

30<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Issue: 165

## Upcoming School Events

Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	8.45am	FoAS Meeting
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	9am	<b>No</b> Celebration Assembly
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	All Day	Christmas Decorations Day
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	9am	Christmas Tree Decorating Assembly
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	3pm	Early School Finish
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	3pm – 5.30pm	School Christmas Fair
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	After School	No Football Club
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	9.15am	Pearl & Ruby Classes Nativity Play
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	2pm	Pearl & Ruby Classes Nativity Play
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Lunch/Afternoon	School Christmas Lunch & Film Afternoon
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Morning	Flu Vaccinations
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Afternoon	Rainbow Theatre Pantomime

## Community Events

Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> – Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	All Weekend	Village Christmas Celebrations
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Dear Parents/Carers,

## Attendance

As per our most recent Ofsted report which stated 'leaders and those responsible for governance should ensure that all pupils have good, regular attendance', 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
20 <sup>th</sup> November 2017	97.26%	2.55%	0.19%	0.85%

Week Beginning	Class	Attendance	Late	Traffic Light
20 <sup>th</sup> November 2017	Pearl	94.38%	0.63%	
	Ruby	96.67%	0.33%	
	Sapphire	96.67%	1.33%	
	Emerald	100.00%	0.67%	

## Educational Visits

Yesterday we sent home a letter drawing your attention to our new Educational Visits policy which is on our website which contains important information about the procedures in place for off-site visits.

<http://www.alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk/website/school-policies/54919>

## **Celebration Assembly Cancelled & Christmas Tree Decorating Assembly**

Unfortunately we won't be able to hold our usual celebration assembly tomorrow, 1<sup>st</sup> December. This is because new windows are currently being fitted in Emerald Class so the hall is being used as their classroom. We will return to having celebration assembly with Stars of the Week, certificates, birthdays, etc, the following week, 8<sup>th</sup> December, at 9am when we will also be decorating the school Christmas tree. We hope that the children are busy making Christmas tree decorations ready to bring in to school for this. 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!

## **School Christmas Lunch – Deadline**

We will be having our school Christmas lunch on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> 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 tomorrow, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

## **Christmas Decorations Day**

On Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> December, the children will be taking part in our annual Christmas decorations day. Throughout the day they will be in mixed year groups making all sorts of decorations so that by the end of the day we will have a wonderful collection of decorations to hang up around the school to make us look very festive! Just a reminder that Miss Foster is asking for all children across the school to please bring in a few cardboard tubes (toilet roll, kitchen roll, wrapping paper, etc) by tomorrow, ready for Monday.

## **Trips**

Over the last few weeks all the classes have taken part in a forest school day in Friston Forest with the Sussex Wildlife Trust. During these days they had opportunities to learn how to make bows and arrows, build camp fires and shelters. Today Year 2 children have been to the church to Raise the Flag for St Andrew's Day. The children took part in readings as well as helping Mr Ellis raise the flag. Many thanks to Mrs Monteath-Wilson for helping to organise this activity as well as accompanying the children on the visit. Over the next couple of weeks, Emerald and Sapphire Classes will be out in the community on other trips. Please note that the deadline for returning the permission slip for the Sapphire Class trip is Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> December.

## **Flu Vaccination Forms**

Please can the flu vaccination forms from the School Health Team that were sent to all children in reception to Year 4, be returned to school by 9am on Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> December, as they will be collecting the forms from us later that day.

## **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 last week. If your child would like to take part, please return the reply slip to the school office by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

## School Christmas Fair

The school Christmas Fair, organised by the Friends of Alfriston School, will take place on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> 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 was sent home earlier this week with full 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.

## Football Club

Please note that the after school football club, run by Lewes FC, is cancelled on 8<sup>th</sup> December due to the Christmas Fair.

## Pearl and Ruby Classes Christmas Play

This year's nativity play, 'Lights, Camel, Action! It's Strictly the Nativity', performed by Pearl and Ruby Classes, will take place on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> at 9.15am and Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm. A separate letter regarding this was sent out to parents earlier in the week with all the details regarding purchasing tickets. Please remember you will need to complete the reply slip attached to that letter and return it to the school office if you would like tickets in order to attend.

## Poppy Appeal

We have been advised by the local branch of the Royal British Legion that we collected £44 for the Poppy Appeal. Many thanks to everyone who donated.

## News From The Friends of Alfriston School (FoAS)

Email [friendsofalfristonschool@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofalfristonschool@gmail.com)

There is only just over a week to go until the **Christmas Fair** on Friday December 8<sup>th</sup> from 3pm -5.30pm. We have a wonderful afternoon planned with a wide range of stalls and activities and we do hope you will come and join us.

Hannah Young and her helpers have made up all the Christmas Hampers ready for the raffle and there are lots of other wonderful prizes too. If you haven't brought in your raffle tickets stubs and payment yet then you have until next Thursday to get them back to us and if you do need any more raffle tickets then please get in touch. Raffle tickets will be on sale on the day so it would be wonderful if any unused tickets could be brought back into school please.

There has been a most welcome increase in donations for the Teddy Bear Tombola stall – thank you! - and we will be collecting teddies and cuddly toys until tomorrow. Also we are still collecting glass jars with lids please - we have the same deadline of tomorrow, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December.

Thank you for all the offers to bake something for us to sell at the refreshment stall at the Fair – we really appreciate this.

This Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December, from 10am till 12noon 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 and a mug! (This is NOT an activity for children although, of course, they are welcome to help too).

If you have bought tickets to the hugely popular **Wreath Making Evening** on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December then we look forward to seeing you at 7pm in the school hall. Tara asks that you bring secateurs/scissors and possibly gardening gloves. Also if you have any conifer, ivy, rosemary or heather growing in your gardens (that you could spare) then can you let us know and Tara says she is happy to come to cut some to use that evening. Also please feel free to bring any drinks or snacks to sustain you during the evening. Once again thank you to Tara Begley from Flowers by Tara Jane, High Street, Seaford for hosting this for us.

Congratulations to Jane Evans who won November's **100 Club** draw last Friday with no. 51. Jane won £35.50! The prize pot goes up next month to an unprecedented £36.50 as we have just sold 2 more numbers! Do get in touch if you would like a number – or an extra number. The next draw will be on Friday 15th December.

As usual it's **Flapjack Friday** this Friday – thank you to Yvonne for organising this each week.

Do get in touch via our **Facebook page or email** – our address is [friendsofalfristonschool@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofalfristonschool@gmail.com) or find us selling 'Flapjacks' in the playground at the end of the school day every Friday.

Our next **meeting** is tomorrow 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 this weekend, 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 and the children in Ruby Class have made sheep pictures that will be on display there this weekend. For further details about the weekend's events, please visit [www.alfriston-village.co.uk/christmas](http://www.alfriston-village.co.uk/christmas)

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## REPLY SLIP – Christmas Lunch – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Please return to the school office by Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December.

### Either

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