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29th June 2017

Issue: 150

Upcoming School Events

Friday 30 th June	9am	Update on the Swift Conservation Project
Friday 30 th June	2.45pm	Brass Instrument Concert to Classes & Parents
Monday 3 rd July	Afternoon	Pearl Class Swimming
Tuesday 4 th July	All Day	Gildredge House Transition Day
Tuesday 4 th July	3.15pm	Netball New Player Taster Session
Wednesday 5 th July	Afternoon	Pearl Class Swimming
Thursday 6 th July	Evening	SHCC Welcome Evening For Parents
Friday 7 th July	Afternoon	Pearl Class Swimming
Mon 10 th – Fri 14 th July	All Week	SHCC Transition Week
Monday 10 th July		End of Year Reports to Parents
Thursday 13 th July	3.30pm	Parents Consultations re End of Year Reports

Dear Parents/Carers,

Attendance

Our target is 96%.

Week Beginning	Attendances	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Lates
19 th June 2017	92.98%	3.95%	3.06%	1.15%

Swift Conservation Project

Tomorrow, Reverend Peter Blee, from Berwick Church, will be joining us for celebration assembly at 9am, to update us on the swift conservation project. Parents, carers and friends are welcome to attend as usual.

Brass Concert

At 2.45pm tomorrow, Friday, Christina Kearley from the East Sussex Music Service, who teaches brass instruments here at Alfriston School, will be leading a brass concert by our children to the rest of the school and parents to celebrate the work the children have achieved in their brass lessons this year. Parents, carers and friends are welcome to attend.

School Games Day

Unfortunately the weather put paid to our School Games Day taking place yesterday, however today we have managed to adapt the usual School Games Day so that the carousel events took place on the playground and in the school hall, before the weather and ground conditions improved enough to enable us to hold the track events. The children were excellent with their support for their team members, encouraging each other and there were some really determined performances throughout the morning. The overall winning house team, was Cuckmere. We are grateful to the FoAS for the refreshments they organised for the visitors throughout the morning, to parents, friends and family for coming along and supporting the children and to our staff and volunteers for helping to run the event.

Summer Fair

Thankfully the weather was kind to us and the summer fair has been able to take place this afternoon. At the moment we are unaware of how much money has been raised by today's events. We will let you know the amount next week. We are grateful to the FoAS for organising the fair alongside Emerald Class, to the gymnastics and dance clubs for performing and to all our visitors for coming along to support the event.

Cooking Workshop

Last Thursday, one of our parents' Ross Pavey, who is a chef, came into school and gave a cooking workshop to each of the classes. They were shown how to make houmous and then they spread this on rice cakes, before decorating them with a variety of fruit and vegetables to resemble themselves. They all enjoyed the tasting session afterwards! We are very grateful to Mr Pavey for spending the morning with us and sharing some of his cooking and food knowledge with the children.

Sussex Wildlife Rescue Visit

On Monday we were visited by the East Sussex Wildlife Rescue and Ambulance Service. The children in Sapphire and Emerald Classes were given a talk by the Service's founder, Trevor Weeks, before visiting the Service's trailer. He told the children all about the wild animals he rescues and how he achieves this. We are very grateful to a relative of our school community for the donation that enabled this visit to happen.

Pearl Class Swimming

As Pearl Class missed their swimming session last week due to the extreme weather and this week's due to sports day and the summer fair, we have managed to re-arrange their sessions for Monday, Wednesday and Friday next week. Parents have been sent a separate letter with the details.

Netball Team

The Alfriston All Stars Netball Team is holding a new player taster session on Tuesday 4th July after school. It will be a fun hour for anyone who is currently in Years 3 - 5 to go along and see if they would be interested in joining the team as they need new players (girls and boys) for September.

Volunteers Tea

On Wednesday 19th July, we are holding an afternoon tea for volunteers and community members who have helped and supported at school this year. We would be very grateful if any parents/carers would like to make a cake for us to serve at the tea as a thank you for the assistance these people have provided to our children. If you are able to make a cake, please can you let the school office know by Wednesday 12th July. Thank you.

Leaving

Brian, our caretaker, is retiring at the end of this school year having worked at the school for many years. He will be greatly missed by everyone; his DIY and maintenance skills are amazing and he has been key in keeping the pool up and running. If you would like to contribute towards Brian's leaving gift, this can be handed in to the school office. Please can any contributions be made by Thursday 6th July.

Summer Reading Challenge

This year The Reading Agency Summer Reading Challenge theme is Animal Agents. It will begin in libraries on Saturday 15th July and end on Saturday 9th September. Research shows that reading for pleasure is vital for children's life chances, and that children who use libraries are twice as likely to be above average readers. The Summer Reading Challenge builds confidence and independent reading, while preventing the dip in children's literacy levels during the long break from school. It encourages them to develop the habit of reading for pleasure, one of the aims of the National Curriculum for English.

The Challenge is to read six books during the summer that have been borrowed from the library and are appropriate for each child's reading ability. The Challenge is aimed at children in the four to eleven age group. If your child is not reading on his/ her own yet they can still take part by sharing their books with you or by using audio books. To take part in this national scheme, children need to have their own library card. It is easy and free to become a member of the library. Take something with your name, address and signature on it (a driving licence is ideal as it has all of these) to the library and you can join the whole family. Children signing up for the Challenge get an animal Agents sticker. Children will be able to collect a prize for each of the six books they have read. When they finish the Challenge they will get a certificate which they can receive in school or at the library. You can find out more about the challenge at: <http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/> or by asking in the library or visiting www.eastsussex.gov.uk/libraries

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

School Games Day and Summer Fair: It's been a very busy day for us today with School Games Day and the summer fair. A massive thank you to everyone who came along and supported us in some way. We look forward to announcing how much money we have raised next week.

Yours sincerely,



Lindsey Hudson – Headteacher

Community Events

Young Music Makers – East Sussex Music holds fun music sessions for children in Years 1 and 2 who enjoy music on a Saturday morning at the area music centre at Ratton School, Eastbourne. The sessions last for 30 minutes and look at movement, rhythm and song. Thirty sessions take place throughout the year, with the first two being free. If you are interested in signing up for September, please see the website for details www.eastsussex.gov.uk/music. Details can also be obtained by ringing 01273 336770.