



18th January 2018

Issue 170

Upcoming School Events

Monday 22 nd January	3.15pm	Brass Lessons Information Meeting for Parents with Mrs Kearley
Tuesday 23 rd January	4.30pm	Full Governing Body Meeting
Thursday 25 th January	Morning	Eco Team Bird Watch Assembly
Sat 27 th –Mon 29 th January	All Weekend	RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch
Monday 29 th January	Afternoon	Netball Tournament
Wednesday 31 st January	Afternoon	Indoor Cricket Competition
Friday 2 nd February	8.45am	FoAS Meeting

Dear Parents/Carers,

Attendance

As per our most recent Ofsted report which stated ‘leaders and those responsible for governance should ensure that all pupils have good, regular attendance’, we will be publishing attendance and punctuality figures each week in the newsletter 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
8 th January 2018	90.38%	9.43%	0.19%	1.51%

Week Beginning	Class	Attendance	Late	Traffic Light
8 th January 2018	Pearl	93.75%	0.63%	
	Ruby	95.67%	0.33%	
	Sapphire	87.33%	1.00%	
	Emerald	86.33%	3.67%	

Unfortunately our attendance figures continue to be affected by many children being unwell. Like much of the local community, we seem to have been hit by seasonal illnesses.

Puppet Theatre Project

This term the children in Years 5 and 6 have the opportunity to take part in a puppet theatre project being run by Rust and Stardust Productions with Berwick Church. Eleanor Conlon and Katie Sommers, from the puppet theatre company, came in to celebration assembly last Friday and performed to the children a show they had created especially for our school. A letter was sent home to children in Emerald Class earlier this week with full details about the project inviting the children to sign up to a series of after school clubs and a performance. Please return the reply slip to the school office by Friday 26th January. All the children from the school will be involved in a whole school creative day on Tuesday 27th February and will contribute to the show.

Collection of Children

Could you please let the school office know if you are not collecting your child at the end of the school day or there is a change to who is collecting them. Also, it would be very helpful to us if parents/carers could please notify Tanya, or the other office staff member on morning door duty, of any going home notices, rather than telling the teachers as the children line-up in the mornings, or please do phone the office during the course of the day. Thank you for your help in this matter.

School Lunch

Please note that for tomorrow, Friday, the meal choices have changed and they will be organic beef bolognaise or vegetable biryani, both served with sweetcorn and fresh broccoli as well as jacket potatoes with a choice of fillings. The dessert options will be carrot and pineapple cake, fresh fruit or yogurt.

Eco News

The RSPB's 'Big Garden Birdwatch' takes place over the weekend of 27th – 29th January. If you would like to take part in this national survey, please visit the RSPB website www.rspb.org.uk for more information and activities. Our school Eco Team will be leading an assembly for the children next Thursday to give more information on what birds we could be spotting! The Eco Team will also be bird watching for the RSPB Big Schools Birdwatch – we will let you know what we see!

Brass Lessons

On Monday there was a violin and brass assembly to which parents and carers were also invited. The children who currently have violin and trumpet lessons played some pieces to the rest of the school and entertained them with what they have learnt so far - we are very proud of your achievements. Next Monday, 22nd January, Mrs Kearley will hold a meeting after school for parents of children in Sapphire and Emerald Classes who are interested in brass lessons for their child/children.

Cross Country Tournament

Our team of runners performed amazingly at the South Downs Area Cross Country Finals at Lewes last Thursday. Two of our runners, Lola (8th) and Andrew (15th) finished in the top 15 so they have qualified to represent the South Downs Area at the Sussex School Games Finals which will take place in the next couple of months. Congratulations to all the runners – we are very proud of you.

Netball and Indoor Cricket Competitions

We will be participating in netball and indoor cricket tournaments in the next couple of weeks. Last week children who are in the teams were sent home with letters containing full details of the events. Please return the reply slip to the school office if you have not yet done so. I look forward to updating you on how the teams get on in due course.

Space Day

Pearl Class will be enjoying an out of this world 'Space Day' on Wednesday 7th February, where the children will be completing lots of themed activities including making 'space smoothies'! The children may come to school dressed in themed clothes e.g. astronauts, aliens, stars. The costume must be practical as children will be playing outdoors at playtime and lunchtime.

Revision Books

Letters were sent home to children in Year 6 yesterday regarding the purchase of CGP revision books. If you would like to buy these books to help your child, please return the reply slip, along with payment, to the school office by next Friday, 26th January.

News From The Friends of Alfriston School (FoAS)

Email friendsofalfristonschool@gmail.com

We're keeping it short this week...We are still waiting for a date for our proposed '**Curry and Race Night**' but we will let you know the date ASAP (as I mentioned last week a 'Curry and Race Night' is a fun, adult only evening that we trialled for the first time last year – obviously the 'Curry' is a Curry dinner but the 'Race' involves a race track, wooden horses, hurdles, hedges, water trenches, some giant dice and a whole lot of betting! It should be fun!).

Flapjack Friday is tomorrow - and every Friday throughout the term - and thank you, once again, to all the people who have volunteered to bake! 😊

Do get in touch via our **Facebook page or email** – our address is friendsofalfristonschool@gmail.com

Our next **100 Club** draw will be Friday 26th January and our next **meeting** will be Friday 2nd February.

Love Eleanor and the FoAS committee 😊

Yours sincerely,



Lindsey Hudson – Headteacher

Community Events

The Green Children of Woolpit – Rust and Stardust Productions are presenting their show 'The Green Children of Woolpit' on Saturday 3rd February at 3.30pm at Berwick Church. This is the puppet theatre company that are working with us. Tickets for this show cost £5 with a family ticket for 2 adults and 2 children costing £15 and extra children cost £2.50 each. Tickets are available from www.rustandstardustproductions.co.uk The show that Emerald Class is taking part in takes place on Friday 9th March.