



# Alfriston School



Fair, friendly, fulfilling and fun!

## Newsletter - 19th October 2020

### Autumn Term Parent Consultation Appointments

We are fast approaching our first Parent Consultation meetings of the year.

More so than ever before, these meetings allow for vital communication between teaching staff and parents in order to work together to best support your child(ren) but we are fully aware of the logistical difficulties caused by the current global pandemic and have taken the decision to hold these meetings either by telephone or Microsoft Teams. We are sure you'll agree that trying to hold these onsite in the 'normal' way for parent consultations would be not only tricky but potentially unsafe at this time.

Appointments will be available on 3rd, 4th, 11th or 12th November depending on your child's class.

Parents/carers will be able to sign up for an appointment in advance using the eschools booking system, you will need your eschools login to do this. Booking **opens at 5pm on Monday 19th October**. Once you have booked an appointment we will contact you to confirm whether you prefer the meeting be held either by telephone or Teams. During the meeting the teacher will share how your child has settled, how they are performing academically and give you a chance to share any questions or thoughts.

For instructions on how to using the booking system please [click here](#).

### Current COVID update

Thank you so much for continuing to adhere to the rules and timings that we have put in place to keep your children and the staff safe at the school. The system of parents/carers lining up is working well and helping everyone to feel safer.

The children are continuing to enjoy learning and being with their friends in their bubbles.

It is lovely to see all the children happy, smiling and talking. We are really pleased that the children have settled so well.

We continue to review our risk assessment for keeping everyone safe during this time. It is very important that, as a community, we do not get complacent and allow this virus into our environment. In the event of a bubble closure or even whole school closure, the staff have been working on an improved 'remote learning' offer. Details will follow if need be.

### Prospective Parents Evenings

If you have a younger child who is due to start school in September 2021 or if you know someone else who does, we are holding prospective parents' evenings on Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th November. To ensure everyone is kept safe during the Covid-19 pandemic visits are by appointment only. Appointment slots are available from 3.45pm to 5.15pm, please contact the school office on 01323 870203 to book.

### Non-Uniform Day

The FoAS have organised a non-uniform day for Friday 23rd October. If your child would like to wear non-uniform on this day and a further 4 days throughout the year you need to pay £5 to the FoAS. When making the payment please quote your child's name as the reference.

### School Lunch Menu

After the October holiday we will be offering a full school lunch menu. If you would like to book your child a hot school lunch this can be done through ParentPay. Children will continue to make their selection each day, you just need to make the booking.

### Pupil Premium

Have your personal circumstances changed?

Are you unemployed, long term sick or a single parent?

If you are in receipt of any of the following :-

- Universal credit (provided you have a net income of £7,400 or less)
- Income support
- Income-based job seeker allowance
- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of state pension credit
- Child tax credit, provided that you are not also entitled to working tax credit and have an annual gross income of £16,190 or less

you may be entitled to Pupil Premium support. This does NOT affect any of your benefits but allows the school to access extra funding for your child, to support them with visits and any curriculum needs they may have. It also entitles them to a free school meal which you may or may not wish to take up. Please contact Mrs Fitzgerald or follow the link below if you think you may be eligible: <https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/school-life/meals/free/>

## This Fortnight's Class News

### Pearl Class

In phonics we have learnt the sounds t, p, i, n, m, d, o and g! We have begun to blend 3 sounds together to hear and read words. In maths we have been enjoying learning about triangles and circles. We have created artwork using circles and triangles linked to the paintings of Kandinsky. We also created repeating patterns in different ways such as using duplo bricks, counters, compare bears and sounds. We have also been learning about length and compared our plastic worms to find out which was the longest and shortest. We have enjoyed learning about parts of our bodies and we created self-portraits. They have taken pride of place outside our classroom! We have also been learning about how we grow and change. We shared our baby photos with our friends and talked about how we are the same and different. We ordered and labelled some pictures of how we change as we grow up. What a busy couple of weeks in Pearl class!

### Ruby Class

In science and DT, Ruby class made a floating boat for Christopher Columbus. They used materials from their investigation earlier in the term, including wooden lolly sticks and recycled plastic. In English, the children used their magical letter box to send a letter to Christopher Columbus and ask him questions about his behaviour. In history, they made a timeline and mapped out their own lives and the lives of others to help them understand how long ago Columbus' voyage was. During computing, the children have been learning to save their own work and open up files. They had a great time on their autumn walk last week and wrote some absolutely wonderful poems. The children are looking forward to 'Explorers Day' on Wednesday!

### Sapphire Class

In Sapphire Class we have been continuing to use the poem 'The Sound Collector' by Roger McGough as the inspiration for our English lessons – each week we have been writing our own version of the poem first it was set at school, then the seaside, then the rainforest, then the desert, then the city and this week we are underwater! We have been using rhyme, onomatopoeia and alliteration, expanded noun phrases, punctuation and we have been thinking about writing to entertain, inform and discuss.

In Maths our topic is still number – place value. As well as learning all about 2, 3 and 4 digit numbers and counting in tens, hundreds, thousands, fifties and twenty-fives, we have been partitioning numbers, seeing how they can be represented on a number line, plotting them on the number line and this week we are finding out what is 10/100 less and 10/100 more.

In Science our topic has been Sound and we have been finding out all about our ears, how sounds are made, how sounds are detected, what is pitch and what is volume.

### Emerald Class

Emerald Class have enjoyed maths lessons; learning and utilising a range of strategies for calculation and place value work and applying these to some tricky problem solving tasks. In English, a deep exploration of paragraphs and cohesion within and across them has led to some great and thoughtful creative writing. The 'Out of this World' topic has provided some awesome opportunities to research what conditions are like on the planets in our Solar System and construct mobiles representing how these planets orbit our sun.

### Dates for your Diary

Friday 23rd October	Non-uniform day (advance payment required to FoAS)
Monday 26th – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Last day of term Autumn holiday
Monday 2nd November	Children return to school
Tuesday 3rd November	Parent consultations via Teams or by phone (15:45 to 18:00) - Pearl & Sapphire
Wednesday 4th November	Parent consultations via Teams or by phone (15:45 to 18:00) - Ruby & Emerald