



Alderbury & West Grimstead Church of England (Aided) Primary School

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NEWSLETTER NO. 13

Dear Parents, Staff and Governors

It is hardly possible that I have been here a whole term. In many ways it seems so much longer!

This week has been incredibly busy with lots of very important things. We have had 2 stunning performances of "Mend the Manger" by Years 2 and 3, a very thoughtful and reflective Worship on the theme of Generosity and a lovely nativity play from the Owls and Elephants. Events like this show the school at its best and make me proud to be the Headteacher.

We have had special visitors on behalf of the Government this week and whilst the report will not be published until mid-late January, I was delighted with the behaviour of the pupils in their lessons and the confidence they showed when speaking with the inspectors. Thank you too, to every parent who completed the parent view questionnaire. The results of this are already live on the Ofsted Parent View website and show what a long way we have come, compared to the survey we completed in September, when I was new in post.

We have just 3 days to go and many exciting and enjoyable activities planned to lead us into the Christmas Holiday.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and restful Christmas and a wonderful New Year and we look forward to seeing you all on Friday 5th January 2018.

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given," Isaiah 9:6

Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day

A reminder that Tuesday 19th December is Christmas jumper day, children can wear Christmas jumpers/tops with school uniform on the bottom and Christmas Lunch day, cost for lunch is the usual £2.50 for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 and free to Years R, 1 and 2.



Christingle help please

Years R and 1 would very much appreciate any help parents, grandparents etc can offer on Wednesday morning to make the Christingles ready for the Service in the afternoon. Please let Mrs Agland know if you are available.

Whole school walk to St Mary's Church

A reminder of the arrangements for our Christingle Service at St Mary's Church and finishing times for the last day of term on Wednesday 20th December. The whole school will be walking to St Mary's Church straight after lunch at 1:00 pm for the start of the Christingle Service which starts at 1:45 pm. There will be a retiring collection at St Mary's in aid of the Children's Society, who have provided the candles and tape to make our Christingles. We need many adult helpers to accompany the children so if you are free we would love to share the afternoon with you. When the service finishes by 2:40 pm you are very



welcome to take your child/ren home rather than returning them to school. If you are not able to attend the service, the children will be walked back to school for dismissal at 3:15 pm as usual. Please let Mrs Agland know if you are able to help. **We will assume, unless we hear otherwise, that you give permission for your child to take part in the walk and the Christingle Service.**

Please note that cloakrooms will be cleared on Tuesday afternoon in order to make the last day of term on Wednesday as simple as possible, so expect your child to come home with their bag and their PE kit and anything else that belongs to them. If your child is being collected straight from St Mary's Church after the service on Wednesday, you may want to consider what they bring to school with them on this day. We are, therefore, advising that packed lunches are packed in a disposal bag and no water bottles are sent in as water can be supplied at school.

Gingerbread treats for sale

Mrs Bickerton, Ellie and Sofi's mummy, will be selling her tasty gingerbread treats today after school. She is also, kindly, selling raffle tickets (£1.00 per ticket) for a delicious gingerbread house, with the proceeds of the raffle going to the Koalas' class fundraising for Harry Potter World. Don't forget your pennies.



Rescheduled Year 3 trip to Bath

We have rearranged Lemurs' trip to the Roman Baths for Thursday 11th January 2018, all the details are the same as before ie the children will need to arrive at school at 8:30 am and should be back at AWGS for approximately 4:15/4:30 pm. They will need a snack, a packed lunch and a drink in a rucksack or similar bag. Full school uniform to be worn with a warm, waterproof coat. Children can bring a camera – **photographs are not to be posted on social media** - and a small amount of money (parental discretion) to spend in the shop. However, the children will be responsible for these items.



FAWGS News

First of all we want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and we also want to say thank you for all your support during this term. We hope you have enjoyed the events that we have organised, please let us know if you have any ideas for future ones. On that note, watch out

for tickets going on sale in the New Year for the FAWGS Quiz Night on Saturday 3rd February! If you are having a Christmas clear out and have any of the following items in good condition (and clean!), please pass to Mel Sturgess-Bullock (or any of the FAWGS committee): School uniform, any costumes your children have grown out of (e.g. Roman outfits), any Christmas jumpers your children will have grown out of by next year. FAWGS will have a stall at the Summer Fete to re-sell these on to raise funds.

Diary Dates – new dates underlined

December

Tuesday 19 th	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 20 th	1:45 pm Christingle Service at St Mary's Church
Thursday 21 st -	
Wednesday 3 rd January	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
January 2018	
Thursday 4 th	TD Day NO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL
<u>Thursday 11th</u>	<u>Year 3 rescheduled trip to the Roman Baths, Bath</u>
February 2018	
Saturday 3 rd	FAWGS Quiz Night
March 2018	
Thursday 29 th	TD Day NO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL
June 2018	
Monday 25 th	TD Day NO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL

Best wishes
Mr Thorpe
Head Teacher