

29 April 2024

Dear Parents

SCHOOL YEAR 2023/2024 - NEWSLETTER NO 28

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	- Molly Pudney
Mrs Goode and Mrs Owen	- Clara Harrex
Miss Whittingham	- Pawel Rozpedowski
Mrs Williams and Mr Ramshaw	- Dade Ijlade
Mr Dean and Mrs Lansdown	- Sameer Arshad
Mr Evens	- Leo Sansum
Mr Garcia	- Andile Bwalya
Mrs Leonard	- Poppy Polak
Miss Hake	- Archie Tremlin
Ms Hill and Mrs North	- Louis Pirie
Mrs Giles	- Amaya Patel

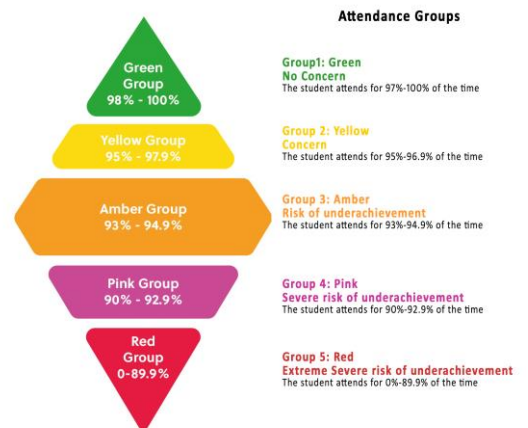


ATTENDANCE

As you know very good attendance at school is a must to enable the children to make the progress that they need to make to help them achieve their full potential. There has been much press recently about the downturn in attendances across the country. Unfortunately, Almondsbury is also now a victim of this with our attendance standing at the lowest it has been even in the year after Covid re-opening. We are in line with national average at 95.4%. Our usual attendance is around 96.5% so a full 2% down. Our persistent absence rates for those children who are missing more than 10% of school so far this year is also in line with national average at 17.2%. Our usual persistent absence rate is between 3 and 6%; so this is a massive increase. This impacts so much on the children's learning, social interaction and levels of attainment and progress. You can see what the research shows in relation to the percentages of attendance.

Lateness is also an issue. Even if your child arrives at school but after the registers have closed at 9.15am then it will be legally marked as an absence and contributes towards this percentage. Therefore, getting the morning routine right and working well so you arrive at school before the bell goes is important.

You are able to see your child's attendance certificate and percentage on Arbor. Please check your child's attendance and see if there is a need for improvement. If there is an issue that is medical or circumstantial that we are unaware of please let us know. We will be sending out another round of letters shortly to those below 90% attendance and will look for improvements during this term. Thank you in advance for your co-operation and support in sending your child to school everyday and on time.



YEAR 3 AND 4 WOW DAY



Step back in time! During your Year 3 and 4 WOW day, the children were transported to the heart of the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings era. It was a day packed with exciting activities that brought history to life!

Crafting Viking Shields: With Mr. Ramshaw, everyone had the opportunity to create their very own Viking shields. They completed research on what the shields would have looked like and then designed their own.

Runes and Sculptures: Next, with Mrs. Lansdown, the children learned about the Anglo-Saxon alphabet, Runes. They then participated in a creative activity where they moulded stone sculptures from clay, inscribed their names in Runes,

and even added Anglo-Saxon patterns to their creations!

Setting Sail with Viking Longships: Over with Mr. Evens, the children set sail on a seafaring adventure! They got hands-on with history by creating their very own Viking longships. Learning about the design features that made these ships so adept at navigating rivers and oceans!



SCHOOL LUNCHES

Can we please remind you to book your child/rens lunches via Arbor. They can be booked up to 3 weeks in advance. If you are having any trouble please contact the School Office.

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.

EVENTS FOR THIS TERM

You will see from the the dates list below the dates for Sports Week. Please make sure you have these in your diary as we very much would like you all to attend for Sports Day and the Summer Family Fun Day on 22 June.

We have our Tour d'Almondsbury also during our Sports Week at the end of May. The children will be encouraged to do as many laps and we hope that combined we will travel as many miles as we can. We look forward to good weather and lots of activity.

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.tate.org.uk/kids>

PA NEWS

DATE FOR YOU DIARIES - Summer Fayre Saturday 22 June. Plans are underway for the school summer fayre. To celebrate, this year will be Olympic themed with sports activities being run alongside all the other fun stuff. We would really appreciate any help you can give including putting up gazebo's the day before, setting up on the morning, running a stall, volunteering to help run the sports activities, and anything else you can think of. We cannot put on these events without your help so please help if you can, we REALLY appreciate it.

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

Email address: office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk

Website: www.almondsburyprimary.co.uk



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.

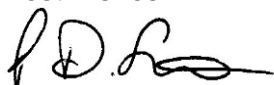
MESSAGE FROM ALMONDSBURY SCOUT GROUP

Almondsbury Scout Group needs you...

The beavers section for 6-8 year old children is in need of new volunteer leaders. This rewarding role involves planning and then running activities for the children. The group meets weekly on Monday evenings during term time but with more leaders the commitment could be reduced – so the more the merrier! This could be a great addition to your CV as a volunteer role for your local charity, but would equally suit a retired person - there are no age limits! Please spread the word and pass onto friends and relatives - if leaders cannot be found then the local beavers section may be forced to close.

If you would like more information and think this, could be the role for you then please contact our Group Scout leader Andy Selman on almondsburyscouts.gsl@virginmedia.com

Best wishes



Mr Paul D Smith
Executive Head Teacher

DATES FOR 2023/24

TERM 5

Friday 3 May

Monday 6 May

Friday 10 May

Monday 13 – Thursday 16 May

Friday 17 May

Monday 20 May

Tuesday 21 May

Thursday 23 May

Friday 24 May

12.30pm Mr Even's class swimming

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY – School closed

12.30pm Mr Even's class swimming

3.30pm Year 4 Cake Sale

Year 6 SAT week

12.30pm Mr Even's class swimming

Start of Sports Week

Sports Day 9.15am EYFS and KS1

Sports Day 1.15pm KS2

End of Term 5

INSET DAY – School closed to pupils

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

Term	Starts	Ends
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 Friday 25 October 2024 Friday 23 May 2025 Plus 2 other dates to be confirmed	