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Issue: 139

Upcoming School Events

Friday 31 st March	2pm	Easter Service at St Andrew's Church
Friday 31 st March	3.15pm	Easter Holiday Starts
Tuesday 18 th April	8.45am	Children Return to School
Friday 28 th April	2pm	May Day Picnic

Community Events

Sunday 26 th March	11am	Mothering Sunday Service, St Andrew's Church, Alfriston
Sunday 26 th March	11.30am	Lewes FC Family Fun Day
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
13 th March 2017	95.50%	3.50%	1.00%	1.00%

Thanks

We are extremely grateful to David Soulsby, an ex-governor of our school, who held a very informative evening of Greek literature at Much Ado Books recently and he donated the proceeds from the evening to us. We have used the money to buy a variety of books and dictionaries for the children.

More Thanks

The bookshop in the village, Much Ado Books, has very kindly been raising money for us as a school through a variety of events they have been organising. As a result this week we have taken delivery of some amazing books they have been able to buy for us. The children are thrilled with the wonderful books and we are all extremely grateful for them. If you happen to be passing the Much Ado Bookshop in the village, it would be lovely if you were able to pop in to the shop and pass on your thanks in person.

Comic Relief

Tomorrow is Comic Relief Day. Children are welcome to wear one piece of Comic Relief merchandise, such as a red nose, badge or headband, if they have purchased them. If you are able to put your child's name or initials on this it would be helpful. Eliza, a Year 5 pupil, is raising money for the Comic Relief cause by wearing all red for Red Nose Day and is being sponsored for this. She will also be announcing the winner of her Red Nose poster competition and she will be selling after school snacks on the playground, alongside the FoAS.

Clubs

A separate letter regarding clubs for next term will be sent out soon. Please note that football club with Lewes FC will take place on the last day of term, 31st March, as will art club.

Cross Country Tournament

Last Friday afternoon some of our Year 4 – 6 children took part in a cross country tournament at Ringmer Primary School, attended by 10 local schools. All represented our school superbly and we are very proud of their efforts. Lola, in Year 4, came first out of the 75 girls in the tournament – amazing Lola, well done!

Seaford Rotary Club Writing Competition

Many congratulations to our three Year 6 finalists in the Seaford Rotary Club Writing Competition. All of Year 6 wrote well and Bella, Charlie and Molly were our final entrants for the local competition and they attended the award ceremony on Monday evening with Mrs Crystal. We will be recognising their efforts in celebration assembly tomorrow morning.

Netball Match

The Alfriston All Stars netball team took part in a friendly match last Thursday. The girls had a lot of fun and played very well. In the end the score wasn't kept as the other team had 12 girls so a third team was created and the girls were swapped in and out. Well done girls for your efforts!

Easter Church Service

On the final day of term, Friday 31st March, our day will end with an Easter Service at St Andrew's Church, Alfriston, at 2pm. This will be led by the children in Sapphire Class but all classes will be involved in the service. Parents, family and friends are welcome to join us for this event. If any parents are able to help walk the children down to the church, leaving school at 1.30pm, then please leave a message at the school office. It will be assumed that all children will be collected from the church after the service, unless a reply slip (see below) asking for them to be returned to school for collection is returned to the school office by the end of Tuesday 28th March. This includes children who will be using the minibus or taxi that afternoon. Please note that children do not need to bring book bags to school on the final day of term. Also, please can children who have packed lunch bring their lunch to school, for this day only, in a plastic bag that can then be thrown away at the end of lunch. This is to reduce the number of items that need to be taken to the church. The cloakroom areas will be cleared at the end of next Thursday, 30th March, and the children's PE bags will be sent home then as they will not be needed on the final day.

Celebration Assembly

Please note we will still be having celebration assembly next week, Friday 31st March, as well as the Easter Service at church in the afternoon.

May Day Picnic

The FoAS are organising a May Day picnic on the Tye on the afternoon of Friday 28th April. It sounds like it will be a lovely afternoon with lots of activities to take part in including Maypole dancing. We will be taking the children to the Tye, where they will meet parents & carers to take part in the afternoon's activities. A separate letter will come out in the near future.

Lost Property

We have a large pile of lost property and we would urge parents to check if any pieces belong to their child before the end of term after which any remaining items will be donated to charity.

Wildlife Garden Reminder

It would be appreciated if anyone has any insect friendly plants they could donate to the wildlife garden, such as cat mint and honeysuckle, but please not buddleia. We would also like to add some well-rotted tree stumps to the wood pile in the garden, so if anyone has some they could give us, we would be very grateful.

Active Kids Vouchers

The Active Kids scheme that Sainsbury's operates each year, which enables schools and clubs to exchange vouchers for sports and cooking equipment, is well underway, so may we please ask you, your family and friends to get saving for our school. This scheme provides many additional items for our sports cupboard and playground activities. Vouchers may be taken to the school office or placed in the collecting box within the entrance lobby.

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

AGM - our AGM was held earlier today. Many thanks to everyone who came along. There will be an update from the meeting next week and a separate newsletter in due course.

Film Night – takes place tomorrow, Friday 24th March, in the school hall, starting at 6pm. The film will be "Zootropolis". Tickets cost £3, and include a drink and a snack halfway through. We invite children to wear their PJs and bring a pillow. We'll provide the mats. Please buy your tickets from the school office, or see Yvonne or Sarah Lloyd in the playground. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,



Lindsey Hudson – Headteacher

Community Events

Mothering Sunday Service – St Andrew's Church, Alfriston, will be holding a special Mothering Sunday Family service this Sunday, 26th March, at 11am. The children attending will be able to take home some flowers for their Mum, Grandma or someone special.

Alfriston Playground Refurbishment/ Regeneration - Alfriston Parish Council has approached us regarding the above project. They are in the process of applying for a grant through the bags for life scheme which is being run by Tesco Stores across the country and would appreciate any input or comments you may wish to make on the refurbishment of the playground, how often it is used at present by your children and what you feel would help to improve the current facilities and equipment. Any comments or suggestions you may have will be greatly appreciated by the Parish Council. Mrs Hudson will be asking the school council for their comments to put forward to the Council. Please visit their website to email them www.alfristonparishcouncil.org.uk, post to Alfriston Parish Council, PO Box 217, Polegate, BN26 9BN or phone 01323 870212.

Lewes Football Club Family Fun Day – On Sunday, 26th March, Lewes Football Club are holding a family fun day at the Dripping Pan, Lewes from 11.30am. There will be many activities taking place including the opportunity to make a mother's day card, face painting and refreshments with the match of Lewes FC Ladies v C & K Basildon kicking off at 2pm. All proceeds go the Brighton Oasis Project. Admission is £3 for adults and entry for children is free.

Glyndebourne Youth Opera Easter Workshops - These are 2 day introductions to opera courses including singing, design, drama, movement and foreign language coaching for children aged 9 – 19 years old. They have some really exciting artists lined up to lead sessions, including Stephen Higgins and Denni Sayers. The workshops provide a fantastic opportunity for young people to have their first experience of participating in the world of opera and/or further their skills, understanding and enjoyment of the arts. Workshops will take place on the 3rd and 4th April from 10am to 4pm at Ark William Parker Academy, Parkstone Road, Hastings, TN34 2NT and 10th to 11th April at Portslade Aldridge Community Academy, Chalky Road, Portslade, Brighton, BN41 2WS, again from 10am to 4pm. The cost is £36 for 2 days (£18 for unwaged families and those in receipt of benefits, for which proof will be required). Families with more than one child attending will be eligible for a discounted rate for the second and additional children. To book a place please call the Glyndebourne Box Office on 01273 815000 or for any questions regarding this please call the Education department on 01273 815023.

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.

Water Safety Poster - East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service are holding a poster competition and are asking local children up to the age of 11 years old to design a poster to help spread their Water Safety message - 'Be Water Aware'. The poster could be aimed at people undertaking activities which are often perceived as low risk near water. For example almost double the amount of people drown whilst fishing compared to sailing. In fact, the types of people that are most at risk of drowning are people who happen to be running or walking near the water. Nearly half of people who drowned in 2015 had no intention of going into the water. You may also want to look at their website for ideas, which could include the importance of understanding beach flags.

<http://www.esfrs.org/your-safety/water-safety-drowning-prevention/>

The winning design will be used by East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service in a range of promotional material, such as posters to promote water safety campaigns and encourage people to be more aware of the dangers of water. They would like the poster to include the hashtag #BeWaterAware and could include safety advice such as:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Water SAFE Code –Spot | Spot the Dangers |
| Advice | Take Safety Advice (look for signs and flags) |
| Friend | Go with a friend or stay close to a friend or family member. |
| Emergency Shout for help and call 999 or 112 | |

The winner will be chosen by the Chief Fire Officer and prizes will include swim bags full of goodies and a family swim pass. To take part pictures should be drawn on one sheet of paper and the design should fill as much of the page as possible. The child's name, age, school and contact details should be on the back of the poster. The deadline for entries is midday Friday 21st April. Unfortunately they are not going to be able to return any of the pictures. Entries should be posted to: Andrea Janes, Water Safety Poster Competition, Community Safety Department, Eastbourne Community Fire Station, Whitley Road, Eastbourne, BN22 8LA.

Reply Slip – Easter Service – to be returned to the school office by Tuesday 28th March

Only to be completed and returned to the school office if you wish your child/children to return to school for collection. (This includes children who will be using the minibus or taxi).

I would like my child/children to return to school for collection after the Easter Service on Friday 31st March.

Child/Children's Names.....

Class(es).....

Signed.....

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