

28th September 2017

Issue: 157

Upcoming School Events

Monday 2 nd October	Afternoon	No Violin Lessons
Tuesday 3 rd October	Morning	Individual & Family Photos
Tuesday 3 rd October	Afternoon	National Child Measurement Programme For Reception & Year 6
Friday 6 th October	8.45am	FoAS Meeting
Friday 6 th October	9am	House Team Name Presentation in Assembly
Monday 9 th October	After School	Football Match
Tuesday 10 th October	3.45pm – 5pm	Parent Consultations
	6pm – 8pm	
Thursday 12 th October	3.45pm - 6pm	Parent Consultations

Community Events

25 th – 29 th September	9am – 11am	King's Academy Ringmer Open Mornings
Wednesday 4 th October	5.30pm	Willingdon Community School Open Evening
Thursday 5 th October	6pm	Seaford Head School Open Evening
10 th & 11 th October	9.15am	Seaford Head School Open Mornings
10 th , 11 th & 16 th October	9am	Willingdon Community School Open Mornings
Sunday 15 th October	9.30am	Messy Church at Arlington

Dear Parents/Carers,

Attendance

Our target is 96%.

Week Beginning	Attendances	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Lates
18 th September 2017	98.38%	1.43%	0.19%	0.57%

Well done everyone – these are excellent attendance figures. Let's keep this up!

Able Writers' Day

Last week, we were fortunate to have the opportunity to send four of our Year 6 children to King's Academy Ringmer for an Able Writers' Day with Brian Moses. They had a wonderful day and produced some great poems. Brian Moses was particularly impressed with Dylan's writing and has posted it on his blog. We are very proud of them all - do have a look!

<http://brian-moses.blogspot.co.uk/2017/03/writing-love-poems.html>

Football Tournament

This morning our school football team has been taking part in a tournament at Laughton Primary School. They had a fantastic time at the event, working really well as a team, producing good football and having fun. We are very proud of them all and their achievements – they finished in second place! Many thanks

go to Mr Gratwick – our team coach. The team will be out again playing a match after school on Monday 9th October – details will follow in a separate letter from Mr Gratwick.

Harvest Assembly

Thank you to everyone who contributed items for the Harvest Festival collection. The items will be taken to a local Foodbank or local charity in the next few days. The presentation that Sapphire Class performed yesterday for the Harvest Assembly was superb and our thanks go to the children for their efforts and to the staff team in Sapphire Class for the preparation.

Violin Lessons

Please note that there will not be any violin lessons with Mrs Cane Hardy on Monday 2nd October.

Family and Individual Photos

The children will be having their individual and family group photo taken within school on Tuesday, 3rd October. If you would like to have a family photo including pre-school siblings, please arrive at school at 8.30am and make your way to the school hall via the playground entrance. Sibling group photos of children at our school will take place during the course of the morning.

School Lunches

Next Thursday, 5th October, Chartwells are providing a 'Fun Favourite' lunch. The menu will be fish fingers or vegetable lasagne served with chips, sweetcorn and baked beans, followed by fruit in jelly as dessert. A school lunch costs £2.10 for children in Sapphire and Emerald Classes or it's free if they are in Pearl and Ruby Classes. If your child does not usually have a school lunch and you would like them to on this day as a one off, please complete the reply slip below and hand it in to the school office by 9am on Tuesday 3rd October. Please note that if your child usually has a school lunch on a Wednesday and/or Friday only, for next week they will have lunch on Thursday instead of Friday and you will need to provide them with a packed lunch on Friday, 6th October.

After the October holiday, baguettes will no longer be offered as a menu choice until they return again in the spring. There will still be a daily choice of a main or vegetarian dish as well as jacket potatoes with a choice of fillings.

Eco Team Request

Please find below a request from Rosie and Lola (members of our Eco Team):

To help us earn the Green Flag Eco Award, we need a parent or a governor to come and join our team! We meet as a whole team every term and we do lots of jobs in between such as checking the school's energy usage and encouraging outdoor learning. If you are interested in supporting us, please email the school office. Thank you.

Reading

Reading is very important. The more children read, the better they do in school (even in subjects like maths) and the better equipped they are for life. Children are more likely to read if they love books. The easiest way to help children love books is for you to have fun reading with them, as often as you can. Reading with your child and making it fun will keep them excited about stories and books as they start to learn to read independently. BookTrust, the UK's largest children's reading charity, has kindly given every child in Reception a book, *The Bumblebear* by Nadine Shireen, to help children and their families read together and have fun.

Top Tips For Sharing Books With Your Child

- **Make Time to Read** – Even if it's just 5 minutes every day – at breakfast time, in the afternoon, or just before bed – making time to read is a fantastic way to enjoy special time together. Make it about hugs, giggles and enjoying a good story: it's fun family time.
- **Time to Read...Anything You Like!** – You and your child can read whatever you want to together: stories, newspapers, magazines, poems. The important thing is that you have fun. If you would like some book suggestions, use the online book finder which has lots of ideas

organised by age and topic www.booktrust.org.uk/bookfinder. Remember, the 'right' book is always the book that a child actually wants to read!

- **Time to Listen** – Even when your child can read on their own, they'll still love listening to you read them a story. You can enjoy a favourite picture book you've read a thousand times before or start a chapter book and read one thrilling chapter a night.
- **Time to Laugh** – Your books don't always have to be calming bedtime reads. Many books are fantastic for sharing together. Laughing at funny pictures or expressions in a story or even acting them out is a great way of bonding with your child and nurturing their love of stories.

House Team Presentations

On Friday 6th October, two of our Year 6 students will be making a presentation in celebration assembly explaining the meaning of the House Team names (Cuckmere, Exceat and Windover), which is a project that they worked on towards the end of last year. We do hope that you will be able to come along to the assembly at 9am and see their presentation as they share what they have found out.

Parent Consultations

These will take place on Tuesday 10th and Thursday 12th October in the school hall. A separate letter about this will follow in the next few days.

Dressing Up Items

The children really enjoy playing with the dressing up items at lunch play. We currently have a selection of clothes but it would be fantastic to update the collection with some other items. If anyone has any dressing up bits that they no longer want, then we would be very grateful if you could donate them to us via the school office. On behalf of all the children, thank you.

News From The Friends of Alfriston School (FoAS) Email foaschool@gmail.com

The first 100 Club draw for this academic year will take place tomorrow, Friday 29th September and we are delighted to say that we have raised £360 for the school! This means that there is also £360 in our winners' pot so the monthly prize for the winning number will be our biggest yet... £30!!! Woo hoo! Thank you so much to everyone who has bought a number! Of course if you haven't bought a number and would like to do so then please let us know and you can be added to next month's draw.

We have lots of exciting events coming up - we have organised a Bags2School collection for Wednesday 18th October and bags should be coming home to you this week (please use a bin bag if you can fill more than one bag). Any clothes that you would normally send to the charity shop can be donated to this scheme and the school receives a fee based on the overall weight of the collection.

On Friday 20th October - the last day before half term - we are having a pyjama or onesie day... your child can come to school in their onesie or pyjamas in exchange for £1.

On Friday 3rd November we are hosting a Halloween Disco... We are all dusting off our Halloween outfits and planning a spooky song selection. Tickets will be on sale in the next few weeks.

In the pipeline soon - in time for Christmas- will be a chance for each child to design their own Christmas Card for you to buy and, following the success of the school tea towel a few years ago, we will be designing a personalised shopping bag with all the portraits of all the children on it... I'm sure everyone would love one for a Christmas present! 😊

As usual it's Flapjack Friday on Friday!

The next FoAS meeting is Friday 6th October in the library. We hope to see you there. In the meantime keep an eye out for any news on our Facebook group.

Love, Eleanor and the FoAS committee members...

Yours sincerely,



Lindsey Hudson – Headteacher

Community News

King's Academy Ringmer Open Evening will be holding open mornings on 25th to 29th September between 9am and 11am (9am prompt start). Further details are available from the College on 01273 812220.

Seaford Head School Open Evening and Mornings - Seaford Head School will be holding an open evening for prospective parents and students on Thursday 5th October. There will be a formal presentation by the headteacher at 6pm at the Arundel Road site and between 6.45pm and 8pm there will be guided tours of the Steyne Road site. No booking is required. On Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th October the Steyne Road site will be open for guided tours between 9.15am and 10.45am. Please contact Emma Gallagher on 01323 872727 to book your appointment.

Willington Community School Open Evening – Willington School will be holding their open evening on Wednesday 4th October from 5.30pm - 8.30pm. The headteacher's address will take place at 6.45pm and again at 7.30pm and tours of the school will be available from 5.30pm – 7.45pm. The school is having open mornings on Tuesday 10th, Wednesday 11th and Monday 16th October, all from 9am. Please phone the school office on 01323 485254 to book your place for an open morning.

Messy Church' Open Day at Arlington Village Hall (BN26 6RX near Yew Tree pub) – families are invited to a special event on Sunday 15th October at 9.30 am (free parking). Messy church is an opportunity to learn about bible stories and the Christian faith through creative fun and messy play. Parents are invited to be a part of it and get messy too! Bacon sandwiches, toast, coffee and tea served from 9.30 a.m. and activities start at 10.00 am for about an hour. If you would like to attend, please send a text or email to Nicola Bloom 07787928029 or bloomnicola@yahoo.co.uk or www.facebook.com/MessychurchatArlington Leaflets are also available in the school entrance lobby.

REPLY SLIP – School Lunch

to be returned to the school office by 9am Tuesday 3rd October

I would like my child/children to have school lunch on Thursday 5th October. They will make their choice from the menu on the day.

Child/Children's Names.....

Class(es).....

For children in Pearl and Ruby Classes, the meal is free.

I enclose £2.10 per meal (Sapphire and Emerald Classes)

Signed.....Date.....

Print Name.....