WEST ALVINGTON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Friday 23rd October 2026

Dear families,

I can't quite believe that we have reached the end of another half term already. As we take a moment to reflect on the past few weeks, we are incredibly pleased with how well the new structure across the school has developed.

The school and classrooms are looking absolutely stunning, creating engaging and welcoming environments in which our children can thrive. It has been wonderful to see the pride that pupils are taking in their surroundings and the enthusiasm they are showing towards their learning each day.

One of the real highlights of the term has been the opportunity to work closely with our friends at Charlton. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning alongside one another, building new friendships and benefiting from the wider range of experiences and opportunities that this collaboration brings.

We would like to thank all of our families for their continued support throughout the term. Your encouragement and partnership make a significant difference to the success of our school community.

We wish you all a restful, enjoyable half term break and look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for another exciting half term.

Mrs Ruston

Dates for your Diary

Monday 2nd November- Non-pupil day
Tuesday 3rd November 2026- First day of term
Wednesday 4th November - Forest School
Tuesday 10th November – Art Gallery Showcase with Charleton
Wednesday 11th November – Remembrance - Kingsbridge War Memorial
Friday 13th November – Children in Need
Wednesday 18th November – Forest School
Wednesday 25th November – Forest School @ FAB Beesands
Thursday 10th December – Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 14th December – Christmas Dinner
Tuesday 15th December – Christmas Performance
Friday 18th December- Last day of term
Monday 21st December- Friday 1st January- Christmas Holidays
Monday 4th January- Non-pupil day
Tuesday 5th January- First day of term

Praise assembly: Our praise assembly will be on the first Monday of every month at 2:50pm, The next will be held on Monday 9th November 2026.

Christmas shoebox appeal

We are taking part in the shoebox appeal again this year, we have chosen to pack one for a boy aged 5-9. Please can all donations be in by Monday 9th November. Below is a suggested list of gifts:

A Special Item

- Cuddly toy
- Rag doll
- Toy car, truck or train
- Football (deflated) with pump
- Solar-powered torch
- Brightly coloured ball

Toys

- Skipping rope
- Building bricks/Lego-style sets
- Animal figures or dinosaurs
- Play people
- Dolls
- Toy vehicles
- Yo-yo
- Dominoes
- Bouncy ball
- Frisbee
- Small kite
- Play dough with cutters
- Toy binoculars
- Small puzzles or board games

School Supplies

- Pencil case
- Pencils and pens

- Crayons and colouring pencils
- Highlighters
- Ruler
- Eraser
- Pencil sharpener
- Notebook
- Drawing pad
- Colouring book
- Glue stick
- Safety scissors
- Stickers

Creative Activities

- Paint palette and brushes
- Stencils
- Whiteboard and pens
- Pavement chalk
- Mini Spirograph kit
- Sketchbook
- Art sets

Accessories

- Hat, gloves and scarf
- Sunglasses
- Hair accessories
- Small backpack or drawstring bag
- Purse or wallet
- Watch
- Water bottle
- Cup or bowl
- Socks
- T-shirt
- Flip-flops

Hygiene Items

- Toothbrush
- Hairbrush or comb
- Flannel
- Sponge
- Wash mitt
- Chapstick
- Compact mirror
- Wash bag

Admissions policy for 2028-29: Annual Consultation

Along with all other schools and academies in Devon, we are consulting on an admission policy for 2028-29. The Local Authority is also consulting on its admission arrangements. You are invited to look at the proposal new policies which are based on policies for this year and next year and to have your say on them.

Our proposed policy is on our admission page and you can see all policies at http://devon.cc/schoolpolicy Further information is here: www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements

The consultation runs until 15 January 2027. Policies will be determined by the end of February and published in the same places by 15 March 2027. You can comment at schoolsadmissionpolicy-mailbox@devon.gov.uk or by emailing the school.

Proposed PAN change from 12 to 8

Hope Cove

It has been another busy week at West Alvington. The children enjoyed a fantastic visit to the Salcombe RNLI Lifeboat Station, where they learned about water safety and life as part of the RNLI crew.

Thanks to our Tesco Fruit & Veg for Schools partnership, the children created a delicious red smoothie using ingredients including beetroot and pomegranate. Reception also enjoyed making their own Margherita pizzas as part of their learning.

In English, we have been exploring *The Highwayman*, while in maths we have focused on developing our addition and subtraction skills.

We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm and positive attitudes shown by all of our children this week.

Following Mrs Ruston's announcement, I wanted to take a moment to say how pleased I am to have been appointed Head of School at West Alvington.

What makes West Alvington special is its sense of community. We have wonderful children, supportive families and a dedicated staff team who work hard every day to provide the very best opportunities for our pupils.
Thank you for your continued support. I am excited about the future and all that we can achieve together.





Attendance



Our attendance target is 98%

Our school attendance is currently 94.1%