

30 June 2025

Dear Parents

SCHOOL YEAR 2024/2025 - NEWSLETTER NO 36

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	-	Matthew Wilkosz
Mrs Goode and Mrs Barrett	-	Ava Fung
Miss Whittingham	-	Molly Harrex
Mrs Lansdown	-	James Jermy
Mr Evens	-	Layton Wakeham
Mrs Williams and Mr Dean	-	Isla Stewart
Mr Garcia	-	The Whole Class
Mrs Leonard	-	The Whole Class
Miss Hake	-	Poppy-May Estcourt
Mrs North and Mrs Marshall	-	The Whole Class
Mrs Giles	-	The Whole Class



DON'T FORGET TO COME ALONG TO OUR SUMMER FAYRE THIS SATURDAY 5 JULY FROM 12 NOON TO 3.00PM – LOTS OF EXCITING GAMES, STALLS (INCLUDING THE CHILDREN'S MADE ITEMS FROM ENTERPRISE WEEK) BOUNCY CASTLE AND BBQ ALONG WITH DISPLAYS.

CLASSES AND STAFFING FOR 2025/26

I am pleased to share with you the class structure and the teaching staff as well as teaching assistant staff for the next academic year. We will be saying goodbye to a few members of staff Mrs Rachael Greenland is hanging up her teaching assistant cloak of 28 years. We wish her a very happy retirement.

Mrs Beckie Jones will not be returning to Almondsbury in September after her maternity leave as she will be moving to St Peter's in Pilning to take the lead on the new nursery which is opening at the school. Mrs Louise Owen is also leaving us to spend more time with her young family. We wish them both well for the future.

The classes your child will be in next year will be sent out today and you will have the children's annual reports on Friday 18 July.

Year group	Class teacher(s)	Teaching assistants	Specialist teaching assistants
Reception 1	Mrs Rebecca Giles	Miss Ellie Cantin	Mrs Trudy Challis
Reception 2	Mrs Kate North and Mrs Emma Marshall	Mrs Amy Rutter	Mrs Hannah Moore
Year 1	Miss Sarah Hake	Mrs Sarah Brooks	Mrs Sally Spicer Miss Daisy Byrne Mrs Sherry Flanagan
Year 1/ 2	Mrs Debbie Leonard		
Year 2	Mr Nick Garcia		
Year 3	Mrs Jenny Williams and Mr Tim Dean	Mrs Hannah Moore	Mrs Vicki Laing Mrs Hannah Moore
Year 3 /4	Mr Gavin Evens		
Year 4	Mrs Lauren Lansdown		

Year 5	Miss Molly Whittingham	Mrs Amanda Davis Jones	Mrs Sandra McAulay
Year 5/ 6	Mrs Katie Goode and Mrs Marie Barrett	Ms Elaine Jamieson Miss Sharon Ivory	Mrs Lizzie Swann Mrs Trudy Challis
Year 6	Miss Yasmin Ramli	Mr Sam Evans	
SENCo	Mrs Samantha McDowall		
PPA cover	Miss Susan Winter (Year 5 and 6) Mrs Jenny Williams (Year 1 to 6 Music) Mrs Caroline Bowen - PE	Mrs Sandra McAulay and Mrs Lizzie Swann (Year 1 to Year 6 Forest Schools) PE coach (Future Stars)	



OPAL UPDATE

Its official! The SANDPIT has been installed after months of planning. Last Monday and Tuesday, the team (including Mr Lansdown, who lent his skills as an excavation digger driver to dig the large hole in the ground) made, filled and created the 'Almondsbury Beach' with 100 metres of membrane, 12 tonnes of gravel and 40 tonnes of sand poured into the space. It was an exciting time for Mr Dean and Mr Smith, who also got to drive the excavator too. Thank you to everyone who has helped contribute funding for the beach. Today the retaining wall of tyres was installed by Mr Dean, Mr Lansdown and Mr Plumb, who came along to assist. Thank you.

We will be holding a grand opening at the Summer Fayre on Saturday. There will also be a chance to sit and drive the excavator! How exciting!!



CELEBRATION DAY

We are so looking forward to welcoming you into school for our Celebration Day on Friday 11 July. You will be able to come into school and see your child's work and visit their classroom. As it worked so well last year we have made the decision to keep the split across the school so that there isn't a huge crush and with everyone in school at once. Some of the younger children find this overwhelming and there just isn't enough space in school. Therefore, these are the times for each class.

9.15 – 10.30 am	10.45 – 12.00 am	2.00 – 3.15pm
Rec 1 – Mrs Giles	Year 1 – Miss Hake	Rec 2 – Mrs North and Mrs Marshall
Year 1/ 2 – Mrs Leonard	Year 3/ 4 – Mr Evens	Year 2 – Mr Garcia
Year 3 – Mr Dean and Mrs Williams	Year 6 – Miss Ramli	Year 4 – Mrs Lansdown
Year 5/6 – Mrs Goode and Mrs Barrett		Year 5 – Miss Whittingham

The children will have a picnic on that day for lunch so there will be no cooked meals just sandwiches made from the kitchen.

YEAR 1 AND 2 VISIT TO WESTONBIRT



On Monday 23 June, the children in Key Stage 1 had a fantastic day at Westonbirt Arboretum! They took part in an exciting workshop about plants and trees, which linked perfectly with their science curriculum. The workshop was led by the wonderful Outlearning and Forest School teachers based at Westonbirt, who made learning fun and engaging. The children also enjoyed a scenic walk through the



arboretum, where they had the chance to spot different types of trees and even search for the Gruffalo along the way! All the children were well-behaved and showed great enthusiasm, making the trip both enjoyable and educational. It was a memorable experience that enhanced their understanding of the natural world.



RECEPTION VISIT TO SLIMBRIDGE

Last Friday, our Reception classes enjoyed an exciting trip to Slimbridge, bringing to life two weeks of learning inspired by Tad - a story about the frog life cycle - and The Ugly Duckling, which introduced the children to birds and their features. During the visit, the children took part in a fun and interactive 'Do Like a Duck Does' workshop. They discovered how ducks build their nests, what they eat, how they stay clean, and how they swim and fly. Staff were very impressed by the children's fantastic bird knowledge! The adventure continued as the children explored the beautiful grounds of Slimbridge, spotting flamingos, geese, ducks, swans, and adorable ducklings. We were even lucky enough to see the 'Ugly Duckling', although all the children agreed that the cygnets were not ugly. We also visited Toad Hall, where the children carefully searched for amphibians including frogs, toads, newts, and even axolotls. The highlight of the day? Feeding the birds and splashing around in Welly Boot Land - where everyone had a brilliant time and got very wet! It was a fantastic day filled with learning, laughter, and lots of fun.



BRIDGE FAMILY OF SCHOOLS POETRY PLEASE

Year 6 children from across the family of schools got together last week to take part in the final of The Bridge Poetry Please at UWE. It was a fantastic afternoon where they got to enjoy some wonderful poems performed by the children. Some chose to share poems they had written themselves while others selected poems written by famous poets. Family members joined us to enjoy the performances and a team of five lecturers formed our judging panel. We were all so blown away by how the children did - they were loud, clear and showed great expression. Well done to everyone who took part; Ruhee with Jaiya, Naimah with Evelyn, Arthur with Arjan, Will with Amar and Euan. Our school winners were Arjan and Arthur.

PA UPDATE

★It's the summer fayre this Saturday 12-3pm!!★ We have loads of stalls and games on offer including a bar, BBQ, fidgets, cream tea, Indian snacks, inflatables, beat the goalie, ice cream van, face painting and loads more. We also have dance displays by Katie Kettle acro dancers, Emma Kate dancers, the Almondsbury Ukulele players and Marlwood steel band are joining us, so book the date in your diaries for **Saturday 5 July** and don't miss out on all the fun. You should have received **raffle tickets** already but if you haven't or if you need more, please go to the office. There are some great prizes on offer including a voucher for The Wave, Butcombe Inns voucher, Air Hop Tickets, cream tea at Wolfridge Alpaca, golf merchandise, Jump tickets, yoga and Brizfit vouchers and lots more.

This will be my last year as PTA Chair and so we are looking for anyone who would be interested in taking over the role of chairperson of the PA. This is such a rewarding role, and involves working with a great team of parents and teachers to pull together to raise money for the school. Without a chairperson there is no PA, which means no more fun events such as the colour run, summer and Christmas Fayres, discos, movie nights and auction ball. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact us at

Almondsburyschoolpa@gmail.com.

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://primarygamesarena.com/Years/Key-Stage-1>

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/>

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

Mr Paul D Smith
Executive Head Teacher

DATES FOR 2024/25

TERM 6

Monday 30 June

Friday 4 July

Saturday 5 July

Friday 11 July

Wednesday 16 July

Thursday 17 July

Tuesday 22 July

Enterprise Week moved from March

Mrs Williams's class swimming

PA Summer Fayre

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

Mrs Williams's class swimming

Year 5 and 6 show

Year 5 and 6 show

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

End of Term 6 and school year

DATES FOR 2025/26

TERM 1

Monday 1 September

Tuesday 2 September

Wednesday 3 September

Thursday 4 September

Monday 8 September

Wednesday 10 September

INSET DAY (school closed to pupils)

Start of new school year years 1 to 6

Home visits for Reception children

Home visits for Reception children

Reception children start school morning or afternoons

Mrs Landown's class swimming every afternoon this week

All Reception children in school mornings and lunch

Email address: office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk

Website: www.almondsburyprimary.co.uk

Monday 15 September

Year 6 visit to Paris, France

Reception children in school full time

Mrs Landown's class swimming every afternoon this week

Friday 19 September

Year 6 return from France

Monday 22 September

Mr Evens's class swimming and Mr Dean and Mrs Williams's class swimming every afternoon this week

Thursday 23 October

End of term 1

Friday 24 October

INSET DAY (School closed to pupils)

TERM 2

Monday 3 November

Term 2 starts for all pupils

Friday 19 December

End of Term 2

Term dates for 2024/25 (remaining terms)

Term	Starts	Ends
Term 6	Monday 2 June 2025	Tuesday 22 July 2025
INSET DAYS	Friday 23 May 2025 Monday 2 June 2025	

Term dates for 2025/26

Term	Starts	Ends
Term 1	Monday 1 September 2025	Friday 24 October 2025
Term 2	Monday 3 November 2025	Friday 19 December 2025
Term 3	Monday 5 January 2026	Friday 13 February 2026
Term 4	Monday 23 February 2026	Thursday 2 April 2026
Term 5	Monday 20 April 2026	Friday 22 May 2026
Term 6	Monday 1 June 2026	Tuesday 21 July 2026
INSET DAYS	Monday 1 September 2025 Friday 24 October 2025 Friday 22 May 2026 Monday 1 June 2026 Plus one to be confirmed	