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www.alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk

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Issue 173

Upcoming School Events

Friday 9 th February	9am	Online Safety Assembly
Friday 9 th February	9.30am	Online Safety Parent Information Seminar
Friday 9 th February	3.15pm	February Holiday Starts
Monday 19 th February	8.45am	Children Return to School
Friday 23 rd February	10am	Parent Consultation Appointment Booking System Closes
Tuesday 27 th February	3.45pm – 5pm	Parent Consultations
	6pm – 8pm	
Thursday 1 st March	All Day	World Book Day
Thursday 1 st March	After School	Football Match
Thursday 1 st March	3.45pm – 6pm	Parent Consultations

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
29 th January 2018	96.32%	3.30%	0.38%	1.89%

Week Beginning	Class	Attendance	Late	Traffic Light
29 th January 2018	Pearl	93.75%	1.88%	
	Ruby	96.67%	0.67%	
	Sapphire	96.00%	2.33%	
	Emerald	97.67%	2.66%	

Thankfully it seems that the children are beginning to feel better and our attendance figures have started to improve as the seasonal illnesses begin to diminish. However, unfortunately the number of children arriving late for school has increased.

Parent Consultations

Booking is now open for our next sessions of parent consultations which will take place at the end of the month. Appointments are available for either Tuesday 27th February between 3.45pm - 5pm and 6pm - 8pm or Thursday 1st March from 3.45pm to 6pm. This time we are trialling a new system of booking appointments which is being done via Eschools. The system opened for bookings yesterday and closes at 10am on Friday 23rd February. Full details on how to book an appointment was sent home in a letter at the start of the week.

Safer Internet Day

Tuesday was international 'Safer Internet Day'. We used this to emphasise safety when using the internet, however this is an issue that we constantly highlight. The theme for this year was *"Create, Connect and Share Respect: A better internet starts with you"* and classes throughout the school have been considering how to be safe online through activities and discussion linked to this theme. Tomorrow, Friday, children will be presenting and sharing their learning about online safety in celebration assembly at 9am, to which parents/carers are invited as usual. After the assembly, you are welcome to stay on to a Parent Information Seminar that we will be holding where some of our older Online Safety Warriors will share extra information about how to keep children safe online. Any materials or resources from the seminar will be put on our website following the session. We do also have a section of our website dedicated to online safety http://www.alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk/website/online_safety/87326. We would love to see as many of you at the assembly and seminar as possible.

World Book Day

We are looking forward to celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 1st March and, as part of the celebrations, children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite storybook character. It is always lovely to see how the children interpret their favourite characters and we hope that they can begin to think about their outfits over the February break.

SEN Prospectus

To ensure that parents of children with SEND have a good range of information at their disposal around local provision, East Sussex County Council has produced a Local SEND Prospectus. A copy of the prospectus can be found on the SEND section of the school website.

Football

The Alfriston School football team will be out playing several matches over the forthcoming weeks. They have two matches against local schools as well as taking part in a tournament. Letters with full details have been sent home recently to all team members. Please ensure that you return the reply slips to the school office by Friday 23rd February if your child is able to take part in the matches and by tomorrow if your child will be taking part in the tournament. I will of course let you know how they get on in due course.

Forest School

The children in Sapphire Class have been invited to take part in an afternoon of forest school next term. A separate letter with full details was sent home earlier this week. Please can you ensure that you complete the reply slip and send it back to the school office by 5th March.

Space Day

Yesterday Pearl Class enjoyed an out of this world 'Space Day'. The children had the opportunity to come to school dressed in themed clothes and they also took part in a variety of activities such as making 'space smoothies' and junk model aliens.

School Lunch

Tomorrow, Friday, our school meals provider, Chartwells, will be celebrating Pancake Day with a change to the usual dessert option when pancakes with ice cream will be offered as well as the usual fresh fruit and yogurt choices. Following this on Tuesday 20th February, they will celebrate Chinese New Year with lunch choices comprising sweet and sour chicken with rice or sweet chilli and Quorn stir fry, both with shredded cabbage and carrots on the side, or jacket potatoes with a choice of fillings. Dessert options will be mango frozen yogurt, fresh fruit or fresh yogurt. Please note the meal choice for this day differs from the usual options offered on the 3 week rotating menu.

Lost Property

As is usual at the end of term, unfortunately we have a collection of lost property. This has been out on the fence by the path leading to the school office this week. Please do check if any of the items belong to your child/children as at the end of tomorrow we will be disposing of any remaining items to charity.

News From The Friends of Alfriston School (FoAS)

Email friendsofalfristonschool@gmail.com

After the February break we will be holding an **Easter Egg Design & Colouring Competition**. All children are welcome to enter and there will be an Easter themed prize for the best design/colouring in each class. It is £1 to take part and the form and template will go home on Friday 2nd March and must be returned by 16th March please. The winners will be announced on 23rd March.

We are also planning an **Easter Hat Making Workshop** after school on Thursday 15th March. This will be a fun workshop for all ages with all the materials (and hat!) provided for the children to make their own Easter hat. Tickets for this event need to be booked in advance and will be on sale at the start of next term. Parents must attend please but there will be seating and tea/coffee & cakes available.

We are pleased to say that we have funded the purchase of the replacement **gazebo** and that, subject to confirmation, we are funding a **whole school trip** sometime in the summer term!

It's **Flapjack Friday** tomorrow - and every Friday throughout the term - and thank you to all the wonderful people who have volunteered to bake – as you know all the money we make on the goodies that we sell pays for ALL of the Key Stage 2 snack time fruit! 😊

The next **100 Club** Draw will be on Friday 23rd February and our next **meeting** is Friday 2nd March at 8.45am in Mrs Hudson's office.

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

Love Eleanor and the FoAS committee 😊

I hope that you have an enjoyable February holiday.

Yours sincerely,



Lindsey Hudson – Headteacher

Community News

Alfriston Rec Playground - As you may be aware, Alfriston Parish Council have been looking at refurbishing the playground on the recreation ground. The council now have 2 options for the refurbishment:

Option 1 is to have striding stilts, a team swing and a zig zag stepper.

Option 2 is to have a wobble board, a balance beam, a team swing and log walks.

The council are keen to have feedback from parents on the 2 possible options. You can email your preference to the parish clerk, Victoria Rutt, on alfristonpc01@btconnect.com by Friday 16th February.

National Trust Planetarium - the National Trust is holding a weekend of tours and films exploring space and the solar system with Creative Space, professional space communicators, over the weekend of 17th and 18th February. Each event runs for an hour and will include some fun-filled activities. For available times please contact the National Trust on 01323 423197 or visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk. Booking is essential and tickets for the Planetarium cost £5, payable on the day.