



Newsletter

ALDERBURY AND WEST GRIMSTEAD CE VA SCHOOL

www.alderbury.wilts.sch.uk

Friday 25th November 2016

Newsletter 11

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Governors and children,

Vision, Values and Mission

The governors have now fully and finally ratified our thorough consultation over our strapline and wider vision/mission statements. Thank you to all staff, children, parents and governors for their input, contributions and openness. We have adopted the strapline 'Nurturing lives through Christian Values' which encompasses so much of what we are about. I hope that the attached graphic and rationale explain where we are as a school and where we want to be. 'Mission' is what we are doing every day, right now. Our 'Vision' is what we aim for as much as possible, as soon as possible. Please see our explanation about our Values – both Christian and Secular - and our Aims (Drivers). I am very pleased to have moved away from a wordy document in favour of a helpful image. We have produced this in black and white as well to support anyone who has a visual impairment, including colour blindness. We want to 'stand out' and we want to generate, achieve and celebrate 'successes beyond measure'. Our stationary, website and documentation will be updated over the next few weeks to reflect this new stage in the school's development.

Staff News

I am writing to inform you that Ms Jo Rackham has decided to step down as Year 1 teacher on 21st December 2016. We are fortunate that Mrs Karen Smith has offered to work full time at AWGS, in Year 1 for this year, so the children will not need to get used to a new teacher/job share at this time. Mrs Smith will continue to be supported throughout the week by Mrs Bridge and Mrs Helen Larkham has also agreed to provide additional support to the class on a Monday and Wednesday afternoon. To support Mrs Smith with her PPA time and her continued training and development I will be teaching Elephants (on Tuesday afternoons) and Mrs Strawbridge will teach Thursday mornings. We are very sad to be saying goodbye to Ms Rackham and I know you will join me in wishing her well and thanking her for all she has done in Year 1 so far this year.

Carol Service at St Mary's Church

St Mary's Church Carol Service on Sunday 18th December 6:00 pm require lots of AWGS children to sing Follow That Star!! This is a song the children know very well and it would be lovely to see as many of our children attending as possible.

Forest school

Please note that for one week only Year 3 and Year 2 are swapping their Forest School sessions (this is because Year 3 are visiting The Roman Baths on Tuesday). This means, therefore, that Year 2 will have Forest School on Tuesday and Year 3 will have Forest School on Thursday. Back to normal the following week.

Bird Watching Club

CR in Lemurs Class is setting up a Bird Watching Club starting next Thursday 1st December and continuing on Thursday 8th December and again every Thursday from 19th January 2017. The Club will be led by C's mummy, Hanna and C's Nanna and will take place at school from 3:15-4:15 pm in the school conservatory. C is a keen bird watcher and would love to share his interest with others so if your child is in Years 1 to 4 (there are 16 places available) and would like to take part, please contact Mrs Agland. If you have any binoculars that you are able to donate to help our Tweeters, we would be very grateful.

Fundraising for Amelia

A reminder that there will be golden buckets in the playground next week for donations to help and support Amelia from Harnham Junior School who is seriously ill. On Friday 2nd December we are hoping the children will wear a yellow ribbon/yellow crown/paper hat so that we can send a photograph to Amelia and her family letting them know of our support.

Salisbury Schools Carol Concert – Message to our Choir

Please practice "Reindeer Twist" so we are ready to perform it at the City Hall on Monday 5th December. You can check out a clip on YouTube by clicking on the following link: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=tMC8DJvdpLw>. If you can, please purchase Reindeer ears to wear for the performance for added festivity! Thank you.

Christmas dates and end of term

I hope you have all seen a copy of the letter sent home this week detailing dates and times of the various festive events coming up, all the dates have now been added to the Diary List at the end of this Newsletter. Please note our last day at school is Wednesday 21st December and we return on Monday 9th January 2017.

Clubs

A reminder that the last Gardening Club is on Wednesday 30th November and there is no more Football Club this term. Please note that **all** Clubs will have their last session during week beginning 5th December – there will be no Clubs running in the week of 12th and 19th December.

Giraffes' Worship

Giraffes will be leading Worship on the theme of "Perseverance" on Thursday 1st December at 9:10am. Parents, grandparents etc of Year 5 children are very welcome.

Lego, Playmobil, K-nex

We are always grateful for 'construction' and 'small world' toys for our youngest learners (and many older ones too!) These items are expensive for schools, so if you are having a pre or post Christmas clear out and would like to support us further, please do give us those unused Lego, Sylvanian Families, Playmobil etc.. we promise not to sell it on but to utilise it for learning and play in school!

Trussell Trust Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Wow! You donated 58 Christmas Shoeboxes this year – fantastic! A huge thank you to everyone for their generosity.

Awards

Congratulations to Penguins: **EA** and **GW** on gaining their "25 Home Reads" Certificate. Well done!

FAWGS News

Thank you all so much for your kind donations of bottles & chocolate for our **Christmas Charity Bazaar tomorrow**. Forgotten? Donations will be gratefully received, along with your lovely cakes, at school this afternoon or at the Village Hall tomorrow morning from 9.00-9.30a.m.

Don't forget to join us for the Bazaar itself from **10.00am-12.30pm** at the **Village Hall**. Along with your generous donations, Majestic, Cambridge Wine Merchants and Sainsbury's have kindly provided us with some bottles of Chandon and Prosecco. Roly's Fudge Pantry have donated some sweet treats too, so the tombola could help stock your pantries in time for Christmas! There'll also be a variety of fabulous gifts, crafts, cards and preserves available to purchase. (And let's not forget the cakes...)

We're pleased to announce that the **School Disco** will be held on **Friday 2nd December**.

- **Key Stage 1** children (Years R, 1 and 2) are welcome to attend from **6.00- 7.00pm**
- **Key Stage 2** children (Year 3 upwards) will be welcomed from **7.15-8.30pm**.

The disco is always fun with lots of singing and dancing! Entry will be **£2 per child on the door**. This includes a cup of squash and/or water and a bag of sweets. For those that would like to purchase additional items, there will be a little tuck shop available on the night and some 'flashy/glowing things' for sale. If you are willing to stay for one/ both disco(s) to help run the tuck shop, please let Rachel Hodges know. Your help will be gratefully received! The venue for our next **committee meeting** is now confirmed as the **Green Dragon**, so please join us there on **Monday 28th November** from **7.30pm**. Your ideas and support are always welcomed. If you would like to be added to our (e)mailing list, please contact fawgs.committee@gmail.com, with your details.

Alderbury Pre-school

Alderbury Pre-school Quiz Night is on Saturday 26th November at the Three Crowns from 7:30 pm. Tickets to include a bar meal - chilli and rice, sausage and chips or scampi and chips (vegetarian option also available) £8 per person. Money raised will go towards new resources and equipment for the breakfast and after school club. Teams not necessary. Come and join us and test your brain power! Tickets now available from Pre-school or committee members.

Diary Dates – new dates underlines

November

Saturday 26th 10 am Charity Christmas Bazaar at the Village Hall
Monday 28th - Golden bucket week for Amelia
Tuesday 29th Year 3 to Roman Baths, Bath
Tuesday 29th - Christmas Tree Festival at St Thomas' Church
Sunday 4th December

December

Thursday 1st 9:10 am Giraffes' Worship
Friday 2nd Yellow ribbon/crown/hat for Amelia
Friday 2nd FAWGS Disco – YR/1/2 6-7:00 pm; Y3/4/5/6 7:15-8:30 pm
Monday 5th 6:00 pm Choir to City Hall for Salisbury Schools Carol Concert
Monday 12th 2:00 pm Years 2 & 3 "Census Sums"
Monday 12th 6:00 pm Years 2 & 3 "Census Sums"
Wednesday 14th 9:30 am Years R & 1 Dress Rehearsal "The Christmas Story by Father Christmas" Nativity and Carol Service
Thursday 15th 9:30 am Years R & 1 Final Performance of "The Christmas Story by Father Christmas" Nativity and Carol Service
Sunday 18th 6-7:00 pm St Mary's Church Carol Service
Monday 19th am Talent Show
Monday 19th pm Christingle making in KS1
Tuesday 20th Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 20th Christmas Lunch (menu will follow)
Tuesday 20th pm Christingle making in KS1
Wednesday 21st 9:15 depart for whole school walk to St Mary's Church (10-10:40 am)
Wednesday 21st Last Day of Term

January 2017

Monday 9th Return to school

Paul Beveridge
Head Teacher