

16th March 2017

Issue: 138

Upcoming School Events

Friday 17 th March	Afternoon	Cross Country Tournament – Years 4-6
Tuesday 21 st March	Morning	Class Photos
Tuesday 21 st March	3.30pm – 4pm	Meeting re End of KS1 SATs
Tuesday 21 st March	4.30pm – 6.30pm	Full Governing Body Meeting
Wednesday 22 nd March	3.30pm – 4pm	Meeting re End of KS2 SATs
Thursday 23 rd March	8.45am – 10am	FoAS AGM in School Hall
Friday 31 st March	2pm	Easter Service at St Andrew's Church
Friday 31 st March	3.15pm	Easter Holiday Starts

Community Events

Thursday 6 th April	11am – 2pm	Easter Egg Hunt in Aid of Alfriston Pre-School
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Dear Parents/Carers,

Attendance

Our target is 96%.

Week Beginning	Attendances	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Lates
27 th February 2017	96.91%	2.09%	1.00%	0.80%

Great – that's the second week in a row that we have met our target!

Drusillas Trip

Please can the reply slips for this trip for Ruby Class be returned by tomorrow, Friday 17th March. A letter with all the details was sent home last week.

SATs Meetings

Next Tuesday, 21st March, at 3.30pm Miss Foster will be holding a meeting, in Ruby Class, for parents and children who are currently in Year 2 regarding the end of Key Stage 1 tests that the children will be taking in May. This meeting will be a useful information session for parents and provide the opportunity for you to ask any questions that you may have about the tests. Mrs Crystal will be holding a similar meeting regarding the end of Key Stage 2 tests for parents and children in Year 6 at on Wednesday 22nd March at 3.30pm, in Emerald Class.

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. 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.

‘Mr Broccoli’ Visit

On Tuesday ‘Mr Broccoli’ visited us at school. He gave each class a cookery demonstration and spoke to the children about Healthy Eating. He made a Chinese Noodle dish containing many vegetables and the children enjoyed tasting the dish after it was cooked. ‘Mr Broccoli’ has now provided us with his guide to cooking a quick stir fry:

Heat some oil in a pan before adding finely chopped spring onion, garlic and ginger. Stir. Then add Quorn pieces and stir again so that it soaks up all the flavour within the oil. Next add mushrooms which can be chopped quarterly or sliced as well as a little 5spice. Stir again. Now add sliced courgette and florets of broccoli. (‘Mr Broccoli’ normally blanches the broccoli first but it’s up to you as it can go straight in fresh). Soak some egg noodles in hot water for a few minutes until they are ‘springing’ before draining them. Add these to the pan and stir well to mix all the ingredients up. Finally add soya sauce and sweet chilli sauce. Serve and enjoy!

Swift Conservation Project Workshops

Over the past week some children have been taking part in after school workshops with Reverend Peter Blee, from Berwick Church, making swift nesting boxes as part of the Swift Conservation Project. Unfortunately there has been a dramatic decline in the numbers of swifts and, although the reasons are not fully understood, the loss of their traditional nesting sites is thought to have had a large impact. Swifts mate for life, usually returning each year to use the same building and the same nest location they have used in previous years. Most nesting sites are in buildings built before the 1950s, and many of these are private dwellings. Sadly, due to building improvements and changes to buildings, swifts have seen their traditional nesting sites disappear. The conservation project aims to provide swifts with more nesting sites that meet their traditional requirements and Berwick Church will be installing the swift nesting boxes in the church tower along with a calling device to attract the birds. As a school we will be continuing to work with Reverend Peter on this project. More details will follow in due course.

Science Day

To celebrate British Science Week, the children have all been taking part today in Science Day, which ends with an assembly that parents and carers are able to attend at 2.30pm. At the assembly the winners of the Science Day competition, organised by Mrs Ottaway, will be announced. The children have been taking part in science activities in their classes which included going on a Spring walk, learning to use compasses, researching about famous scientists and the work they did and investigating camouflage and natural selection.

Football Match

Mr Gratwick has organised another football match for the Alfriston School team. A separate letter was sent out to members of the team yesterday containing all the details about the fixture. Please ensure you return the reply slip to the school office by Monday, 20th March, if your child is able to take part.

Wildlife Garden

Mr Hughes, a volunteer helper to our school, will be tidying up the wildlife garden, with a small group of helpers, in the next couple of weeks. This will enable the children to use the garden after the Easter break. He would appreciate it if anyone has any insect friendly plants they could donate to the garden, such as cat mint and honeysuckle, but please not buddleia. He 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.

Violin Lessons

Mrs Cane-Hardy will be in school on Monday, 20th March, for the final violin lessons of this term. She will resume lessons on Monday 24th April.

School Funding Crisis

Following the letter sent out last week to parents advising about the funding crisis in schools, we hope that as many of you as possible are writing letters to your MPs to let them know that the Government's policy of cutting funding for schools is not very popular.

Charity Walk

Three of our pupils, Eva, Lucy & Nell, are walking half of The South Downs Way (that's 50 miles!) to raise money and awareness for The Brain Tumour Charity, a charity that has hugely supported their family over the past few years. They will be starting the walk next weekend and completing it over the following weekend and the first few days of the Easter holidays. If you would like to sponsor them, join them on any of the walk or would like further information please visit <http://www.justgiving.com/owner-email/pleasesponsor/cheethams-southdownsway> or contact their Mum, Bron, 07814 027955.

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

Race and Curry Night - thank you to everyone who came to our Race & Curry night last Friday. We were a small crowd, but it was an excellent night and we managed to raise £350 for the school, which is absolutely amazing! Thank you to everyone who supported this event.

AGM - our AGM will be held next Thursday, 23rd March, in the school hall after morning drop-off. We'll be serving breakfast muffins, tea and coffee. Please try to come if you can, we want to be as open and inclusive as possible. Come and learn about our fundraising events, our ethos, and what our money will be spent on. We look forward to seeing you there!

Film Night - is back on Friday 24th March in the school hall, starting at 6pm. The film this year is "Sing" (which comes out on DVD the day before). 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

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.

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.....
