

18 March 2024

Dear Parents

## SCHOOL YEAR 2023/2024 - NEWSLETTER NO 24

### 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	- Liam Detheridge and Harry Chapman
Mrs Goode and Mrs Owen	- Marshall Haines-Woodhouse
Miss Whittingham	- Jaiya Voual and Jessica Dedman
Mrs Williams and Mr Ramshaw	- Joshua Agyemang
Mr Dean and Mrs Lansdown	- Logan Cox
Mr Evens	- Henry Hazell
Mr Garcia	- Ava Cotter
Mrs Leonard	- River Martin
Miss Hake	- James Rick
Ms Hill and Mrs North	- The Whole Class
Mrs Giles	- Hallie Moore



### COMIC RELIEF

It was Comic Relief day last Friday. Thank you for your generosity as we collected £264.95 for the charity. The children were a sea of red for the day.



### CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Mrs Owen (and Mr Owen) who is expecting her third child in July. She will continue to be in school until mid-June and then go on maternity leave. We wish her well and look forward to meeting new baby Owen when they arrive.



### FANTASTIC PAST PUPIL

Well done and congratulations to a former pupil Jimmy Halliwell who was part of England Under 20's rugby union squad that won the Under 20's Six Nations Championship in France at the weekend. Jimmy was one of the try scorers to achieve the feat of winning the championship. We are very proud of the success of all our past pupils but great work and play from Jimmy, who also plays for Bristol Bears.

## YEAR 1 AND 2 VISIT TO CARDIFF CASTLE

Year 1 and 2 had a fabulous day visiting Cardiff Castle, we met a knight and learnt about how armour has changed during the middle ages, we also had the opportunity to hold a great sword! We then went on a tour of the living quarters which were designed by the Bute family in the Victorian times. Lastly, we climbed the steep steps to explore the original 'keep' and looked through the battlements to see the landscape of Cardiff!



## NEURO DIVERSITY WEEK


This 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 are 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 ??](#)

Neurodiversity Celebration Week 2024 Events				
Monday 18	Tuesday 19	Wednesday 20	Thursday 21	Friday 22
09:30 - 10:30 An Introduction to Neurodiversity	08:00 - 08:45 Neurodiversity at Work Q&A: Ask the Experts	08:00 - 08:45 Neurodiversity at Work Q&A: Ask the Experts	08:00 - 08:45 Neurodiversity at Work Q&A: Ask the Experts	08:00 - 08:45 Neurodiversity at Work Q&A: Ask the Experts
11:30 - 13:00 Neuro-inclusive Language & Communications	09:30 - 11:00 Culture, Community and Class in Neurodiversity: Who Gets Left Behind?	9:30 - 11:00 Neurodivergent & LGBTQIA+: The 'Double Rainbow' Intersection	9:30 - 11:00 Neurodiversity for HR Professionals	9:30 - 11:00 Neurodiversity: Understanding Alternative Education Provision
13:30 - 15:00 Neurodiversity: We Don't All Fit into One Box!	12:00 - 13:30 The Benefits of Neurodiversity in the Workplace	12:00 - 13:30 Connecting Classrooms to Careers: Neuro-inclusive Tech for Future Leaders	12:00 - 13:30 Late Discovered Autism & Menopause	12:00 - 13:30 The Experiences of Neurodivergent Women & Girls
15:30 - 17:00 Neurodiversity in Higher & Further Education	14:30 - 16:00 Creating a Neuro-inclusive Classroom	14:30 - 16:00 Neurodivergence isn't a Mental Health Problem	14:30 - 16:00 Empowering Yourself as a Neurodivergent Woman in the Workplace	14:30 - 16:00 Global Perspectives: Neurodiversity around the World
 Neurodiversity Celebration Week 18 - 24 March, 2024	16:30 - 18:00 Neurodiversity: Fuelling Creative Minds	16:30 - 18:00 Understanding Neurodiversity as a Family	18:30 - 20:00 Neurodiversity for Parents & Carers	16:30 - 18:00 Good Practice for Neurodiversity Professionals

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

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

## MESSAGE FROM SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCIL

Dear Parents and Carers

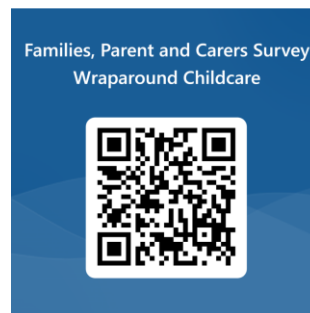
In the Spring last year the government announced that it was providing additional funding to expand the access to wraparound childcare; to make it more affordable, available and flexible. This relates to childcare before and after school to support working parents.

All local authorities will receive a share of 289 million pounds to help map out and accommodate the needs of parents, families, and carers in their locality. The local authority will be able to use their allocated share of funds to test different ways that they can increase wraparound care options to meet identified demand. We will be working to support schools and private, independent, and voluntary providers to increase the wraparound care options that they provide.

We are interested in hearing your views on wraparound childcare in South Gloucestershire. If you are a parent of a child aged 0-11 we need your help to tell us how and where we should plan extra provision for wraparound care to be most convenient to **residents, parents and carers** across **South Gloucestershire**.

<https://forms.office.com/e/EeVwzdm77g>

We very much appreciate your time in completing the survey as it will ensure the local authority has a clear map of your future or current needs and the provision you use. We are very grateful for your support in completing the survey by Friday 22 March.



## 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.

## 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.neurodiversityweek/>

## PA NEWS

The year 5 cake sale will be held this **Friday 22 March** so please come and support. Lots of lovely cakes on offer, dietary requirements will be catered for. Cash and card machine available.

## Neurodiversity Week

Further to last week's newsletter, the children are encouraged to come to school on **Monday 25 March** wearing something they feel happy and comfortable in. This event is to raise money to create regulation stations in each classroom for **all** the children to use.

To support you can donate via the QR code on the poster, bring in coins on the day or donate here:

<https://pay.sumup.com/b2c/QEBL2DY9>

## 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're 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!

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## 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

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

**Mr Paul D Smith**  
Executive Head Teacher

## DATES FOR 2023/24

### TERM 4

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

Tuesday 26 March

Dress in clothes that make you happy

Year 5 and 6 visit to Houses of Parliament, London

Wednesday 27 March

9.30am Year 3 and 4 Easter performance

PA Easter playground sale 3.30pm

Thursday 28 March

6.00pm Year 3 and 4 Easter performance

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**

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**TERM 6****Monday 3 June****Monday 3 – Friday 14 June****Friday 7 June****Monday 10 – Friday 14 June****Friday 14 June****Friday 21 June****Saturday 22 June****Friday 28 June****Friday 5 July****Friday 12 July****Wednesday 17 July****Thursday 18 July****Friday 19 July****Tuesday 23 July****Start of Term 6****Year 4 Multiplication check for all children****12.30pm Mr Even's class swimming****Year 1 phonics check for all children****12.30pm Mr Even's class swimming****3.30pm Reception classes cake sale****12.30pm Mr Even's class swimming****PA Summer Fayre – Olympic themed****12.30pm Mr Even's class swimming****12.30pm Mr Even's class swimming****Celebration Day for all children – details to follow****Year 5 and 6 show****Year 5 and 6 show****Reports for be sent home****Leaver's Service at St Mary's (Year 6 parents only)****Last day of the school year****Term dates for 2023/24**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Starts</b>	<b>Ends</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>	<b>Friday 24 May 2024</b>	

**Term dates for 2024/25**

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