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23rd November 2017

Issue: 164

Upcoming School Events

Mon 20 th Nov – Fri 1 st Dec	Fortnight	Eco School Switch Off Fortnight
Friday 24 th November	All Day	Emerald Class Trip
Tuesday 28 th November	4.30pm	Full Governing Body Meeting
Thursday 30 th November	Morning	Bikeability – Sapphire Class
Friday 1 st December	8.45am	FoAS Meeting
Monday 4 th December	All Day	Christmas Decorations Day
Friday 8 th December	9am	Christmas Tree Decorating Assembly
Friday 8 th December	3pm	Early School Finish
Friday 8 th December	3pm – 5.30pm	School Christmas Fair

Community Events

Fri 1 st – Sun 3 rd December	All Weekend	Village Christmas Celebrations
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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
13 th November 2017	96.02%	3.79%	0.19%	0.95%

Week Beginning	Class	Attendance	Late	Traffic Light
13 th November 2017	Pearl	94.38%	0.63%	
	Ruby	98.67%	0.67%	
	Sapphire	94.67%	1.33%	
	Emerald	95.61%	1.01%	

Bikeability

Some children from Sapphire Class will be taking part in the Bikeability level 1 training on Thursday 30th November. Please note that the spaces for this are now full. If your child/children are taking part in this activity, please bring their bike/s in to school on the day, walk them across the school playground and store them around the side of the school hall by the PE sheds, and collect them again at the end of that day. Please refer to the original letter sent home for full details.

School Christmas Lunch

We will be having our school Christmas lunch on Thursday 14th December. As is our long tradition, we would like as many children as possible to have the cooked school meal on this day so that we can all enjoy the occasion together. The children will be served roast turkey, cocktail sausage wrapped in bacon, sage and onion stuffing, roast potatoes, peas and carrots topped off with gravy. Alternatively the vegetarian option of Quorn roast is available. The main meal will be followed by a Christmas shortbread biscuit and fresh fruit. The children are invited to bring in Christmas hats to wear during lunch. Parents of children who already have school meals on a Thursday will have the Christmas lunch included on their normal termly bill, if in Sapphire or Emerald Classes. For those who normally have a packed lunch, please send in the reply slip at the end of the newsletter along with payment of £2.10, in a clearly marked envelope, by Friday 1st December. All children in Pearl and Ruby Classes can have the lunch free of charge under the universal infant free school meal scheme. Please note that we will require a reply slip for every child, whether they normally have a school lunch or not, recording their meal choice so that Alison, our cook, knows quantities to order.

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Session

Further to information provided in previous newsletters, Mrs Crystal is going to do a parent session about Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling on Thursday 30th November after school - 3.30pm - 4.15pm. Parents will be welcome to bring their children along - they will see some of the kinds of activities that we do in class and it will give them an idea of the expectations. Several parents had already sent back slips saying that they were interested, but of course, any other parents who would like to come along will be very welcome.

Trips

Tomorrow Emerald Class will be out on a trip and will require a packed lunch. Please refer to the letter sent home at the start of this term for full details. As a result of being out on the trip, please note that there won't be a Year 5 or 6 Star of the week tomorrow in celebration assembly. Last week we sent home to children in Emerald and Sapphire Classes more letters regarding future trips, so please return the forms by the relevant dates. The return date for the Big Sing form for Emerald Class is tomorrow.

Cross Country Tournament

Children in Emerald Class have been invited to take part in a cross country tournament against other local schools next month. A letter was sent home with all the details yesterday. If your child would like to take part, please return the reply slip to the school office by Monday 4th December.

Christmas Card Competitions

The children have submitted some wonderful designs for our school Christmas card competition. The winning designs will be announced in tomorrow's celebration assembly. We will also be acknowledging the winner of the Dean's Place Christmas card competition, which was announced at their Christmas Tree Lighting evening last Friday.

Christmas Tree Decorating Assembly

On Friday 8th December 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! It would be fantastic if the children could begin to plan out their decorations ready to bring in on the 8th.

Packed Lunches

If your child/children bring in a yogurt for their packed lunch, please can they bring in a spoon from home.

School Christmas Fair

The school Christmas Fair, organised by the Friends of Alfriston School, will take place on Friday 8th December from 3pm – 5.30pm. As a result, on this day, school will finish for everyone at 3pm, so please, if you can, 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 will be sent home in the next few days 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.

News From The Friends of Alfriston School (FoAS)

Email friendsofalfristonschool@gmail.com

Our stall at the Deans Place Hotel **Christmas Tree Lighting Evening** last Friday was very successful if a little chilly. We raised £14.01 on the 'name the reindeer' (his name was Nigel) and £54 on the chocolate tub raffle.

Please see our **Christmas Fair** newsletter which went out on Monday for all the news about the Christmas Fair including the raffle and Santa's Grotto. The fair is on Friday December 8th from 3pm - 5.30pm and the deadline for booking to see Father Christmas is this Friday 24th November.

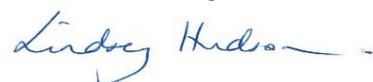
Thank you for your contributions this week of savoury biscuits, chutneys, cheese straws and Christmas sundries which are the final set of goodies to go into our Christmas Hampers. Once again a big thank you to Hannah Young for organising this and if you do need any more raffle tickets then please get in touch.

Teddy bears and cuddly toys are arriving daily for the Teddy Bear Tombola and glass jars with lids are coming too and we will carry on collecting them all until Friday 1st December.

On Sunday 3rd December we really need help from parents, carers and friends to come into school for a '**school winter gardening session**'. There are several gardening jobs that need to be done within the school grounds and we really need volunteers to come along and lend a hand. In return we will provide tea, coffee and cakes. If you can help then please turn up suitably attired with a few basic gardening tools! (This is NOT an activity for children although, of course, they are welcome to help too). As usual it's **Flapjack Friday** this Friday and our next **100 Club** draw is tomorrow Friday 24th November. Do get in touch via our **Facebook page or email** – our address is friendsofalfristonschool@gmail.com or find us selling 'Flapjacks' in the playground at the end of the school day every Friday. Our next **meeting** is Friday 1st December when we will be pulling together the final few plans for the Christmas Fair. We hope you can join us in the library at 8.45am.

Love Eleanor and the FoAS committee 😊

Yours sincerely,



Lindsey Hudson – Headteacher

Community Events

Alfriston Village Christmas Weekend – during the weekend of 1st - 3rd December the village will be holding its Christmas celebrations, 'Deck the Halls'. The weekend will include late night shopping, pantomime in the village streets from the Alfriston Players, numerous music events and, of course, a visit from Father Christmas! At 5pm on the Saturday, the children's author, Dame Jacqueline Wilson, will be switching on the Christmas tree lights in the village square and the Salvation Army Band will be playing carols. If anyone would like to go along with their child/children to support the carol singing with the band, then the organisers of the event would be very grateful. Please note that this is not a school event so parents will need to accompany their child/children if they choose to attend. If your child/children are able to help with the carol singing, please let Sylvia Daw know, 01323 871188.

As part of this special weekend, The Village Stores are having live music in the shop between 3pm and 4pm on Sunday 3rd December. They are looking for children who play a musical instrument that are available to join in and play for 10 minutes or so. If your child/children are interested, please speak to Lucie Harmer in the playground. The Clergy House will be open to the public for this weekend with free admission. For further details about the weekend's events, please visit www.alfriston-village.co.uk/christmas

REPLY SLIP – Christmas Lunch – Thursday 14th December 2017

Please return to the school office by Friday 1st December.

Either

My child/children.....usually have a packed lunch but would like the school Christmas lunch on Thursday 14th December.

Roast turkey or Quorn roast

I enclose £2.10 per meal
(payment only required if in Sapphire or Emerald Classes)

Or

My child/children.....usually have a school lunch on Thursday and would like to choose the following for their school Christmas lunch on Thursday 14th December. I will be invoiced on my termly bill so no payment is enclosed now.

Roast Turkey or Quorn roast

Or

My child/children.....usually have a packed lunch on Thursday and will not be having the school Christmas lunch so will bring in a packed lunch as usual.

Packed Lunch

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

Print Name.....