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Issue: 125

Upcoming School Events

Friday 25 th November		Deadline for Christmas Lunch Orders
Wednesday 30 th November	Afternoon	Internet Safety Session
Wednesday 30 th November		Deadline for School Christmas Card Entries
Tuesday 6 th December	7pm	FoAS Wreath Making Workshop
Thursday 8 th December	All Day	Christmas Decorations Day
Friday 9 th December	9am	Christmas Tree Decorating Assembly
Friday 9 th December	3pm – 5pm	FoAS Christmas Fair
Friday 9 th December	After School	No Football Club

Community Events

Friday 25 th November	7.30pm	'The Cathedral of the Stars' Astronomy Event, St Andrew's Church, Alfriston
Sunday 4 th December	10am and 1pm	Winter Woodland Celebration
Sunday 11 th December	11.30am & 1.30pm	'Babushka' at Deans Place Hotel
Thursday 22 nd December	10am and 1pm	Reindeer Workshop

Dear Parents/Carers,

Attendance

Week Beginning	Attendances	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Lates
14 th November 2016	96.77%	3.03%	0.20%	0.51%

House Talent Competition

This event took place last Thursday afternoon and was organised and led by all of our House Captains and Deputies – they did a fantastic job! Children of all ages showed off a range of fabulous talents. Some children performed on their own, others were as a pair or in a small group, and all were absolutely brilliant! Thank you to our three guest judges: Sue Whitehead, one of our music teachers; Clive Rimmel, one of our volunteer readers; and Tash Newman, our Cricket coach from Sussex Cricket. Overall the competition was won by Cuckmere House.

Cross Country Tournament

We are very proud of all the boys and girls from Years 4 – 6 who competed in this race. They supported each other brilliantly, and the runners participated with enthusiasm, determination and a positive spirit!

Football Practice

Please note that next week the football practice with Mr Gratwick will take place on Monday lunchtime, 28th November, instead of Tuesday.

Internet Safety Session

We are very fortunate that our local Neighbourhood School Police Officer, Jackie Baldwin Charles, will be visiting Sapphire and Emerald Classes on Wednesday 30th November for an internet safety session with the children. Many areas don't have a local school police officer, so to have Jackie, who is so willing to be involved in our school community, is fantastic!

Recorder and Trumpet Lessons

Please note that there won't be any recorder or trumpet lessons on Friday 9th December.

Christmas Tree Decorating Assembly

On Friday 9th 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 9th.

School Christmas Fair

The school Christmas Fair, organised by the Friends of Alfriston School, will take place on Friday 9th December from 3pm – 5pm. As a result, on this day, school will finish for everyone at 3pm, so please 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 was sent home earlier this week 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.

School Christmas Card Competition - Reminder

I am looking for some help again this year with our school Christmas card. If your child would like to design a card, it needs to be A4 or A5 size and a 'flat' design that can be photocopied in school; they also need to remember to put their name on the back. All designs will be displayed in school and the chosen design will be used to produce this year's card. We have extended the deadline for entries and they should now be handed in to the office by Wednesday 30th November, with the winning design being announced in assembly on Friday 2nd December.

School Christmas Lunch – Urgent Final Reminder

Please note that we still have many outstanding reply slips. We do need a slip for **every** child so we know their menu choice. The deadline for handing in the reply slips is **tomorrow**.

We will be having our school Christmas lunch on Wednesday 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 chocolate and vanilla Christmas ice-cream log 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 Wednesday 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 25th November. 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.

After School Football Club

Please note that Lewes FC won't be running an after school football club on Friday 9th December due to the school Christmas Fair taking place. Lewes FC will sort out a refund of the payment directly with parents.

Annual Consent for School Trips Form

At the beginning of the month we sent out the annual consent form for school trips which East Sussex County Council require, and we still have several forms outstanding. A form needs to be completed for **every** child, except for children in Pearl Class as they completed this form as part of their starter pack. Please note that failure to complete and return a form will mean your child/children will not be able to take part in school trips or any other activities off site. Please see the office if you require a hard copy.

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

Dickensian Event – this took place on Saturday. Many thanks to everyone who made cakes, provided wine bottles and helped on the day. We should be able to let you know next week what we managed to raise at this event.

Christmas Wreath Making – this takes place on Tuesday 6th December from 7pm, in the school hall. Please contact the school office if you would like to go, please pre-book by Friday 2nd December. The cost is £20.

Jam Jars and Mugs - please note we still require empty jam jars (no lids necessary) for the school Xmas fair. We would also like some mugs that we can use at future events when providing refreshments. Any donations of jam jars and mugs can be taken to the school office. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,



Lindsey Hudson – Headteacher

Community Events

Astronomy – Local astronomer, Jane Green, is holding an astronomy presentation, 'The Cathedral of the Stars', in St Andrew's Church, Alfriston, on Friday 25th November at 7.30pm. This is a free event but donations to the Church Restoration Fund will be much appreciated.

Winter Woodland Celebration – Herstmonceux Castle Forest School are holding this event on Sunday 4th December to embrace the age old tradition of tree dressing. The session will include fire lighting, food and hot chocolate and the making of tree decorations that can be taken home. The sessions run from 10am – 12 noon and 1pm – 3pm and cost £10 per child with accompanying adults free. To book please email hcfs@mail.com or visit their website www.herstmonceuxforestschoo.com

Children's Festive Fun – On Sunday 11th December Dawn Casey, author of the festive book 'Babushka' – the traditional Russian tale for Christmas – will be at Dean's Place Hotel, Alfriston, bringing the story to life with an interactive puppet show. After the show you can join in and make a shining window pane star or a tree decoration and decorate a cupcake and cookie at the craft tables. This event is ideal for children aged 4 – 10 years. The cost is £10 per child and adults go free. The show and crafts, which last approximately an hour, will take place at 11.30am and again at 1.30pm. To purchase tickets please ring Much Ado Books on 01323 870248.

Reindeer Workshop – Herstmonceux Castle Forest School are holding a reindeer workshop on Thursday 22nd December from 10am – 12noon and 1pm – 3pm where children have the opportunity to make a reindeer in the woods. The session costs £10 per person with accompanying adults free. This event is suitable for children aged 6+. To book please email hcfs@mail.com or visit the website www.herstmonceuxcastleforestschoo.com

REPLY SLIP – Christmas Lunch – Wednesday 14th December 2016

Please return to the school office by Friday 25th November.

Either

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

Roast turkey

☐

or

Quorn roast

☐

I enclose £2.10 per meal

☐

Or

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

Roast Turkey

☐

or

Quorn roast

☐

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

Print Name.....