



# Alderbury & West Grimstead

## Church of England Primary School

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**Head of School:** Andrea Hodgson

**Executive Head:** Kate Malcolm

## NEWSLETTER NO. 3

19<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Parents, Staff and Governors,

It's "all go" in school this week, as the bustle of our school family life can be felt in every corner of every classroom.

### Parking Reminder – Keeping Our Children Safe

A gentle reminder to all parents and carers: please avoid parking on double yellow lines when dropping off or collecting children. These areas must remain clear to ensure the safety of everyone and to maintain good visibility around the school entrance.

We are very fortunate to have access to the Alderbury Football Club car park, which provides a safe and convenient alternative. We kindly ask that you make use of this facility whenever possible.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping everyone in our school community safe.

### A Heartfelt Thank You

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Mr Britton, a former local councillor, for his generous donation of a £35 book voucher to our school. This thoughtful contribution will be used by Miss Hodgson to purchase exciting new fiction titles for both our Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 libraries—bringing fresh stories and inspiration to our young readers.

We are incredibly grateful for this support, which helps us continue to nurture a love of reading across our school community.

### A Day in the Life of Owls

**Year R Owls' parents** will have the opportunity to meet Miss Orphan at 'A Day in the life of Owls' session which will include further details of our Phonics scheme and how you can support your child with early reading from home. This will take place on **Thursday 25th September from 9.00-9:30 am** in the school hall. We hope you can join us.

Foundations for Life



Pickwick Academy Trust

## **Year 6 National Child Measurement Programme and Year R Vision Screening and National Child Measurement Programme.**

HCRG work with schools to provide a children's community health screening service in partnership with Wiltshire Council. This autumn HCRG will be screening children in Year R for vision as well as height and weight. They will also be screening children in Year 6 children for height and weight. **Please can parents of children in all age groups and all classes go onto Arbor to give consent to Third Party Health Screening?** This is particularly important for our Year R and Year 6 children as they are due to be screened this term.

### **Games for Wet Play Time**

It seems that Autumn, and the inevitable rain, has already arrived! With this in mind, if you have any board games, in good condition, which you are willing to donate to the school for the children to use during wet play times, please bring them to the school office. Many thanks!

### **Nut Free School**

This is just a reminder that we are a nut-free school. Therefore, all children's snacks and lunch box items must be nut free. Thank you for helping to keep our children safe!

### **Arbor**

Arbor, our school communication and payment system, is now running smoothly, so parents can now book and pay for lunches, clubs and trips, as well as being able to give consents for school admin tasks.

Earlier this term, all parents received an email, inviting them to access Arbor/download the Arbor App in order to create an Arbor Account. Please can all parents ensure that you do create your Arbor Account, as this will be the only way that it is possible for you to book lunches/ book clubs/book school trips and update key information about your child e.g., dietary needs, photo permissions.

### **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/>

### **School Lunches**

School Lunches must be ordered and paid for via Arbor. School Lunches are free-of-charge to all children in Year R, Year 1 and Year 2. All children in KS2 need to pay for school lunches in advance, unless your child is eligible for Free School Meals. You can find information about Free School Meals on the Wiltshire Council website. Please inform the school if your child has any specific dietary requirements that we do not already know about.

Even if your child is in receipt of Free School Meals because they are in EYFS/KS1, it would be beneficial for all parents to check whether they are eligible for Pupil Premium funding. The funding enables schools to provide extra support staff, tutoring, educational resources and enrichment activities, helping eligible students to attend, belong and succeed.

Parents are eligible for Pupil Premium funding for their children if they are in receipt of certain government benefits, such as Income Support or Universal Credit, have been eligible for free school meals in the last six years, or are a looked-after or previously looked-after child. You can check eligibility and apply for free school meals online via [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk), which will determine if you are eligible for pupil premium.

### **KS2 After-school Football Club**

Every Tuesday Mr Goldsack-Marsh is leading a school-run after-school football club for KS2 pupils from 3:15pm to 4:15pm. The cost is £31.50 per child for Autumn Term 1 and payment must be made in advance, via Arbor, for the whole half-term. Cash payments cannot be accepted for this after school club.

## Breakfast Club

We are delighted to announce that children are now welcome to attend our school-run Breakfast Club from 7.30am. Thank you to Mrs Telfer and Miss Anderson for being at school so early!

The price for Breakfast Club is:

- £6.10 per session
- £5.50 per session for younger siblings

## District Sports

On behalf of District Sports, Mr Bowley is running 5 clubs this term with fun, exciting and inclusive activities. We would like as many children as possible to sign up. These clubs are for any aged 5+ years! Please use the link:

<https://district-sports-south.classforkids.io/term/196>

**Monday- Any Ball Club** - Over the course of the term we are going to be practising skills with all different shapes of balls, along with playing fun and exciting new games, one of which is called End Zone!

**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 popular NERF WARZ** includes loads of new guns and inflatables. It is sure to be loads of fun with teamwork needed to build bases.

**Friday- Inclusive Team Games and Sports**, bringing back old-fashioned games like Capture The Flag, Dragons' Eggs and many more.

## Applying for a September 2026 YrR or Y7 School Place

You can now apply for a school place for a Year R or Year 7 start in September 2026 by using the Wiltshire Council Parent Portal.

- Reception 2026 entry
- Infant to Junior transfer (Y3)
- Year 7 Secondary 2026

The national deadline dates for submitting applications are:

- Reception 2026 entry – 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026
- Infant to Junior transfer (Y3) – 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026
- Year 7 Secondary 2026 – 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025

<https://parentportal.wiltshire.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/home>

All **online applicants who have applied by the national deadline date** will receive notification of the outcome on national offer dates as stated below:

- Reception 2026 entry – 16<sup>th</sup> April 2026
- Infant to Junior transfer (Y3) – 16<sup>th</sup> April 2026

- Year 7 Secondary 2026 – 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026

If you do not wish to apply online then you can submit a paper application form. Application forms can be obtained by calling Wiltshire Council's Customer Service Team on 01225 713010.

## **FAWGS**

FAWGS (Friends of Alderbury and West Grimstead School) is our Parent/Teacher association. We are a charity who work to raise money for the school to provide learning resources, funding and equipment. This money is essential so we really need as many people as possible to help and support us. We have a Facebook page - Friends of Alderbury and West Grimstead School where lots of information is posted, so please join.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1885748958361120/>

Please see the attached summary from the FAWGS AGM that took place on 12th September.

## **Diary Dates**

### October 2025

Wednesday 8th	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
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### December

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**