Almondsbury
Church of England Primary School
Creating our Pathways

Executive Head teacher: Mr Paul Smith
Sundays Hill, Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4DS
Tel: (01454) 612517
email: office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk

11 March 2024

Dear Parents

***SCHOOL YEAR 2023/2024 - NEWSLETTER NO 23***

**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 | - | Theo Young |
| Mrs Goode and Mrs Owen | - | Rosie Rimmer |
| Miss Whittingham | - | Amar Voual |
| Mrs Williams and Mr Ramshaw | - | Bastien Harris |
| Mr Dean and Mrs Lansdown | - | Evie Gardner |
| Mr Evens | - | Elaya Merlino Thompson |
| Mr Garcia | - | Evie Rae |
| Mrs Leonard | - | Leonor Barrela Graca |
| Miss Hake | - | Lara Higham |
| Ms Hill and Mrs North | - | The Whole Class |
| Mrs Giles | - | The Whole Class |

**SWIMARATHON**

On Friday 1 March, Almondsbury entered two teams in the Rotary Club Swimarathon at Thornbury Leisure Centre. For some of our swimmers, it was the first time that they had represented the school at a sporting event and they were a little bit nervous. However, they were brave and once they had started, there was no holding them back. The Panache steel band playing on the side, was great fun and the children swam and even did a little bit of dancing as their relay team swam. We are extremely proud of all the swimmers, not just for taking part but for raising over £200 for St Peter's Hospice, The Butterfly Space and other local charities. Great job!

**COMIC RELIEF**

We are fast approaching that time of year again with Comic Relief day this Friday 15 March. As usual we will be holding a non-uniform day where the children will be asked to 'wear something red' for the day and bring in a donation to go to the charity.

**PARKING**

Once again PC Price visited on Friday to oversee the parking situation. Although this was a little better than his previous visit there are still parents parking in the bus stop or dropping off. This cannot happen. You are able to park in the Bowl car park or at the Garden Centre for free. Please be respectful and leave enough time in the morning to park safely. If you do see poor parking especially on the corner at the top of Sundays Hill by the Glebe this can be reported to the police and South Gloucestershire Parking Services through this link https://beta.southglos.gov.uk/transport-and-streets/parking/parking-enforcement-and-fines/. Poor behaviour between parents, parking attendants, the police and staff should not be tolerated and also reported to the police. Please try to be considerate of all children and parents. We all need to get along together for the safety of the children. We do not want to have an accident occur to make the situation better. No parent has more rights over another so please be courteous and considerate in your interactions.

**OPAL PLAYGROUND**

To get a better understanding of how we can improve play during break times and lunch times as part of the OPAL programme, we have devised a parents' survey. This will help us to plan out our next steps and ensure that play times are enjoyable for all children. To help with this, please follow this link and share your opinions. Parents survey on playtimes. This survey will close on Wednesday. Please do take some time if you are able to complete it before Wednesday. We are grateful for all contributions.

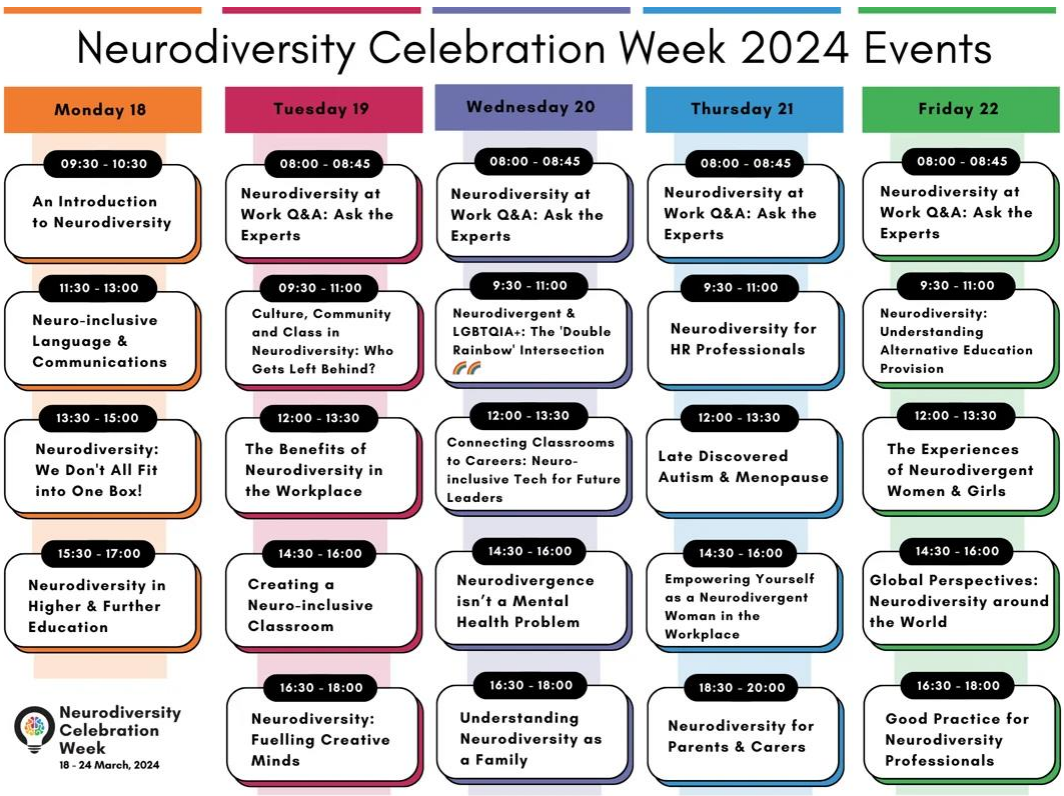
**NEURO DIVERSITY WEEK**

Next week is national Neuro-diversity week and we will be investigating and looking at what this means for everyone during the week. The children will be undertaking some activities to enable them to be more fully informed about the needs of children and people who have neuro-diverse needs such as autism, ADHD and others. Approximately 15-20% of population has a neurological difference. Instead of labelling people with deficits or disorders, when we use the term neurodiversity, we take a balanced view of an individual's unique strengths and challenges. Many 'challenges' neurodivergent people face are more to do with the environment and systems they are placed in, often designed by a majority population. On Monday 25 March the children will be able to come into school wearing clothes that make them feel comfortable and happy. If you would like to make a donation towards the PA who are supporting the school in investing in resources to support all children in school that would be most welcome. The PA are contributing £1,000 so that we are able to provide resources and materials to support pupils in class to help them regulate and cope with the demands of the day. Many thanks in advance.

Below is further opportunities for parents/carers to broaden their awareness and understanding of neurodiversity via a range of free webinar sessions. Please note that these events are being recorded, to increase accessibility for all around the world. Links to the recordings will be sent via email post-event, so please make sure you register for the events so that you don't miss out!

From the 18th - 24th March 2024, we're hosting 24 free, online and live events!
Over 80 speakers will be coming together to share their lived experiences and expertise around a variety of key neurodiversity topics...

?? Click Here to Register for the Free Events ??




Email address: office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk
Website: www.almondsburyprimary.co.uk

**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. 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.

**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://my.risingstars-uk.com/Default.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f

**PA NEWS**
⭑ ⭑ A huge WELL DONE to year 1 who raised a massive **£236.58** from last Friday's cake sale. Thanks to all who helped make this such a success, those who baked, bought and decorated with the children, they had a great time, and all the money goes back to year 1 to spend on their own resources. ⭑ ⭑
The next cake sale will be held by year 5 on Friday 22 March so please come and support.

**Tea Towels**
Watch this space for upcoming school tea towel sales online. The children have been busy drawing their self-portraits ready to be printed onto branded tea towels for all to buy. A great keepsake for all the family. More details soon when online sales open.

**Easter Playground Sale**
We are holding an Easter playground sale on Wednesday 27 March after school. We will have a selection of sweet treats, books and summer uniform to get ready for the summer term and the warmer weather. Cash and card payments taken.

Don't forget there are lots more events coming up soon including **Almondsbury does DIY SOS on the weekend of 27 April.** We're inviting parents, grandparents, aunties, uncles, and everyone else I've missed to come along and help tidy up the school (inside and out). More details to follow, but dust off your wellies and gardening tools, paintbrushes, overalls and power tools ready for the big event. Our **summer fayre will be on Saturday 22 June**, plans are underway for our Olympic themed fun day, and a **Quiz Night on Friday 5 July**. Please save the dates!

**VACANCY FOR LUNCHTIME PLAY LEADERS**
We currently have a vacancy for a lunchtime play leader 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: £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 4**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Tuesday 12 March** | **Year 1 and 2 visit to Cardiff Castle** |
| | **4.00 – 7.00pm Parent Evening** |
| **Friday 15 March** | **Comic relief day – wear red for charity** |
| **Wednesday 20 March** | **Year 3 and 4 visit to Caerleon** |
| | **Tockington Manor Netball and Football festivals** |
| **Friday 22 March** | **3.30pm Year 5 Cake Sale** |
| **Monday 25 March** | **Arts Week** |
| | **Dress in clothes than make you happy** |
| **Tuesday 26 March** | **Year 5 and 6 visit to Houses of Parliament, London** |
| | **9.30am Year 3 and 4 Easter performance** |
| **Wednesday 27 March** | **PA Easter playground sale 3.30pm** |
| | **6.00pm Year 3 and 4 Easter performance** |
| **Thursday 28 March** | **End of Term 4** |

**TERM 5**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Monday 15 April** | **Start of Term 5 for all pupils** |
| **Friday 19 April** | **12.30pm Mr Even's class swimming** |
| | **3.30pm Year 2 Cake Sale** |
| **Friday 26 April** | **12.30pm Mr Even's class swimming** |
| **Friday 3 May** | **12.30pm Mr Even's class swimming** |
| **Monday 6 May** | **BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY – School closed** |
| **Friday 10 May** | **12.30pm Mr Even's class swimming** |
| | **3.30pm Year 4 Cake Sale** |
| **Monday 13 – Thursday 16 May** | **Year 6 SAT week** |
| **Friday 17 May** | **12.30pm Mr Even's class swimming** |
| **Monday 20 May** | **Start of Sports Week** |
| **Tuesday 21 May** | **Sports Day 9.15am EYFS and KS1** |
| | **Sports Day 1.15pm KS2** |
| **Thursday 23 May** | **End of Term 5** |
| **Friday 24 May** | **INSET DAY – School closed to pupils** |

**TERM 6**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Monday 3 June** | **Start of Term 6** |
| **Monday 3 – Friday 14 June** | **Year 4 Multiplication check for all children** |
| **Friday 7 June** | **12.30pm Mr Even's class swimming** |
| **Monday 10 – Friday 14 June** | **Year 1 phonics check for all children** |
| **Friday 14 June** | **12.30pm Mr Even's class swimming** |
| | **3.30pm Reception classes cake sale** |
| **Friday 21 June** | **12.30pm Mr Even's class swimming** |
| **Saturday 22 June** | **PA Summer Fayre – Olympic themed** |
| **Friday 28 June** | **12.30pm Mr Even's class swimming** |
| **Friday 5 July** | **12.30pm Mr Even's class swimming** |
| **Friday 12 July** | **Celebration Day for all children – details to follow** |
| **Wednesday 17 July** | **Year 5 and 6 show** |
| **Thursday 18 July** | **Year 5 and 6 show** |
| **Friday 19 July** | **Reports for be sent home** |
| **Tuesday 23 July** | **Leaver's Service at St Mary's (Year 6 parents only)** |
| | **Last day of the school year** |

**Term dates for 2023/24**

| Term | Starts | Ends |
|---|---|---|
| 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 24 May 2024** | |

**Term dates for 2024/25**

| **Term** | **Starts** | **Ends** |
|---|---|---|
| **Term 1** | **Monday 2 September 2024** | **Friday 25 October 2024** |
| **Term 2** | **Monday 4 November 2024** | **Friday 20 December 2024** |
| **Term 3** | **Monday 6 January 2025** | **Friday 14 February 2025** |
| **Term 4** | **Monday 24 February 2025** | **Friday 4 April 2025** |
| **Term 5** | **Tuesday 22 April 2025** | **Friday 23 May 2025** |
| **Term 6** | **Monday 2 June 2025** | **Tuesday 22 July 2025** |
| **INSET DAYS** | **Monday 2 September 2024**<br>**Friday 23 May 2025**<br>**Plus 3 other dates to be confirmed** | |