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## NEWSLETTER – March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now officially into the second half of the school year. I hope that you had an enjoyable half term week with your children. The diary for the coming months is already filling up so please keep up to date, checking this newsletter each month and looking out for My Child at School messages containing reminders and new information.

Thank you to those of you who have checked in with me following my eye operation in January. Unfortunately, I took a bit longer to recover than was first anticipated but I returned after half term and I am ready for the rest of the school year!

With regards

Mrs Sally Dreckmann

### Bookfest/Book Week

We were very lucky to have the author Simon Philip visit us on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February. He talked to the children about being an author and shared his books 'Perfect Pedro' (KS1) and 'I really want the Cake' (Reception). Each child received a free signed copy of one of his books.



We are really looking forward to Book Week this week. There are lots of exciting things planned including a Book Fair after school on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March and a book swap on Friday 6<sup>th</sup>. Children can bring any unwanted books to school on that day which they will be able to swap with their friends. Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March is World Book Day and we are hoping that everyone will have fun dressing up as their favourite book character or wearing their pyjamas to school.

### Red Nose Day - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March

We are once again supporting this worthwhile charity. Children may come to school dressed in non-school uniform and/or 'crazy hair', if they wish, and bring in a donation for Comic Relief.

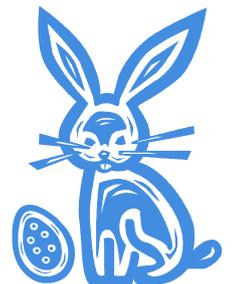


### PTA News

It is not too late to enter a team for the quiz night on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March. Entry forms are available from the school office. Please can these be returned as soon as possible as we need to notify the caterer of numbers. Thank you.



The PTA have organised a sponsored bunny bounce for the children on the morning of Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March. A sponsorship form will shortly be sent home in bookbags. Please could your child bring this form with them on the morning of the bounce. Can you also let the school office know if you do not wish your child to take part.





The PTA have also organised an Easter egg hunt on the morning of 24<sup>th</sup> March. Each class will be given the opportunity to search the school grounds for Easter

pictures and will be given a small chocolate egg to bring home. A non-uniform day has been arranged for Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March in which we ask if you could donate a couple of Cadbury's creme egg sized eggs (not Kinder Surprise please) for this activity. If any parent is able to help with the bunny bounce or the Easter egg hunt, please can you let either the PTA or the school office know. Thank you.

### Chartwells Menu

Chartwells will be serving the following special menu on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March. All orders will need to be placed on ParentPay by no later than 12<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Mains:**

Cheese & Tomato Pizza / BBQ Chicken & Rice / Jacket Potato and beans

### **Sides:**

Peas / Seasonal Salad

### **Dessert:**

Easter Cookie

### Class Photos

The photographer is coming on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April to take class photos. Please can you let the office know by 27<sup>th</sup> March if you do not wish your child to be included. Thank you.

## Dates for your Diary - more details to follow (New dates in **Red**)

Event	Date	Time
Book Week	w/c 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	
Book Fair	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	3.00 pm
Buttercup Class visiting Willowhale Library	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30 am
Bluebell Class visiting Willowhale Library	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	10.30 am
World Book Day (children may come to school dressed as their favourite book character or in their pyjamas)	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	
Used 'book swap' - please bring in a used book to swap with a friend	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	
Poppy Class visiting Willowhale Library	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30 am
Ladybird Class visiting Willowhale Library	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30 am
Hedgehog Class visiting Willowhale Library	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	10.30 am
Butterfly Class visiting Willowhale Library	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30 am
Sycamore Class visiting Willowhale Library	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	10.30 am
Non uniform day to bring in a small Easter egg	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	All day
PTA Quiz	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	7.00 pm
Oak Class visiting Willowhale Library	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30 am
Willow Class visiting Willowhale Library	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	10.30 am
Year 2 Choir - Big Sing Event	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> March at The Regis School	All day
Red Nose Day (non uniform day)	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	All day

Sponsored Bunny Bounce and Easter Egg Hunt	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	am
Welcome Wednesday	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	2.30 pm
Easter holidays	30 <sup>th</sup> March - 10 <sup>th</sup> April	
Start of Summer Term	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	
Class Photos	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	All morning
Bank Holiday	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	
Year 2 Visit to Marwell Zoo	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	All day
Welcome Wednesday	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	2.30 pm
Walk to School Week	w/c 18 <sup>th</sup> May	
Reception Sports Afternoon	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	2.00 - 3.00 pm
Year 1 Sports Afternoon	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	1.30 - 3.00 pm
Year 2 Sports Afternoon	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	1.30 - 3.00 pm
Half Term	25 <sup>th</sup> - 30 <sup>th</sup> May	
Inset Day	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	
Phonics Testing Week	w/c 8 <sup>th</sup> June	
Sports Week	w/c 15 <sup>th</sup> June	
Reserve Reception Sports Afternoon	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	2.00 - 3.00 pm
Reserve Year 1 Sports Afternoon	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	1.30 - 3.00 pm
Reserve Year 2 Sports Afternoon	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	1.30 - 3.00 pm
Transition Day	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	All day
School Reports to go home	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	
Maths Week	w/c 6 <sup>th</sup> July	
Summer Fair	tbc	
Open Afternoon	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	2.15 - 3.15 pm
Year 2 Concert for parents	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	2.00 pm
Year 2 Concert for parents (no babies or pre-school children)	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	9.00 am
Year 2 Leaver's Disco	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	4.00 - 5.15 pm
Outside Playday	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	All day
Year 2 Leaver's Assembly (for parents)	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	9.00 am
Last day of Term	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	



## Reading Newsletter March 2026

Finally, Spring is upon us! Thank you for taking time to read the newsletter. Our aim is to support each child's progress in Reading and their enjoyment of reading a range of texts.

This year The Department for Education has announced that 2026 will be The National Year of Reading. This is because there has nationally been a 'steep decline in reading amongst children, young people and adults' (National Literacy Trust.) The theme for the year is 'Go All In.' Have a look at the website. They are working alongside The Literacy Trust. <https://goallin.org.uk/>

In February we were so lucky to have a visit from Simon Philip, a published author who visited on behalf of BookFest, a charity which runs out of Chichester. Their aim is to give children quality books, for free! All of our children received a signed copy of one of his books, and he presented to the children, inspiring many of them and creating a fantastic buzz around READING!

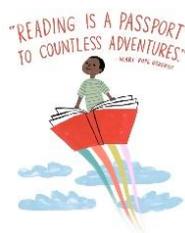
In the UK, "2 in 5 children between the ages of 5 and 8 from disadvantaged backgrounds do not own a book of their own" and "3 in 10 eleven year olds in Chichester leave primary school unable to read at the level expected for their age." (National Literacy Trust). 'As a charity we are committed to encouraging children of all ages to read books, opening their minds and inspiring a love of words'(BookFest)

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported our visiting Book Fair, during Book Week. We were able to collect 47 'Free Books' to add to our library collection.

A big THANK YOU to Aldwick Parish Council who enabled us to buy £480 worth of books for the non-fiction section of our library.

Book Week is going to be so much fun. There are many different activities going on throughout the school, supporting and inspiring Reading.

During March all of our classes are visiting **Willowhale Library**. Year 1 and Year 2 will need to bring along their library card so that they can take home a book. If Reception children have one, they can bring it, or please fill in the form that we are sending home and they will get one on the day. Willowhale is such a lovely library, just next to Grove House surgery. If you haven't been there yet, pop in. Your child will love it.





## Easter Craft & Hot Cross Bun Family Event - March 21st 2026

In March we are holding another of these very popular events in the run up to Easter. The details are below - so please get the word around and **make your booking early** as there will have to be a limit on those attending due to our building capacity limitations. We look forward to seeing you there.

**aldwickbaptistchurch**  
Loving God, Loving Each Other, Loving the Community

**FREE ENTRY BUT  
FINANCIAL DONATIONS  
TO FOOD BANK REQUESTED**

# Easter Craft & Hot Cross Bun Family Event

March 21st 2026, 2-4 pm

parents must be responsible for their own children

Please book your place via  
e-mail or phone:  
[contact@aldwickbaptist.co.uk](mailto:contact@aldwickbaptist.co.uk)  
or 07743 257860

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