

6 May 2025

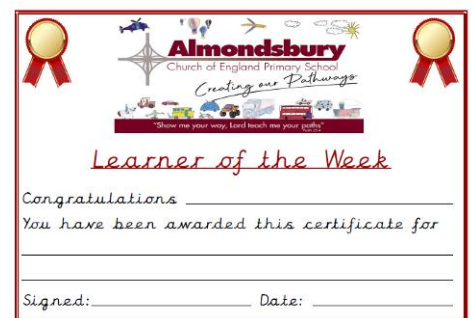
Dear Parents

SCHOOL YEAR 2024/2025 - NEWSLETTER NO 29

CERTIFICATES

Well done to these children who received the certificates for last week from their teachers. These are presented on a Friday in worship where the class teacher shares the reasons for the certificates being awarded.

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Miss Ramli | - Arthur Robinson | |
| Mrs Goode and Mrs Barrett | - Charlotte Wing Li | |
| Miss Whittingham | - Kabir Degaonkar | |
| Mrs Lansdown | - Matthew Berry | |
| Mr Evens | - Olivia Sharp | |
| Mrs Williams and Mr Dean | - Aurora Gibson | |
| Mr Garcia | - Lara Higham | |
| Mrs Leonard | - Aryan Patel | |
| Miss Hake | - Tia Osukoya | |
| Mrs North and Mrs Marshall | - Seth Lloyd | |
| Mrs Giles | - Rory Haines | Oliver Engley |



FOREST SCHOOLS YEAR 2

Year 2 have been learning new skills in Forest School this term. Linking to their Great Fire of London topic, the children have been learning about fire safety; the importance of a fire safety square as well as fire safety outside of school. They have been finding out how to use flint and steel and some even managed to successfully create a spark! While others have been exploring some new features of the Forest School area, such as the mud kitchen (thank you to Mr McAulay for making this from scratch). They have also been planting trees (donated by the Woodland Trust), painting using water colours, swinging in the hammock and identifying the plants and trees that are within the area.



VE DAY THURSDAY 8 MAY

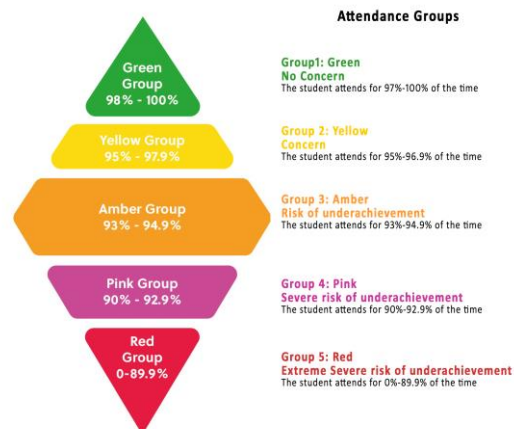
On Thursday 8 May we will be honoring VE Day. The children are welcome to come to school dressed in **RED**, **WHITE** and **BLUE**.

PARENTAL E-SAFETY NEWSLETTER

Attached to the newsletter is this month's e-safety newsletter. This month's newsletter focuses on the online chat elements of Minecraft and cyberbullying. With further information and links to helpful websites to report and support the children and parents through tricky times. It also has information on parental control instructions on Roblox plus how to help parents track their child's location when they are not at home but out playing with friends.

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. As you know there is a national focus on attendance across all schools. We are just above the national average at 95%. Our usual attendance was higher last year at this point. 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 14%. Our previous persistent absence rate was 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.



SPORTS DAY UPDATE

This year, we will be changing the format of sports day to support all the children in their enjoyment of the day. The new format is also designed to support transition years (reception and Year 3 in particular) to enter the events of the day with confidence and to ensure a challenging and enjoyable day.

Tuesday 20 May 2025

Parents arrive 9am	Parents arrive 10.15am	Parents arrive 1.15pm
Reception Sports day Starting - 9.15am - Finish - 10.15am <ul style="list-style-type: none"> House group games Track events 	Y1, 2, 3 Sports Day Starting - 10.30am - Finishing - 12.15pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traditional track events 	Y4, 5, 6 Sports Day Starting - 1.30pm - 3.15pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traditional track events Field long distance team event

PA UPDATE

Tickets are **ON SALE NOW** for our next event, our 2025 **COLOUR RUN** on **Saturday 17 May** on the school field. Tickets are £7.50 each, and are available to buy on our website or using the QR code attached here. There will be 3 colour fun runs - one for Reception and Pre School children (who can be accompanied by an adult), one for KS1 and one for KS2. Starting at 10am and finishing at 12.30pm. Our last colour run was fantastic fun, so come and join us again this time where we will see if we can get even more messy and colourful. **Tickets are on sale until 10 May so buy before it's too late.**

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/almondsburypta/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=97700>



The weather is changing so if you need any great condition pre loved summer uniform, please contact us and we will open the uniform shed for you to choose and pay for what you need.

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.educationquizzes.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/>

OPAL UPDATE

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. Items include (but no means limited to): 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). Thank you very much 😊

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

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 and 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. Smith'.

Mr Paul D Smith
Executive Head Teacher

DATES FOR 2024/25

TERM 5

Thursday 8 May

Friday 9 May

Monday 12 May

Friday 16 May

Saturday 17 May

Monday 19 May

Tuesday 20 May

Wednesday 21 May

Thursday 22 May

VE Day and special lunch

Mrs Williams's class swimming

Year 6 SAT week

Mrs Williams's class swimming

PA Colour Run – more details to follow

Sports Week

Sports Day – Reception classes 9.15am – 10.15am

Years 1, 2 and 3 10.30am – 12.15pm

Years 4, 5 and 6 1.30 – 3.30pm

Tour d'Almondsbury

End of Term 4

Email address: office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk

Website: www.almondsburyprimary.co.uk

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

Friday 6 June

Class photos day

Monday 9 June

Mrs Williams's class swimming

Year 1 phonics week

Year 4 MTC week

Tuesday 10 June

9.15am New Parents Meeting for intake September 2025

Thursday 12 June

Year 6 visit to Legoland

Friday 13 June

Mrs Williams's class swimming

Friday 20 June

Mrs Williams's class swimming

Friday 27 June

Non uniform day for Summer Fayre donations

Monday 30 June

Mrs Williams's class swimming

Enterprise Week moved from March

Friday 4 July

Mrs Williams's class swimming

Saturday 5 July

PA Summer Fayre

Friday 11 July

Celebration Day for all classes and parents plus children's picnic

Wednesday 16 July

Mrs Williams's class swimming

Year 5 and 6 show

Thursday 17 July

Year 5 and 6 show

Tuesday 22 July

9.15am Year 6 Leaver's Service at St Mary's for Year 6 parents

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
	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	