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06 July 2026

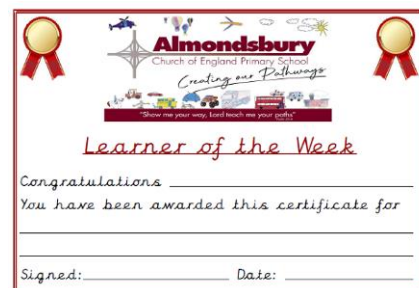
Dear Parents

SCHOOL YEAR 2025/2026 - NEWSLETTER NO 38

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	-	Rupert Arnott
Mrs Goode and Mrs Barrett	-	Miriam Payne
Miss Whittingham	-	Oli Vornicu
Mrs Lansdown	-	Ife Osukoya
Mr Evens	-	Ronnie Rae Butler
Mrs Williams and Mr Dean	-	Rex Sansum
Mr Garcia	-	The Whole Class
Mrs Leonard	-	Reggie Boote
Miss Hake	-	Nella Liney Daisy Truan
Mrs North and Mrs Marshall	-	Merewen Rogers
Mrs Giles	-	Zoe Shears



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 we 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. A big well done to Dhriti, Aarna and Amalie who were chosen as winners and a huge thank you to everyone who took part.



CELEBRATION DAY

We are so looking forward to welcoming you into school for our Celebration Day on Friday 10 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 will keep the split across the school and timings through the day so that there isn't a huge crush and 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 MsMrs Marshall
Year 1/ 2 – Mrs Leonard	Year 3/ 4 – Mr Evens	Year 2 – Mr Garcia

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

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 or a packed lunch from home.

OPAL UPDATE

We love making potions during our lunchtimes. Now that deadheading and summer pruning season is here for those with gardens, please feel free to donate your cuttings and pinchings for our Imagination Station area, so that the potion making can continue to thrive and be varied. Please ensure there are no thorns etc included! Thank you.



SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

The annual Library Reading Challenge is underway. This year the theme is 'Read to the Beat'. All you need to do is go down to your local library (Thornbury and Bradley Stoke are taking part) and sign up then read as many books as you can to gain prizes, certificates and medal. Happy reading.

Read to the Beat!

The 2026 Summer Reading Challenge is Read to the Beat, delivered by The Reading Agency in partnership with public libraries and powered by Universal Music Group UK. The theme inspires children to explore the connection between stories and songs, discovering how reading and music both ignite imagination and creativity. This year's Challenge is brought to life with illustrations by award-winning author and illustrator, Harry Woodgate, and will launch on 20 June in Scotland and 4 July in England and Wales.

READ to the BEAT

Summer Reading Challenge 2026

Illustration: Harry Woodgate 2026. Read to the Beat © The Reading Agency 2026

Explore the Read to the Beat book collection

This year's official Read to the Beat book collection includes books about musicians, characters discovering music, sound science, cultural traditions, rhythm, storytelling through sound, breaking down barriers to music, creative expression and following your dreams.

[Read more](#)

READ to the BEAT

Summer Reading Challenge 2026

PARENTAL E-SAFETY NEWSLETTER FOR JULY

Please find attached the last parental e-safety newsletter for this academic year. As you know the government recently announced a ban on all social media for children aged 16 and under. There is an explanation of this announcement and links to the press release for parents to investigate this further. There is also a reminder that 'WhatsApp' has an age restriction and those under 13 should not be using it. We know that this is not the case so please do read and take note of the advice. There is also some advice on live streaming regulations and on Netflix playground. As we approach the summer holidays there is a short piece on balancing screentime during the holidays.

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>

JIGSAW, THORNBURY

We have a cluster 1 funded event coming up for parents and carers. All the info and how to book is in the link below. It's the ideal session ahead of the summer holidays with changes to routines and potentially tricky transitions.

[**Making Daily Life Easier - Routines and Transitions \(16-Jul-2026\) · CharitySuite Events**](#)

SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES OVER THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS

There are a number of support offers for families over the summer holidays run or signposted by the local authority. Please see all of these different packages of support with links below.

Financial support/offers

- Information on different ways of getting support with the cost of living rising [Cost of living help | BETA - South Gloucestershire Council \(southglos.gov.uk\)](#)

Email address: office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk

Website: www.almondsburyprimary.co.uk

- [Household support fund | BETA - South Gloucestershire Council \(southglos.gov.uk\)](https://southglos.gov.uk)
The government has provided funding for us to support people who are struggling to:
buy food
pay energy bills
cover other essential costs linked to energy and wider essentials (including sanitary products, warm clothing, soap, blankets)
- [Places Kids Eat Free in the Summer Holidays 2024 \(moneysavingcentral.co.uk\)](https://moneysavingcentral.co.uk) is a website that tells families restaurants where kids eat free throughout the holidays.
- [Financial support and wellbeing | BETA - South Gloucestershire Council \(southglos.gov.uk\)](https://southglos.gov.uk)

Young people's mental health

- **Off The Record:** Free, self-referral counselling service for young people age 11-15, who are experiencing low mood, depression, anxiety, phobias, self-harm, eating problems and/or anger. Young people can call, email or text, and services operate in Patchway, Kingswood and Yate. Also offer parent support groups and sessions. Can also see [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) for more information and up to date groups and activities.
Tel: 0808 808 9120. Text: 07896 880011. Website: [Home](#) - [OTR \(otrbristol.org.uk\)](#) Email: hello@otrbristol.org.uk
- **Kooth:** Free, safe and anonymous online support for young people 11-18. Monday – Friday 12pm – 10pm, Saturday – Sunday 6pm – 10pm. On Kooth you can: Chat to our friendly counsellors; Read articles written by young people; Get support from the Kooth community; Write in a daily journal. Website: <https://kooth.com/> [Home - Kooth](#)
- **Childline:** Free counselling via online webchat, and free support/advice available 24/7 via confidential helpline, and emails via the website. Tel: 0800 11 11. Website: www.childline.org.uk [Childline | Childline](#)
- **Young Minds** national charity offers confidential online and telephone information and support for anyone worried about the emotional, behaviour, or mental health of a child/young person up to 25 years of age, including ADHD, Autism and Aspergers. **Parents Helpline:** 0808 802 5544 Website: [YoungMinds | Mental Health Charity For Children And Young People | YoungMinds](#)
- **Young Minds Crisis Messenger Service** for free 24/7 support across the UK of you are experiencing a mental health crisis. Text YM to 85258.

Adult mental health

- **South Gloucestershire Talking Therapies - Vitamins:** Therapeutic interventions including counselling and group courses, in line with people's differing needs, age 16+. Self-referral via the website: wellaware.org.uk Tel - 0333 200 1893 [NHS Talking Therapies - North Somerset & South Gloucestershire \(vitahealthgroup.co.uk\)](https://nhs.uk)
- **Samaritans:** Free, confidential emotional support for those experiencing despair, distress, self-harm or suicidal feelings.
Tel: 116 123 (free, from any phone, 24/7). Website: www.samaritans.org [Samaritans | Every life lost to suicide is a tragedy | Here to listen](#) Email: jo@samaritans.org

Family/parenting support

- **Solihull** – online parenting resources for parents, carers, grandparents and teenagers in South Glos. This is **free** lifetime access to a range of e-learning and online resources which span from pregnancy to 19 years. These courses can be worked through at a pace which suits the individual, with the aim of increasing parental knowledge and confidence around child development through all stages of the parenting journey. The courses aim to nurture emotional health and wellbeing so that our children can thrive as kind, sociable and emotionally aware people throughout their lives. [inourplace | Solihull Approach – South Gloucestershire | inourplace](#)
- **NHS website:** Advice for parents on a range of parenting issues, including talking to teenagers, fussy eating and teenage aggression. Website: [Live Well - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)
- **CCP – Caring for Communities and People** – Offer outreach support and parenting courses for families at an early help level. [Home \(ccp.org.uk\)](https://ccp.org.uk)

Support for families who have children with additional needs

- **SEND and You - SAY:** Local SEN and disability information service (SENDIAS) - Information and support around Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, for children, young people and families. (previously Supportive Parents)
Tel: 0117 9897725 Mon-Fri 9.30 - 4.30 (answerphone at other times),
Email: support@sendandyou.org.uk

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

Website: [Home - SEND and You](#)

- **South Glos Parents and Carers:** Information and groups for parents who have children with a disability and/or additional needs. Offers a weekly drop in for parents and carers, support groups, workshops, counselling and events. They also run the Parent Carer forum in South Gloucestershire to collect feedback and views from families with disabled children. Website: [South Glos Parent Carers \(sgpc.org.uk\)](#) Email: team@sglospc.org.uk
- **JIGSAW Thornbury** Support families who have children who are 0-25 years and have any additional needs or disability. This can be anything from learning needs such as dyslexia to complex disabilities or medical problems. Many children who come have no diagnosis. Weekly support group for parents, carers and children + training courses on a range of topics. Telephone: 01454 416381 Website: [JIGSAW Thornbury | For Children with Additional Needs and Disabilities - SEN Lending Library, Events, Meetings, Bristol Area and the South West.](#)

The South Glos LIFE homepage has more information about services in South Glos [South Glos LIFE](#)

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES & FOOD PROGRAMME

South Gloucestershire's Holiday Activities and Food programme is open for bookings for this summer for children and young people aged 5 to 16. There are lots of fun clubs and activities to choose from generally between Wednesday 22 July and Friday 28 August 2026, although some providers may offer different dates. Places are fully funded for children and young people who receive benefits-related free school meals. Eligible pupils can be booked on up to 16 days of activities. See all the activities available and book at www.southglos.gov.uk/HAF

THE GREAT BRITISH SUMMER SAVINGS SCHEME

The Great British Summer Savings scheme is running from 25 June to 1 September 2026, helping families feel a bit less squeezed this summer.

The new scheme includes reduced VAT on days out, including tickets at attractions like soft play, adventure centres and theme parks, children's tickets for theatres and cinemas, and children's meals in restaurants. Children aged 5 to 15 in England will also be able to travel free on local bus services throughout August.

For further information about the scheme visit [Summer Savings](#).

This is in addition to further support available to families, with more information available at [Cost of Living Help - Cost of Living Help](#)

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

Email address: office@almondsburyprimary.co.uk

Website: www.almondsburyprimary.co.uk



Mr Paul D Smith
Executive Head Teacher

DATES FOR 2025/26

TERM 6

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
Friday 17 July	Year 3 and 4 Portals to the Past
Monday 20 July	Reception visit to Court Farm (rearranged date)
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
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	

DATES FOR 2026/27

TERM 1

Tuesday 1 September	INSET DAY – school closed to pupils
Wednesday 2 September	Start of Term 1 for years 1 to 6
	Home visits for Reception children
Thursday 3 September	Home visits for Reception children
Friday 4 September	Teddy Bear's picnic either morning or afternoon for Reception children
Monday 7 September	Reception children start school either morning or afternoon
Wednesday 9 September	Reception children in school mornings and lunch
Monday 14 September	Reception children in school full-time
	Year 6 residential to Paris, France
Thursday 22 October	End of Term 1
Friday 23 October	INSET DAY – school closed to pupils