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Issue: 127

Upcoming School Events

Friday 9 th December	9am	Christmas Tree Decorating Assembly
Friday 9 th December	Afternoon	No Recorders or Trumpet Lessons
Friday 9 th December	3pm – 5pm	FoAS Christmas Fair
Friday 9 th December	After School	No Football Club
Monday 12 th December	Afternoon	No Violin Lessons
Monday 12 th December	2.30pm	NHS Flu Vaccination Parents' Meeting
Wednesday 14 th December	9.30am	Pearl & Ruby Classes Christmas Play
Wednesday 14 th December	Lunchtime	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 15 th December	Morning	NHS Flu Vaccinations
Thursday 15 th December	1.15pm	Pearl & Ruby Classes Christmas Play
Thursday 15 th December	2.15pm & 7pm	Emerald Class Christmas Production
Friday 16 th December	Afternoon	Rainbow Theatre Pantomime
Monday 19 th December	Afternoon	Class Christmas Parties
Wednesday 21 st December	2pm	Christmas Carol Service
Wednesday 21 st December	3.15pm	End of Term

Community Events

Weekends of 11 th & 12 th & 17 th & 18 th December	12 noon – 5pm	Alfriston Nativity Trail
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Dear Parents/Carers,

Attendance

Our target is 96%.

Week Beginning	Attendances	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Lates
28 th November 2016	96.40%	3.40%	0.20%	1.00%

School Gates

We anticipate that the school fence will be finished by the end of tomorrow. As explained in last week's newsletter, once completed the main gate will always be locked, with access via an entry system. The gate will be opened at 8.30am for the start of the school day and re-opened again at approximately 3.10pm.

Flu Immunisation Meeting and Vaccinations

The NHS flu immunisation parents' meeting that was scheduled to take place tomorrow at 9.45am, after celebration assembly, has just been cancelled as unfortunately the member of staff coming to take the meeting is poorly. The meeting has been re-scheduled for Monday 12th December at 2.30pm. The immunisations, for Years 1, 2 and 3 will take place on the morning of Thursday 15th December.

Trumpet and Recorder Lessons & Football Club

There won't be any lessons/club tomorrow, 9th, due to the Christmas fair.

Clubs

Please be aware that cricket club has now finished. The last gymnastic club will take place on Monday 12th, the last Active Play and netball are on Tuesday 13th, the final dance and tennis clubs are on Thursday 15th and the last after school football will be on Friday 16th December.

Christmas Card

We were pleased to announce the winners of our School Christmas Card competition in last Friday's assembly. Lucy was the winner for Key Stage 1 and Eva and Elias were the joint winners of the Key Stage 2 category. Their winning designs will now be used as our official school Christmas card for this year.

Time Capsule

Following the idea kindly put to us by Sylvia Daw, on Friday we 'planted' a time capsule under the new school fence. It was decided that it would have been fun if we had uncovered a time capsule from many years ago as the old fence was removed, so we would bury one now for discovery sometime in the future. Many children contributed to the capsule and included in it were photos and letters. Who knows when it will be found and explored?!

Computer Science Education Week

This week has been Computer Science Education Week. The children have had fun taking part in a variety of coding and decoding activities. Here is a reminder of a couple of links to coding websites the children might enjoy sharing with you.

<https://hourofcode.com/uk/learn>

<https://scratch.mit.edu/>

Uniform

We have noticed a number of non-uniform items being worn to school recently so wanted to remind you of the school uniform.

- * Red jumper, cardigan or school sweatshirt
- * White shirt, or red or white polo shirt with collar
- * Red or white polo neck
- * Grey skirt, pinafore dress, culottes or skorts; black or grey plain school trousers or shorts – no jeans, tracksuits, combat style trousers, sports shorts or leggings
- * School fleece for outdoor wear
- * White, black, red or grey ankle or knee length socks or tights
- * Plain dark coloured shoes with low heels; these should be fastened by means of buckles, velcro or laces to ensure a good fit (no trainers). Sandals may be worn in the summer during hot weather but should have a secure back strap and not have open toes.
- * Red and white check/stripe school dress

PE Kit

- * Black or white plimsolls or plain trainers
- * Red shorts
- * White T-shirt with Alfriston logo
- * Pair of white, black, red or grey socks
- * Track suit is optional during cold weather

Christmas Decorations Day

Today the children have been taking part in our annual Christmas decorations day. Throughout the day they have been in mixed year groups making all sorts of decorations that we are going to use to decorate the school. Soon we will be very festive-looking with angels, snowmen, Christmas trees and Christmas sacks!

Christmas Tree Thanks and Tree Decorating Assembly

We are extremely grateful to Mr Coleman for donating us the lovely Christmas tree that has now been placed within the school hall. We hope that the children have been busy making Christmas tree decorations ready to bring in to school tomorrow, Friday, when 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 so that by the end of the assembly our bare Christmas tree will be transformed into a beautifully dressed tree!

School Christmas Fair & Early End to School Day

The school Christmas Fair, organised by the Friends of Alfriston School, will take place tomorrow, 9th December from 3pm – 5pm. As a result, 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. 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.

Christmas Lunch & Film/Games Afternoon

The school Christmas lunch takes place next Wednesday, 14th December. Children are able to bring in a festive hat, hair bands, etc, to wear for lunch that day. After lunch the children are able to watch a Christmas film or play quiet board games. Children in Sapphire and Emerald Classes are welcome to bring in a game from home but it must not be electronic or noisy as they will be playing it in class while others are watching the film in the same room. Please note that children are responsible for any games that they bring into school, so please don't send in precious games as we cannot guarantee bits won't get lost or damaged. Thank you.

Christmas Plays – General Information

Please can we remind you that any children attending the Christmas plays as a member of the audience should remain with their adult throughout and not approach the children taking part in the productions. On Thursday, when the KS1 children finish their play about 2pm, they will not go home with adults who were present at the show; they will return to class until the usual finish time of 3.15pm. The FoAS will be providing refreshments at the performances, but not during the show itself. These are for the audience only and should not be purchased and given to the school children. On Thursday there will be a performance of 'Prickly Hay' at 1.15pm, due to finish about 2pm, and then a performance of 'Scrooge' starting at 2.15pm. Refreshments will be available through this interval and a bell will be rung 2 minutes before the start of 'Scrooge'. At this point we would like anyone who doesn't have a ticket for 'Scrooge' to leave. Thank you for your help in these matters.

Pearl and Ruby Christmas Play

This year's nativity play, 'Prickly Hay', performed by Pearl and Ruby Classes, will take place on Wednesday 14th December at 9.30am – 1.15am and Thursday 15th December at 1.15pm – 2pm. A separate letter regarding this was sent out to parents last week with all the details including how to purchase 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.

Emerald Class Christmas Production

Emerald Class are also busy rehearsing for their version of 'Scrooge - A Ghost of a Chance' - which they will be performing on Thursday 15th December in the school hall at 2.15pm and again at 7pm. A separate letter was sent home last week with all the details and a reply slip for the purchase of tickets to come and watch the show.

INSET Day

Please be aware that we have set an INSET day for Monday 19th June. The school will be closed to children on this day.

Christmas Pantomime

Rainbow Theatre will be coming into school to perform their pantomime, Snow White, to the children on the afternoon of Friday 16th December. This is a highlight of our Christmas celebrations and something the children really enjoy. We are extremely grateful to the Friends of Alfriston School who have very kindly agreed to fund the costs of this performance to the children this year.

Class Christmas Parties

These will take place on the afternoon of Monday 19th December. Children are welcome to bring into school a change of clothes to wear for the party. The school will be providing healthy snacks for the children to have during the party so parents do not need to send in any food for the parties.

Last Day of Term Arrangements

Please can children take home all their belongings at the end of the day on Tuesday 20th as on the last day of term, Wednesday 21st December, children do not need to bring in their book bags to school. Please can children who have packed lunch bring their lunch to school, for this day only, in a plastic bag that can be thrown away at the end of lunch. This is to reduce the number of items that need to be taken to church. The school will then be going to St Andrews Church for a traditional carol service that starts at 2pm. Family members and friends are welcome to join us. It is assumed that **all children** will be collected from the church after the service. **Please complete the reply slip below if you wish your child/children to return to school for collection. Please note that this includes the minibus and taxi children too.**

Phonics and Spelling Information Evening

The information from this evening that took place on 15th November is now available on the school website, including the powerpoints that were shown and a glossary page, which was requested following feedback.

Netball Posts

We have been fortunate to win a competition that will see us receive a prize of new netball posts. Thanks to Mrs Roussac-Evans and Mrs Rosalind Hannan, our netball club coach, for putting us forward for this competition.

Spelling Workshop Reminder

The teachers will be running a workshop that will demonstrate how we are teaching spelling throughout the school and it would be lovely to have as many parents attend as possible to see what the children get up to in class! The session will be after school on Wednesday 11th January. Children are welcome to come along with their parents and will be able to show them practical activities that support their learning. If you would like to attend, please complete the reply slip below.

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

Christmas Wreath Making Workshop – thank you to everyone who came to the Christmas wreath-making event at the school this week. We raised £185!

Christmas Cards – our Christmas card fundraiser made £83. Again, a big thank you to everyone who took part. Please see the PTA tray in the school office if you would like to retrieve your child's original artwork.

Christmas Fair - finally, the school Christmas Fair is tomorrow from 3pm to 5pm at the school. There will be a mixture of free and fundraiser activities, including Xmas crafts, stalls, cookie decorating, adopt-a-teddy, jam jar tombola, Santa's grotto, a café and much more. We hope to see you there.

Yours sincerely,



Lindsey Hudson – Headteacher

Community Events

Alfriston Nativity Trail – On the 10th and 11th, 17th and 18th December between 12 noon and 5pm there will be a Nativity Trail in the village. In the Old Chapel Centre there will be a 'Bible Alive' exhibition, 'The Way to Bethlehem', where you can discover the real Christmas story through words and music and see costumes and items from the Holy Land. Admission is free and light refreshments will be available. Beyond the Chapel Centre there will be various Nativity scenes on display around the village. A leaflet with all the information can be obtained from the school lobby.

REPLY SLIP – Spelling Workshop – Wednesday 11th January

Please return the reply slip to the school office by Friday 6th January.

I will attend the spelling workshop on Wednesday 11th January.

Child/Children's Name(s).....

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

Print.....

REPLY SLIP – Carol Service Arrangements – Wednesday 21st December

To be returned to the school office by Monday 19th December

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 minibuss and taxi.

I would like my child/children to return to school for collection after the carol service on Wednesday 21st December.

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Child/children's names.....

Class(es).....

Signed.....

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