



# Newsletter

ALDERBURY AND WEST GRIMSTEAD CE VA SCHOOL

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

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Newsletter 29

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Governors and children,

### **Toys and fidget spinners**

Over the past few weeks, there has been a boom in sales of fidget toys/spinners and they are becoming more commonplace. Unfortunately having an abundance of fidget toys in school can be counterproductive as it causes additional distraction rather than improve concentration as desired. Also, they all look the same and are rarely named... so cause additional stress and upset. There have also been recent examples of the spinners breaking, releasing the ball bearings and they are also potentially dangerous if thrown or swallowed.



***There has been a recent increase in all sorts of toys being brought to school which is not allowed. We are stating that children are NOT to bring fidget toys/pocket toys/marbles/cars or spinners into school from home.***

As a school, we aim to support children in as many ways as possible. Some children find it challenging to concentrate, sit still, hold pencils or listen well and we treat each child according to their needs. This means that some of our children are provided with, or allowed to bring in, specific resources that help their identified need. These include; writing slopes, cushions, blankets, pencil grips and fidget toys to name just a few examples. It is important that all of these interventions are implemented by the teacher and **we would politely ask that children do not simply bring their own additional resources or toys into school.**

If the school has identified a need for such a strategy we will liaise with you, as is our existing practice. Usually this will have been recommended by an Occupational Therapist or similar. From Monday, toys and spinners will be confiscated and returned to parents (not the child) if it is not part of school agreed provision. Thank you for your understanding and do speak to class teachers or Mrs Wilkinson if you are unsure about this.

### **Mini marathon**

Good luck to all our runners (children and adults) taking part in the Mini-Marathon tomorrow. My thanks to Mrs Telfer and Mrs Wilkinson, and all the parents/FAWGS, who have offered to oversee our teams. I am unexpectedly absent so am very sad not to be able to run the adults race, nor support the children's races. I have a family matter that needs urgent attention in Hastings. Thank you to Paula Dean for organising a new Gazebo complete with School logo ready for the event. This is funded by FAWGS and will serve us well for many events.

### **Cardwell and Simons class photo proofs**

Orders must be returned by 1<sup>st</sup> thing on Monday morning (22<sup>nd</sup> May), Cardwell and Simons will be collecting them on this day. Thank you.

## **St Mary's Church, Alderbury Family Service**

Join us this Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 9.30am for our Family Service. Something for everyone – no matter how noisy!

### **The “World is my neighbour” Day – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May**

To celebrate our multi-cultural, multi-faith community in Salisbury, Wiltshire and the Country beyond - a host of workshop leaders worked with children and staff to offer a message of respect and peace alongside these fun, educational workshops.

Parents, Governors, Friends of the school and staff from Wiltshire Council's Ethnic Minority Advisory Team led sessions across the day for all 184 pupils. The day was organised by Mr Malmberg, RE leader. School staff, governors and parents included Teaching Assistant: Usha Macharauthu-Goverdhan (Hindu customs and food tasting), Governors: Mrs Larkham and Rev Beth Hutton (Sudanese Christianity), Parent: Mrs Pauline Kimber (Chinese New Year; colours, celebrations and symbolism). Other contacts and connections to the school secured visits from Kulvinder Gill (Sikh culture, beliefs and Gurdwara foods), Elzbieta Drew and Renata Rodgers (Polish dress, food and customs), Lynda Ford-Horne (Jewish culture, Hebrew dance and song, Sabbath and Shabbat). The children also learnt about Islam and Muslim beliefs from Rita Satti and took part in Lebanese belly dancing with Wafaa Powell! The school was able to secure so many workshops with a grant from Sarum St Michael's Education Trust alongside willing volunteers in the community.

“I loved the belly dancing – it was so much fun!” Scarlett (Year 2).

“Everyone was amazed and impressed with how the children moved through 7 workshops, room to room, joining in and working hard – the visitors were full of compliments for the behaviour and attitude of the children” Mr Malmberg.

“I really enjoyed learning about Chinese New Year colours and their meanings.” Georgia – Year 2.

*We hope photos and a write-up will be in the Salisbury Journal shortly.*

## **Wiltshire Choir of the Year**

Our Choir, consisting of children in Year 1 right through to Year 6, performed in the Wiltshire Choir of the Year on Tuesday at St John's Church in Devizes. They sang “Kye Kye Kule”, “I wish I knew how it would feel to be free” and “Gospel Amen”. They all did really well with the adjudicators commenting: “*Words clear and together, nice warm sound for such little people*”, “*your confidence grew with every song and your enjoyment spread to the audience*” and “*a perky rhythmic start with lots of text detail emerging*”. Mrs Tanner was extremely proud of the performance and impressed by how beautifully they sang together. A big well done to Elephants: GC, ND, JL, JM, OR and IS; Penguins: AC, AP, EP, GS and OT; Lemurs: HM, KR and LV; Zebras: SB, MC, E-MH, MH and E R-W; Giraffes: SR and Koalas: RC, LH, HJ and CW. Also, a huge thank you to all our drivers Mrs Compton, Mrs Hughes, Mrs Postlethwaite, Mr Smith, Mrs Tate and Ms Ware. I would like to thank Mrs Tanner and Mrs Ricketts for their hard work and commitment to this very special event.

## **Athletics club**

Please note there will be NO Athletics club MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> May due to Tony and Mr Beveridge being absent, but it will return on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June. Apologies for any inconvenience.

## **Computing and Coding Club**

Please note there will be NO Computing and Coding Club next WEDNESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> May but it will return on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June. Apologies for any inconvenience.

## **Koalas' hand print display**

Please take a moment to look at the beautiful display of handprints above our 'emerging' Values Garden (under construction!). This is the culmination of Des Alner's work with our Year 6s after they finished their SATs last week and it looks amazing. A big thank you to Des for turning the wall into such a beautiful piece of art. Soon the water features, pebbles, plants and borders will be established ready for a grand opening. *Des runs holiday arts courses for children (and adults) so do check out <http://www.highergreenfarmarts.co.uk/index.html> for more information.*



**Eco-club  
graffiti big  
trucks!**  
A large  
'Raymond  
Brown



Aggregates' tipper visited AWGS today and it was adorned in lovely images drawn by members of Mrs Sloan's eco-club. Our school name was proudly emblazoned on each door and we all got a turn to walk 'round it, some even sat in the cab! Make sure you wave if you see 'our' tipper truck out and about. All eco club members received a safety jacket and competition winners also received a goodie bag of stationary with a £10 book token each. Well done to G, R, A, O, S P and H for your printed entries.

*Thank you to Mrs Sloan.*

### **FAWGS News**

After much anticipation, **Ladies Pamper Evening** is upon us! If you've purchased a ticket, please try to arrive by **7:00 pm this evening** to get your treatment booked in and don't forget to bring some extra pocket money for the goodies available at our gorgeous stalls. If you haven't managed to get your ticket yet, you could track down Kate Macklin on the playground at pick up, or buy one on the door, however we must stress that we cannot guarantee a complimentary goodie bag will be available.

Much progress has been made with preparations for our Summer Fete on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July**. There's due to be a marvellous array of stalls/ entertainment and raffle prizes are looking very promising! However, after a failed bid to secure funds for the school's extension, there's now even more emphasis on FAWGS to raise funds. With this in mind, we'd like to politely request that if you have your own business and would like to **donate a raffle prize**, or know of a local business who might, that you please contact us via the usual channels. We will, of course, pay tribute to any kind of donations in our associated publicity.

With fundraising in mind, both you and your ideas are very welcome at our committee meetings. Our next meeting is **this Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May, 7:30pm at school**. In the meantime, you can contact us via email: [fawgs.committee@gmail.com](mailto:fawgs.committee@gmail.com), have a chat with us on the playground or leave a message via the office.

Thank you for your support!

### **Awards**

Congratulations to Owls: **OG** on gaining his "50 Home Reads" Certificate; to Owls: **AM** and Elephants: **EB** on gaining their "75 Home Reads" Certificate; to Owls: **EA, LH, VM** and **HP** on gaining their "100 Home Reads" Certificate; to Owls: **ID, MK** and **CT** on gaining their "125 Home Reads"



Certificate; to Owls: **AG** and **ER** and to Elephants: **FK-J** and **JM** on gaining their "150 Home Reads" Certificate and to Elephants: **BH** and **IS** on gaining their "200 Home Reads" Certificate. Well done!

### **Taking Tea with the Queen**

Mrs Janice Ford, our Clerk to the Governors, was very surprised when she received an invitation to one of Her Majesty's garden parties for people who are involved with their community, with her husband, Peter, as her guest. At times, we all see something happening to someone and think "how lovely, but it will never happen to me – these things only happen to other people". Therefore, she had often thought "how wonderful to be invited to one of the Queen's garden parties, but it won't happen to me - it only happens to other people". Once in London, having gone through the Police check at the gate, they were directed through the Palace and on to the lawn where they joined the other guests. Two military bands were playing alternately throughout the afternoon and Mr and Mrs Ford went into the Main Tea Tent for tea which was delicious. The atmosphere was very informal and guests were free to wander around the Queen's lovely gardens and down to the large lake on which there were coots, geese and ducks. When the Royal party were due to appear, the Gentlemen at Arms came in to form a walkway for them after which the National Anthem announced the arrival of the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Princess Anne who moved about speaking to various guests. Mr and Mrs Ford didn't get the opportunity to speak to any of the Royal Family, but did see them at close quarters. After having taken their tea, the Royal party departed and the afternoon ended following the playing of the National Anthem.

So never give up hope – it doesn't just happen on TV or to other people, it CAN happen to you! It was a very special experience which Mr and Mrs Ford will long remember and to which they feel very privileged to have been invited.

### **Girl Guides' Jumble Sale**

The Girl Guides are holding a Jumble Sale at the Village Hall tomorrow at 2:00 pm.

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

#### **May**

Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Mini-Marathon 9:00 am-12:00 noon
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> -	
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 SATs 'window'
<u>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>-</u>	
<u>Friday 26<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Bikeability for 3x6 Year 6 groups</u>
<u>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>New Headteacher interview day</u>
<u>Friday 26<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>School Nurse for Year 5 'growing up' talk</u>

#### **HALF TERM HOLIDAY 29<sup>th</sup> May- 2<sup>nd</sup> June**

#### **June**

Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> -	
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 residential to Braeside
<u>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June</u>	<u>Year 3/4 Tennis at Riverside 11:30-3:00 (players invited)</u>
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	New Parents Evening 5:00-6:00 pm (New Owls' parents)
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	FAWGS Scavenger Hunt at Kennel farm 2:00-4:00
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> -	
<u>Friday 16<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Year 1 phonics screener 'window'</u>
	<u>New fencing installed to front of school – please be aware of potential temporary routes on exits/entrances</u>
<u>Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Yr 5/6 Quad kids Athletics 1:00-3:30 (Athletes invited)</u>
<u>Friday 16<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Father's day goodies on sale after school</u>

### **KEEP READING FOR MORE DIARY DATES**

#### **June**

Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Y4, Y5, Y6 technical rehearsals at Salisbury Playhouse
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 6 Leavers Service at Salisbury Cathedral
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	School closed (TD DAY)
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 to Longford Countryside Day
<u>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Year 4 to Wilton House</u>

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June      Child of hope 'sponsored bounce'  
School Disco

**July**

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>              "Beginners Please" final performance at Salisbury Playhouse

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>        'Moving up morning' and Y6 taster day at Secondary school

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup>            French day

Pimms and Prom (details TBC)

Monday 10<sup>th</sup>            Xplore St Marys (Y5, Y4, Y3) Details to follow

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>            Xplore St Marys (YR, Y1, Y2)

Friday 14<sup>th</sup>              Race Morning and reports home.

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July      Summer Fete 2:30pm onwards

Monday 17<sup>th</sup>            Report feedback 'drop in' for parents (with class teacher) 2:00-4:00pm

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>            Reserve date for Race Morning

Best wishes,

Mr Paul Beveridge  
Head Teacher