

25 February 2025

Dear Parents

SCHOOL YEAR 2024/2025 - NEWSLETTER NO 21

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	-	Arthur Robinson	Layla Rew
Mrs Goode and Mrs Barrett	-	Ava Fung	Rocco Merlino Thompson
Miss Whittingham	-	Jessica Price	Dingkun Qu
Mrs Lansdown	-	Harry Janiak	Oscar Blackburn
Mr Evens	-	Diana Savill	Reggie Lansdown
Mrs Williams and Mr Dean	-	Kobe Hansen	Keira Whitlock
Mr Garcia	-	Lara Higham	Mario Long
Mrs Leonard	-	Jack Bursey	Henry Belisario-Elford
Miss Hake	-	Rocco Dawson	Poppy-May Escourt
Mrs North and Mrs Marshall	-	Ilinca Moldovan	Dash Ferrier-Jones
Mrs Giles	-	Rivaan Babariya	Isla McNeil

DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT

Just before half term, 10 year 5 and 6 children represented Almondsbury School in the Dodgeball festival. The dodgeballs were flying in all directions and the pace of the matches were dynamic. All the children worked hard in some great matches dodging and coordinating attacking play to defeat their opponents. There were some great strategies used, with confident throwing and catching. The competition was tough and although we drew and won many games we were unsuccessful in reaching the final. However, the children had a fantastic time, showing enthusiasm, teamwork and honest play. A great event for all!



CRICKET COACHING

The children thoroughly enjoyed the cricket coaching that everyone participated in during the last week of term. They all practiced their throwing, catching, bowling and batting techniques led by Tom, the coach. All of the children were so enthusiastic and so many want to go to the clubs that are on offer outside of school, which are free.



DANCE FESTIVAL



choreographed the dance and taught the children the dances.

A group of 6 children from the after-school dance club represented the school at the Festival of Youth Dance 2025 at the St Michael's Centre in Stoke Gifford. They joined 6 other schools for a brilliant evening performance to parents and friends. The children performed two dances, Red to the music by Taylor Swift and Friends like me, to the music by Will Smith. All the children were a delight to take and had impeccable behaviour and manners. Thank you to Miss Katie who

UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS

We are starting a new term today and hopefully everyone will be in the expected school uniform. We have noticed that some children are coming into school with trainers on when it is not a PE day, without ties and the expected jumpers and shirts, etc. We have an expectation that unless your child/ren is not able to wear a specific item of clothing or footwear for a medical, or for a specific reason then everyone should be in the correct uniform. If this is the case then there should be an agreement with the school in place. If not, then the same expectations apply to all children. If there is a financial reason as to why the correct uniform is not being worn then please speak to the office or myself as we will be able to help you.

Our school uniform is...

- Grey trousers or skirt or pinafore
- White shirt or blouse
- Grey jumper or cardigan
- Grey and red school tie
- Black shoes (not trainers)

Please label EVERYTHING that your child wears and brings to school.

SPARE CLOTHES

At times there are 'accidents' in school that can't be helped when the children need to have a change of clothes. We should have a bank of clothes – spare uniform, pants, socks and PE kit that we use. However, this bank has dwindled this term as these clothes are not being returned to school after such events. All of these items of clothing have the word 'SPARE' written in them. If you do have these items at home please return to these to school. Thank you in advance.

PARENTS EVENING

We have Parents Evenings on Thursday 6 and Tuesday 11 March. Mrs Leonard is the exception due to other commitments. Mrs Leonard has an extra session on Wednesday 12 March from 4.00-6.00pm. All the Parents Evening sessions will be face to face. It will provide parents with an opportunity to look at the children's books. The Arbor booking system is now live. You are able to continue to book until Tuesday 4 March at 4.00pm when this closes.

OPAL UPDATE

_____ took part in a
NSPCC Number Day Challenge during lunchtime.

★ Well Done! ★

On 7 February, Reception and Years 1 and 2 took part in the NSPCC Number Day. During Lunch Time, Number Day was rolled out throughout the whole school, with different number challenges taking place all over the playground. These were optional activities and the children's enthusiasm and uptake of the challenges was a pleasure to see. Participants will have brought home their certificates before the half term holidays. Well done to all who took part!

Become a Loose Parts Champion!

Do you like spending time browsing through Facebook Marketplace, Olio, Gumtree, etc? If so, you are exactly the sort of person who can help us! We are looking for some 'Loose Parts Champions' to help with our need to have a continual flow of varied loose parts for our varied, creative and imaginative outdoor play and learning time. If whilst browsing on such freebie sites you come across any items being given away for free which are easy for you to collect and you think could be utilised in our sessions, please feel free to bring them to the school.

Email address: office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk

Website: www.almondsburyprimary.co.uk

Items include (but no means limited to):

Artificial grass

Pushchairs

Wheelbarrows

Barrels

Musical instruments

Garden ornaments

Pots and pans

Wooden cooking utensils

Bodyboards

Corrugated pipes

Large plastic storage boxes with lids

Ride on wheel toys (trikes, scooters, trunkies, tractors, cars, etc)

* We are currently not in need of fancy dress, thank you.

If you can help in anyway please let us know via office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk which can then be passed onto Natalia Reihe, our OPAL Playleader. Thank you in advance.

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.learninggamesforkids.com/>

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.

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/>

PA UPDATE

Our next event will be a **Quiz Night** on **Friday 28 March**, tickets will be on sale soon so watch this space. Book your babysitters, get your thinking caps on and your friends and family on board to make up a team of up to 6 to enter. Mr Evens has kindly agreed to be our quiz master and prizes will be on offer 😊

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.



Email address: office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk

Website: www.almondsburyprimary.co.uk

Post Details:

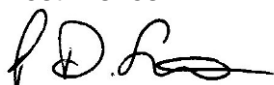
Role: School Crossing Patrol - Almondsbury
Site Location: Sunday's Hill, Opposite Church

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



Mr Paul D Smith
Executive Head Teacher

DATES FOR 2024/25

TERM 4

Wednesday 26 February	Year 1 and 2 visit – Aerospace Bristol
Friday 28 February	Swimming for Mr Evens' class
Monday 3 March	Year 5 and 6 visit – Cadbury World
Thursday 6 March	Parents Evening 4.00-7.00pm
Friday 7 March	Swimming for Mr Evens' class
Tuesday 11 March	Parents Evening 4.00-7.00pm
Wednesday 12 March	Year 4 visit - Techniquet
Friday 14 March	Swimming for Mr Evens' class
Thursday 20 March	Year 3 visit - Techniquet
Friday 21 March	Swimming for Mr Evens' class
	Comic Relief Day
Friday 28 March	Swimming for Mr Evens' class
Monday 31 March	Enterprise Week
Wednesday 2 April	Year 2 Bridge FoS Multiskills festival
Friday 4 April	End of Term 4

TERM 5

Tuesday 22 April	Start of Term 5
Monday 5 May	Bank Holiday Monday – School closed
Monday 12 May	Year 6 SAT week
Monday 19 May	Sports Week
Thursday 22 May	End of Term 4
Friday 23 May	INSET DAY – School closed to all pupils

TERM 6

Monday 2 June	INSET DAY – School closed to all pupils
Tuesday 3 June	Start of Term 6
Monday 9 June	Year 1 phonics week
	Year 4 MTC week
Tuesday 22 July	End of Term 6 and school year

Term dates for 2024/25 (remaining terms)

Term	Starts	Ends
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	Friday 23 May 2025 Monday 2 June 2025	