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Issue: 145

Upcoming School Events

Friday 19 th May	All Day	Non-Uniform Day for the FoAS
Wednesday 24 th May	3.30pm	Emerald Class Residential Meeting
Thursday 25 th May	All Day	Whole School Trip
Friday 26 th May	3.15pm	May Holiday Starts
Monday 5 th June	8.45am	Children Return to School
Monday 12 th June	2.45pm	Violin Lessons Information Meeting
Wednesday 14 th June	6pm	Musical Cabaret Evening

Community Events

Saturday 10 th June	12 noon – 4pm	Sussex Day, The Tye, Alfriston
Saturday 17 th June	All Day	'The Great Get Together' at Drusillas

Dear Parents/Carers,

Attendance

Our target is 96%.

Week Beginning	Attendances	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Lates
8 th May 2017	96.02%	1.73%	2.24%	1.02%

Mufti Day

Tomorrow the children can come to school in non-uniform in return for a full bottle of wine for the FoAS. They will be using the bottles at a fundraising event at Sussex Day on Saturday 10th June.

Sapphire Class Performance

Sapphire Class will be performing a song in celebration assembly tomorrow, 19th May, which they have been busy working on. Assembly is at 9am and all family and friends are welcome to attend. We look forward to seeing you there.

Swimming

This week has seen the swimming season start and the children have been enjoying their swimming lessons with Sally, our professional swimming teacher. We will be holding a fun after school swimming club on Mondays from 22nd May. Full details were sent out in a letter today. Please remember that if your child suffers from any sickness and/or diarrhoea at any point during the swimming season that you must notify the school office and your child will be unable to swim for 2 weeks from the last date of such an illness. This is a rule we have to follow from the East Sussex Education Authority Health & Safety Department.

Outdoor Classroom Day

Today has seen us taking part in this international day, giving everyone the chance to celebrate and inspire outdoor learning and play. All of the classes have been outside taking part in bug hunts, looking at different types of leaves, pebble painting, having an outdoor maths trail, making a human graph and experiencing the outdoors with all of their senses and then producing a poem or piece of writing about it.

Football Tournament

We were fortunate, and taken very much by surprise, in having beautiful weather on Tuesday when we held our first ever Inter-School Football Tournament at the Downs Leisure Centre, Seaford. Nine teams from various local schools took part and were organised into two groups – village schools and larger schools. The Alfriston team of Boaz, Charlie, Connor, Dylan, George, Josh, Lola, Molly and Ollie performed amazingly and were a credit to the school. They played four group matches; drawing three and losing just one, with goals being scored in the final minute and spectacular saves ensuring it was a fascinating morning. Park Mead School won the village school group and Stafford Juniors won both the larger school group as well as being the overall tournament winners. We are very grateful to Seaford Martello Rotary Club who kindly sponsored the event and Andy Steer for sponsoring the match balls, to Lewes FC for providing the referees, Matt and Adam, without charge, and to Mr Gratwick, our SENCo, and Mrs Fitzgerald for organising the event. We look forward to holding a tournament again next year.

Grapes

Please can we remind parents that if you send your child/children in with grapes for a snack that they must be cut in half lengthways. Thank you.

Musical Cabaret Evening

To celebrate the end of another year of brilliant music here at Alfriston, Sue Whitehead is organising a musical cabaret evening on Wednesday 14th June at 6pm in the school hall. All of the children who Sue teaches will be taking part as well as the trumpet group, violins and the choir. The concert is expected to last approximately an hour and a half. It will be a relaxed evening with chairs dotted around tables and the audience will have the opportunity to listen to the performances while enjoying wine, fruit juice and cheese sharing platters. Everyone is welcome to attend the evening and support and enjoy our young performers. If you would like to attend, tickets cost £1 per person and are available from the school office. If you would like to pre-order a cheese sharing platter (a chunk of Cheddar cheese, a chunk of Brie, pickles, bread and butter and salad – enough for two to share), they cost £6 each and can be ordered from the school office by 8th June. If paying by cheque, please make them payable to Sue Whitehead. All profits from this evening will be going to our school.

Violin Meeting

On Monday 5th June, Mrs Cane-Hardy, our violin teacher from the East Sussex Music Service, will be giving a short concert and demonstration of the violin to the children in Pearl and Ruby Classes. The following week, 12th June, at 2.45pm, she will be holding an information meeting in the school hall for parents of any child across the school who is interested in learning the violin from September.

Whole School Trip

Next Thursday, 25th May, the whole school will be going out for a trip. Please see the original letter for all the details. Children need to wear non-uniform with suitable footwear and bring a waterproof coat and warm clothing if it is cold and a sun hat and sun cream if the weather is good. Please can children have sun cream applied before school as staff are not allowed to apply the cream onto the children. They will also require a packed lunch, a water bottle and have a suitable bag to carry this all in. Please note that we still have many permission slips outstanding for this trip. If you have yet to return a slip to the office, please do so by the end of tomorrow.

Wigwam and Watering Cans

We are very grateful to Chris and Sylvia Daw for organising and erecting the wigwam on the grass at school. The children have been planting it up with sweet peas and we are really looking forward to having a beautiful natural wigwam on the playground. If anyone has a spare watering can – it doesn't matter whether it is big or small – or a reasonable length of garden hose, we would be very grateful if you could donate it to us so that we can nurture the sweet peas once they are planted!

Emerald Class Residential

On Wednesday, 24th May, at 3.30pm, Mrs Crystal will be holding a meeting for parents and children who will be going on the Emerald Class residential. The meeting will take place in the Emerald classroom. Please can you return to school the consent form for your child to take part in this trip before the meeting.

‘The Great Get Together’ at Drusillas

We are delighted, and very fortunate, that Drusillas directors, Laurence and Christine Smith, have offered us the opportunity to be involved in ‘The Great Get Together’ which is taking place on Saturday 17th June. This event is a nationwide event to celebrate the life of former Labour MP Jo Cox, who was sadly killed by a gunman on the steps of her constituency surgery a year ago. The event aims to bring people together within communities with thousands of street parties and baking competitions taking place. The Duchess of Cornwall and Jamie Oliver are part of the group who hope to see the biggest community event take place since the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee. Drusillas Park is offering us some free tickets for families to enjoy a fun day out with tea and cakes thrown in at 3pm! It’s planned as a very informal day with families pleasing themselves when they arrive and how long they stay – the only organised aspect of the day is tea and cakes served on Explorers lawn at 3.30pm in the marquee. If you would like to be considered for the tickets, please complete the reply slip below and return it to the school office by Monday 22nd May. Please note that these tickets are intended for children at Alfriston School and their parents/carers and siblings and not extended family members and friends. On this day you will also have the opportunity to have a go on their new attraction – Go Safari! – which comes into operation from 26th May as well as seeing their new animal attraction – Giant anteaters. We are extremely grateful to Drusillas for considering our school to join them for this event and for giving us the free tickets.

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

Sussex Day – we will be attending the village’s Sussex Day celebrations on Saturday 10th June. We will be holding a mufti day tomorrow, Friday, where the children can come to school in non-uniform for the day in return for a full bottle of wine for our stall.

Car Boot Sale - thank you to everyone who donated items for us to sell at the car boot sale in Polegate last weekend. We raised £150 for the school, and we still have lots of raffle prizes and other bric-a-brac for future stalls.

Forest School - thank you to everyone who has enjoyed Forest School this term. Do you want to do it again? Please let the school know if you would like to do Forest School on Fridays after May break, and we’ll see if we can organise another block. We need 15 children to make this viable (the cost is £5 per session per child).

Lost Property - please remember to check the lost property box. Any unnamed items that are left in here after half term will be washed, ironed and made available to purchase at the summer fair second hand uniform sale.

Flapjack Fridays - would you like to help with Flapjack Fridays? We always offer flapjacks and sausage rolls on Fridays after school, plus one other choice. If you would like to be a guest baker (e.g. fairy cakes, muffins...) please speak with Yvonne in the playground.

Yours sincerely,



Lindsey Hudson – Headteacher

Community Events

Netball Taster Sessions – Southern Starz Netball, run by our netball team coach Roz Hannan, are holding taster sessions for children in Years 1 – 6 who are interested in trying netball. The sessions will take place on 15th and 22nd June from 5pm – 6pm on the outdoor courts at Hampden Park Sports Centre, Brodrick Road, Eastbourne BN22 9RQ and cost £1 per person. For further details email southernstarznetball@outlook.com or call Roz on 07790 804665 or Sue on 07731 463705.

ACRES Courses - ACRES (Adult Courses for Rural East Sussex) is a provider of a range of adult education courses throughout East Sussex. As part of their programme they provide Maths GCSE, English GCSE and Functional Skills (Maths and English). These are free for those who have not previously achieved grades A*- C or equivalent, and they have daytime and evening classes available at various venues in Uckfield, Heathfield, Hailsham, Battle and Wadhurst. Many of their learners are parents who wish to help their children with their education, and also those who wish to progress their career. They will be holding a 'Journey to GCSE' open evening where anyone go and find out about the courses. These will take place on Tuesday 27th June at 7pm at Hailsham Community College and Wednesday 28th June at 7pm at Uckfield Community Technology College. Further details are available by phoning 01825 761820 or by email adultlearn@uctc.org.uk

Music Makers - These are classes that help develop and nurture the music ability of children in Years 1 and 2 through music and movement. They involve a great deal of singing and small hand percussion instruments. The children also get an opportunity to sing in the end of term concerts and see hundreds of other young musicians playing a variety of instruments that could well inspire them for the future. The sessions run on a Saturday morning and last for 30 minutes and now is the time to think about booking in for September. Sessions take place at the local area music centre at Ratton School, Park Lane, Eastbourne BN21 2XR. You can apply online at www.eastsussex.gov.uk/music email music@eastsussex.gov.uk if you have any queries or call 01273 336770. The first 2 sessions are free.

Reply Slip – ‘The Great Get Together’ at Drusillas – to be returned to the school office by Monday 22nd May

I would like to be considered for tickets to ‘The Great Get Together’ at Drusillas on Saturday 17th June with tea and cake at 3pm.

I would liketickets to the above event (maximum 4 per family).

I would likeextra tickets should more be available.

Child/Children’s Name(s).....

Class(es).....

Signed.....

Print Name.....Date.....