

15th December 2016

Issue: 128



Upcoming School Events

Thursday 15 th December	7pm
Friday 16 th December	Afternoon
Monday 19 th December	9am – 9.30am

Monday 19 th December	Afternoon
Wednesday 21 st December	2pm
Wednesday 21 st December	3.15pm
Tuesday 3 rd January	8.45am
Wednesday 11 th January	3.30pm – 4.30pm

Emerald Class Christmas Production
Rainbow Theatre Pantomime
Home Learning Presentations Open Session to Parents, Sapphire Class
Class Christmas Parties
Christmas Carol Service
End of Term
Children Return to School
Phonics & Spelling Workshop

Community Events

Saturday 17 th December	11am – 3.30pm
17 th & 18 th December	12 noon – 5pm
Thursday 22 nd December	10am – 12 noon & 1pm – 3pm

Christmas Decorations Making, Clergy House, Alfriston
Alfriston Nativity Trail
Reindeer Workshop, Herstmonceux Castle Forest School

Dear Parents/Carers,

Attendance

Our target is 96%.

Week Beginning	Attendances	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Lates
5 th December 2016	96.00%	3.70%	0.30%	0.40%

School Gate Update

The new school perimeter fence and entrance gates were finished late yesterday. This means that the main gate will now always be locked, with access via an entry system. Please press the button and wait for someone to speak to you via the intercom, then you will be able to push open the gate. To exit, you will need to press the large green button located on the wooden fence on the left hand side towards the top of the path. 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 Vaccinations

Following the NHS flu immunisation parents' meeting on Monday, the immunisations have taken place today for Years 1, 2 and 3, where parental consent was given.

Clubs

We will be having a variety of clubs on offer next term. Please see the separate letter which will be sent home in the next couple of days.

Home Learning Presentations

Sapphire Class are holding an open session for parents on Monday, from 9am – 9.30am, to come along to the classroom and see the children's home learning projects from this term and ask the children about the work they have done for them.

School Christmas Fair

The school Christmas Fair, organised by the Friends of Alfriston School, took place last Friday afternoon. It was lovely to see many of you there supporting the Friends and their fundraising efforts which benefit the children. The amount of money raised has just been announced as £650, which is truly fantastic and I would like to thank the FoAS for organising the fair and everyone who attended.

Christmas Lunch & Film/Games Afternoon

The school Christmas lunch took place yesterday. Our thanks go to Alison and Sam, our school cook and assistant, who cooked a wonderful meal which the whole school enjoyed sitting down together to share. The children then had a fun afternoon watching Christmas films and playing board games. Many thanks also go to those governors who came along and helped to serve Christmas lunch and support the children in the classes during the afternoon.

Christmas Plays Feedback

Yesterday morning and this afternoon we have been entertained wonderfully by the younger children in their Christmas production of 'Prickly Hay' and Emerald Class with 'Scrooge – A Ghost of a Chance'. There is still one more performance of 'Scrooge' to go which takes place this evening at 7pm (performers to arrive at school at 6.30pm, please). The children looked amazing in their Nativity costumes with enthusiastic singing and dancing for 'Prickly Hay' and it was stunning to see the confidence in the older children from Emerald Class acting and singing solos! Many thanks go to everyone who has come along to watch the performances, to parents for their assistance in sorting costumes and learning lines as well as to all the staff in Pearl, Ruby and Emerald Classes for all their hard work in organising and directing the productions. Well done to all the children who took part in the shows – I'm very proud of you all!

Christmas Pantomime

We are really looking forward to Rainbow Theatre coming into school to perform their pantomime, Snow White, to the children tomorrow afternoon. 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 the performance to the children this year.

Class Christmas Parties

These will take place on the Monday afternoon. 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.

Violin Lessons

Mrs Cane Hardy will be in school on Monday morning to practice the music that the children will be performing in the church at the Carol Service on Wednesday. Please ensure that if your child has violin lessons at school that they bring in their violin on Monday morning.

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 minibuss and taxi children too.**

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

100 Club - congratulations to John Hughes who won this month's draw.

Christmas Fair - thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas Fair last week. We raised £650 for the school, which is fantastic! A great big thank you to all our volunteers, and everyone who came and spent money there!

Flapjack Friday - please note that this week is the last Flapjack Friday before Christmas. Finally, have a great Xmas holiday everyone!

This is the final newsletter of this term, so, on behalf of all the staff at our school, I would like to wish you a wonderful Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Yours sincerely,



Lindsey Hudson – Headteacher

Community Events

Christmas Decorations Making – Alfriston Clergy House are holding a Christmas decorations making session on Saturday 17th December from 11am – 3.30pm. You are invited to the parlour in the house to create traditional Christmas decorations inspired by nature. There will be opportunities to turn an orange into a pretty scented pomander, add sparkle to pine cones and decorate festive biscuits. This is a free event but the usual admission prices apply to enter the Clergy House. For further details phone 01323 871961 or visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/alfriston-clergy-house

Alfriston Nativity Trail – On the 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.

Reindeer Workshop – Herstmonceux Castle Forest School are holding a Reindeer Workshop on Thursday 22nd December between 10am and 12 noon and from 1pm – 3pm where children have the opportunity to go along and make a wooden reindeer in the woods. The cost is £10 per person, with accompanying adults free. This event is suitable for children aged 6 years and older. For further details and to book, visit their website www.herstmonceuxcastleforestschoo.com or email hcfs@mail.com

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 minibus 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.....