

office@alfriston.e-sussex.sch.ukwww.alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk17th November 2016

Issue: 124

Upcoming School Events

14 th – 18 th November	All Week	Friendship Week
Friday 18 th November	Afternoon	Cross Country Tournament

Community Events

Saturday 19 th November	Afternoon/Evening	Alfriston Village Dickensian Event
Friday 25 th November	7.30pm	'The Cathedral of the Stars' Astronomy Event, St Andrew's Church, Alfriston
Thursday 1 st December	9am – 3pm	Brighton College Taster Day
Sunday 11 th December	11.30am & 1.30pm	'Babushka' at Deans Place Hotel

Dear Parents/Carers,

Attendance

Week Beginning	Attendances	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Lates
7 th November 2016	96.87%	2.02%	1.11%	4.95%

Friendship Week

This week has been Friendship Week. All the children have been doing a variety of work based around this theme over the course of the week and each class will be presenting their work in celebration assembly tomorrow, Friday 18th, at 9am. All family and friends are welcome as usual.

ESCC Survey

This survey outlines the Authority's proposed admissions arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools from September 2018. You will also find the proposed admission criteria for Priory School, Lewes and Hailsham Community College which mirror the local authority's proposal. ESCC are proposing a minor change to the definition of 'looked after children' in the admissions criteria as well as a change in the area for Eastbourne primary schools. The local authority would like your views on these aspects of the proposals although all comments are welcomed on any aspect of the arrangements. To take part in the survey please use the following link:

<https://consultation.eastsussex.gov.uk/economy-transport-environment/consultation-on-admission-arrangements-2018-19/>

Consultation ends on Sunday 15 January 2017.

Remembrance Events

Some of our pupils joined the village community last Sunday for the Remembrance Day parade and service at St Andrew's Church. They laid a wreath on behalf of the school; we were very proud of them. Emerald Class joined the Royal British Legion at the Market Cross on Friday for the Armistice event in the village. We feel honoured that the local community invite us to join them in these very important events.

Absence

A reminder: when any child suffers from sickness and/or diarrhoea, they must be kept off school for 48 hours following the final episode. This is a County directive and is to try and reduce the spread of germs. For absences of a day or more please can a letter/email note explaining the absence be sent to the school office upon the child's return to school.

School Open Day

We held our open day yesterday, for prospective parents for September 2017 Reception Class intake. All of our visitors commented on how wonderful the Years 5 and 6 students were who gave them a tour of the school. Visitors said how the children were extremely positive about the school, informative, friendly and welcoming and we are very proud of them all.

Bad Weather Procedure

In the event of snow or flooding, the school will take a decision as early as possible about whether to open or not. Please be assured that the decision to close the school is never taken lightly, but is based on the health and safety of children, parents and staff travelling to and from the school, the ability to operate the school safely during the day and the conditions in Alfriston itself. If a decision is made to close the school, this is put on:

- the school website, <http://www.alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk>
- the list of closed schools on the East Sussex website www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/schoolclosures
- local radio, Heart FM on 102.4-103.5FM and at <http://www.heart.co.uk/sussex>
- an Eschools email or text is sent out
- a notice on the school gate/door (only possible if a member of staff can get to the school).

If the decision is made to open the school, children should come to school equipped to play in the snow – good coats, wellies, hats, gloves and scarves. If the school is open, but your particular circumstances make it unsafe to travel to school, please let us know. In this case absence is authorised. Please make sure the school has up to date contact details including mobile phone numbers and if possible an alternative local contact. Hopefully we will not have to close the school at short notice.

Residential Trip Reminder

The November payment of £50 for the residential trip is now due. Please can this be handed in to the school office by tomorrow, along with your payment card.

School Christmas Card Competition - Reminder

I am looking for some help again this year with our school Christmas card. If your child would like to design a card, it needs to be A4 or A5 size and a 'flat' design that can be photocopied in school; they also need to remember to put their name on the back. All designs will be displayed in school and the chosen design will be used to produce this year's card. We have extended the deadline for entries and they should now be handed in to the office by Wednesday 30th November, with the winning design being announced in assembly on Friday 2nd December.

School Christmas Lunch - Reminder

We will be having our school Christmas lunch on Wednesday 14th 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 chocolate and vanilla Christmas ice-cream log 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 Wednesday 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 Friday 25th November. 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.

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

Dickensian Event – this Saturday is Dickensian. We will be running the wine-or-water stall and a café in St Andrew's Church. Please come along and support us between 2.30pm and 6pm, and if you would like to bake a cake, even better! You can hand over cakes to Yvonne at Flapjack Friday this week, or bring them to the church on Saturday morning.

Christmas Wreath Making – the date of the wreath making course has changed to Tuesday 6th December, in the school hall (apologies for the change in date!). Please contact the school office if you would like to go, the cost is £20 each. Thank you.

Jam Jars - please note we are also collecting empty jam jars (no lids necessary) for the school Xmas fair. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,



Lindsey Hudson – Headteacher

Community Events

Astronomy – Local astronomer, Jane Green, is holding an astronomy presentation, 'The Cathedral of the Stars', in St Andrew's Church, Alfriston, on Friday 25th November at 7.30pm. This is a free event but donations to the Church Restoration Fund will be much appreciated.

Taster Day – Brighton College is holding its 11+ taster day on Thursday 1st December between 9am and 3pm. Seven year scholarships are available in various categories – academic, all-rounder (music, art, dance, drama, sport) and chess. There are also opportunities for further scholarships at 13+. To book a place on this taster day, please ring the College on 01273 704294 or email rspencer@brightoncollege.net

Children's Festive Fun – On Sunday 11th December Dawn Casey, author of the festive book 'Babushka' – the traditional Russian tale for Christmas – will be at Dean's Place Hotel, Alfriston, bringing the story to life with an interactive puppet show. After the show you can join in and make a shining window pane star or a tree decoration and decorate a cupcake and cookie at the craft tables. This event is ideal for children aged 4 – 10 years. The cost is £10 per child and adults go free. The show and crafts, which last approximately an hour, will take place at 11.30am and again at 1.30pm. To purchase tickets please ring Much Ado Books on 01323 870248.

REPLY SLIP – Christmas Lunch – Wednesday 14th December 2016

Please return to the school office by Friday 25th November.

Either

My child/children.....usually have a packed lunch but would like the school Christmas lunch on Wednesday 14th December.

Roast turkey

☐

or

Quorn roast

☐

I enclose £2.10 per meal

☐

Or

My child/children.....usually have a school lunch on Wednesday and would like to choose the following for their school Christmas lunch on Wednesday 14th December. I will be invoiced on my termly bill so no payment is enclosed now.

Roast Turkey

☐

or

Quorn roast

☐

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

Print Name.....