



**WEST ALVINGTON**  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY



# West Alvington Church of England Academy

Parent Updates Newsletter

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Dear Families,

What a busy, sunny week we have had at West Alvington.

We were visited this week by head teachers from our Trust family of schools, they were so impressed by how hard our children and staff are working to make sure everyone flourishes in their learning and, most importantly, how much every member of our school family looks after each other.

Our Animal Encounter was hugely enjoyed by all classes this week, the super speedy armadillo and the fluffy owl were especially popular! Everyone had a chance to carefully touch a snake and found out lots of fascinating animal facts. What a great way to bring our learning to life.

As always, the field is a bustling, happy place at break and lunchtimes. It is so lovely to see how well our children of all ages play together, showing our school value of Friendship.

Thank you for sending your child to school with water, sun hat and sunscreen so we can all stay safe in this hot weather!

Have a lovely weekend,

Miss Coombe

## Summer Term Trips and Events

The Summer Term is always a busy, happy time with lots of events!

Date	Event
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Oak Energy from Waste Trip
27 <sup>th</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Y4 Residential Trip
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Whole School Zoo Trip
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Beach Day
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers Service
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Canoeing Bowcombe Bridge

## Books to Celebrate the Platinum Jubilee

Children across the United Kingdom have been gifted a commemorative book to mark Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee. Designed as an official once-in-a-lifetime commemoration of the Platinum Jubilee and written in collaboration with royal experts and historians, the book will tell the story of a young girl, Isabella, visiting her Great Granny Joyce who tells her about the Queen and this year's Jubilee.

'Brilliant bookmarks' from the Reading Agency are to be distributed with every book, to support and encourage reading for pleasure amongst children at school and over the summer. The book is also featured within the National Literacy Trust's Platinum Jubilee Royal Reading Challenge.



### **SENDco Update**

As may be aware, Miss Holloway our Hub Special Needs Coordinator is soon expecting a new arrival! I'm sure you will join us in wishing Miss Holloway and her family all the best as she starts an exciting new chapter. We are anticipating that Miss Holloway will begin her maternity leave next week.

During Miss Holloway's maternity leave Mrs Hasell, who teaches at West Alvington Academy, will be taking on the Hub SENDco role. Mrs Hasell has a wealth of experience working in primary and special schools including working previously as a SENDco. We are delighted to have such an experienced member of staff to take over the role during Miss Holloway's maternity leave. Mrs Hasell has been spending time with Miss Holloway handing over all the key SEND information and is looking forward to getting out and about across the South Hams Hub to meet children and families.

### **Staffing Update**

Due to Miss Holloway's maternity leave we have a teaching vacancy at West Alvington Academy. I'm delighted to let you know that Miss Cose, who has been working at All Saints Thurlestone Academy, will be teaching Hazel class alongside Mrs Hasell and Miss Elliot from September 2022. Miss Cose will be a familiar face this half term as she will be spending time at West Alvington getting to know our lovely children in Hazel class and is looking forward to meeting families too. I've attached an 'All About Me' page for Miss Cose along with this newsletter so that you can start to find out all about our new teacher.

Mrs Holloway wanted me to pass on what an absolute pleasure it has been to work with you and your children this year and that she will be looking forward to seeing how much they've grown on her return from maternity leave!

We will, of course, keep you up to date on any exciting news from Miss Holloway.

Should you have any queries please contact the school office and I will be happy to chat with you.

### **Our planters are starting to grow and flourish!**

You may have noticed that some of the planters around the school are starting to grow! We have planted carrots, strawberries and mint which the children have been helping to water and tend. The planters were built for us by Kingsbridge Men's Shed, a charity that provides a place to pursue practical interests at leisure, to practice skills and enjoy making and mending. The difference is that garden sheds and their activities are often solitary in nature while Men's Sheds are the opposite. They're about social connections and friendship building, sharing skills and knowledge.

Find out more about them here - <https://kingsbridgeshed.co.uk/>

Over the next few months, we will be filling our other planters with healthy fruit and vegetables to support the children's learning about healthy living.

The project is funded by the National Lottery as part of a successful lottery bid for our school.

### **Messy Art Club and Lego Club**

A big thank you to Mrs Ive for organising our first Messy Art and Lego clubs this week. Both clubs were very well attended and hopefully lots of fun! We are hoping to have some parent helpers to support so if you can offer an hour a week or an hour once a month have a chat with Mrs Ive.

### **Mini Chestnuts Baby and Toddler Family Group**

Our Mini Chestnuts Baby and Toddler Family Group launch on Thursday was a huge success with lots of families and children joining us from our local community. We were also joined by South West Animal Services who brought along a whole range of exciting creatures from armadillos to owls! We also enjoyed tea and cake with a very special cake made by one of our very talented parents. Thank you to everyone who popped in! We will be running the group each Thursday alongside our family coffee morning 9am to 10am - all welcome.





**A Message from our Parish Council**

A parish event will take place later in the year. **Party in the Parish** has been given a provisional date of **17<sup>th</sup> September** but to get this off the ground we need some help! If you could spare some time to put your ideas forward as well as helping to organise it, please meet at the pub on 23<sup>rd</sup> June at 7.30pm to talk through the event and logistics. It is anticipated there will be a marquee, licensed bar, bring your own picnic, live music and dancing as well as entertainment for children. We hope you can join us on Thursday, we look forward to seeing you.