

office@alfriston.e-sussex.sch.ukwww.alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk9th March 2017

Issue: 137

Upcoming School Events

Friday 10 th March	9am	Sama Karate Demonstration in Assembly
Friday 10 th March	7pm	FoAS Race and Curry Night
Tuesday 14 th March	Morning	'Mr Broccoli' Cooking Workshops
Wednesday 15 th March		Deadline for Science Day Competition Entries
Wednesday 15 th March	3.30pm – 4.30pm	Swift Conservation Project Workshop
Thursday 16 th March	All Day	Science Day
Thursday 16 th March	2.30pm	Science Day Assembly
Friday 17 th March	Afternoon	Cross Country Tournament – Years 4-6
Tuesday 21 st March	Morning	Class Photos
Tuesday 21 st March	3.30pm – 4pm	Meeting re End of KS1 SATs
Tuesday 21 st March	4.30pm – 6.30pm	Full Governing Body Meeting
Wednesday 22 nd March	3.30pm – 4pm	Meeting re End of KS2 SATs
Thursday 23 rd March	8.45am – 10am	FoAS AGM in School Hall

Community Events

Sunday 12 th March	2pm	Lewes FC Ladies Football Match
Thursday 6 th April	11am – 2pm	Easter Egg Hunt in Aid of Alfriston Pre-School

Dear Parents/Carers,

Attendance

Our target is 96%.

Week Beginning	Attendances	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Lates
27 th February 2017	97.92%	1.78%	0.30%	0.69%

Brilliant – we've met our target this week!

School Funding Crisis

Yesterday you hopefully received a letter regarding the school funding crisis. This crisis looms ever present over all schools in the country including Alfriston. This is why a campaign has been launched and we need the help and support of parents. Our budget share has not increased since 2012 and yet costs are increasing on rates, resources, services, salaries and pensions for staff and there has also been the introduction of the apprenticeship levy. To date all East Sussex schools have worked hard to shield parents and children from the impending crisis, often cutting back on 'unseen' costs with longer term implications but we have now reached 'tipping point'.

We urge you to write to your MP to join us in highlighting the urgent need to reduce rising costs for schools. We believe we must now all work together, as schools, parents and governors are doing across the country, in order to protect the education, wellbeing and future of our children.

Procedure for Early Morning

We would like to remind parents/carers about the start of day procedure - **until the bell goes at 8.42am all children must be supervised by a parent/carer.** We appreciate there may be occasions when you're unable to wait with your child, in this instance you are more than welcome to arrange for another parent/carer to supervise your child on your behalf.

Children should arrive at school by 8.42am ready for the bell. Being on time is vital, arriving late at school can be very disruptive for the late child, the teacher and other children in the class.

Football Match

Unfortunately the match planned to take place after school on Tuesday had to be postponed due to a water logged pitch following the weekend rain. We hope that the match will be able to be re-scheduled in the near future.

Parents' Evening

Many thanks to all the parents and carers who attended the parent consultations last week. We hope that you found them useful and your child/children's mid-year progress reports informative. On both evenings we were fortunate to have some of our governors present as well as members of the NHS School Health Team who had an information stand regarding healthy lifestyles.

Packed Lunches

Please can children having a packed lunch bring a drink with them to have at lunchtime. This can be either water, milk or a small carton of fruit juice. Also, if your child has a yogurt, please can they bring in a spoon. Thank you.

Gymnastics Competition

If your child received a letter at the start of the week regarding a Year 5 and 6 gymnastics competition taking place next month, please ensure that the reply slip is returned to school tomorrow if they would like to attend.

Message From Mrs Ottaway - Science Day Poster Competition Reminder

We will be having a Science Day next Thursday, 16th March, to celebrate British Science Week. Children will be engaging in science themed activities in classes and sharing their results with each other and parents in an assembly at 2.30pm on this day. We have also launched a school competition to further engage children in science! For the competition we would like you to investigate or imagine the different types of changes occurring in science or the natural world around you. Choose a topic for your poster and do some research around the idea. For example:

What different types of change can we examine in nature?

Carry out a science experiment and investigate the changes.

How has our world changed over the years?

Think about how you might change the world in the future.

Once you have done your research, it's time to get creative! Your poster must be 2D and on either A4 or A3 paper as they will be going on display. You can use pencils, paint, pens, pop up pictures, pull out tabs...

Posters will be judged on how creative and well-researched the ideas are and how well the poster has been made or drawn. Once the poster is complete, write your name, class and house team on the back and hand it to your class teacher by Wednesday 15th March. Mrs Ottaway has explained more about this to the children in assembly.

Drusillas Trip

A letter regarding a trip to Drusillas for Ruby Class was sent home at the start of the week. Please can the reply slips be completed and returned to the school office by Friday 17th March.

Tennis Club

Unfortunately there won't be after school tennis club next week, 16th March, as Jane, the tennis coach, is unable to attend.

SATs Meetings

On Tuesday 21st March at 3.30pm Miss Foster will be holding a meeting, in Ruby Class, for parents and children who are currently in Year 2 regarding the end of Key Stage 1 tests that the children will be taking in May. This meeting will be a useful information session for parents and provide the opportunity for you to ask any questions that you may have about the tests. Mrs Crystal will be holding a similar meeting regarding the end of Key Stage 2 tests for parents and children in Year 6 at on Wednesday 22nd March at 3.30pm, in Emerald Class.

Term Dates Survey - Deadline

The Local Authority is currently responsible for setting school term and holiday dates for all Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools. In the case of Foundation, Voluntary Aided Schools and Academies, Governing Bodies are responsible for setting their own term dates.

East Sussex County Council is consulting on three options for school term and holiday dates for the academic year 2018/19. The council is inviting schools, parents/carers and other interested parties to tell us their preferred option. They hope that as many people as possible will respond. The consultation has been running for two weeks ends tomorrow, 10th March. It can be accessed online by using the following link <https://consultation.eastsussex.gov.uk/>

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

100 Club – the winner of the February draw was Jenny Douthwaite with number 59. Congratulations!

Race and Curry Night – this event takes place tomorrow evening. If you have purchased a ticket we look forward to seeing you there. Please bring extra money with you for the cash bar and your betting money!

AGM - our AGM will be held next Thursday, 23rd March, in the school hall after morning drop-off. We'll be serving breakfast muffins, tea and coffee. Please try to come if you can, we want to be as open and inclusive as possible. Come and learn about our fundraising events, our ethos, and what our money will be spent on. We look forward to seeing you there!

Yours sincerely,



Lindsey Hudson – Headteacher

Community Events

Lewes FC Ladies Football Match – Lewes Football Club are holding a family fun day on Sunday, 12th March from 11am at the Dripping Pan, Lewes. At 2pm the Lewes FC Ladies (one of the top 35 women's clubs in England!) will kick off in a match against QPR Ladies to celebrate International Women's Day, with the gate receipts going to the Brighton Oasis Project. Admission costs £3 for adults and children are free. Throughout the day there will be indoor activities, a 5-a-side competition, face painting and refreshments will be available. Further details are available from Club Director, Jane Roberts by emailing jane-roberts@live.co.uk

Easter Egg Hunt - On Thursday 6th April there will be an Easter Egg Hunt taking place in Friston Forest (by the car park with the toilets) from 11am – 2pm. There will also be an Easter hat competition taking place at 12 noon. Prizes and refreshments will also be available. The cost is £3 per child. All are welcome and it's in aid of Alfriston Pre-School.