



Alderbury & West Grimstead Church of England Primary School

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Head of School: Andrea Hodgson

Executive Head: Kate Malcolm



NEWSLETTER NO. 11 28th November 2025

Dear Parents, Staff and Governors,

Governors Wanted!

Last week, we sent out paperwork for any aspiring governors to complete! We appreciate that this can be a daunting role so wanted to share a governor's perspective with you:

I am a Foundation Governor and Vice-Chair of the Local Governance Committee, and have been a Governor since October 2023. It is an honour and a joy to play a small a part in the continued development and success of the school, and to giving our children the foundations and values to thrive in their future lives, whatever their needs and talents. Although I have no formal background in teaching or school experience, I have found I am able to use my time and skills to impact the school's direction, from its vision to its strategic operation. I work full time, and yet as the time commitment required is minimal, an evening meeting every couple of months and some background reading to prepare, I am able to fit the role around my work and family life.

Please do contact me if you wish to find out more about the role.

Please find attached the application paperwork should you now wish to apply!

Liesel Butler

AWGS School Governor

School Lunches

Our school lunch menu has had some slight alterations. Unfortunately, tuna is no longer available, but there are plenty of other tasty options. Please take a look at the menu which is bookable on Arbor.

Winter is Here

Please be aware that children will be playing outside at breaktimes and lunchtimes (unless it is raining) so they will need to bring coats, hats, scarves, gloves to keep them warm. Thank you.

A reminder that the pathways and pavements are not gritted so take extra care when dropping off in the mornings.

Our Christian Celebrations

We are delighted to share that our **whole school annual church service** will be held at **Easter this year**. Whilst it is always special to visit the church at Christmas, the long, cold, and often wet, walk can be challenging. By moving the service to Easter, we hope everyone will enjoy a much more pleasant journey together.

Foundations for Life



Pickwick Academy Trust

🕯️ **Christmas Service – Friday 19th December:** We will still celebrate Christmas with a **whole school service in the school hall** on the afternoon of **Friday 19th December**.

- Due to limited space, we kindly invite **only parents of children who are taking part** (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.



Infant Nativity

Our Infant Nativity this year will be on Tuesday 16th 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. Unfortunately, we do not have the capacity for additional adults. Younger siblings are welcome and should be seated on parents' laps.

Salisbury Radio's 'Song for Christmas'

We are delighted to be participating once again in Salisbury Radio's 'Song for Christmas' and are looking forward to our visit next week from Andy Munns, who will record children in Years 4, 5 and 6 singing 'Sweet Bells'. Our song will be broadcast on the radio on **Saturday 13th December**.

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

Songs broadcast on a Saturday 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.

Is My Child Too Ill for School?

As we head into the winter months, seasonal illnesses become more common. While some illnesses may require your child to stay home, the NHS offers clear guidance to help you decide whether your child is too ill for school. You can find this advice here:

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)

In general, we encourage children to come to school if they are well enough and we will contact you if we feel they need to go home.

Term Dates

We are pleased to share our term dates for the next academic year in advance. Mrs Woolf, our new Headteacher, has made the decision to place three Teacher Training Days alongside the October half term. These Teacher Training Days are:

Monday 19th October

Tuesday 20th October

Wednesday 21st October

This decision provides a two week break, giving families the opportunity to benefit from a reduced price for holiday bookings, avoiding taking important days off school.

Football Club Car Park

We are lucky to use the Football Club Car Park to relieve the pressure of traffic and parking outside school. This is just a gentle reminder that parents need to leave the car park promptly after drop off and pick up to enable us to lock the gates. Thank you for your continued support.

District Sports

Mr Bowley is running 5 clubs this term with all fun, exciting and inclusive activities. We want as many as possible to join up these clubs are for any ages above 5! So please use the link below...

<https://district-sports-south.classforkids.io/term/202>

Monday- Inclusive team games and sports Bringing back old fashioned games like 'Capture the Flag', 'Dragon's Eggs' and many, many more.

Tuesday- KS1 Football boys and girls We will be looking at skills (dribbling, shooting and passing) and we will also be playing MATCHES!! 🏈 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿

Wednesday- the famous Dodgeball has returned with new dodgeballs and new games, including ultimate Dodgeball! 🏓

Thursday- the most popular NERF WARZ With lots of new guns and inflatables, its sure to be loads of fun with teamwork to build bases. 🏹 🎯

Friday- Gymnastics where we will be learning routines and partner work along with using the apparatus and ropes to learn new tricks!! 🤸 🤸

DIARY DATES

December 2025

Friday 5 th	FAWGS' Movie Night
Wednesday 10 th	Flu Vaccines in school with School Nursing Team
Tuesday 16 th	KS1 Nativity
Wednesday 17 th	Children's School Christmas Lunch
Friday 19 th	Term 2 ends at 2pm. Please collect children from School.

January 2026

Monday 5 th	Inset Day
Tuesday 6 th	Term 3 Starts

Miss Hodgson
Head of School

Mrs Malcolm
Executive Head