



Alderbury & West Grimstead Church of England Primary School

Firs Road, Alderbury, Salisbury, SP5 3BD

Tel: (01722) 710464

Email: admin@alderbury.wilts.sch.uk

Head of School: Andrea Hodgson

Executive Head: Kate Malcolm



NEWSLETTER NO. 8 7th November 2025

Dear Parents, Staff and Governors,

After a good rest over the half-term holiday, staff and children have returned to school with energy and renewed focus, ready to explore new themes, projects and activities.

FAWGS Upcoming Fundraising Events for the school



FAWGS Fireworks will be held tonight, Friday 7th November, with gates opening at 5:30pm.

We hope you enjoy the beautiful display. Money raised will be going towards school trip contributions and improving the KS1 playground area. The event is for ticket holders only. Tickets will not be available on the gate.

Non-Uniform Day will be Friday 21st November (We will be collecting items for the Christmas Rainbow Raffle. More information to follow.)

Christmas Movie Night will be Friday 5th December (See attached poster)

Remember that all of these events raise money for ALL children in our school so please support them if you can!

SCHOOL LUNCHES

We apologise for the disruption to school lunches this week. This is due to changes in the catering company that organises the kitchen staff and menus, as well as changes to the supplier that provides the fresh food. Whilst we can expect some menu changes over the next few days, we have been informed that from Thursday 13th November onwards, the menus will revert to being as publicised. You will notice that we have been sending you, in separate emails, information regarding the menu changes. You can still book and pay for lunches via Arbor, but please note that the choices, until Thursday 13th November, will differ from what is written on Arbor.... Rest assured that, each day, classroom staff will always check that your children have either brought in a packed lunch from home, or have ordered a school lunch.

Foundations for Life



Pickwick Academy Trust

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, Dragons Eggs and many, many more.

Tuesday- KS1 Football boys and girls We will be looking at skills (dribbling, shooting and passing) where 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 loads 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!! 🤸 🤸

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING ATTENDANCE

Attendance notifications– what to expect

At the end of each term, we will monitor the overall attendance for your child from the start of the academic year to date.

Attendance concerns

If your child's attendance is falling below 95%, we will have an informal conversation with you to see if there is anything we can do to work with you to support and improve your child's attendance.

Persistent absence

Persistent absence means that a pupil has less than 90% attendance. That means that on average a pupil is missing 1 session every week. 1 session is a morning or an afternoon. Pupils with attendance that is less than 90% will receive Letter 1 from school. This letter is to raise your awareness of your child's attendance and offer you the opportunity to make an appointment to see how we can best support you as a school.

Additional attendance concerns

We look at patterns of attendance for your child and will also liaise with you if your child has a pattern of lateness, regular absence or full attendance is regularly disrupted.

Illness and medical appointments

We recognise that illness can play a part in your child's absence. Please endeavour to book medical appointments outside of the school day. If you are worried your child is under the weather, please refer to the NHS guidance: [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

Holidays

Whilst we appreciate that there are financial benefits for arranging term time holidays, due to government guidance, it is unlikely that holidays taken in school time will be approved. You will need to complete a 'leave of absence' form available from the school office.

Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notices issued from September 2024

Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued to each parent for each child that was absent.
For Example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

When will a Penalty Notice fine be issued?

Penalty Notices will be considered for 5 Consecutive days of term time leave or 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period (in the same or over different academic years).

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:
£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days. Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.



Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:
£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.



Third Offence (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court.

Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to 'failure to safeguard a

DIARY DATES

November 2025

Monday 3rd

Term 2 Begins

December 2025

Wednesday 10th

Friday 19th

Flu Vaccines in school with School Nursing Team

Term 2 Ends

**Miss Hodgson
Head of School**

**Mrs Malcolm
Executive Head**