



Alderbury & West Grimstead Church of England Primary School

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Headteacher Mr W Thorpe

NEWSLETTER NO 13

13 December 2024



Dear Parents, Staff and Governors

We are all getting excited about the KS1 Nativity 'Born in a Barn' which the children are performing next week and we are looking forward to seeing our KS1 families in school for the show. As previously advised we are pleased to say that we have accommodated all ticket requests.

In addition to the Nativity we are also looking forward to Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday and our whole school walk to St Mary's Church on Friday.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year from all the staff and governors. We look forward to seeing you all back in school on Tuesday 7 January 2025.

As next week is so busy this will be the final Newsletter of 2024



Last day of term and walk to St Mary's Church



Our whole school walk to St Mary's Church for our Carol Service takes place on Friday 20 December. A big thank you to everyone who has offered to accompany us on our trip. We are hoping to leave school at 1:00 pm for the service which starts at 1:45 pm. It is anticipated the Service will finish at 2:30 pm and the children will be walked back to school for dismissal at 3:15 pm as usual. **We will assume, unless we hear otherwise, that you give permission for your child to take part in the walk and the Carol Service.**

As is customary on the last day of term, we will be making our Christingles; a very big thank you once again to Mr Wearn and Waitrose for supplying the oranges. The Christingle is very symbolic at this time of year and is used to celebrate Jesus Christ as the 'Light of the World'. For those who may not know the meaning behind the Christingle, the orange represents the World; the red tape symbolises the love and blood of Christ; the sweets and raisins represent all of God's creations and the lit candle represents Jesus' Light in the World, bringing hope to people living in darkness.



CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Our Christmas lunch will take place on Thursday 19 December, this will mean Wednesday lunch will be meat balls instead of the roast. If you would like your child to have Christmas lunch, please can you let Mrs Mundy know as soon as possible.

STAFFING CHANGES

I am pleased to advise you that we have successfully appointed a successor for Mel (and Jane). Ms Naomi Defriend will be joining us from 7 January. Sadly, Judy Mattiae will be leaving us at Christmas and we wish her well in her next chapter of life. I am pleased to say that Judy has been replaced by Jane Mundy, who will move from the front of the office to the back!

Message From Miss Hodgson

We Love Reading

Please enjoy our first 'Reading Round Up' (attached), informing you of all the reading initiatives we have implemented, or are planning to implement, this academic year. Further editions will be sent out in the Spring and Summer terms, but, in the meantime, KEEP READING!

Eco Club

Next term's Eco Club will focus on eco homes where children will use a shoe box to make a model eco home with features like solar panels and a vegetable plot. The club is on Wednesdays 3.15-4.15 and is open to Y1-6, though this creative project is especially suitable for KS2 children. If your child is keen, please sign up via the office and pay £27 in cash or via bank transfer (the office has the bank details). Over the holidays, do save one shoe box with lid and fill it with lots of little boxes (e.g. paracetamol box size) and bring into school on Wednesday 8 January 2025. You can also bring in patterned paper (e.g. old wrapping paper) to use as wallpaper.

STAMPS FOR THE RNLI



Please remember to save any stamps you receive on your Christmas cards this year and pop them in the RNLI box we have in the reception area here at school. Thank you.

FAWGS

Dates for your diary:

19 December Christmas Cookie Sale

COMMUNITY NEWS:

Alderbury Scout Group invites you to Christmas Carols Around the Tree

Join us for a free event organised by Alderbury Scout Group on Saturday 21 December at 6:15 pm at the Village Hall for mince pies, mulled wine and hot chocolate, and live music - All welcome!



POP-UP CHRISTMAS BARN AT KENNEL FARM

Don't forget to visit and support Emma and Becca's small business at The Barn at Kennel Farm. All your Christmas shopping: decorations, gifts, workshops and more, under one roof!

The revised opening times are:

Friday 13 December 2-4pm

Monday 16 December 2-4pm





'The night conceals the world but reveals the universe'

DIARY DATES – NEW DATES UNDERLINED>

December

Monday 16 Tuesday 17 EYSF & KS1 Nativity
Thursday 19 December Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas lunch and Christmas Cookie Sale
Friday 20 December Christingle, Carol Service & Final Day of Term

January 2025

Monday 6 INSET DAY
Tuesday 7 Return to School

February

Friday 14 INSET DAY

June

Monday 16 INSET DAY

Best wishes
Mr Thorpe
Headteacher



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