



Alderbury & West Grimstead Church of England Primary School

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Headteacher Mr W Thorpe



NEWSLETTER NO. 19

28 FEBRUARY 2025

Dear Parents, Staff and Governors

After a good rest over the Half Term Holiday, it is good to welcome children back to school with lighter afternoons and daffodils beginning to spring up in gardens. We have taken advantage of the lovely weather by having our Spring Term Fire Drill this afternoon. The children all conducted themselves impeccably.

Panathlon Tournament



On Wednesday 11 February Mr Bowley and Mrs Rooney took 8 children to a Panathlon tournament at Wyvern St Edmunds School competing against 14 other schools.

AWGS had a very strong team and were full of confidence and excitement, with it being Quinn's birthday, as well as a sporting event day. The tournament was well run by the young leaders with each activity having 3 leaders to guide the children's efforts. We thoroughly enjoyed participating in a total of 8 different activities and we triumphed as we were placed 1st out of all the schools! Our great team effort in all the games means that we now move forward to the County Finals in March with the date being confirmed very soon. A massive well done to all the children involved.

Gymnastics Competition

A huge well done to our Year 4, 5 and 6 gymnasts who attended a gymnastics competition at Landford Village Hall on the last day of school before the Half Term Holiday. The gymnasts had a fun afternoon, performing a floor and bench routine, as well as vault and springboard moves.

Someone who impressed us all, on the day, was Thomas, who couldn't get his feet on the vault at all in the warm up session, but when it really mattered, during the actual competition, he managed to land his feet perfectly, on the vault. Splendid work Thomas!



Foundations for Life



Pickwick Academy Trust

After weeks of having Miss Metcalfe nag everyone about the importance of pointed toes, straight legs and stretches after every move, the children did amazingly well, with the Year 4 team coming 5th out of 11 schools in their age category and the Year 5/6 team coming an impressive 3rd! Well done to Alice, Poppy H, Thomas, Charlotte, Chloe, Ethan and Sophie! And a huge Thank-you to Mrs Thomas who joined us, in supporting the children on the day.

Parent/Teacher Consultations

Parent/Teacher consultations will be held during the week beginning Monday 31 March with the majority of teachers' appointments on Wednesday 2 April. **Please log in to your Arbor Account** to book an appointment with your child's teacher. This is a great opportunity to discuss your child's progress, so please make sure you book a 10 minute slot. On the Wednesday, there will also be lots going on in the hall to see and do: Tea & coffee with Louise, Pre-loved uniform sale, as well as further information about Little Wandle, our Phonics and Early Reading programme.

Arbor – Parent App

We are continuing to roll out the **Arbor Parent App**. Within the App, (and desktop version) you will see information regarding your child; including attendance, consents and payment for trips, as well as the ability to order and pay for lunches. Booking and paying for breakfast club will also be available on the App.

Before Half Term you will have received a welcome email with instructions on how to create your account. Please review the information that is written about your child and update any information that you feel is outdated. This is important as the information you provide, via Arbor, enables the school to keep accurate records.

Please can we encourage you to order lunches at least a day in advance. Teachers will continue help children to choose school lunches for any pupils in their class who have not pre-ordered a school lunch, or brought a Home Packed Lunch, while we get used to the new system!

World Book Day

Just a reminder that we will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 6 March and our school-wide theme will be 'Classic Texts'. We will be participating in many exciting, book-related activities throughout the day, fostering a love of reading and books within our school. Children are encouraged to **EITHER** dress up as their favourite book character **OR** to bring in a simple prop associated with this character. It would be lovely if we could see an array of characters from classic texts, but this is certainly not essential! In fact, we would like to emphasise that there is no expectation or need to purchase costumes or props: something you already have or can easily make is encouraged. Alternatively, children can come to school in uniform as usual if they wish. Following the success of our World Book Day book swaps in previous years, we also encourage children to bring in a book (in good condition) that they are prepared to permanently swap - that way every child gets a 'new' book on the day! Book swap books can be brought to the school office at any point next week. We thank you in anticipation of your support for World Book Day.

Your children have been given their World Book Day tokens today - enjoy choosing your books!

District Sports Clubs

If any children are interested in After-School Sports Clubs on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, you can obtain information from the District Sports website: www.districtsportssouth.com

Please note, all payments for these clubs need to be made directly to the Districts Sports organisation itself, rather than via the school office.

Great Athletes

We are thrilled to be able to share some information about our upcoming Great Athletes event. We are excited to announce that the athlete who will be visiting us will be Kelly Simm!



On the event day, all pupils will take part in a sponsored fitness circuit run by their athlete. This is a terrific way to get all children excited about sport and realise that getting moving is really fun! Kelly will then share her incredible sporting journey - a story of resilience and determination in a fun and interactive assembly. There will also be an opportunity to ask any burning questions in a Q&A session with Kelly at the end!

Fundraising for the event is already underway with children having brought home sponsorship forms. The money raised for the event will help us to purchase new sports equipment and improve levels of physical activity in our school! Please follow the instructions on the form that detail how you can help your child to set up an online sponsorship page. Sponsorship payments will need to be made electronically, as we will not be receiving raised cash through the school office.

Outstanding library books

If your child visits the mobile library when it comes to school every 4 weeks, please have a look at home for any outstanding library books. Quite a few have not been returned for some time and it may jeopardise your child being able to take out books from the library van in future. Please return any books that you find, to the school Admin Office - Thank-you.



Online Parent/Carer Workshop:

You are invited to the following workshop:

Title: Parenting a child with ADHD

Description: This workshop is for parents who have a child with ADHD. The workshop will share a selection of ideas from psychology that are relevant to ADHD, linking these to effective parenting approaches and highlighting the most important thing that our children need from us. The workshop will include 1 hour of information sharing, followed by half an hour for questions.

Date and Time: Wednesday 26th March 9.30-11am

Venue: This will be an online session, via Microsoft Teams.

Link/Invite: [Parent/Carer Workshop - Parenting a Child with ADHD | Microsoft Teams | Meetup-Join](#)

COMMUNITY NEWS

Holiday Club

EASTER CLUB 2025
7th April - 11th April
Full Day - 8am - 5pm
AM Session - 8am - 12.30pm - Bring packed lunch
PM Session - 12.30pm - 5pm

Happy Easter!

Theme Days
Mon 7th - Chick Nest Making
Tues 8th - Mask Making
Wed 9th - Biscuit Decorating
Thurs 10th - Spring Flower Planting
Fri 11th - Easter Egg Hunt
Plus additional fun crafts

Pricing
Over 3's
Full day £30
Half Day £15

Egg decorating competition!
On all week prizes for the winners of each age group!
-under 2
-2 to 4yrs
-KS1
-KS2

Morning & Afternoon Snack Provided

Pricing
Under 3's
Full day £35
Half Day £17.50

Book via email
Alderburypreschool@gmail.com by
28th February

St Mary's Church - Family Pancake Party



St Mary's Church, Alderbury - Family Pancake Party

Join us at the church on Tuesday 4 March – 3.30-5.30 for fun and games and Pancakes!

All welcome – bring the family

Please let us know that you are coming so that we buy enough pancakes!!

alison@larkham.co.uk

Alderbury Easter Fun Tennis Days



Mon 7 / Tues 8 / Weds 9 / Thurs 10 April 2025

5 – 9-year-old group / 10 – 16 year old group

Contact Ed on: good4tennis@yahoo.co.uk / www.good4tennis.com



“A little among neighbours is worth more than riches in a wilderness”

Diary Dates – new dates underlined>

April

Monday 7 – Monday 21 Easter Holidays
Tuesday 22 Return to School

May

Monday 5 May Bank Holiday
Monday 26 to 30 Half Term Holiday

June

Monday 2 June Return to School
Monday 16 INSET DAY

July

Thursday 24 July Break up for Summer Holidays

Best wishes

Mr Thorpe
Headteacher



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