



Friends of Alfriston School

friendsofalfristonschool@gmail.com

12th October 2017

Dear All,

Our part of the newsletter was so huge this week that we have been given our own newsletter! So, we thought we would take the opportunity to introduce ourselves.

We are the 'Friends of Alfriston School' – a small group of parents, friends and staff who work hard to organise events, activities and projects to fund raise money to further enhance our children's time at school. This term we are pleased to announce that Jenny Douthwaite is taking over as co-chair of the FoAS from Bonamy McDonald, meaning that Jenny and Nina Spencer are joint chairs, Yvonne Geddes is secretary and Eleanor Farror is treasurer. And by the very nature of any PTFA you are all members of the FoAS.

Across the academic year we run a range of activities and fun events such as the Christmas Fair, the Summer Fair, autumn disco, film night, Flapjack Friday for the children as well as bingo/quiz nights, race nights, Wreath Making workshops and the 100 Club for the parents and carers. In addition we participate in local events such as Alfriston's 'Dickensian Day', Sussex Day, local car boot sales, May Day and the August Festival Bank Holiday weekend. We also organise sponsored walks, runs, cycles and scoots. In addition we initiate opportunities to utilise the children's art skills by organising fund raising projects such as the school tea-towel, canvas bag or Christmas card.

Over the course of each academic year we hope to raise approximately £7000. We then plough this money back into school by funding such things as the children's swimming lessons, the Christmas pantomime, fruit snacks for the children in Key Stage 2 as well as helping to fund bigger projects such as purchasing new sports equipment or transforming the early years outdoor area and buying them some new play equipment... and we would love to raise more and do more.

We have monthly meetings where we get together to get organised. We work hard, have a fun time and hopefully do some fun things. Below is a rundown of some of the exciting things coming up soon and we will need some help – whether it's just coming along, whether it's buying a ticket, spending some money or whether it's jumping in feet first and helping to plan something, do something, run something, tidy up after something...? We would love you to take part...

In order here is the list of what's coming up...

- Wednesday 18th October - Bags2School collection week... please bring in any unwanted, clean, donations of good quality clothes or shoes either in the bag provided or a bin bag.
- Friday 20th October - 'Pyjama & Onesie Day'. For a donation of £1 your child can come to school wearing their pyjamas and/or a onesie! But please ensure they wear either trainers or shoes and NOT their slippers...

- Friday 20th October - Our next 100 Club draw. If you still don't quite get the 100 Club it's basically like a 50/50 raffle. We sell up to 100 numbers for £12 each and each month a number is drawn and the winner wins half of that month's kitty with the other half going to the school. If we could sell all 100 numbers then we would have a monthly prize of £50 and would make £600 for the school...

Although we have sold more numbers this year than ever before we still do have the following numbers available...30, 34, 35, 37, 39, 41, 45, 48, 50, 51, 52, 54, 57, 60, 61, 62, 63, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 74, 82, 85, 86, 87, 88, 90, 91, 92, 93 and 97. If you would like to buy one of these numbers then please fill in the attached form and return it to the office with £11 for each number that you buy (we have already had our first draw and now only have 11 months left). At the moment we have 64 numbers sold which gives a monthly prize fund of £32. This means that we have also raised £384 for the school. Our dream would be to sell all 100 numbers so please take part!

- Before the October holiday all of the children will be drawing a miniature self-portrait to be included on an Alfriston School canvas shopping bag. The bag will be produced by Stuart Morris textiles and a sample bag is available to view at the school office. The bag will be made of excellent quality cream canvas and all the children's drawings of their faces will be printed in red ink. The bags will cost £7 each (or £13 for 2, £18 for 3) and will only be available to order in advance. I just know that they will make wonderful Christmas presents! The order form is below and the deadline for any orders is Friday 20th October.

- Friday 3rd November - Halloween Disco from 6pm – 7.30pm in the school hall and tickets are now on sale! Either pop into the school office or fill in the attached form and send your payment in to school. Tickets are £3 per child in advance or they will be available on the night for £3.50. We would love the children to dress up but it is not compulsory. There will be drinks and snacks available during the evening for the children to buy and there will also be a 'snack bar' for any adults staying. There will also be a variety of Halloween themed novelty items on sale. Your child can bring a named purse with small change (i.e some 10p/20p/50ps but no notes please) – we recommend a couple of pounds for snacks/drinks and the same again for the novelty items...(If you would be available to help on the evening perhaps with decorating the hall, manning a stall or tidying up afterwards then please let us know!)

- Monday 4th December, 7pm - We are delighted to announce that we will be holding our rather wonderful and hugely successful Christmas Wreath Making evening again this year. Ex-Alfriston mum/flowerist Tara Begley (Tara owns 'Flowers by Tara Jane' in Seaford) will provide her expertise and all the materials that are required for everyone to make their own fabulous wreath. Tickets are only £20 and I cannot recommend this wonderful evening strongly enough. We suggest you bring your own secateurs and gardening gloves and any snacks and/or drinks you might like to enjoy. Tickets are limited and are available NOW from the school office or please fill in the attached form and return - with payment - to the office.

- Friday 1st December – Alfriston village Christmas Fair – we understand the Christmas tree lights will be turned on outside the village shop, and there will be carol singing in the village square. All details still to be finalised, but please pop this date in your diaries!

- Friday 8th December – School Christmas Fair - We will soon be organising the Christmas Fair and we'll be getting in touch very soon with requests for bits and bobs for raffle prizes etc. But as of NOW we are collecting Teddies for the Teddy Bear Tombola! Please send in any unwanted teddy bears to the school ASAP!

We know it's a long way off but we wanted to mention that the 'Friends of Alfriston School' will be organising and running next year's Alfriston August Bank Holiday Festival weekend on the Tye. This is a huge 3 day event which could potentially make many thousands of pounds for the school. Plans are already in their early stages and we will soon be having monthly meetings. We will need lots and lots of help with this. Whether you think you can help with the planning, advertising, preparation or helping on one of the days then please, please let us know!

Finally we have a new email address which is friendsofalfristonschool@gmail.com if you need to get in touch and although our next scheduled meeting is Friday 3rd November we are also squeezing in an extra one next Friday 20th October as we have a lot going on! We really, really hope you can join us....

In the meantime one of the committee members is always in the playground selling goodies at Flapjack Friday on a Friday afternoon. If you'd like to say 'hi' or have any questions, comments or queries then please find us!

Love Eleanor and the FoAS Committee

REPLY SLIP - to be returned to the school office

Child's name.....

Class.....

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

Print Name.....

Disco Tickets - I would liketickets for the Halloween Disco on Friday 3rd November from 6pm - 7.30pm @ £3 per ticket. I enclose £.....

Christmas Wreath Making Evening - I would like tickets for the Christmas Wreath Making evening on Monday 4th December starting at 7pm @ £20 per ticket. I enclose £.....

Canvas Bags – 1 canvas bag costs £7
2 canvas bags costs £13
3 canvas bags costs £18 and any extra bags will cost a further £6 each.

I would like canvas bags. I enclose £.....

100 Club - I would like to buy number/s (please circle) 30, 34, 35, 37, 39, 41, 45, 48, 50, 51, 52, 54, 57, 60, 61, 62, 63, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 74, 82, 85, 86, 87, 88, 90, 91, 92, 93, 97

Each number chosen costs £11. I enclose £.....

Cheques to be made payable to the 'Friends of Alfriston School' please.