



# Alderbury & West Grimstead Church of England Primary School

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Head of School: Andrea Hodgson

Executive Head: Kate Malcolm



## NEWSLETTER NO. 6 10th October 2025

Dear Parents, Staff and Governors,

This week, the resplendent colours of autumn have been enriching the gardens and fields around the villages of Alderbury and West Grimstead and in school, children's faces have been lighting up as their learning develops and relationships begin to cement!

### TRI-GOLF CHAMPIONS AGAIN!

A huge [congratulations](#) to our incredible Year 5 Tri-Golf team, who have taken first place for the third year in a row! Their performance was nothing short of outstanding, winning by an impressive 300 points and achieving the highest score in 11 out of the 12 stations.

The team showed fantastic spirit, played with enthusiasm and skill, and most importantly, had lots of fun throughout the competition. Their teamwork and determination truly shone through, making us all extremely proud.

A special shout-out goes to Thomas, who was recognised by the event leaders for his exceptional teamwork, and to Charlie, who stood out for his passion and energy on the course. Well done, boys!

What an amazing achievement and we now look forward to competing in the county finals in June!

### A SEASON OF SHARING AND GRATITUDE



We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has contributed to our bumper harvest collection! Your generous donations will support individuals and families in our local area through the Trussell Trust. Contributions are still welcome until **Friday 10th October**, when the collection will be gathered and delivered.

### JIGSAW DONATIONS

We would welcome donations of complete, child-friendly jigsaws. We are particularly looking for jigsaws suitable for Key Stage 1 children which involve animals, farms, forest scenes and dinosaurs. Thank you in anticipation!

Foundations for Life



Pickwick Academy Trust

## **NEW FRIDGE WANTED**

We are also in need of a good-quality, under the counter fridge for our staff room. If anyone is able to donate one, please contact the school office. Many thanks!

## **NEW LIBRARY BOOKS!**



You may remember that Richard Britton, a former local councillor, recently donated a National Book Token to the school. Well, we are pleased to announce that this has been used to purchase some fantastic new titles for both our Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 libraries! Miss Hodgson can't wait to find out what you think of them!

## **COOL MILK**

All children under the aged of 5 are eligible for Free School Milk until their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. However, they can only access school milk if you register your child with the Cool Milk website. Children over the age of 5, can also have milk at school, but this will need to be paid for by parents. <https://coolmilk.com>

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING ATTENDANCE – Please see separate attachment for full details and flow chart.**

### **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.

## **FAWGS**

FAWGS Fireworks will be held on Friday 7th November, gates opening at 5:30pm. Please see poster attached for booking information and link. ALL TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED BEFORE 22nd OCTOBER. There will be no ticket sales on the door so you must prebook your tickets!

## **DIARY DATES**

### **October 2025**

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October                      Open Event (see timings above)

Wednesday 15th                      Portrait Photos in School

Wednesday 22nd                      Inset Day

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Friday 31<sup>st</sup>              Half Term Holiday

### **November 2025**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>                                  Term 2 Begins

### **December 2025**

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup>                      Flu Vaccines in school with School Nursing Team

Friday 19<sup>th</sup>                                  Term 2 Ends

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

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