

04 December 2023

Dear Parents

## SCHOOL YEAR 2023/2024 - NEWSLETTER NO 13

### CERTIFICATES

**Well done to these children who received the certificates for last week from their teachers.** The certificates are given for a variety of reasons from positive attitude, great work and learning, showing the three elements of Ready, Respectful and Safe.

Miss Ramli	-	Frankie Young
Mrs Goode and Mrs Owen	-	Lucas Ho
Miss Whittingham	-	Samuel Roberts
Mrs Williams and Mr Ramshaw	-	Devon Bird Wheaton
Mr Dean and Mrs Lansdown	-	Finley Stewart
Mr Evens	-	Hunter Dawson
Mr Garcia	-	Jackson Doherty
Mrs Leonard	-	Finley Whitlock
Miss Hake	-	Rex Sansum
Ms Hill and Mrs North	-	The whole class
Miss Wingett	-	Caitlin Spruell



### PA CHRISTMAS FAYRE

The school looked lovely as the lights twinkled over the KS1 playground lighting up the darkness. The weather was cold and winter like but there were plenty of visitors to the fayre, which proved popular after a hiatus of a few years. The usual inside stalls were packed with goodies and items that sold very well for the whole time of the fayre. Father Christmas was a very popular attraction, sat in his beautifully decorated grotto. It was a pleasure to see so many people in the Hall and down the corridor waiting to visit Father Christmas. Thank you to all parents who sent in their donations for the stalls as well as items for the tombola. The PA Colour hamper draw took place at the end of the Christmas fayre. 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 classes for the hampers were Mr Garcia's (Silver hamper) and Miss Whittingham's classes (Orange hamper). Each class wins £25 voucher to spend on items for their classroom.



Thank you also to the many parental volunteers who gave up their time to help set up, run the stalls and clear up after the fayre. Thank you to everyone who came and spent their money, the fayre raised approximately £2,264.33. A fantastic amount! A huge thank you to the PA who organised such a great evening and do so much to support the school.

## SPORTING TOURNAMENTS



### Year 5 and 6 Boccia & New Age Kurling

On Wednesday 22 November, a group of Year 5 and 6 children took part in a Boccia and New Aged Kurling festival in Yate Academy. It was a really fun, family orientated festival, where all the siblings and parents were able to join in and compete against one another. Well done to all those that took part.

### Sportshall Athletics

On Wednesday 29 November, team Almondsbury were back out at Yate Academy competing in the Sportshall athletics. This event was highly competitive with some incredibly close scores in a range of track and field events. Some impressive athletic skills were on show from our competitors as well as a wonderful team spirit and focused, strategic performances. The final results were very close, with the winning team going through to the Level 3 competition at UWE in the Spring term. The final result ended with Almondsbury coming second with 68 pts to the winners 76pts. Well done everyone who attended. A great evening for all!



## YEAR 5 AND 6 PORTALS TO THE PAST

On Thursday, the children in years 5 and 6 took part in a workshop about ancient Greece. In the morning, the children were greeted by a real-life ancient Greek citizen named Theo, who explained what life was like in those times. They then completed three different activities: a quiz, Archimedes' puzzle and an ancient Greek board game. The Archimedes' puzzle proved challenging, but the children worked fantastically well in their teams to solve it.



In the afternoon, Theo met the children in full warrior armour (complete with a 2.5 metre spear) and taught them all about battle and warfare. They then took part in their own Olympic games. The children were divided into their individual classes with everyone having the opportunity to compete in the discus and javelin. The final task saw two children from each class perform a song in front of their peers. A special mention must go to Amar, Amber I, Will, Harriet, Charlie and Honey for their brilliant renditions of Christmas songs. The children in year 5 and 6 had a fantastic day and all engaged really well with the interesting activities.

## CHRISTMAS

**CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES** – We are all looking forward to watching the Christmas performances by the children over the next couple of weeks. They have been practicing hard and are keen to show you their singing and acting prowess. Please make sure you have your tickets for the performance you would like to attend. Can I remind you, that although we do allow parents to take photos of the children whilst on stage and afterwards, we ask that these are not posted on social media unless they are just of your own child and other children are not in the photograph. Thank you in advance for your co-operation. We will be collecting for charity at these performance. This year will be collecting for the **Bristol Children's Charity**. Unfortunately, we will only be able to collect cash at the performances.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS** – The children will be able to bring in Christmas cards as from Monday 4 December (today) and placed in the postal sacks in the corridors. Please make sure the cards are addressed correctly with first and surnames as well as class names please. This way we ensure the cards get to their rightful recipient.



**CHRISTMAS LUNCH** is on Tuesday 12 December this year, made by Mrs Byrne and the kitchen staff. The children will be able to wear their Christmas jumpers if they've got one and will make party hats in class beforehand.



### 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 Thursday 4 January 2024 at 11.00am.

### FREE SCHOOL MEALS

In these difficult times we would like to remind you that your child may be eligible for Free School Meals. Please check out this link [www.southglos.gov.uk/schoolmeals](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/schoolmeals). This even applies to children in Reception and KS1 who are already entitled to Universal Free School Meals as this brings in additional funding to support your child.

### PA NEWS

A HUGE THANK YOU to everybody who came to the Christmas Fayre on Friday, it was a great success. We managed to raise an amazing £2,264.33. A big thank you goes to Santa and his elves for making the grotto magical, the teachers and Mr Smith for helping set up the grotto, all the volunteers and helpers who came on the night to set up, run stalls and tidy away, and to everyone who came along to support. We can't run these events without you. We hope you all had fun 😊 If you have won one of our wonderful hampers the school will be in touch shortly and you can collect from the office.

### VACANCY FOR TREASURER ROLE

An opportunity has arisen for anyone looking to join the PA. We're looking for a new treasurer. If you would like to be involved in this or just want to find out more about the role, please contact Claire Jarvis or Sammy Waterhouse.

### UNIFORM DONATIONS

Thank you for all of your uniform donations. We are currently overflowing with second hand uniform, so until further notice please only donate good quality branded items using the yellow bins outside reception. We do have some amazing quality second hand uniform on the website so please take a look if you need anything. <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/almondsburypa/index.cfm?event=products#.ZVH-qHbP3IU>

### CHRISTMAS JUMPERS

If you have any unwanted good quality Christmas clothing please donate it to us via the yellow bin outside reception. Items will be resold via the PA website to raise money for the school. Some available to buy now, so please take a look 🙋 <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/almondsburypa/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=31413#.ZVIDW3bP3IU>

As always if you'd like to join in the fun and be part of the PA, let us know at [almondsburyschoolpa@gmail.com](mailto:almondsburyschoolpa@gmail.com).

### 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

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

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

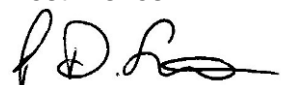


Times: 8.30am – 9.05am  
3.20pm – 3.55pm

Hourly rate: £11ph

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**

##### **TERM 2**

**Wednesday 6 December**  
**Thursday 7 December**

**Year 1 and 2 Christmas performance 2.00pm**  
**Reception classes Nativity performance 2.15pm**  
**Year 1 and 2 Christmas performance 6.00pm**

**Friday 8 December**  
**Tuesday 12 December**  
**Wednesday 13 December**

**Reception and KS1 Christmas party**  
**Christmas lunch**  
**Year 3 and 4 Christmas party**  
**Year 5 and 6 Carols by Candlelight at St Mary's Church 6.30pm**  
**Year 5 and 6 Christmas party**  
**End of Term 2**

**Thursday 14 December**  
**Friday 15 December**

##### **TERM 3**

**Tuesday 2 January**  
**Wednesday 3 January**  
**Thursday 4 January**  
**Friday 5 January**  
**Friday 12 January**  
**Friday 19 January**  
**Tuesday 23 January**  
**Friday 26 January**  
**Saturday 27 January**  
**Friday 2 February**

**INSET DAY – School closed to all children**  
**Start of Term 3 for all children**  
**School tour for new parents 11.00am**  
**12.30pm Mr Dean and Mrs Lansdown's class swimming**  
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**School Choir to attend Young Voices in Birmingham**  
**12.30pm Mr Dean and Mrs Lansdown's class swimming**  
**Swimming gala at Soundwell pool**  
**KS1 Number Day**  
**12.30pm Mr Dean and Mrs Lansdown's class swimming**  
**12.30pm Mr Dean and Mrs Lansdown's class swimming**  
**End of Term 3**

**Friday 9 February**

##### **TERM 4**

**Monday 19 February**  
**Friday 23 February**  
**Friday 1 March**  
**Saturday 2 March**  
**Thursday 7 March**  
**Friday 8 March**  
**Tuesday 12 March**  
**Friday 15 March**  
**Wednesday 20 March**  
**Friday 22 March**  
**Monday 25 March**  
**Tuesday 26 March**  
**Thursday 28 March**

**Start of Term 4 for all children**  
**12.30pm Mr Dean and Mrs Lansdown's class swimming**  
**12.30pm Mr Dean and Mrs Lansdown's class swimming**  
**Swimarathon at Thornbury Pool**  
**4.00 – 7.00pm Parents Evening**  
**12.30pm Mr Dean and Mrs Lansdown's class swimming**  
**4.00 – 7.00pm Parent Evening**  
**12.30pm Mr Dean and Mrs Lansdown's class swimming**  
**Tockington Manor Netball and Football festivals**  
**12.30pm Mr Dean and Mrs Lansdown's class swimming**  
**European Week**  
**Year 5 and 6 visit to Houses of Parliament, London**  
**End of Term 4**

#### **Term dates for 2023/24**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Starts</b>	<b>Ends</b>
<b>Term 1</b>	<b>Friday 1 September 2023</b>	<b>Friday 20 October 2023</b>
<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</b> confirmed for the academic year	<b>Friday 1 September 2023</b> <b>Monday 4 September 2023</b> <b>Friday 20 October 2023</b> <b>Tuesday 2 January 2024</b> <b>Friday 24 May 2024</b>	