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02 October 2023

Dear Parents

SCHOOL YEAR 2023/2024 - NEWSLETTER NO 05

CERTIFICATES

Well done to these children who received the certificates for last week from their teachers. We have a new sharing of these on a Friday in worship where the class teacher is sharing the reasons for the certificates being awarded.

Miss Ramli Charlie Garland Mrs Goode and Mrs Owen Roxie Nelson Miss Whittingham Amber Michael Mrs Williams and Mr Ramshaw Rory Smith Mr Dean and Mrs Lansdown Oscar Blackburn Mr Evens Matthew Berry Edward Wilkosz Mr Garcia Mrs Leonard Willow Hammond Ewan Smith Miss Hake Ms Hill and Mrs North Cordelia Reihe Aaliyah Wakeham Miss Wingett



ATTENDANCE

High attendance is very important for all of the children to be able to achieve and do well throughout their time at Almondsbury. We aim to have this as our minimum attendance from now on for every child. For every missed day of school it takes time for the children to catch up with their learning. If your child's attendance is 95% then they will have missed a whole unit of work over the year that they will have to catch up on. For attendance below 90% this is equivalent to over 4 weeks' worth of missed learning which does have a massive impact on the progress the children make. As usual any child's attendance that falls below 90% will be contacted by myself to discuss how we can make sure the attendance improves. I am sure that this will not be the case and I do hope we will be able to see all children's attendance at a high figure and that they are able to succeed in their learning.

I also need to remind you that no term time absence for holidays will be authorised. I look forward to reporting another high attendance year and even higher achievement by the children.

Lateness can also cause the children to have an unsettled time during the first part of the morning as they miss the social interaction at the start of the day as well as registration and the first part of the lesson. It is very important that the children arrive on time in the morning. Thank you for your support.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

It is nearly time for our annual Harvest Festival. As usual we would appreciate donations for the Harvest display, which will be set up in the Hall. Once again this year we have decided to aid a charity that is close to us. We will be asking you to provide tinned or packet goods that can be used by Food Banks namely the Five Loaves and Two Fishes charity of St Paul's in Bristol. The goods will be displayed alongside the loaves of bread provided by Olveston bakery, one for each class, plus the large sheaf that will be for sale at the end of the day. Please send a donation in with your child next Thursday 12 October morning. Many thanks in advance.



COLOUR RUN

What a fantastic morning of running and immense colour. The course was set up ready for the children to come along and enjoy their morning of excitement and fun. There were over 120 children who participated in the inaugural Colour Run at Almondsbury. Progressive Sports were the main organisers who set the course, provided the demonstrator runners and led the warm ups and runs round the assault course of tyres, ladders, poles and net. The children were only supposed to run around the course four times for the 1KM but every single one of them ran so much more. They ran to the great tunes pumping out of the speakers from the resident DJ. By the end they were completed covered in a spectrum of many colours thrown at them by the parents positioned around the course.



It was great to see everyone who took part absolutely covered by the end of their runs. One last throw of powder over themselves at the end for that final action shot for the camera. The field was covered just as much as they children. I am sure there would be multicoloured bathrooms after the clean-up. Thank you to Progressive Sports for helping the PA organise the event, Sword for sponsoring the event, Jackie Hartley for coming along to take some brilliant photos and the PA for setting up the whole event. It was so much fun and I am sure it will become a firm favourite. All the photos taken during the run are now on the website.



MADAME TUSSAUD'S 'Almondsbury style'

Year 5 had a fantastic time last week researching and preparing for their very own Madame Tussaud's event in school. We saw the likes of Steve Jobs, Ant and Dec, Cleopatra and Marilyn Monroe make an appearance. All the children worked extremely hard by carrying out independent research and creating props, costumes and information posters. It was a really successful event and the children loved performing to other year groups and parents/carers.



YEAR 3 AND 4 TIMES TABLE ROCKSTARS DAY

Last Wednesday, Year 3 and 4 took part in a Times Tables Rockstars Launch Day. The children dressed up as rock stars and they all took part in a number of activities, including times tables game, designing their own rock star characters and exploring the use of Times Tables Rockstars. Times Tables Rockstars is a fantastic app that can be used to support the recall of times tables facts. It is fun, interactive and engages children to improve on the areas mentioned above. However, as a school, we want to maximise this potential. There will be monthly awards, class battles and house battles where children can gain house points. These will be added onto the house points tally and contribute towards the winning house at the end of each term. It is also helpful to prepare children for the Multiplication Tables Check at the end of Year 4. The Multiplication Tables Check determines whether pupils can recall their times tables fluently, which is essential for future success in mathematics.

SCHOOL TOURS FOR NEW PARENTS 2024 INTAKE

We have the dates now confirmed for the school tours for new prospective parents for the intake in September 2024. It will be lovely to show new parents around and share all that is great about our school.

Tuesday 31 October 11.00am - FULL	Monday 6 November 9.15am
Monday 6 November 11.00am	Monday 13 November 1.30pm
Monday 20 November 1.30pm	Monday 20 November 2.30pm

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/education/highlights/sections/primary

PA NEWS

WOW WHAT A SUPER SATURDAY!! Our first school colour run went off with a bang this weekend. There was **fun**, **laughter**, **joy**, **colour**, **smiles** and **paint**! We've had some amazing feedback from those who came, and we really hope everyone enjoyed themselves. We couldn't have held this event without help and we'd like to say a huge **THANK YOU** to: Sword Dynamic Services who sponsored the event, Morrisons for contributing to our refreshment stall, Gio's Gelato, St John's Ambulance, Carly Little for leading, Katie Barrett-Kingman for preparing the balloon arch, paint throwers, stall helpers, teachers (big high five to Mr Smith for allowing us to do this, joining in and generally being a great sport) and to anyone else who contributed to the day during set up, clear up and lending a hand.

There are plenty of events in the diary still to come before the end of this year such as; Freaky Thursday sweet sale, November Spooky Disco, and of course Christmas (there, I've said it) Festive Fayre. Dates to be communicated very soon, so watch this space. As always if you'd like to join in the fun and be part of the PA, let us know at almondsburyschoolpa@gmail.com.

PA AGM

PA AGM scheduled for 19 October at 7pm in the school staff room (NOTE CHANGE OF DATE). Please get in touch if you'd like to join, all welcome.

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/almondsburypa/. Great quality shorts, trousers, dresses, skirts, cardigans, pinafores ranging from 50p - £2. Branded items are available.

VACANCY FOR LUNCHTIME PLAY SUPERVISORS

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.

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

Mr Paul D Smith

Executive Head Teacher

DATES FOR 2023/24

Friday 20 October

Thursday 5 October Flu vaccines in school for children Friday 6 October Mrs Williams's class swimming

Tuesday 10 October Year 6 NCMP **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

> PA AGM – 7.00pm in the staffroom **INSET DAY School closed to pupils**

TERM 2

Monday 30 October Start of Term 2 for all pupils

Remembrance Week in school

Tuesday 31 October New Reception Tour for September 2024 intake 9.15am and

11.00am

Friday 3 November Mrs Williams's class swimming

Monday 6 November New Reception Tour for September 2024 intake 9.15am and

Thursday 9 November Individual photographs in school

Parents Evenings 4.00pm - 7.00pm Mrs Williams's class swimming

Friday 10 November

New Reception Tour for September 2024 intake 1.30pm **Monday 13 November**

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

Mrs Williams's class swimming Friday 24 November 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

Christmas lunch Tuesday 12 December

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

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