

5 September 2023

Dear Parents

**SCHOOL YEAR 2023/2024 - NEWSLETTER NO 1**

# Welcome back to school

## It's great to see you!

Welcome back to all parents and children. I do hope that you have had a lovely summer holiday and been able to have some relaxation and recuperation and managed to get away either on a staycation or ventured further afield.

I would like to welcome all of the new children in Reception and new parents who will be joining us this week. I am sure you and your child will have seven wonderful years at Almondsbury. All of the staff look forward to getting to know your children as well as yourselves.

### STAFFING

We welcome Mrs Lauren Lansdown who will be teaching Year 3 and 4 class along with Mr Dean on a Monday to Wednesday. She joins us from a school in North Somerset. Miss Molly Whittingham joins us to teach Year 5. She may be familiar as she was at Almondsbury during her training and previously worked at Tockington Manor in the nursery. As many of you know Miss Moore was married during the last academic year. Therefore, from this week she will be changing her name to Mrs Bowen in school.



**Mrs Lauren Lansdown**



**Miss Molly Whittingham**

Unfortunately, we are sad to announce that we are losing two of our valued teaching assistants. Mrs Paula Vicary, who has not been in school for some time now will not be returning to school. We hope that she keeps well and will visit us whenever she can. Forest Schools will continue as usual with Mrs Beckie Jones taking over from Mrs Vicary. Mrs Michelle Bryant is leaving us on Friday. She has made the very difficult decision to change careers and will be retraining as a PCSO with the police. We wish her lots of luck in her new endeavours and will miss her greatly. We have advertised for both posts and hopefully we will be able to appoint shortly.

### RAAC

You will be pleased to know that we do not have an issue with RAAC in our school. The scaffolding around the Hall is dealing with the leaky roof and will be completed very soon.

## WRAPAROUND CARE

Thank you for all of your requests for attending wraparound care either before or after school. There has been a tremendous influx of requests, so much so that we have up to 60 children at breakfast club during the week. I am sure that both clubs at either end of the day will continue to be successfully run.

## CONTACT DETAILS

Please let the office know if there have been any changes in your address or contact details to enable us to update our records, including mobile numbers and email addresses. Thank you.

## NAME LABELS

Please do ensure that you have labelled all of your children's jumpers, ties, shirts etc. It is very important that this is done as it is very difficult to return any lost property that is not labelled. Thank you.

## MEET THE TEACHER

The annual Meet the Teacher sessions for you to meet and introduce yourself to your child's new class teacher are next week on Tuesday and Thursday. They start at 3.30pm until 4.00pm. The dates for these are below in the dates section of the newsletter.

## WATER BOTTLES

Children can bring a small plastic bottle of drinking water to school. This bottle should be clear (see through), with a sports top and named – and taken home each day. Bottles can be refilled in school

during the day to ensure freshness of water and ensure the children have enough to drink.

## LUNCH OPTIONS

Reminder that the price for meals has risen to £2.40 and our new meals provider is AiP. We have had issues linking Parent Pay to the new suppliers and are endeavoring to sort this out as soon as possible. In the meantime we have had to revert to old style booking of meals with the children in class. Please make sure that you have discussed and shared the menus with your children so they know what is on offer and what you would like them to eat daily.

## PARKING AT THE BOWL INN

Parents have an allocated time slot of 8.30-9.30am in the morning and 3-4pm in the afternoon to park in the Bowl Inn car park. If you are going to be in the car park for longer please pop into The Bowl and let them know.

## 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:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/>

## PE DAYS

Here are the days for PE and therefore the day in which the children need to arrive at school in their PE kits. For Forest Schools Year 1 and above children will be required to wear PE kits and hoodies. Thank you.

PE TIMETABLE 2023/24				
Day/Time	Morning session	Morning session	Afternoon session	Afternoon session
Monday	Y1/2	Y3/4	Y3/4	Y5/6
Tuesday	Y2		<b>Year 3 and 4 PE or Forest Schools</b>	
Wednesday	Y3/4		<b>Year 5 and 6 PE Reception Welly Wednesdays</b>	
Thursday	Y5	Rec	<b>Year 1 and 2 PE or Forest Schools</b>	
Friday	Y1	Rec	<b>Year 4 swimming</b>	Y6
			Y5/6	

## BRIDGE FAMILY OF SCHOOLS VIRTUAL ART GALLERY

We are very excited to unveil our Bridge Family of School's Art Gallery. Our Year 3 children from across our group of schools have all contributed a piece of art that they are particularly proud of to be shared in a virtual art gallery. We are so pleased that their art can be showcased for everyone to see and admire. We hope you

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

enjoy exploring the different exhibitions and hopefully you are also able to spot a piece of artwork created by an artist you know well!

Olveston CE Primary - <https://www.artsteps.com/view/645e52191362827053b446c3>

St Peter's CE Primary and Almondsbury CE Primary - <https://www.artsteps.com/view/645e5113b529326748df5c72>

The Manor CE Primary and St Chad's CE Primary - <https://www.artsteps.com/view/645e4f18d246f96edd6e3ff9>

## PA NEWS

### Secondhand Uniform

Get prepared for the 2023/24 academic year - have a look at the secondhand uniform available on the PA website: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/almondsburypta/>

Great quality shorts, trousers, dresses, skirts, cardigans, branded items are all available and range for 50p-£2.

Our secondhand stores are currently full for most ages, so apart from brand new and branded items, and 12 plus age range (please hand to reception), we won't be accepting any more donations until further notice.

### VACANCY FOR LUNCHTIME PLAY SUPERVISORS AND BREAKFAST CLUB SUPERVISOR

We currently have a vacancy for a lunchtime play supervisors within school. This is to join the rest of the team in working over lunchtime to support the children in the hall and outside whilst at play each day. The hours are between 12.00noon– 1.30pm daily. This equates to 7.5 hours per week. We can be flexible if needs be with number of days.

We are also looking to expand our number of staff members at Breakfast Club to accommodate more children who are wishing to attend. The timings for the breakfast club post are 7.45am – 9.00am. This would be for Monday to Friday and 6.5 hours per week. You will be joining an existing team of 4 or 5 members on a regular daily basis.

If you would like more information and the salary for either post please contact Mrs Heaps in the office. If you know of someone, other than yourselves who read the newsletter, who may be looking for a part-time role please pass on the details.

### VACANCY FOR ROAD CROSSING PATROL HERO

We are still looking for our very own School Road Crossing Patrol Hero. We are very keen for someone to join the Road Safety team to ensure that the children (and parents) remain safe on their way to and from school. If you are interested in helping out and doing your bit for our local community please see the details below.

Post Details:

Role: School Crossing Patrol - Almondsbury

Site Location: Sunday's Hill, Opposite Church

Times: 8.30am – 9.05am

3.20pm – 3.55pm

Hourly rate: £9ph

Full training and uniform is provided, we are happy to consider part time and/or job share for further details please contact myself, Martina Byrne-Obee 01454 863611.



Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P.D. Smith'.

Mr Paul D Smith  
Executive Head Teacher

### DATES FOR 2023/24

Friday 1 September

Monday 4 September

Tuesday 5 September

INSET DAY School closed to pupils

INSET DAY School closed to pupils

School starts for Years 1 to 6

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Tuesday 5 & Wednesday 6 Thursday 7 September Monday 11 September Tuesday 12 September	Reception class home visits Reception children start part-time mornings or afternoons Reception children in school all morning plus lunch Meet the teacher 3.30 – 4.00pm Miss Hake, Mr Garcia, Mrs Lansdown and Mr Dean, Mrs Williams and Mr Ramshaw, Miss Ramli
Wednesday 13 September	Reception parents reading and phonics workshop 9.15am in the Hall
Thursday 14 September	Meet the teacher 3.30 – 4.00pm Mrs Leonard, Mr Evens, Miss Whittingham, Mrs Goode and Mrs Owen.
Friday 15 September Monday 18 September	Mrs Williams's class starts swimming Year 6 residential to Paris, France
Thursday 21 September	Reception children in school full time Reception parents 'Funky Fingers' workshop 2.30pm in the Hall Meet the teacher Miss Wingett and Ms Hill 3.30 – 4.00pm
Friday 22 September	Year 6 return to school Mrs Williams's class swimming
Wednesday 27 September	Reception parents 'Drawing club and writing' workshop 9.15am in the Hall
Friday 29 September	Mrs Williams's class swimming
Thursday 5 October	Flu vaccines in school for children
Friday 6 October	Mrs Williams's class swimming
Thursday 12 October	Harvest Festival
Friday 13 October	Mrs Williams's class swimming
Monday 16 October	Book Week
Thursday 19 October	Last day of Term 1
Friday 20 October	INSET DAY School closed to pupils
<b>TERM 2</b>	
Monday 30 October	Start of Term 2 for all pupils Remembrance Week in school
Tuesday 31 October	New Reception Tour for September 2024 intake 9.30am and 11.00am
Friday 3 November Monday 6 November	Mrs Williams's class swimming New Reception Tour for September 2024 intake 9.30am and 11.00am
Thursday 9 November	Individual photographs in school Parents Evenings 4.00pm – 7.00pm
Friday 10 November	Mrs Williams's class swimming
Monday 13 November	New Reception Tour for September 2024 intake 1.30pm
Tuesday 14 November	Parents Evenings 4.00pm – 7.00pm
Friday 17 November	Children in Need Day Mrs Williams's class swimming
Monday 20 November	New Reception Tour for September 2024 intake 1.30pm and 2.30pm
Friday 24 November	Mrs Williams's class swimming
Friday 1 December	Mrs Williams's class swimming
Wednesday 6 December	Year 1 and 2 Christmas performance 2.00pm
Thursday 7 December	Reception classes Nativity performance 2.15pm Year 1 and 2 Christmas performance 6.00pm
Friday 8 December	Reception and KS1 Christmas party
Tuesday 12 December	Christmas lunch
Wednesday 13 December	Year 3 and 4 Christmas party Year 5 and 6 Carols by Candlelight at St Mary's Church 6.30pm
Thursday 14 December	Year 5 and 6 Christmas party
Friday 15 December	End of Term 2

**Term dates for 2023/24**

Term	Starts	Ends
Term 1	Friday 1 September 2023	Friday 20 October 2023

<b>Term 2</b>	<b>Monday 30 October 2023</b>	<b>Friday 15 December 2023</b>
<b>Term 3</b>	<b>Tuesday 2 January 2024</b>	<b>Friday 9 February 2024</b>
<b>Term 4</b>	<b>Monday 19 February 2024</b>	<b>Thursday 28 March 2024</b>
<b>Term 5</b>	<b>Monday 15 April 2024</b>	<b>Friday 24 May 2024</b>
<b>Term 6</b>	<b>Monday 3 June 2024</b>	<b>Tuesday 23 July 2024</b>
<b>INSET DAYS confirmed for the academic year</b>	<b>Friday 1 September 2023 Monday 4 September 2023 Friday 20 October 2023 Tuesday 2 January 2024 Friday 24 May 2024</b>	