

1st December 2016

Issue: 126

Upcoming School Events

Tuesday 6 th December	7pm	FoAS Wreath Making Workshop
Wednesday 7 th December	After School	Last Cricket Club
Thursday 8 th December	All Day	Christmas Decorations Day
Friday 9 th December	9am	Christmas Tree Decorating Assembly
Friday 9 th December	Afternoon	No Recorders or Trumpet Lessons
Friday 9 th December	3pm – 5pm	FoAS Christmas Fair
Friday 9 th December	After School	No Football Club
Monday 12 th December	Afternoon	No Violin Lessons
Wednesday 14 th December	9.30am	Pearl & Ruby Classes Christmas Play
Wednesday 14 th December	Lunchtime	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 15 th December	1.15pm	Pearl & Ruby Classes Christmas Play
Thursday 15 th December	2.15pm & 7pm	Emerald Class Christmas Production
Friday 16 th December	Afternoon	Rainbow Theatre Pantomime

Dear Parents/Carers,

Attendance

Our target is 96%.

Week Beginning	Attendances	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Lates
21 st November 2016	93.43%	6.07%	0.51%	1.82%

Computer Science Education Week

Next week, 5th – 11th December, is Computer Science Education Week. We will be celebrating this in school by taking part in the 'Hour of Code'. 'Every student should have the opportunity to learn computer science. It helps nurture problem-solving skills, logic and creativity. By starting early, students will have a foundation for success in any 21st-century career path' ('Hour of Code' website). Each class will be doing their own Hour of Code, where they will explore various activities linked with programming and coding. We encourage you to promote this at home too as it is such an important and enjoyable part of children's education, and here are some links to coding websites the children might enjoy sharing with you!

<https://hourofcode.com/uk/learn>

<https://scratch.mit.edu/>

Internet Safety Session Postponed

Unfortunately our local Neighbourhood School Police Officer, Jackie Baldwin Charles, who was supposed to be visiting Sapphire and Emerald Classes yesterday for an internet safety session with the children, was unable to come to school as she was poorly. We will let you know when we manage to re-schedule this session with her.

Fence

As I'm sure most of you have seen the fencing work is progressing well. We are really pleased with the fence appearance which was selected to ensure it is in keeping with the school and the local area. When the fencing is finished access to the school premises will be via an entry system on the main gate. The gate will be opened at 8.30am for the children's arrival to school, it will then be closed throughout the day and opened again at 3.10pm for the end of school.

Table Tennis

We were very excited this week to take delivery of an outdoor table tennis table for the children to use. We were successful in a grant application that helped towards the cost of the table which will be available for use at lunch play, in PE and also as a curriculum tool.

Cricket Club

Please note that the last after school cricket club will take place on Wednesday 7th December.

Start and End of the Day

Unfortunately we have noticed that children are using the grass and activity trail after school. We would like to remind you that both the activity trail and grass area are out of bounds at all times before and after school.

Christmas Decorations Day

Next Thursday, 8th December, the children will be taking part in our annual Christmas decorations day. Throughout the day they will be in mixed year groups making all sorts of decorations so that by the end of the day we will have a wonderful collection of decorations to hang up around the school to make us look very festive!

Christmas Tree Decorating Assembly Reminder

We hope that the children are busy making Christmas tree decorations ready to bring in to school on Friday 9th December when our celebration assembly at 9am will include the decorating of the school Christmas tree. We invite children to bring in decorations which they have made at home that they would like to decorate the school tree with. By the end of the assembly our bare Christmas tree is transformed into a beautifully dressed tree!

School Christmas Fair Reminder

The school Christmas Fair, organised by the Friends of Alfriston School, will take place on Friday 9th December from 3pm – 5pm. As a result, on this day, school will finish for everyone at 3pm, so please arrange to be here for 3pm collection and advise the office in advance if you are unable to be here until 3.15pm. A letter regarding this was sent home last week with more details. We do hope that as many of you as possible will then be able to spend some time at the fair and enjoy the many activities that the FoAS are organising.

SEN Forum

The minutes of the recent SEN parent forum are available to view on the school website. If you require a paper copy, please let the school office know.

Pearl and Ruby Christmas Play

This year's nativity play, 'Prickly Hay', performed by Pearl and Ruby Classes, will take place on Wednesday 14th December at 9.30am – 1.15pm and Thursday 15th December at 1.15pm – 2pm. A separate letter regarding this will be sent out to parents soon with all the details regarding purchasing tickets. Please remember you will need to complete the reply slip attached to that letter and return it to the school office if you would like tickets in order to attend.

Emerald Class Christmas Production

Emerald Class are also busy rehearsing for their version of 'Scrooge - A Ghost of a Chance' - which they will be performing on Thursday 15th December in the school hall at 2.15pm and again at 7pm. A separate letter will be sent home in the next couple of days with further details and a reply slip for the purchase of tickets to come and watch the show.

Spelling Workshop

The teachers will be running a workshop that will demonstrate how we are teaching spelling throughout the school and it would be lovely to have as many parents attend as possible to see what the children get up to in class! The session will be after school on Wednesday 11th January. Children are welcome to come along with their parents and will be able to show them practical activities that support their learning. If you would like to attend, please complete the reply slip below.

Annual Consent for School Trips Form

At the beginning of November we sent out the annual consent for school trips form which East Sussex County Council require, and we still have several forms outstanding. If you have not yet completed a form for your child/children, a further copy of the form was sent home in book bags earlier this week. Please complete the form and return it to the office by Monday, 5th December.

Medication

Please note that over the counter medication, such as throat lozenges, are not allowed to be brought into school and kept in book bags or lunch boxes. If your child/children require this sort of medication, please can the parent/carer see the member of office staff on morning door duty to hand the item in which must be clearly labelled with the child's name.

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

Christmas Wreath Making Workshop - this takes place on Tuesday 6th December from 7pm, in the school hall. Please contact the school office if you would like to go. Please pre-book by Friday 2nd December. The cost is £20.

Christmas Cards - all parents who ordered the fundraiser Christmas cards should have now received them. Please see the PTA tray in the school office if you would like to retrieve your child's original artwork.

Dickensian - thank you to everyone who supported us at Dickensian; we raised £329 for the school. Thank you.

100 Club - the 100 club draw will be on Friday this week.

Yours sincerely,



Lindsey Hudson – Headteacher

Community Events

Art Competition – local estate agents Rager & Roberts are once again holding a children's Christmas art competition. Children aged 4 – 11 years can draw/paint their 'Dream Christmas House' on A4 paper. There are 2 categories; 4 – 7 years and 8 – 11 years, and the winner of each category will receive a £500 donation for their school art department and they personally will receive an Amazon voucher for £100. Entries need to be handed in to the Rager & Roberts office at 36 Cornfield Road, Eastbourne, or their office at 117 Green Street, Eastbourne, by 5pm on Friday 16th December.

Each entry must have the artist’s full name and age and their teacher’s name and school and contact number on the reverse. Do not fold the A4 sheet. The Head of Collections at the Towner Gallery, Karen Taylor, will be judging the entries and the winners’ presentations will be published in the Eastbourne Herald. If you require further details, please phone Rager & Roberts on 01323 430144.

REPLY SLIP – Spelling Workshop – Wednesday 11th January

Please return the reply slip to the school office by Friday 6th January.

I will attend the spelling workshop on Wednesday 11th January.

Child/Children’s Name(s).....

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

Print.....