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20 April 2026

Dear Parents

## SCHOOL YEAR 2025/2026 - NEWSLETTER NO 28

### 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	-	Lois Day	Owen Lacoue-Negre
Mrs Goode and Mrs Barrett	-	Ozzy Knapp	Finnley Garrett
Miss Whittingham	-	Alfie Grace	Maisie Watson
Mrs Lansdown	-	Lia Elhalabi	Jake Nelson
Mr Evens	-	Henry Jarvis	Avika Gahlyan
Mrs Williams and Mr Dean	-	Lara Higham	Rosa Sackett
Mr Garcia	-	Henry Randall	Aoife Doherty
Mrs Leonard	-	Poppy-May Estcourt	Kacper Nedzik-Puchala
Miss Hake	-	Jack Hammond	Nella Liney
Mrs North and Mrs Marshall	-	Maria Teresa Graca	Hektor Reihe
Mrs Giles	-	Finley Price	Arshveer Singh

### YEAR 3 AND 4 THE GOSPEL SHOW

What a fantastic performance that was given by the children in Years 3 and 4 during the last week of last term. They sang and delivered their lines in such a professional and superb manner. I was unable to attend the parental performances but the dress rehearsal was so well polished it could have been a live performance for an audience. It was very well received by parents and told different stories from the Bible of Jesus's life plus many different parables in 'The Gospel Show'. The individual narrators remembered their lines so well with such great delivery and the soloists and duets were sung so beautifully as well as the whole choral songs. Well done everyone.



### EARTH SMSC WEEK

Reception had a fantastic Earth Week, full of hands-on activities and time to think about the world around us. We started the week by exploring "Our Wonderful World" and went on a Spring walk to look for signs of the season. The children noticed what they could see, hear and smell, and shared how it made them feel before drawing their own pictures of what they discovered. We also spent time thinking about ourselves and what makes each of us special. The children created self-portraits using different materials and showed lots of creativity. On our Spring Day, we focused on how we can look after the Earth. The children enjoyed planting seeds, making blossom bracelets and painting spring flowers. One of the highlights was a litter pick around the school field, where the children sorted what they found into rubbish and recycling. It was a thoughtful week, and the children showed great care and enthusiasm for looking after our world.

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During Earth Week, Year 1 and 2 enjoyed a range of thoughtful and creative activities inspired by the book 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley' by Sarah Roberts, as they explored the big question: How does caring for the earth help us encounter God, understand ourselves, and share the future? On Monday, the children recognised the Earth as a special gift and took part in an outdoor 'Gift Hunt' around the school grounds, drawing things that were beautiful, tiny, moving and colourful. On Tuesday, they learned about the impact of single-use plastic bags and designed their own "bags for life", sharing important messages about protecting our planet. On Wednesday, they connected Stanley's story with their English text 'The Egg Box Dragon', thinking creatively about recycling and reusing everyday materials by designing their own imaginative characters from cereal boxes.



Everyone enjoyed Earth Week in Year 3 and 4. Firstly, we looked at the 'Windows' concept of spiritual development by looking at the work of Andy Goldsworthy. From this, we worked in small groups to create our own Andy Goldsworthy inspired art by finding and using natural resources outside such as sticks, mud and stones to create an arch. Next, we focused on 'Mirrors' and reflected on ourselves by drawing and writing all of the things we love to do and subjects that we enjoy. It was lovely to see the children express the many strengths and interests that they have. Finally, we worked in small groups to plant seeds in the flower beds to show that we recognise that when we are fair, kind, humble and take care of the Earth, we step through the 'door' and help God's garden grow.



Year 5 and 6 had a really thoughtful and engaging Earth Week. We began by exploring what spirituality means to us, looking at it as a window. We thought about awe and wonder and shared moments in nature that have made us say "wow". We then spent time on the field in quiet reflection, taking part in a cloud journaling activity. Children carefully observed the shapes, patterns and movement in the sky, recording their thoughts, reflections and even prayers. They also gathered natural materials,



such as fallen leaves and petals, that they found interesting or inspiring. After this, we explored spirituality as a mirror - reflecting on our place in the world and how we belong to it. This led to meaningful discussions about our role on Earth and how we can care for it, linking back to our RWE learning on stewardship and how different world views care for the environment. The children then expressed their ideas creatively. Many created self-portraits, surrounding themselves with the natural materials they had collected, while others chose to write and publish reflective poetry about their connection to the world.

It was a very enjoyable and thought-provoking week, full of big questions and deep thinking, and a fantastic way to connect our learning with our topic of Our Changing World.



### HOUSE POINTS

The winning house who collected the most house points during Term 4 has been shared with the children. This was **Sun with 2336** points. The children in **Sun** house will be able to wear their own clothes on Friday this week as their reward.

### PARENTAL E-SAFETY NEWSLETTER

April's e-safety newsletter includes features on BBC i-player for children and how to set up user accounts that provide age appropriate content to watch. It also shares the age related ratings guidelines for different apps and games that the children may play. Here is a video to give you some more information. <https://www.knowsleyclcs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/Online-Gaming.mp4>

Please familiarise yourself with these and support your child is accessing age appropriate games. It also shares information linked to changes in parental controls in Whats app and how to help your child spot potential fake websites and profiles as opposed to genuine real one.

### 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/>

### PA UPDATE

Wish list update - On behalf of the Forest School, we would like to thank all those families, staff and friends of Almondsbury Primary School, who have generously donated towards the Amazon wishlist. You are still able to donate via our wishlist. If you are able to support, you can purchase an item from the list, and it will be sent directly to school. If you already have any of the items at home that you no longer need, we would welcome these donations too! Please scan the QR code below to access the wishlist.



Please follow us on Facebook for more news & events @ [Almondsbury School Parents Association & Friends](#)

*We are looking for a new PTA Chairperson to join our amazing school community. This is a rewarding and fun role where you'll have the chance to work with enthusiastic parents, staff, and volunteers to make a real difference. As Chair, you'll help shape events and initiatives that bring our school community together while raising vital funds that directly support our children's learning and experiences. If you enjoy connecting with people, organising ideas, and contributing to something meaningful, we'd love to hear from you! If you would like more information about the role please email the PA mailbox @ [almondsburyschoopa@gmail.com](mailto:almondsburyschoopa@gmail.com) or speak to Claire Jarvis or any member of the PA.*

### 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.

### VACANCY FOR BREAKFAST CLUB TEAM MEMBER

Would you like to join our exciting Breakfast Club team? We now have a vacancy available for a new member to join the breakfast club team. The hours are between 7.40– 8.55am on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. This equates to 3.45 hours per week. 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.

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## 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



Full training and uniform is provided, we are happy to consider part job share for further details please contact myself, Martina Byrne-Obee 01454 863611.

time and/or

Best wishes

Mr Paul D Smith  
 Executive Head Teacher

### DATES FOR 2025/26

#### TERM 5

Monday 20 April	Start of Term 5 for all children
Monday 4 May	BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY – School closed to pupils
Monday 11 to Thursday 14 May	Year 6 SAT week
Monday 18 to Thursday 21 May	Sports Week
Tuesday 19 May	Sports Day
Wednesday 20 May	Tour d'Almondsbury
Thursday 21 May	Last day of Term 5
Friday 22 May	INSET DAY – School closed to pupils

#### TERM 6

Monday 1 June	INSET DAY – School closed to pupils
Tuesday 2 June	Start of Term 6 for all children
Wednesday 3 to Friday 12 June	Year 4 MTC testing week
Monday 8 to Friday 12 June	Year 1 phonics testing week
Friday 10 July	Celebration Day and childrens' picnic lunch
Wednesday 15 July	Year 5 and 6 performance 6.30pm
Thursday 16 July	Year 5 and 6 performance 6.30pm
Tuesday 21 July	Year 6 Leavers service at St Mary's Church 9.30am (year 6 parents only)
	End of Term 6 and last day of the school year

### 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	Friday 22 May 2026 Monday 1 June 2026	

### Term dates for 2026/27

Term	Starts	Ends
Term 1	Tuesday 1 September 2026	Friday 23 October 2026
Term 2	Monday 2 November 2026	Friday 18 December 2026

<b>Term 3</b>	<b>Monday 4 January 2027</b>	<b>Friday 12 February 2027</b>
<b>Term 4</b>	<b>Monday 22 February 2027</b>	<b>Thursday 25 March 2027</b>
<b>Term 5</b>	<b>Monday 12 April 2027</b>	<b>Friday 28 May 2027</b>
<b>Term 6</b>	<b>Monday 7 June 2027</b>	<b>Wednesday 21 July 2027</b>
<b>INSET DAYS</b>	<b>Tuesday 1 September 2026</b> <b>Friday 23 October 2026</b> <b>Friday 28 May 2027</b> <b>Monday 7 June 2027</b> <b>Plus one TBC</b>	

