

6 January 2025

Dear Parents

## SCHOOL YEAR 2024/2025 - NEWSLETTER NO 15

Welcome back to school in 2025 and we hope you had a lovely Christmas holiday and New Year. We hope that 2025 will be a prosperous one for everyone.



### LETTERS OF COMMENDATION

Well done to these children who received the Letters of Commendation for last term from their teachers. They were awarded for many different things including: positive attitudes to learning, being conscientious, behaviour and kindness.

Miss Ramli	-	Will Dawson	Abhista Lakkapogu
Mrs Goode and Mrs Barrett	-	Alexandra Leung	Harper Stewart
Miss Whittingham	-	Evie Gardner	Finely Stewart
Mrs Lansdown	-	Nivaan Karanth	Oli Vornicu
Mr Evens	-	Marlow Bendall	Brooks Parratt
Mrs Williams and Mr Dean	-	Florian Harris	Avika Gahlyan
Mr Garcia	-	Leonor Barrela Graca	Willow Hammond
Mrs Leonard	-	Lyra Lennox-Gordon	Ellie Strazdina
Miss Hake	-	Hallie Moore	William Axford
Mrs North and Mrs Marshall	-	Charlie Lippiatt	Amelie Dix
Mrs Giles	-	Florrie Belisario- Elford	Ivy Grace



### CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

It was such a privilege to be in St Mary's Church for our Carols by Candlelight service. We were delighted to be joined by Rev Anjali. The children sang beautifully, especially our choral soloists at the start of the service. The readers were very clear and spoke with clarity and precision. It was great to see so many parents join us in



church.

At the end of each of our performances during the Christmas period we collected for the Bristol Rainbow Trust Children's Charity. We collected a grand total of £416.43. Thank you for your generosity.

### HOUSE POINTS

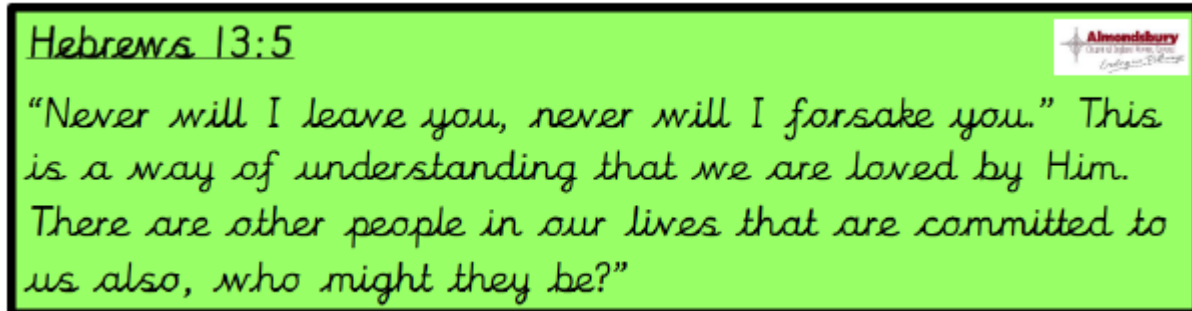
As there was so much going on at the end of last term with parties, concerts, etc we have held off on the reward for the winning house who collected the most house points during Term 2. This was **Water** with 4270 points. The children in **Water** house will be able to wear their own clothes on Friday this week as their reward. Well done to everyone in **Water**.

## ATTENDANCE

The attendance for the Autumn term was significantly affected by the outbreaks that occurred with sickness. However, the overall attendance of 95.4% was above the national average but not where it was a couple of weeks before Christmas. This has also been compounded by the number of children who took term time holiday absence accounting for 0.5% of our attendance just in the last two weeks. I am sure once we pass the traditional period when illness is a real factor that we will improve in that figure. Well done to the 64 children throughout the school who managed to stave off any infections and achieved 100% attendance. I hope that everyone remains well and healthy during this term.

## PEACE HOME DISCUSSION SHEET

This term's theme for our Collective Worship is Peace. We have attached the home discussion sheet for you to read through and talk to your child/ren about the themes within it. As you know the theme runs throughout the term and we will also be looking at 'Don't forget to let Love in' within our Heartsmart PSHE programme and Individual Liberty within our British Values. Below is our Bible reading linked to our Heartsmart theme for this term.



## 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 Wednesday 8 January 2025 at 9.30am.

## APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOOL PLACES IN SEPTEMBER 2025

If you have a child who was born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021, you must apply for them to start primary school in September 2025. Applications for primary school admission must be submitted no later than 15 January 2025. If you live in South Gloucestershire online applications can be made by following this link

<https://find-information-for-adults-children-families.southglos.gov.uk/kb5/southglos/directory/advice.page;jsessionid=5D07B22CA2CEF2CCFE00440153D700EE?id=GLu6GUIMkpw&familychannel=2-2&channel=family>

If you live outside of South Gloucestershire applications must be made via the local authority of the area you live in.

## ONLINE HEALTH PROMOTIONS FOR FAMILIES – ORAL HEALTH

Attached is a recently produced leaflet from the NHS Better Health: Start for life campaign on Top Tips for Teeth. It is very important to have good oral health and a good daily toothbrushing routine. Tooth decay is largely preventable, too much sugary food and drink, as well as not cleaning teeth well, can allow the plaque to build up resulting in cavities or tooth decay. A regular toothbrushing routine is essential to maintain a child's oral health through childhood and into adulthood.

The leaflet attached provides top tips for looking after your child's teeth.

Big Brush Club, the South West NHS toothbrushing provider currently working in schools across the region will be running some free evening webinars over the coming months to support the whole family to look after their teeth.

Please click on the dates below to register your place:

For families: [Tuesday 14 January at 6pm](#)

For more information on oral health for the whole family please visit [Oral Health | One You South Gloucestershire](#)

## 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.

## SOUTH GLOS PARENTS AND CARERS WORKSHOP SESSION

We would like to invite you to attend a meeting with the South Glos Parents and Carers regarding consultation and co-operation in regards to greater parental involvement in supporting all pupils but especially those with special educational needs. The session will be from 9.00am to 11.00am on Tuesday 14 January 2025. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## SUPPORT FOR PARENTS/CARERS

The local authority have created a set of materials for parents, carers, and family members living in South Gloucestershire, which you have free access to via the link below to expertly designed online learning and resources on nurturing emotional health and wellbeing so that our children can thrive as kind, sociable and emotionally aware people throughout their lives. Please do look through these and take up the offer of workshops. Webpage for parents: <https://inourplace.co.uk/south-gloucestershire/>

## 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/bitesize/ks1/>

## VACANCY

Would you like to join our exciting Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) Team? As an OPAL school, we value our outdoor playtimes hugely. We have expanded our outdoor play areas and opportunities for our children and now have a vacancy available for a new Play Lead to join the team. 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 this post, please contact the School Office. Please feel free to pass on the details to anyone who may be interested in this opportunity.

## 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: £11.50ph

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.S.', written over a white background.

**Mr Paul D Smith**  
**Executive Head Teacher**

## **DATES FOR 2024/25**

### **TERM 3**

**Monday 6 January**  
**Wednesday 8 January**  
**Friday 10 January**  
**Monday 13 January**  
**Tuesday 14 January**

**Wednesday 15 January**  
**Friday 17 January**  
**Saturday 18 January**  
**Monday 20 January**  
**Friday 24 January**

**Friday 31 January**  
**Friday 7 February**

**Tuesday 11 February**  
**Wednesday 12 February**  
**Thursday 13 February**  
**Friday 14 February**

**Start of Term 3**  
**New Parents Tour for intake September 2025 9.30am**  
**Swimming for Mr Evens's class starts 12.30pm**  
**Year 1 Bridge FoS Yoga sessions in school**  
**9.00 – 11.00am SEND Parents engagement session with SGPC in school**  
**Year 3 and 4 WOW day**  
**Swimming for Mr Evens's class**  
**Swimming Gala**  
**Year 5 and 6 visit to Bristol Cathedral**  
**Swimming for Mr Evens's class**  
**PA Movie Night 6.00-8.00pm**  
**Swimming for Mr Evens's class**  
**EYFS and KS1 Number Day for NSPCC**  
**Swimming for Mr Evens's class**  
**Year 1 and 2 WOW day**  
**Cricket assembly and coaching for all KS1 classes**  
**Cricket coaching for all KS2 classes**  
**Swimming for Mr Evens's class**  
**End of Term 3**

### **TERM 4**

**Monday 24 February**  
**Wednesday 26 February**  
**Friday 28 February**  
**Monday 3 March**  
**Thursday 6 March**  
**Friday 7 March**  
**Tuesday 11 March**  
**Wednesday 12 March**  
**Thursday 13 March**  
**Friday 14 March**  
**Friday 21 March**

**Monday 31 March**  
**Wednesday 2 April**  
**Friday 4 April**

**INSET DAY – School closed to pupils**  
**Year 1 and 2 visit**  
**Swimming for Mr Evens's class**  
**Year 5 and 6 visit**  
**Parents Evening 4.00-7.00pm**  
**Swimming for Mr Evens's class**  
**Parents Evening 4.00-7.00pm**  
**Year 4 visit**  
**Year 3 visit**  
**Swimming for Mr Evens's class**  
**Swimming for Mr Evens's class**  
**Comic Relief Day**  
**Enterprise Week**  
**Year 2 Bridge FoS Multiskills festival**  
**End of Term 4**

### **TERM 5**

**Tuesday 22 April**  
**Monday 5 May**  
**Monday 12 May**  
**Monday 19 May**  
**Thursday 22 May**  
**Friday 23 May**

**Start of Term 5**  
**Bank Holiday Monday – School closed**  
**Year 6 SAT week**  
**Sports Week**  
**End of Term 4**  
**INSET DAY – School closed to all pupils**

### **TERM 6**

**Monday 2 June**  
**Tuesday 3 June**  
**Monday 9 June**  
  
**Tuesday 22 July**

**INSET DAY – School closed to all pupils**  
**Start of Term 6**  
**Year 1 phonics week**  
**Year 4 MTC week**  
**End of Term 6 and school year**

**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 Friday 25 October 2024 Monday 24 February 2025 Friday 23 May 2025 Monday 2 June 2025</b>	