



Newsletter

ALDERBURY AND WEST GRIMSTEAD CE VA SCHOOL

www.alderbury.wilts.sch.uk

Friday 28th April 2017

Newsletter 26

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Governors and children,

Head Teacher Vacancy

I am sure everyone knows by now – but in case you have missed the news/previous letter I am due to leave to take up a new post at Sandford St Martins Primary School (Dorset) at the end of August. I will miss everyone here that I have grown to love and respect and would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for making me feel so welcome. I know that you will all do the same for my successor. The Governors are already working hard to recruit a new Head Teacher for the school. The post has been advertised this week with the intention of interviewing just before half term, this May, with the plan of the new head teacher starting in September 2017.

I am ever thankful to you all and have enjoyed working with you immensely, and will continue to do so with honesty, commitment and openness until the end of August when I move to pastures new.

Mrs Pallas

Mrs Pallas is poorly with pneumonia so I know you will want to join us in wishing her a speedy recovery. We anticipate Mrs Pallas being absent all of next week so we are working on securing familiar supply staff to keep Lemurs moving forward happily.

Clubs

The summer term club options have been sent out today so do fill in and return your child's slip with haste! Apologies that this is a little late coming home. If you sign up for a club and do not hear from us then that means your child has a space and can start. We only contact home if there is a problem or the club is oversubscribed (they are allocated on a first come first served basis). Many thanks.

Cardwell and Simons – school photographer

The school photographer is visiting school next Wednesday 3rd May to take class photos. The photographer will be here taking whole class photos so there will be no opportunity for sibling photographs on this occasion. Please make sure your child comes to school in full school uniform. Thank you.

Cake and biscuit sale

There will be a cake and biscuit sale next Thursday 4th May at break-time in school to raise funds for school which Mrs Telfer and MD are organising. Treats are priced at 20p. Please send your child in with pennies on this day. Thank you.

Forest schools.

Apologies for the mix-up over the starting of Forest School this week – it was my mistake entirely as I mixed up the dates. Just to confirm/remind parents:

YEAR 3 FOREST SCHOOL IS ON TUESDAYS for the next 2 weeks, and then on Thursday 18th May, and then on Tuesday 23rd May to take us up to half term.

YEAR 2 FOREST SCHOOL IS ON THURSDAYS, but not Thursday 18th May, due to a special event on Tuesday 16th May and Y2 SATs timetabling.

YEAR 4 FOREST SCHOOLS IS ON FRIDAYS, with the class spilt in half for 3 weeks. Letters will be issued next week.

What's going on with the new track next to the school?...

... I hear you cry? I met with Mr Jones-Perrott from the Longford Estate this week to discuss the modified road. I am assured that this is for the football club to access their new site (field adjacent to the A36) – drainage and electrical works are due to start soon (well done to Alderbury Football Club for securing all the funding for a new site, pitches, parking and clubhouse). Longford and AFC share our concerns for the safety of everyone in and around the school and pre-school and will therefore be fencing that perimeter edge (in the May half term) with a higher, robust, permanent fence. This will include replacing the 5 bar vehicle gate and pedestrian gate from the track. When or if any housing development goes ahead in the future, it is certain that the track will be tarmacked and more vehicles will rumble past – in this case the fence could be clad in solid ply wood sheets temporarily to protect the school site from dust, dirt and noise. Planning for the housing development was submitted last week, but still remains very much in the future for now. In June the governors will also be replacing the gates and fences by the infant playground (parents main thoroughfare for dropping off/collecting children), and between the school kitchen and pre-school. This is to further secure and safeguard the comings and goings from site.

TESCO Bags of Help

As you know we have been successful in our bid to win £5,000 from the Tesco Bags of Help appeal which will pay for a new garden. Mrs Telfer was invited to Tesco this week with MS and SV to be presented with the cheque. We would like to say a big thank you to Tesco and specifically Gilbert for making the occasion so special and for all that Gilbert and his colleagues do for our school. The Salisbury Journal were there so keep a look out for the article.

Thank you

Mr Adam Joliffe has worked very hard over recent weeks preparing our outside areas with top soil and doing general gardening work. We would like to thank him (and Riley) for his tireless efforts, it is much appreciated.

Tag Rugby

15 of our Year 4, 5 and 6 children enjoyed a tag rugby session at The Burgate school yesterday. They worked well together to complete various drills and tactics. Many thanks to all the parent drivers and supporters who helped to ensure this event was a success.

FAWGS News

We hope you all had a fantastic Easter and would like to thank those of you who so generously supported our **Eggstravaganza** efforts! Thanks to you, we were able to raise **£121!** In addition, the School **Disco** raised **£157** and the **Mother's Day** flowers profit totalled **£163.50!** Special thanks are due to Becca Thorpe, Rachel Hodges and all the lovely helpers who gave up their time to make these events possible.

So how is this hoard of treasure to be squandered?

In fact, how have FAWGS funds been used so far this year?

Well, after careful research and hard-bargaining, the spangly new class touch screens are due to be ordered within the next fortnight. We also hope to purchase some data-loggers, which are desperately needed for scientific investigations and will provide an important link with both ICT and maths. In addition, we've paid the annual subscription fee for the whizzy library service and provided playtime equipment for use across the school. School trips this year have also been heavily subsidised by FAWGS (if you paid for one in the autumn term, you will receive a 'free' trip in lieu this term). Finally, let's not forget the recent Life Education Van visit (subsidised by FAWGS) and Duggie Dug Dug's Crazy Science Concert which was financed by Helping Hands proceeds. However, we can't rest on our laurels; we need to build our pot of funds to help finance the **desperately-needed extension to the school building** (more on that later).

So, here's what's on the menu for the summer term:

By now, you should have received a bag and flyer for our **Jumble Sale, 2pm at the Village Hall on Saturday 6th May**. We politely request that you return your filled bag to school on Friday 5th May. **We are also in need of helpers** in the afternoon, so if you can spare an hour or two, please **let Claire Hall know** (07787040915) ASAP.

Next up is our fabulous **Pamper Evening on Friday 19th May**. Tickets are available from the office or Kate Macklin at **£5 each and entry includes a glass of Bucks Fizz and gorgeous Goodie Bag**. There'll be a variety of therapists on hand to offer a wonderful array of **treatments**; from facials to sports massage. In addition, there'll be a range of stalls and a **professional make up demo**. This is truly an evening 'not to be missed', so we'd be most grateful if you could **purchase your tickets ASAP**, so that we can ensure you're duly 'catered for'! In addition, we're **looking for helpers from 4.15pm – 5.30pm**, in order to transform AWGS from school to sanctuary. If you think you can help sprinkle some magic, please see Kate Macklin or let the office know ASAP.

Please be sure to put **Sunday 11th June (2-4pm)** in your diaries as the date for our splendid **Scavenger Hunt!** This is set to be a fantastic family event at Kennel Farm with delicious refreshments available to reward your scavenging efforts!

Rest assured, we have **Father's Day gifts in hand (Sunday 18th June** this year), a **Summer Disco booked (Friday 30th June)** and all the while plans for the fabulous **Summer Fete (Saturday 15th July)** are bubbling away! If you have any further fundraising ideas or would like to help in any way, please contact us via the usual channels: **fawgs.committee@gmail.com** or come along to our next committee meeting on Wednesday 24th May, 7:30pm at school.

Awards

Congratulations to Elephants: **FE** and **OM** and to Penguins: **EA, RK, SP** and **LW** on gaining their "75 Home Reads" Certificate; to Elephants: **ND, MG, RJ** and **LM** and to Penguins: **EB, JH, HK** and **AP** on gaining their "100 Home Reads" Certificate and to Penguins: **EL** on gaining her "200 Home Reads" Certificate. Well done!

St John's Church

You are invited to our annual service of blessing for pets and other animals at St. John's Church on Sunday 14th May at 11am. This will be followed by drinks in the village hall. There will also be a barbecue in the churchyard (there will be time for you to pop your animals home first while we are firing up the barbecue!) Revd. Beth would love this opportunity to get to know villagers better, particularly young families. To help with catering preparations please let us know if you are planning to come to the barbecue – please contact Revd. Beth Hutton (beth.hutton@clarendonteam.org or 01722 238504).

Diary Dates – new dates underlined

May

Monday 1st **BANK HOLIDAY – School closed**
Wednesday 3rd 9:15 am Class photographs taken
 Friday 5th Open library 3:15-3:45 (come and change books with your child)
 Saturday 6th Jumble Sale in the Village Hall
MONDAY 8th-
FRIDAY 12th **YEAR 6 SATS WEEK**
Monday 15th-
Friday 26th **Year 2 SATs 'window'**
Saturday 20th **Mini-Marathon 9:00 am-12:00 noon**

June

Monday 5th-
Wed 7th **Year 6 residential to Braeside**
Monday 12th-
Friday 16th **Year 1 phonics screener 'window'**
 Sunday 11th Scavenger Hunt
Thursday 22nd Year 6 Leavers Service at Salisbury Cathedral
Monday 26th June **School closed (TD DAY)**
Wednesday 28th Year 6 to Longford Countryside Day
 Friday 30th June School Disco

July

Tuesday 4th "Beginners Please" final performance at Salisbury Playhouse
Friday 14th Race Morning
 Saturday 15th July Summer Fete
Tuesday 18th Reserve date for Race Morning

Best wishes,
Mr Paul Beveridge
Head Teacher