



# Alderbury & West Grimstead Church of England Primary School

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Head of School Miss A Hodgson

## Newsletter No 13 12 December 2025



Dear Parents, Staff and Governors,

It must be Christmas! There are brightly coloured decorations and twinkly lights in the classrooms, children are practising their Christmas carols with abundant exuberance and both children and staff have been spotted coming into school wearing Christmas elf hats!



### CHRISTMAS SERVICE – FRIDAY 19 DECEMBER

We will celebrate Christmas with a **whole school service in the school hall** on the afternoon of **Friday 19 December**.

Due to limited space, **only parents of children who are taking part** are invited to attend (e.g. playing an instrument, giving a reading). These parents will be notified in advance.

Children may be collected **after the service at 2:00pm**. We look forward to celebrating both occasions with you and making them memorable for our school community.

### KS1 NATIVITY

Our Infant Nativity this year will be on Tuesday 16 December at 9am.



**Parents of children in YR, Y1 & Y2 only** will be able to watch the performance. Please drop children off, as usual at 8:45am and then come round to the front of the school to enter via the front door. This performance is for 2 parents/guardians only as, unfortunately, we do not have the capacity to accommodate additional adults. Younger siblings are welcome and should be seated on parents' laps.

### SAVE THE DATE – WELCOME OUR NEW HEADTEACHER

We are delighted that our new Headteacher, Mrs Woolf, will be joining us immediately after the Christmas holidays. She is eager to get started in her new role and has already been working behind the scenes with Mrs Malcolm and Miss Hodgson to ensure a smooth transition.

To mark this exciting beginning, Mrs Woolf warmly invites all parents to an **informal coffee and cake meeting** in the school hall on **Friday 9 January, 8:55–9:45am**.

This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet her, share a friendly chat and welcome her into our school community. Please do drop in if you can – we look forward to seeing you there!



### **SALISBURY RADIO - 'SONG FOR CHRISTMAS'**

Our Christmas song "Sweet Bells," will be broadcast on Salisbury radio on Saturday 13 December.

**Songs broadcast on Monday - Friday will be played at 8:20am and 4:20pm.**

**Songs broadcast on Saturdays will be played at 8:20am and 1:20pm.**

Parents and children can listen to Salisbury Radio on DAB - Alexa Enabled Smart Speakers by asking them to 'Play Salisbury Radio', on the Salisbury Radio Website and the Salisbury Radio App - which can be downloaded

for free from the Apple App Store and Google Play Store.

You will also be able to download the song after it is first broadcast for £1 - with all of the proceeds being donated to Salisbury District Hospital's Stars Appeal.

### **CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY**

The festive season is upon us and we can't wait to see everyone in their Christmas jumpers on Wednesday 17 December!

To make sure everyone can join in, Mrs Wilkinson will be organising a Christmas Jumper Swap. If you have any unwanted jumpers to donate, or if you're in need of one, please pop along and see her.

Let's spread the joy, share the sparkle and make this year's jumper day the most colourful yet!

### **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

We have a large amount of pre-loved uniform; dresses, trousers, jumpers etc, please feel free to have a look to see what is available - save some pennies and the planet.

### **TRAFFIC-PARKING**

Just a reminder please not to park directly outside the school on the double yellow lines. A lovely, kind-hearted local gentleman has been clearing the roads and drains for us in order to help keep our children safe.

### **CHRISTINGLE MAKING**



The children will be making Christingles on the last day of term. All items will be provided by the school to complete this activity.

### **GOODBYE FROM NAOMI, THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR**

I want to let you know that I will be leaving the school at the end of this term and, whilst there will be enjoyable adventures in my future life, I will be sorry to leave the AWGS community that I have come to know and love. I will miss the staff, parents and most of all the children who surprise and delight me every single day with their

quirky humour, beautiful imaginations and disarmingly warm hearts. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Joyful New Year.

*Naomí*

#### **ST MARY'S CHURCH NATIVITY TRAIL 2025 AND CRIB SERVICE.**

In windows around the village, you will find characters from the Nativity story. Walk around with your family and see how many of them you can find. Sheets to check which ones you've found and where, are in the box behind the gate at St. Marys Hall, Whaddon.

Just write down the address of the houses displaying a picture, they are along the Southampton road starting from the Post office all the way up to the Clarendon crossroads and include Bracken Close, Canal lane, Rectory Road and the Sandringhams.

We'd love then, to see you at our Crib service at St. Marys Church at 3pm on 24<sup>th</sup> December. We'll retell the Christmas story – come dressed as a character from the story if you would like to. Bring your completed sheet and collect a prize.

#### **WILTSHIRE POLICE - Raising awareness of e-scooter safety this Christmas: A message for parents, carers and guardians from Wiltshire Police**

With Christmas fast approaching, we're asking families to remain mindful of the laws and safety concerns surrounding e-scooters, particularly as they are becoming increasingly popular gifts for young people.

Across Wiltshire and nationally, we're seeing more young people riding e-scooters on roads, pavements and in public spaces, often without understanding the legal restrictions or safety risks involved.

It is important that families know that privately owned e-scooters cannot legally be used on public roads, pavements, cycle paths or parks. They can only be used on private land, and only with the landowner's permission.

- **Privately owned e-scooters are not legal to use on public roads, pavements, cycle lanes or parks.** They can only be used on private land with permission.
- **Police can seize e-scooters being used illegally.** Riders may also receive warnings, fines, points on a future driving licence or prosecution.
- **There are real safety risks.** Some e-scooters can travel at speeds of 30mph or more. Without helmets, road awareness or proper supervision, the risk of serious injury is high.

This winter, Wiltshire Police will be taking proactive steps to tackle illegal and unsafe use of e-scooters. **We have already seized more than 140 vehicles**, and we want to prevent that number from increasing.

We appreciate that many families may be unaware of the rules when purchasing e-scooters as gifts. By sharing this information, we can help young people stay safe and avoid costly mistakes.

For further information, please visit our dedicated webpage on e-scooter law and safety:

[www.wiltshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/rs/road-safety/advice-escooters/](http://www.wiltshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/rs/road-safety/advice-escooters/)

#### **COMPLETE THE WILTSHIRE COUNCIL SEND SURVEY AND HAVE A CHANCE TO WIN A £50 AMAZON VOUCHER.**

Wiltshire Council is asking parent/carers of children with SEND to fill in a survey so the feedback can help improve support for children and families. Survey closes Monday 15 December.

To find out more and fill out the survey go to:

[Win a £50 Amazon Voucher - Help Shape SEND in Wiltshire - Wiltshire Council](#)

## DISTRICT SPORTS

### Christmas Camp – December 23 | 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Join us for a festive and fun-filled Christmas Camp on December 23, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, children will enjoy a full day of holiday-themed activities, creative crafts, games, and seasonal cheer. Our camp is designed to spark imagination, build friendships, and get everyone excited for the Christmas season.

Participants can look forward to hands-on projects, team challenges, and plenty of joyful surprises. It's the perfect way to celebrate the holidays in a safe, engaging, and memorable environment.

We can't wait to welcome everyone for a magical day of Christmas fun!



**The best gifts you can give this holiday season are kindness, compassion and love.**

## DIARY DATES

### December 2025

Tuesday 16	KS1 Nativity
Wednesday 17	Children's School Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 19	Term 2 ends at 2pm. Please collect children from school.

### January 2026

Monday 5	INSET Day
Tuesday 6	Term 3 Starts

### February 2026

Thursday 12	FAWGS School Disco
Friday 13	INSET

### May 2026

W/C 12 May 2026	Year 6 SATS week
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### Summer Term

W/C 8 June	Y4 Multiplication Check
15 June	INSET
25 June	New Owls in School
8 July	Transition Morning (all children to new classes)
10 July	Sports Day
17 July	Reserve Sports Day

**Miss Hodgson**  
**Head of School**

**Mrs Malcolm**  
**Executive Head**

# Family and Community Learning

Discover Opportunities - Develop Skills - Achieve Ambitions



## Understanding School Anxiety

### Early Signs of Emotionally Based School Avoidance



Online Course

Book by  
8 January

Thursday 15 January 10am - 12pm

- What is Emotionally Based School Avoidance?
- Strategies to support with anxiety and worry
- Strategies to support attendance
- Advice on reasonable adjustments that schools can make
- Group discussion with education psychologist

**For bookings and enquiries:**  
call the FaCL team on 01225 770478 or contact  
[familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk)  
or scan the QR code



Courses are no cost to learners who meet our eligibility criteria. Learners must be aged 19+ on 31 August 2025; they must have a Wiltshire postcode and meet certain residency requirements. Learners must also be able to tick one of the following criteria: on a lower income, individual income less than £25,750 a year; in receipt of benefits (other than child benefit); be a care leaver, foster carer or carer; be a military family or ex-armed forces personnel; have refugee status; have a learning difficulty or disability; be looking to go into work, now or in the future.

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## Helping My Child to Prepare Positively for Change

### Online Course

Monday 19 January 10:00am-12:00pm

Book by  
12 January



- Explore the reasons why children may find change difficult
- Discover ways to support your children at home in developing their ability to cope with change
- Develop an understanding of how simple steps at home can help children prepare for change

For bookings scan the QR code or contact: 01225 770478  
familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk  
<https://workwiltshire.co.uk/family-and-community-learning/>



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