

2<sup>nd</sup> November 2017

Issue: 161

## Upcoming School Events

Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	8.45am	FoAS Meeting
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	6pm – 7.30pm	FoAS Halloween Disco
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	1.30pm	House Talent show
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	11am onwards	Emerald Class Trip
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	9am – 10am	Parent Forum
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	9am – 10.30am	Open Morning for Prospective Parents
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	6.30pm – 7.30pm	Open Evening for Prospective Parents

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Attendance

As per our attendance policy, we will be publishing attendance and punctuality figures each week in the newsletter now for each class as well as for the whole school. Each class will use a traffic light system for attendance where green is for 100% - 98%, yellow for 98% - 96% and red for less than 96%.

Our whole school target is 96%. Figures for the whole school:

Week Beginning	Attendances	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Lates
16 <sup>th</sup> October 2017	96.25%	1.92%	1.83%	0.57%

Week Beginning	Class	Attendance	Late	Traffic Light
16 <sup>th</sup> October 2017	Pearl	96.88%	0.63%	
	Ruby	99.33%	0.00%	
	Sapphire	93.00%	0.33%	
	Emerald	96.07%	1.07%	

## Eschools

We have decided to try an online appointment booking system for the next parent consultation session in term 4 which will be done via Eschools. Over the next few days all parents will be receiving a login for Eschools. If you haven't received a login by the end of next week, please let the office know.

## Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling

As you will be aware, the National Curriculum 2014 has high expectations for children's achievement, including in the area of Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling.

Following some interest during our Parent Consultation Evening, we are offering a couple of after-school sessions to clarify the use of some aspects of the curriculum, particularly in the areas of Grammar and Punctuation. These would be of particular use to parents of children in Key Stage 2 so that you can support your child's learning, although all parents are, of course, welcome to come along.

If you would be interested, please send back the reply slip below by tomorrow, to let us know so that we can arrange dates and organise the sessions.

## **Parent Forum**

All parents are welcome to attend our next parent forum which will take place on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November from 9am – 10am in the school hall. A letter with all the details was sent home earlier this week and we would appreciate the reply slip to be returned to us by 9am on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November to advise us if you would like to attend, or if you are unable to attend but have a question you would like to ask regarding this forum's topic of Equality Information and Objectives Review.

## **Clubs**

A letter regarding this term's clubs was sent home at the start of this week. Most clubs still have spaces so if your child/children would like to join any of the clubs please return the relevant reply slip or book directly with the club provider. Please see the letter for full details.

## **Forest School Trips**

We are pleased to be able to offer the whole school the opportunity to have a day at forest school along with the Sussex Wildlife Trust and the Seven Sisters Country Park. Each class will attend a forest session over the coming weeks. Please refer to the letter which was sent out earlier this week for all the details, and please return the permission slip and voluntary contribution by Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November.

## **Remembrance Events**

The school will be taking part in a variety of events and activities to commemorate Remembrance Day. A letter was sent home last week with all the details. Please return the reply slip to the office by Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November.

## **House Talent Show**

On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November we will be holding the latest house completion; a house talent show. There will be a variety of acts performing including singing, dancing and magic. Parents, carers and friends are welcome to come along and watch the show which will be in the school hall starting at 1.30pm.

## **School Open Day**

We are holding our open day on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November aimed at prospective parents for September 2018 Reception Class intake. The school will be open for tours between 9am and 10.30am and then again from 6.30pm – 7.30pm. I will be giving a talk to prospective parents in the hall at 9.45am and repeat it again at 7pm.

## **Scooters and Bikes**

If your child brings a scooter or bike to school, please can they be parked around the side of the school hall, by the playground sheds, and not left by the main entrance to the school.

## **Christmas Productions**

This year we will be taking part in the East Sussex Music Service's 'Big Sing' at Christmas with our Years 5 and 6 children giving them the opportunity to take part in a large concert with other schools and orchestras on the evening of Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December. Further details will follow shortly. Pearl and Ruby Classes will be performing 'Lights, Camel, Action! It's Strictly the Nativity' at 9.15am on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December and again at 2pm on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December.

## **Christmas Card Competitions**

Mrs Hudson is 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. All cards should be handed in to the office by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November, with the winning design being announced in assembly on 24<sup>th</sup> November. Deans Place Hotel has asked the children to design their Christmas card this year as well.

They are having a special Christmas Light Switch On event on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November from 6pm (see community notices at the end of the newsletter for details) where they will announce the winner of the Christmas card competition. If you would like your card design to be considered for both the school and the Deans Place competition, please ensure that designs are handed to the school office by Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November.

## News From The Friends of Alfriston School (FoAS)

Email [friendsofalfristonschool@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofalfristonschool@gmail.com)

Thank you all for joining in with our **Pyjama & Onesie Day**! We took £92 and felt cosy, warm and comfortable all day!

The October **100 Club** draw was won by Susan Masini who was most delighted then, very generously, donated her winnings straight back to the school! Wow! Our next draw will be Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November and more people playing has meant that our prize pot has increased once again and it now stands at £35.50!

The Alfriston School **canvas shopping bag** has been completed and looks amazing! The bags will be with us by the end of term. Thank you for your support with this little project – we have orders for 100 bags and really think you'll be delighted with the end product.

Our **Halloween Disco** is in the school hall TOMORROW Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November from 6pm – 7.30pm and if you haven't got your child's ticket yet then you need to get a wriggle on. Tickets are also available at the door for £3.50 per child. We have a wonderful evening planned and hope the children will have a fabulously spooky time. We also have drinks, treats and sweets for sale as well as a glitter hair stall so please remember coins and purses. And please, as many Halloween costumes as possible! Parents are welcome to stay with their children or drop them off but please note that we unfortunately cannot accommodate younger pre-school-age siblings at this event.

We only have ONE ticket left for the **Christmas Wreath Making** evening on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December starting at 7pm. A few people have booked to come but have not yet paid the required £20. We need the payment NOW please to secure your place.

Thank you for your generous contributions of **chocolate and/or chocolate biscuits** this week which, together with the other items we are requesting over the next few weeks, will become the contents of some fabulous **Christmas Hampers** which will be made up and raffled off at the **Christmas Fair**. Next week we are requesting donations of **bottles of wine, beer or prosecco** please.

Don't forget if you are having a teddy bear tidy-up then please donate your teddies to us for the Christmas Fair **Teddy Bear Tombola**! Please leave them at the school office where they will be well looked after!

Do get in touch via our **Facebook** page or email – our address is [friendsofalfristonschool@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofalfristonschool@gmail.com). Our next **meeting** is TOMORROW Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November when we will be firming up plans for the Christmas Fair. We hope you can join us in the library at 8.45am.

**Flapjack Friday** returns tomorrow and we weren't sure whether everyone realises but the proceeds we make each week from the sale of cakes, fruit kebabs or sausage rolls completely funds the daily fruit snack for the whole of Key Stage 2 which is rather wonderful. Thank you so much for your support with this.

Hope to see you at the disco, love Eleanor and the FoAS committee

Yours sincerely,



Lindsey Hudson – Headteacher

## Community Events

**Alfriston Pre-School Event** - The Pre-School is holding a bonfire night celebration on Sunday 19th November 4.30pm - 7pm at The Berwick Inn. All are welcome to attend.

**Seaford Rotary Club Young Artist Competition** – Seaford Rotary Club is organising a competition with the aim of engaging young people in a creative exercise which allows complete self-expression and supports their creativity and innovative ideas expressed through art. The competition is open to young people aged up to 18 years and is split into various age categories. The theme is 'My Holiday'. Entries must be accompanied by an official entry form and received at Seaford Library on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December up to 1pm. There is no charge to enter. An information pack and entry form can be downloaded from the Seaford Rotary Club website [www.seafordrotary.org.uk](http://www.seafordrotary.org.uk)

**Deans Place Hotel Christmas Light Switch On** – this event will take place on Friday 17th November from 6.00pm. There will be complimentary hot chocolate or mulled wine on arrival whilst enjoying the festive sounds of Seaford's 'Archway Choir', with roasted chestnuts and mince pies available for a nominal fee. There will be also be a raffle and donations will be accepted on behalf of St Andrew's Church, Alfriston, and Chestnut Tree House. This year the Deans Place Hotel Christmas card will be designed by a pupil from Alfriston School – the winner of this competition will be announced on the night. Weather permitting the event will be outside so wrap up warm! Please RSVP by Friday 10th November to Deans Place Hotel on 01323 870248.

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## REPLY SLIP – Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Session

To be returned to the school office by Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

I would be interested in attending after-school Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling sessions.

Name .....

Child/Children's name(s).....

Class(es) .....