

Alfriston School

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Website: www.alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk

Telephone: (01323) 870203

Headteacher: Mrs Lindsey Hudson BA (Hons)



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Pearl Class

A very warm welcome to everyone! We hope you and your child will enjoy being part of our school community.

Morning and Afternoon Routines

Please bring your child to the car park gate between **8.45am-8.55am** or **8.55am-9.05am** (depending on your allocated slot) where Mrs Ottaway or Mrs Nickalls will collect them.

Please collect your child between **2.40pm-2.50pm** or **2.50pm-3pm** (depending on your allocated slot) from the car park gate. We will dismiss the children one by one to ensure their safety. A reminder to let us or the school office know if your child is being collected by someone different.

Topic

Our topic for this term is '**Marvellous Me!**' We have attached a curriculum overview to share with you the main themes of our journey through this topic.

Home Learning

We will be posting home learning information on the Pearl class e-schools page. This can be accessed via the school website. Click on 'log in' in the top right hand corner and enter your child's user name and password (this information will follow soon).

Each week on our e-schools page, I will be posting a **topic letter** outlining the activities we are doing in class. This will include optional play based ideas for home which will deepen your child's understanding of our class learning. I will also be posting **phonic activities** that link to the sounds the children have learnt each day. We will be focussing on environmental sounds, body sounds, instrumental sounds, rhyme and alliteration in the first few weeks, before moving on to learning alphabet sounds.

Once we begin to learn alphabet sounds, your child will also be taking home a **reading scheme book** to share with you. The first books from our reading scheme collection are designed to encourage you and your child to make up your own stories as they do not include text. Please aim to read with your child 5 times a week and write a comment in the yellow reading diary to indicate the book has been shared at home. We will check comments and change these books on a Monday and Friday.

We would like you to share '**WOW**' moments for your child via the Pearl class email - pearl@alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk These are significant achievements in your child's learning at home and may include, for example, learning to zip up their coat, sound talking a word or being kind and helpful. You can add photos to your email too. We celebrate 'WOW' moments with the whole class and add this information to their 'Learning Journey'.

Alfriston School: Fair, friendly, fulfilling and fun!

Items from Home

The only items that should be brought in from home are:

- School book bag to be used for child's reading books and reading record (if your child doesn't have a book bag these can be purchased from the school office). No other bags will be allowed due to limited space;
- A coat (these should only be brought in if needed due to the weather);
- Sun hat (if needed due to the weather);
- Packed lunch (if not having school dinners);
- A fruit/vegetable snack for morning break will be provided as part of the Government fruit and vegetable scheme. However, you are welcome to provide your own or an additional fruit/vegetable snack for morning break but please ensure that this is ready to eat as currently a member of staff will not be able to handle these (i.e. peeling, chopping). Please note that grapes should be cut in half lengthways to prevent choking;
- A named water bottle with a sport lid;
- Spare change of clothes which can be kept in school (see below).

PE Kits

Due to current guidelines, we will not be changing into PE kits for our Physical Development sessions. However, we would like the children to have a set of spare clothes in school in case of accidents - either a PE kit if it has been purchased or uniform (to include underwear). Please ensure that every item is clearly **labelled** with their name.

Requests

We would love you to send in some **photos** of your child to help us with our topic learning. The photos will support your child to talk to their friends about their likes and interests, their family, where they live and how they have changed from a baby to now. If possible, please could you send a photo of your child engaging in a favourite activity, a photo of your child with family members, a photo of your child outside their home and a photo of your child as a baby. Please email the photos to our Pearl class email address by **Monday 14th September** - pearl@alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk

Visiting and Helping

Unfortunately, due to the current guidelines, we are unable to accept any parental help in the classroom at this time. We will, of course, let you know when the guidance changes as we appreciate your support with activities such as reading, art and craft projects, gardening and school trips. If you would like to help in the future, please contact the school office for guidance on completing a DBS form.

Contacting Us

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have a query or question. Although Mrs Ottaway or Mrs Nickalls will be at the gate each morning and afternoon, it can be a little busy for long conversations! For messages such as reporting an absence or collection information, please contact the school office as the office staff will check telephone messages and emails regularly across the day. You can contact Mrs Ottaway via the Pearl class email address, although emails may not be checked until after 3.30pm each day - pearl@alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk We are, however, happy to respond to queries and questions via email, telephone or an online meeting.

We are looking forward to having lots of fun in Pearl class this term! Thank you for your support.

Best wishes,

Mrs Ottaway (Class teacher) and Mrs Nickalls (Higher Level Teaching Assistant)