

19th October 2017

Issue: 160

Upcoming School Events

Friday 20 th October	All Day	FoAS Pyjama & Onesie Day
Friday 20 th October	3.15pm	October Holiday Starts
Monday 30 th October	8.45am	Children Return to School
Thursday 2 nd November	Afternoon	Football Tournament
Friday 3 rd November	8.45am	FoAS Meeting
Friday 3 rd November	6pm – 7.30pm	FoAS Halloween Disco
Tuesday 7 th November	Afternoon	House Talent show
Friday 10 th November	11am onwards	Emerald Class Trip

Dear Parents/Carers,

Attendance

As per our attendance policy, we will be publishing attendance and punctuality figures each week in the newsletter now for each class as well as for the whole school. Each class will use a traffic light system for attendance where green is for 100% - 98%, yellow for 98% - 96% and red for less than 96%.

Our whole school target is 96%. Figures for the whole school:

Week Beginning	Attendances	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Lates
9 th October 2017	97.88%	1.83%	0.29%	0.58%

Week Beginning	Class	Attendance	Late	Traffic Light
9 th October 2017	Pearl	97.58%	1.28%	
	Ruby	96.80%	0.13%	
	Sapphire	97.32%	0.88%	
	Emerald	98.86%	0.64%	

Photo Orders

Please can all school photo orders be handed in to the school office by the end of tomorrow, Friday. Orders received after this time will incur a late order charge from the photographer.

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling

As you will be aware, the National Curriculum 2014 has high expectations for children's achievement, including in the area of Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling.

Following some interest during our Parent Consultation Evening, we are offering a couple of after-school sessions to clarify the use of some aspects of the curriculum, particularly in the areas of Grammar and Punctuation. These would be of particular use to parents of children in Key Stage 2 so that you can support your child's learning, although all parents are, of course, welcome to come along.

If you would be interested, please send back the reply slip below to let us know so that we can arrange dates and organise the sessions.

Football Tournament

The school football team will be out again on the 2nd November playing at a local tournament. Mr Gratwick sent a letter home with team members on Tuesday. Please refer to this for full details. Please ensure that reply slips are returned to the school office by the end of school on Monday 30th October.

Data Collection Sheets

The annual data collection sheets were sent home a couple of weeks ago. We still have some sheets outstanding. Please can any remaining sheets be returned to the school office by tomorrow, Friday 20th October.

Emerald Class Trip

Tomorrow, 20th October, is the deadline for the return of the reply slips and voluntary contributions for the upcoming trip for Emerald Class. A letter was sent home last week with all the details; please refer to this for full details.

Pyjama and Onesie Day

Tomorrow the children may come to school in their pyjamas/onesie in return for a £1 per child contribution to the FoAS. Children taking part in this may also bring in a **small** cuddly toy. If this could be named it would be very helpful. Please note that the toy remains the responsibility of the child.

Firefighters Visit

On Tuesday the children in Pearl Class were visited by some firefighters from Seaford Fire Station. They spoke to the children about what the jobs they do and how the children can keep safe. The highlight of the visit was the opportunity for everyone to sit in the fire engine and to squirt water using the fire hoses! We are very grateful to the Seaford Firefighters for taking time out to come and visit us.

Remembrance Events

The school will be taking part in a variety of events and activities to commemorate Remembrance Day. A letter was sent home yesterday with all the details. Please can the reply slip be returned to the office by Wednesday 8th November.

Funding

Earlier this week we sent out a combined letter from myself, the governors and the FoAS giving you an update on school funding. Further to this we thought that you might like to know that East Sussex County Council has launched a campaign for fairer funding and is asking the people of East Sussex to sign a petition which calls on the Government to give the county a fairer deal – including schools. The Council is asking the Government for a long-term funding plan to maintain schools' success. In 2014 Ofsted rated 64% of primary schools in East Sussex as good or outstanding. In 2017 it's 91% and the Council wants to maintain this success. The campaign 'Stand Up For East Sussex' also highlights how adult social care, transport, jobs and the economy would benefit from a fairer funding deal. Please sign the petition at <https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/yourcouncil/consultation/stand-up-for-east-sussex> and show your support. You can also watch and share the campaign video <https://youtube/nweekZTNOM>. Please do return the questionnaire that was attached to our funding update letter if there is any help that you feel able to give to the school. Thank you.

Christmas Productions

This year we will be taking part in the East Sussex Music Service's 'Big Sing' at Christmas with our Years 5 and 6 children giving them the opportunity to take part in a large concert with other schools and orchestras on the evening of Thursday 7th December. Further details will follow next term. Pearl and Ruby Classes will be performing 'Lights, Camel, Action! It's Strictly the Nativity' at 9.15am on Tuesday 12th December and again at 2pm on Wednesday 13th December.

School Christmas Card Competition

Mrs Hudson is looking for some help again this year with our school Christmas card. We would like to give the children chance to start working on their designs over the October holiday. If your child would like to design a card, it needs to be A4 or A5 size and a 'flat' design that can be photocopied in school; they also need to remember to put their name on the back. All designs will be displayed in school and the chosen design will be used to produce this year's card. All cards should be handed in to the office by Friday 17th November, with the winning design being announced in assembly on 24th November.

News From The Friends of Alfriston School (FoAS)

Email friendsofalfristonschool@gmail.com

Thank you for your donations for the **Bags2School** collection yesterday. We shall let you know how much we have raised in due course. Last year we earned £116 so it would be wonderful to better that. This Friday, 20th October, it is '**Pyjama & Onesie Day**'. For a donation of £1 your child can come to school wearing their pyjamas and/or a onesie (wearing either their trainers or shoes and NOT their slippers...)

Our next **100 Club** draw is TOMORROW Friday 20th October! If you would like to buy one of the remaining numbers then please fill in the attached form and return it to the office with £11 for each number that you buy FIRST THING TOMORROW MORNING. We have sold 67 numbers which gives a monthly prize of £33.50!

All the children have drawn a miniature self-portrait to be included on an Alfriston School **canvas shopping bag**. The bags will cost £7 each (or £13 for 2 and £18 for 3) and will only be available to order in advance. The deadline for ALL orders is TOMORROW, Friday 20th October.

Our **Halloween Disco** is on Friday 3rd November from 6pm – 7.30pm and tickets are now on sale! Tickets are £3 per child in advance or £3.50 on the night.

Our **Christmas Wreath Making** evening is on Monday 4th December starting at 7pm. Tickets are only £20, are limited and are available NOW.

We will be getting in touch very soon with requests for hamper and raffle prizes for the Christmas Fair but we are RIGHT NOW collecting Teddies for the Teddy Bear Tombola! Please send in any unwanted bears!

Do get in touch via our Facebook page or email – our address is friendsofalfristonschool@gmail.com. Our next scheduled **meeting** is Friday 3rd November but we are also squeezing in an extra one TOMORROW Friday 20th October! We hope you can join us in the library at 8.45am.

Our last thing is actually not a FoAS event but the lovely Tina Deane (Mum to Freya in Year 2 and Harrison in Year 6) is organising a **Christmas dinner** for parents / friends of Alfriston School at The Yew Tree Inn, Arlington on Wednesday 29th November at 7pm. If you would like to come then please get in touch with a deposit of £5 ASAP.

Happy October holiday, love Eleanor and the FoAS committee ☺

Yours sincerely,



Lindsey Hudson – Headteacher

Community Events

Alfriston Pre-School Events - The Pre-School is holding a couple of events in the near future that they would like to invite you to. The first is on Friday 27th October 10am - 12 midday at the Preschool's forest site. Take the whole family and join them in the woods for some Halloween Fun over the October holiday at their early learning forest location. There will be some games and activities and the chance to play and explore in the lovely woodland setting. Please take along a glass jar each for lantern making! Contact Sally to book your place - 07812335981 alfristonpreschool@googlemail.com

This is a free event for local families and any donations you would like to give on the day will help to cover costs and go towards more family events like these in the future. The second event is a bonfire night celebration on Sunday 19th November 4.30pm - 7pm at The Berwick Inn.

FoAS REPLY SLIP - to be returned to the school office

Child's name.....

Class.....

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

Print Name.....

Disco Tickets - I would liketickets for the Halloween Disco on Friday 3rd November from 6pm - 7.30pm @ £3 per ticket. I enclose £.....

Christmas Wreath Making Evening - I would like tickets for the Christmas Wreath Making evening on Monday 4th December starting at 7pm @ £20 per ticket. I enclose £.....

Canvas Bags – 1 canvas bag costs £7
2 canvas bags costs £13
3 canvas bags costs £18 and any extra bags will cost a further £6 each.

I would like canvas bags. I enclose £.....

100 Club - I would like to buy number/s (please circle) 30, 34, 35, 37, 39, 41, 45, 48, 50, 51, 52, 54, 57, 60, 61, 62, 63, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 74, 82, 85, 86, 87, 88, 90, 91, 92, 93, 97
Each number chosen costs £11. I enclose £.....

Cheques to be made payable to the 'Friends of Alfriston School' please.

REPLY SLIP – Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Session

To be returned to the school office by Friday 3rd November.

I would be interested in attending after-school Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling sessions.

Name

Child/Children's name(s).....

Class(es)