



Alfriston School



Fair, friendly, fulfilling and fun!

Newsletter - 8th November 2019

Curriculum Corner

Each newsletter we will be taking a peak into a curriculum area. This time, English.

At Alfriston School, English is a fundamental part of the curriculum and children have an English lesson every day. Reading with understanding is important and we offer a wide range of reading materials and experiences to enrich children's learning. We share high quality texts, often linked to our Learning Journey topics, and encourage children to choose books that they will enjoy. We use a range of activities to immerse children in the language and content of these rich texts. We also encourage children to build their understanding of the ways that writers create effects with the language that they choose and the ways that texts are organised and presented, which enables them to develop their own writing skills. Children are given a wide variety of opportunities to write across the curriculum, practising the skills that they have learned in the dedicated English lessons, and they also have opportunities to write for enjoyment, choosing their own subject-matter. We have taken advantage of events such as World Book Day and our Book Week to share a love of reading and to encourage children to talk about the books that they enjoy.

In Pearl and Ruby Classes, children use fun activities to learn spellings, using the Letters and Sounds phonics programme and the National Curriculum common exception words. In Key Stage 2, children investigate spelling patterns and rules in order to further develop their spelling knowledge. They also have personal Spelling Logs that they use to practise their personal spelling errors. It is also important that they can express themselves clearly and we offer activities and opportunities for children to speak to a range of audiences in order to build their skills and confidence.

Remembrance Sunday

St Andrew's Church are holding a Remembrance Service on Sunday 10th November. Everyone is welcome to attend. The service will commemorate all those who have sacrificed themselves to secure and protect our freedom. On Monday, Year 4 will represent the school by meeting the Royal British Legion at the Market Cross to commemorate Armistice Day.

Staffing News

Following a rigorous selection process we are delighted to inform you that we have appointed Mrs Eleanor Farror as the Sapphire Class teacher from January. Mrs Farror has many years experience as an Advanced Skills Teacher and we are looking forward to her joining us.

Equalities and Diversity Fortnight

We are organising a 2 week Equalities and Diversity awareness event which will take place at the end of January. This is to help us to recognise that everyone is different and special owing to varying needs and cultures, as stated in our [Equality Information & Objectives](#).

We would like to invite you to help plan this fortnight and suggest ideas. We are holding a meeting, open to everyone, on Tuesday 12th November at 8.45am. If you are unable to attend but would still like to make any suggestions or have any ideas, please contact the school office.

Odd Socks Day

On Tuesday we are recognising Anti-Bullying/Friendship Week by inviting the children to come to school wearing odd socks.



Friends of Alfriston



- 100 Club** - The winner of October's draw is Tanya Fitzgerald with number 44.
- Bags 2 School** - Collection bags will be sent home on Monday.
- Wreath Making** - This is being held on 4th December at 7pm. Tickets are £20 and available from the Friends.
- Hamper Donations** - Next week we are collecting Christmas biscuits and chocolates.

What's coming up next week

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| Monday 11th November | Armistice Day |
| Monday 11th – Friday 15th November | Anti-Bullying/Friendship Week 'Change Starts With Us' |
| Tuesday 12th November | Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying/Friendship Week |
| Tuesday 12th November | House Talent Competition (13:15 to 15:15) |
| | Equalities and Diversity Fortnight Planning Meeting (8:45am) |
| Wednesday 13th November | Forest School - Emerald Class |
| Friday 15th November | Anti-Bullying/Friendship Week message from each class in Celebration Assembly |
| | Forest School - Sapphire Class |

This Week's Class News

Pearl Class

In Pearl class this week, they have been learning about Autumn! They read the book 'Leaf Man' and made their own leaf man using real leaves. They have looked closely at autumn leaves and compared them, saying what is similar and what is different. They read the story, 'Ferdie and the Falling Leaves' and collected lots of exciting words to describe leaves. They then wrote their own exciting describing words on paper autumn leaves! They even pretended to be leaves in their dance lesson, moving with slow and winding movements to reflect leaves falling from a tree. In maths, the children have been comparing amounts using the terms more, fewer and equal/the same. They have also been practising partitioning 5 using the Numicon. Another very busy and exciting week!

Ruby Class

In Ruby Class this week, the children have started their new 'Fire' topic by exploring the story of Guy Fawkes. The children created freeze frames for each part of the story to help them retell it. They then created a 'wanted' poster using lots of wonderful adjectives. In art, the children created a firework picture using wax crayons and black paint, which they are looking forward to finishing next week. During dance, the children explored some spooky moves and put them together to make a short sequence. In history, the children began finding out about the Great Fire of London by asking lots of interesting questions.

Sapphire

Sapphire Class have had a great first week back after the half term break. They have started to look at their new Learning Journey topic: Conflict: Anglo Saxons, Vikings and Celts. They are looking forward to finding out about these warriors, where they came from and why they chose to invade. In English, they started to read a book linked to the topic and are using it to investigate effective word choices. In Maths, they solved some one- and two-step problems that use addition and are now looking at different methods for solving subtraction calculations. In Science, they are finding out about their skeletons: the children have been challenged to find the names of some of the main bones in the body.

Emerald Class

Emerald Class have been revisiting multiplication strategies this week and have used these to find factors of numbers. In English, the children have been exploring how we can use language choices to change the formality of writing and used them in an information text about Forest School. In science, the class conducted investigations into dissolving solids in different kinds of water. The class have been working in groups to plan a pitch for apps that they would like to develop.

Dates for your Diary

Any new dates that have been added are in bold

18th November	Orca Whale Workshop for all classes
21st November	Open morning for prospective parents (9.30 to 11:00)
21st November	Year 5/6 football match against Chyngton
21st November	Open evening for prospective parents (18:30 to 19:30)
2nd December	Christmas decoration day
4th December	Year 5/6 cross country trials at Seaford Head
4th December	Wreath Making organised by the FoAS (7pm)
6th December	Christmas tree decorating assembly
6th December	Christmas Fair organised by the FoAS
10th December	Pearl & Ruby Nativity performance (9.30am - 10.30am)
11th December	Pearl & Ruby Nativity performance (1.45pm - 2.45pm)
18th December	Class parties (PM)
19th December	Christmas lunch
19th December	Christmas film afternoon
20th December	Christmas Carol Service (14:00 to 15:00) - School Hall
20th December	Last day of term
23rd Dec – 3rd Jan	Christmas holiday
6th January 2020	Children return to school