of backgrounds and across the world such as Frida Kahlo and Alaa Awad. It is an exciting time and the art work that the children are producing is impressive. Please do ask your children about their art study for this term and they will be able to share their knowledge and show you their techniques.



SEND OPPORTUNITY

Over the coming months we will be hosting parents workshops and projects for those parents who feel they would like more information or advice on certain aspects of supporting their children. These will all be run through and by Jigsaw Thornbury.

The first of these is on Tuesday 28 February from 10.00 – 11.00am. This will be a workshop of Speech Language and Communication needs. Here is the detailed information for you.

'Do you observe difficulties in attention, listening and following instructions; a difficulty in making sense of language heard around them?

Does your young person find it difficult to follow or engage in social conversation?

Do you have a young person who finds it difficult to express their ideas, wants or feelings?

Speech, language and communication are central life skills. It is linked to learning, attainment, behaviour, social and emotional development as well as mental wellbeing. This Awareness session will help you to identify your child, young person's speech, language, and communication difficulties and will introduce you to the foundations and tools for supporting them.

These Connect sessions, identified by parents, set to improve the awareness, engagement and connections for parent's supporting their young person's physical, educational, or emotional wellbeing. Our Connect series has been funded by South Gloucestershire Council and are FREE to attend. The session will be delivered by our team within schools at school times.

Connect aims to:

Increase the awareness and confidence of parents/carers on 6 topic areas:

Sensory Awareness, School Anxiety and Avoidance (EBSA),

Behaviour Regulation, Speech Language Communication, Recognising Emotions and Sleep.

Increase parent/carer connection and engagement; to know how to support their child, or seek additional guidance with confidence.

Each session will be accompanied with a 'fridge sheet', a reminder tool of the session, and what parent's need in their toolkit when supporting their child. There will also be an opportunity to view some useful resources from our Sensory Lending Resource Library and Toolkits to purchase from our linked Toolkit sessions.

Any presentation slides will be sent by email following the session. No mobile phones will be permitted during the session or whilst on school grounds and should remain turned off and in bags. In case of emergency the school office can be contacted to connect you.'

If you would like to book on this workshop then please follow the link and state you are a parent at Almondsbury to gain this for free.

<https://jigsawthornbury.charitysuite.com/events/uq84ybkw>

Email address: office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk

Website: www.almondsburyprimary.co.uk



SAFER INTERNET

This week is Safer Internet day. This will take place on Tuesday 7 February. The theme this year is 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

The children will be doing something related to e-safety and reliability online next week in their computing lessons.



CHARLIE FROUD FOUNDATION

This year the School Parliament have decided to support a very local charity, which is based in Almondsbury – The Charlie Froud Foundation. The charity support mountain rescue teams as well as other local charities such as the Jesse May Trust. The children have been set the challenge of collecting as many

one penny coins as possible between now and 30 June 2023. We know that at the moment there are some tough choices being made by families so please do not worry if you are unable to give anything between now and then but if you are able to then please do send in your one penny coins. This is also a competition between the other local schools. The school which collects the most coins will receive £1,000 as a reward kindly donated by the Forss family who are trustees. Thank you in advance.

We can see those collection jars in each class growing daily and weekly. Thank you so much for your contributions so far.

PA NEWS

Please note that the PTA events APP is no longer supported by PTA events company. All purchases going forward will need to be made via the website via Safari for iPhones or Google for Android/computers & laptops. We apologise for any inconvenience caused, unfortunately this has been a choice by the developers and not a PA decision.

PA UPDATE

Upcoming Events:

Friday 10 February 2023, 3.30pm, Cake and Second Hand School Uniform Sale.

Please could you bring shop-bought donations on Thursday 9 February and Friday 10 February.

March - Disco

Further details to come.

Saturday 22 April - Grounds Day

These have been a great success in the past. We will be looking for volunteers to help spruce up the school grounds (likely to be focusing on the pond area). More details closer to the date.

PA ADMIN

We are looking to recruit a second Vice-Chair to assist our team. You will be working alongside our existing Vice-Chair and our two co-chairs and our Treasurer as part of the Core Team. If you are interested then please contact the team at almondsburyschoolpa@gmail.com

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.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

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 FOR 2022/23

TERM 3

Monday 6 February
Friday 10 February

SEND and You coffee morning 9.30am
Mrs Williams's class swimming afternoon
PA Cake Sale and uniform sale after school
End of Term 3

TERM 4

Monday 20 February
Wednesday 22 February
Friday 24 February
Thursday 2 March
Friday 3 March
Thursday 9 March
Friday 10 March
Monday 13 March
Tuesday 14 March
Wednesday 15 March
Thursday 16 March
Friday 17 March

Start of term 4
Year 1 and 2 WOW day
Mrs Williams's class swimming afternoon
Industrial Action affecting specific classes which may be closed
Mrs Williams's class swimming afternoon
Parents Evenings 4.00- 7.20pm
Mrs Williams's class swimming afternoon
Year 5 and 6 visit to Cadbury World, Birmingham
Parents Evenings 4.00- 7.20pm
Industrial Action affecting specific classes which may be closed
Industrial Action affecting specific classes which may be closed
Comic Relief Day

Monday 27 – Friday 31 March
Friday 31 March

European Week
PA Cake Sale and uniform sale after school
End of Term 4

TERM 5

Monday 17 April
Friday 21 April
Friday 28 April
Monday 1 May
Friday 5 May
Saturday 6 May
Monday 8 May
Tuesday 9 – Friday 12 May
Friday 12 May
Monday 15 – Friday 19 May
Friday 19 May
Monday 22 – Thursday 25 May
Tuesday 23 May
Thursday 25 May
Friday 26 May

Start of Term 5
Mr Evens's class swimming
Mr Evens's class swimming
May Day Bank Holiday – School closed
Mr Evens's class swimming
HM King Charles III Coronation Day
Coronation Day Bank Holiday – School Closed
Year 6 SAT week
Mr Evens's class swimming
Year 2 SAT week
Mr Evens's class swimming
Sports Week
Provisional Sports Day TBC
End of Term 5
INSET DAY – School closed to all pupils

Term dates for 2022/23

Term	Starts	Ends
Term 1	Thursday 1 September 2022	Friday 21 October 2022
Term 2	Monday 31 October 2022	Friday 16 December 2022
Term 3	Tuesday 3 January 2023	Friday 10 February 2023
Term 4	Monday 20 February 2023	Friday 31 March 2023
Term 5	Monday 17 April 2023	Friday 26 May 2023
Term 6	Monday 5 June 2023	Friday 21 July 2023
INSET DAYS confirmed for this academic year	Friday 26 May 2023	