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27 April 2026

Dear Parents

SCHOOL YEAR 2025/2026 - NEWSLETTER NO 29

CERTIFICATES

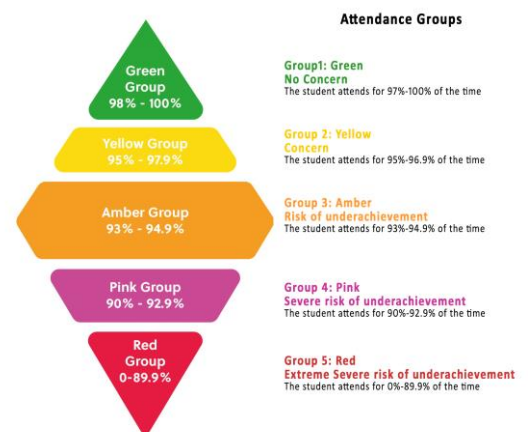
Well done to these children who received the certificates for last week from their teachers. These are presented on a Friday in worship where the class teacher shares the reasons for the certificates being awarded.

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|--------------------|
| Miss Ramli | - | Devon Bird-Wheaton |
| Mrs Goode and Mrs Barrett | - | Dara Adeitan |
| Miss Whittingham | - | Luca Trematore |
| Mrs Lansdown | - | Gino Lattuca |
| Mr Evens | - | Mario Long |
| Mrs Williams and Mr Dean | - | Killian Mason |
| Mr Garcia | - | Aaron Davies |
| Mrs Leonard | - | Eva Hall |
| Miss Hake | - | Charlie Lippiatt |
| Mrs North and Mrs Marshall | - | Amelia Dix |
| Mrs Giles | - | Atharv Shah |



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. Our attendance figure of 95.4% is above the national average at 94.6%. 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 8.9%, which is below the national average of 14.7%. 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 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.



On a more positive note, we gave out 86 certificates for those pupils who achieved 100% attendance during the Spring term and still have 46 children who have not missed a day over the entire year. Well done to those children. Let's see more children gaining the 100% attendance certificates at the end of the summer term.

SAFEGUARDING

One of our main aspects of school is the safeguarding of our children. This includes the wider school environment of playgrounds and outside of school. We endeavour to make sure everyone is kept safe. Last term members of the senior leadership team made sure that parents parked safely and did not stop outside the school to drop off children or park. This made a huge difference with many parents and children thanking staff for their efforts and presence. I would hope that this becomes the norm and will not require constant patrolling of this area with your co-operation. This also extends into the playgrounds in the morning and afternoon. Please make sure your children are supervised by yourself until the start of school and after they have been handed over at the end of the day. Too many children are running around the car park when leaving school. Please be vigilant with your children. If you see anything that concerns you then please report this to a member of staff to be dealt with. Please do not deal with other people's children by yourself.

HUMILITY HOME DISCUSSION SHEET

This term's theme for our Collective Worship is Humility. 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 Respect within our British Values. Below is our Bible reading linked to our Heartsmart theme for this term.

Hebrews 13:5

"Never will I leave you, never will I forsake you." This is a way of understanding that we are loved by Him. There are other people in our lives that are committed to us also, who might they be?"



SPORTS DAY UPDATE

This year, we will be continuing with the format introduced last year. The format is 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 19 May 2026

| 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 |

OPAL UPDATE

Packed lunches and school dinner rolls are now in full-swing picnic mode and being enjoyed in the sun. The coach sport for lunchtimes this term is rounders. We have moved our scrapstore to the large playground, and are seeing lots of fun and exciting play. Elsewhere, "Pirates" are enjoying the boats, "creatures" are climbing the trees, and dinosaurs have taken residence behind the shed! Last week we also introduced Calm Club, which is an area set aside for meditation, yoga, mindful colouring, and reading: this is run by over very own Reiki practitioner, Mrs Flanagan, and has had a very positive uptake from pupils who can drop in when they feel they would like to have a quiet calm space during their break.



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.tate.org.uk/kids>

PA UPDATE

Have you bought tickets for our Foam Party yet? If not, best visit our PTA website pronto and order some. It's on Thursday 14 May after school – KS1 foam party disco 5-6pm and KS2 from 6.15-7pm. Tickets cost £7 and include a drink and snack. This is being hosted by Party Peeps so the kids will be in for a fun night. Visit our website <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/almondsburypta> or scan the QR code below for tickets.



Please also save the date for our SUMMER FAYRE which this year is on Saturday 20 June. We will be in need of volunteers to help set up, man stalls and tidy away so please help if you can.

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

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.

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.

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 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 2025/26

TERM 5

Monday 4 May
Monday 11 to Thursday 14 May
Monday 18 to Thursday 21 May
Tuesday 19 May

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY – School closed to pupils
Year 6 SAT week
Sports Week
Sports Day

Email address: office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk
Website: www.almondsburyprimary.co.uk

Wednesday 20 May
Thursday 21 May
Friday 22 May

Tour d'Almondsbury
Last day of Term 5
INSET DAY – School closed to pupils

TERM 6

Monday 1 June
Tuesday 2 June
Wednesday 3 to Friday 12 June
Monday 8 to Friday 12 June
Friday 10 July
Wednesday 15 July
Thursday 16 July
Tuesday 21 July

INSET DAY – School closed to pupils
Start of Term 6 for all children
Year 4 MTC testing week
Year 1 phonics testing week
Celebration Day and childrens' picnic lunch
Year 5 and 6 performance 6.30pm
Year 5 and 6 performance 6.30pm
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 |
| Term 3 | Monday 4 January 2027 | Friday 12 February 2027 |
| Term 4 | Monday 22 February 2027 | Thursday 25 March 2027 |
| Term 5 | Monday 12 April 2027 | Friday 28 May 2027 |
| Term 6 | Monday 7 June 2027 | Wednesday 21 July 2027 |
| INSET DAYS | Tuesday 1 September 2026 Friday 23 October 2026 Friday 28 May 2027 Monday 7 June 2027 Plus one TBC | |