



# Newsletter

ALDERBURY AND WEST GRIMSTEAD CE VA SCHOOL

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

Friday 23rd September 2016

Newsletter 4

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Governors and children,

## **Volunteers**

We are always looking for parents/carers who are patient and understanding! Currently we would love to hear from anyone who could support in Year 1, Year 3 and Year 4 especially in the afternoons where less teaching assistants are available. Support could involve hearing readers, changing books, working on times tables, being a listening ear or even being willing to just be a helpful cloakroom supervisor! If you feel you could help please speak to the class teacher – sometimes parents prefer to work in a different class to their child/ren and this is also encouraged. We have also had a parental request for a school day ‘home learning’ club. Again, if you feel you could supervise a group of pupils across one lunchtime a week to give additional ‘home learning’ support please let Mrs Agland know. Thank you to the many parents who are already giving up some precious time to support the school.

## **Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools**

We heard earlier this week that we are to be inspected on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September (oh, so that explains Mr Beveridge’s furrowed brow!) by a SIAMS inspector. This inspection will focus on academic standards, care and behaviour, well-being and the Christian Character/Distinctiveness of the school as well as other things. The inspector will observe RE lessons, Collective Worship and speak to groups across the school. This type of inspection comes round on a 5 year cycle so was anticipated. Watch this space for more news across the week and in next Friday’s newsletter.

## **St Marys Church – Harvest Service**

Join us this Sunday 25th September - for our Harvest Service at St. Mary’s Church at 9:30am. Gifts brought to the service will be sent to Alabare, Trussell Trust and Alderbury Bungalow. Look forward to seeing you all, young and old, quiet and noisy!!!

## **Year 3 Bibles**

On Wednesday this week Rev. Beth and Mrs Larkham came to Wednesday worship to present Rainbow Good News Bibles to all our Year 3s. These Bibles will be kept in school for the children to use in lessons and then the children will take them with them when they leave AWGS in Year 6 or before. After worship Rev. Beth and Mrs Larkham worked with the Year 3s to help them to find their way around their Bibles. They played Bible hangman and looked up verses to find lots of animals and birds in the Bible. The cost of the Bibles is funded through St. Mary’s Church by the Boundary Coffee Shop. My thanks to Rev. Beth, Mrs Larkham and, of course, the Boundary Coffee Shop.

### **Collective worship**

We continue to explore the theme/value of 'Creativity'. On Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September whole school collective worship will be led by 'The Bridge' (Churches Together in Salisbury). Mr Beveridge will lead collective worship on Thursday in place of the usual 'class worship' slots at the request of the inspector.

### **Vision and Values**

Thank you to those parents who have completed and returned the visions and values consultation sheet. If any parents have missed the document there are spares available in the school office. It is a great opportunity to help shape the type of school you want your child to attend, including Vision, Values, Motto and supporting objectives/aims. Please return any remaining versions by Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September. Jane Sims has kindly offered to support the school in collating all the responses into a newly worded statement – thank you.

### **School swimming**

Swimming will start for Year 6 at some point during this term on Fridays during the school afternoon. We are working hard to sort transport out for this weekly commitment and will be writing to you shortly regarding fees, equipment and mini-bus transport arrangements. Year 6 will swim weekly until Christmas and then again in the Summer Term. In the Spring Term Year 5 will start school swimming. This pattern will help ensure that children have quality, regular swimming lessons before Year 7. Thank you to Nell Walker and Godolphin School for providing their facilities and additional swimming teachers.

### **FAWGS**

We all know how fantastic our FAWGS is and everyone appreciates the money raised and enjoyment at events such as pamper evenings, discos, fireworks, fetes and class trips. Just look at our stunning library to see one result of all the amazing fundraising and working parties. Please come to the AGM on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 9:15 am in the school hall if you can. We are indebted to Louise Compton, Mandy Patch and Kate Macklin for their excellent service to the school and we really, really need people who are willing to step up and take on the roles of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer for FAWGS to continue its excellent work. I cannot over-state the negative impact that would be felt by the school community, particularly the children, if FAWGS had to cease. Lots of support and advice is available to anyone who would consider standing in one of these roles – there is an excellent team spirit!

### **School Photographs**

Proofs of the school photos taken last week by Cardwell and Simons will be in bags today. Orders must be returned by Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October as Cardwell and Simons will be collecting them on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October. Thank you.

### **11+ examination**

Good luck to those pupils in Koalas who are sitting their 11+ tomorrow. We look forward to hearing how it went.

### **Family Drop-in Coffee Morning – Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September 10:30 am-12:30 pm**

Bring your children, your relatives, neighbours and friends, bring anyone you like – and bring your dog too! Come and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea and a slice of cake for £1.00 or 50p each. Purchase attractive items including hand-made cards, home-made jams, chutneys and preserves, and books. There are cakes and a selection of other items to buy on our home produce table. Try your luck on the tombola – there are many attractive prizes to be won! If you find it difficult to be with us at Church on a Sunday, visit Rev. Beth Hutton's Harvest Craft Table and find different ways in which the Church could reach out to you.

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**

## **FAWGS News**

**AGM** – This will be going ahead on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 9:15 am in the school hall. Please could you return your slips from the letter that was sent out in the book bags so we know how many people to expect. We are looking to fill the positions of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary at this meeting in order for FAWGS to continue. There is an excellent, committed committee at the moment who will make sure these positions are supported fully throughout the year. These positions can also be shared between 2 people if the thought of putting your name down on your own is worrying. Please come and talk to Louise Compton if you have any questions at all as none of us would like to see FAWGS have to fold due to not being able to fill these positions.

## **Gardening equipment**

Thank you to Mrs Sloan, Mrs Mernagh and Mrs White for their help with Gardening Club which started this week. If you have any spare gardening tools or gardening gloves that you could donate to the Gardening Club we would be very grateful. Thank you.

## **Department of Education School Census information**

I apologise for including this item each week in the Newsletter but we do need this information to be returned to Mrs Agland as soon as possible for the next school census on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October. The Department of Education now requires that all pupils' country of birth and nationality be recorded. I have attached a sheet for completion to this Newsletter **(please note if your child is in Owls class you do not need to complete this)**. Thank you if you have already completed and returned your form.

## **Diary Dates – new dates underlines**

### **September**

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> 9:15 am FAWGS AGM  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> 2-4:00 pm Years 5 & 6 Girls' Football Tournament at The Trafalgar School (letter to invited girls to follow shortly)

### **October**

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> 9:10-9:40 am New Owls' parents invited for a 'Day in the Life of Owls Class' with Mrs Tanner in school hall  
Monday 10<sup>th</sup>- Year 5 to Braeside  
Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> Year 3 to Butser Ancient Farm  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> TD Day - no children in school  
Monday 24<sup>th</sup>-  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Half term break  
Monday 31<sup>st</sup> Return to school

### **November**

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Children in Need Day  
Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> Year 3 to Roman Baths, Bath

Paul Beveridge  
Head Teacher