



# Newsletter

ALDERBURY AND WEST GRIMSTEAD CE VA SCHOOL

[www.alderbury.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.alderbury.wilts.sch.uk)

Friday 16th December 2016

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Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Governors and children,

What a week it has been for our children performing in our Christmas shows. Years 2 and 3 kicked it off with their amazing acting and singing in "Census Sums" on Monday and Years R and 1 did us all proud on Wednesday and on Thursday, in front of a very packed audience, with beautiful singing and actions in "The Christmas Story by Father Christmas" – it really does put you in the mood! Thank you to you all for your support with costumes, learning lines and songs, early nights and keeping things calm. A big thank you must go to the Teachers and TAs for all their hard work over the last few weeks preparing the children, culminating in the polished performances you saw this week!

We look forward to our final three days next week full with a talent show (Monday), Christmas jumpers and Christmas lunch (Tuesday) and our whole school walk to St Mary's Church for our Christingle service (Wednesday). The Christmas jumper wearing on Tuesday can be accompanied by Jeans/trainers etc (or general non-uniform on red/green theme if no Christmas jumpers available). There is no charge for this Christmas themed non-uniform day. Full school uniform for Church on Friday please.

As this is the last Newsletter of 2016, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We return to school on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

### **Anti-bullying week Design a Poster**

Congratulations to AK and RC for designing the winning posters for our Anti-Bullying campaign – they are proudly being displayed around the school communicating their strong message.

### **Thank you**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our Governors and volunteers who, week in and week out, come into school to support our children. Your dedication and commitment are very much appreciated and it really does help staff and pupils alike. A particular thank you to our Owls' parents who have come in every week since September checking and changing Story bags: Mrs Parker, Mrs Hewlett, Mrs Kimber, Ms Maudsley and Ms Phipps.

### **Clubs**

The following Clubs start during our first week back at school: Art, Cookery, Kidz love Fit, Kicks 'n' Tricks. All other Clubs will be advertised ready to start back in week 2. Tennis Club will not restart until after the February half-term.

### **Books for our Library**

Thank you to Mrs Fisher and Mrs Kirkland for their donations of books for our Library. If you are having a pre- or post-Christmas sort out, please think of us for donations of age appropriate reading material. Thank you.

### **Awards**

Congratulations to Elephants: **RR** on gaining his "25 Home Reads" Certificate; Penguins: **JH** on gaining his "50 Home Reads" Certificate and to Elephants: **PD** and **FK-J** and Penguins: **EP** on gaining their "75 Home Reads" Certificate. Well done! We will be publishing our Owls' "Home Reads" Awards on our return in the New Year, in the meantime, keep up the good work and we look forward to all our Home Readers being celebrated in 2017.

### **Knitting Club's Knitters!**

Can all knitting needles and wool borrowed by Mrs Smith's Knitters, please be returned to Mrs Smith so that it can be used again when we return in the New Year. Thank you.

### **FAWGS News**

Thank you for supporting us this week by purchasing refreshments and raffle tickets at this year's Christmas Productions. Our final flourish of the year is to offer the children the opportunity to parade their **Christmas jumpers** for the day next **Tuesday** (no fee). Our Christmas elves have also been working very hard to organise a visit from a **VIP** from **Lapland** next week. We can't make any promises (apparently he's very busy at this time of year), but we were told that if the children continued to work towards the school values (Friendship, Thankfulness and Service) at school **and** home, then they might be in for a treat...

Here's those all-important dates for the New Year again:

- **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2017 Quiz Night with Ploughman's supper**, School Hall.
- **FAWGS committee meeting** Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January at **7.30pm** in the School Hall.  
Please email [fawgs.committee@gmail.com](mailto:fawgs.committee@gmail.com) with any agenda items.

**All that remains to be said is a huge 'thank you' once again, for all your help and support this year, both financial and otherwise. We hope you have a lovely Christmas and we look forward to working with you to improve our school in the New Year!**

### **St John's Church, West Grimstead**

St John's Church invites you to join us for our Christmas celebrations:

Carol Service on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 7:00 pm followed by refreshments in the Village Hall

Christmas Day at 9:30 am, All Age Christmas Communion.

### **Used Postage Stamps**

At this time of the year, we receive Christmas cards, parcels and other items through the post which means a lot of postage stamps. Please don't forget that our school collects used postage stamps for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI). So please bring the stamps from your Christmas cards and other Christmas post into the school and put them in the box in the school foyer. They will then be sent on to the RNLI where they will be used to provide equipment and other necessary items for the brave men and women who go out to help those in trouble at sea.

### **Diary Dates – new dates underlined**

#### **December**

Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	am Talent Show
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	pm Christingle making in KS1
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Lunch (menu will follow)
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	pm Christingle making in KS1

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> 9:15 depart for whole school walk to St Mary's Church (10-10:40 am)

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> Last Day of Term

**January 2017**

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> TD Day – no children in school

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> Return to school – most clubs start next week (16<sup>th</sup> onwards)

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> Forest schools starts for Owls (letter to follow next week)

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Forest schools starts for Elephants (letter to follow next week)

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Clubs start (letter to follow first week back)

Paul Beveridge

Head Teacher