

2nd February 2017

Issue: 133

Upcoming School Events

Monday 6 th February	Afternoon	Netball Tournament
Tuesday 7 th February	All Day	Safer Internet day
Wednesday 8 th February	All Day	RSPB Birdwatch Day
Wednesday 8 th February	11am	Chartwells School Meals Meeting & Lunch
Thursday 9 th February	All Day	'Space Day' – Pearl Class
Friday 10 th February	9am	Safer Internet Day Celebration Assembly
Friday 10 th February	Afternoon	Great Alfriston Spelling Bee
Friday 10 th February	3.30pm	End of Term – February Holiday Starts
Monday 20 th February	8.45am	Children Return to School
Wednesday 22 nd February	Morning	Jo & Hugo the Reading Dog
Thursday 23 rd February	Afternoon	Years 5 & 6 Sussex Cricket Competition

Dear Parents/Carers,

Attendance

Our target is 96%.

Week Beginning	Attendances	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Lates
23 rd January 2017	97.42%	2.38%	0.20%	2.28%

Safer Internet Day

As a school, we will be participating in 'Safer Internet Day', which takes place on Tuesday 7th February. We emphasise safety constantly when using the internet, however taking part in the national 'Safer Internet Day' gives us the opportunity to highlight this issue even more. The theme for this year is *'Be the change: unite for a better internet'* and classes throughout the school will be carefully considering how to be safe online through activities and discussion linked to this theme. The day offers the opportunity to highlight positive uses of technology and to explore the role we all play in helping to create a better and safer online community. It calls upon young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers, and wider, to join together in helping to create a better internet. On Friday 10th February each class will present one area of their learning about Safer Internet Day in our Celebration Assembly at 9am. We would love to see as many of you at this assembly as possible.

We will be sending home separately some information about using the internet safely. We have included some articles from the free Vodafone 'Digital Parenting' magazine as well as conversation starters for parents and carers with regards to children using the internet safely and responsibly and online resources. We also have a section of our website dedicated to e-safety

<http://www.alfristonschool.org/website/e-safety/87326>

'Space Day'

Next Thursday, 9th February, Pearl Class will be having a 'Space Day'. The children can come to school dressed in themed clothes e.g. astronauts, aliens, stars. The clothes must be practical as children will be playing outside! Any questions, please ask Mrs Ottaway.

Great Alfriston Spelling Bee

On Friday 10th February, the House Captains are organising the first Great Alfriston Spelling Bee, our spelling competition! Children from all classes will be competing and earning points for their Houses. On this occasion, we will be inviting the whole school to watch but we do hope to be able to make it a regular event so that, in the future, we will be able to invite parents, too.

Cross Country Tournament

The tournament organisers have changed the date for this event and it will now take place on Friday 17th March. A new letter was sent home yesterday containing all the details. If you require a hard copy of the permission slip, please ask at the school office. We would really like to see as many children from Years 4 - 6 taking part in this as possible. Please note that if you did return a permission slip for the original date, we will require a new slip for the revised date. Please can all permission slips be returned to the office by Friday 17th February.

Parking Issues & Dog Mess

Unfortunately this week we have received some complaints from our neighbours regarding unreasonable parking. We really do urge parents/carers to park considerately when bringing and collecting children to and from school. Please do not park so that your vehicle is obstructing our neighbours' driveways, inconveniencing them as they are unable to access their property. Thank you for your help in this matter. If you bring your dog to school and it makes a mess near the school grounds, please do clear it up. There have been a few incidents lately of dog mess near the school entrance. Thank you.

Forest School

The children from Sapphire Class had a damp but most enjoyable morning at Forest School on Tuesday. They all had the opportunity to light the camp fire, they made bows and arrows and whittled wood to make necklaces. We are very grateful to the Sussex Wildlife Trust for organising and funding this opportunity for the children.

SEN Parent Forum

Many thanks to the parents/carers who came along to the SEN Parent Forum regarding transition on Tuesday morning. We hope that you found the meeting useful and it answered any questions that you had. The minutes of this meeting will be placed on the school website in due course.

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

Race and Curry Night – this will take place on Friday 10th March at 7pm in the school hall. Tickets are £10 each and will include a lovely homemade curry, and there will also be a cash bar. Tickets will go on sale after the February holiday. Please come, it'll be a great night out! (Sorry, this is an adult only event).

Yours sincerely,



Lindsey Hudson – Headteacher