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Issue: 144

Upcoming School Events

Monday 15 th May	3.30pm	Year 2 Overnight Stay Meeting
Tuesday 16 th May	Morning	Football Tournament
Thursday 18 th May	All Day	Outdoor Classroom Day – Non Uniform Day
Thursday 18 th May	All Day	School Census Day
Friday 19 th May	All Day	Non-Uniform Day for the FoAS
Wednesday 24 th May	3.30pm	Emerald Class Residential Meeting
Thursday 25 th May	All Day	Whole School Trip
Friday 26 th May	3.15pm	May Holiday Starts
Monday 5 th June	8.45am	Children Return to School

Community Events

Saturday 17 th June	All Day	'The Great Get Together' at Drusillas
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Dear Parents/Carers,

Attendance

Our target is 96%.

Week Beginning	Attendances	Authorised Absences	Unauthorised Absences	Lates
1 st May 2017	95.66%	1.91%	2.42%	1.53%

Census Day

Next Thursday, 18th May, is national School Census Day. The Government currently funds a universal infant free school meal for children in Key Stage 1 and the funding for these meals is based on the number of infant children who have a school meal on census day. The school only receive funding for the amount of free school meals actually eaten on census day. Consequently, if your child doesn't have a school meal on this day, but does on any other day within the school year, the school must fund the school meals from our teaching and curriculum budget. We are keen to avoid this especially at a time of challenging budgets. Therefore we would like to see as many children as possible from Pearl and Ruby Classes having a school meal next Thursday. To help with this, our meal provider, Chartwells, has decided to offer a special, popular menu to the children for lunch. The meal choice for Census Day is: BBQ chicken pizza or macaroni cheese served with oven baked potato wedges, fresh carrots and fresh broccoli or a jacket potato with a choice of fillings or a tuna or egg baguette with a side salad or vegetables of the day. Dessert options are a biscuit with banana slices, fresh fruit or yogurt. If you would like your child/children to have a school lunch on the 18th, please advise the school office by 9am on Wednesday, 17th May.

We are allowing children in Sapphire and Emerald Classes to have a school meal and enjoy this special menu as well if they would like. If they usually have a packed lunch, please send in £2.10 per meal to the school office in an envelope with your child's name by 9am on Wednesday. If your child usually has a school meal on Thursdays, then there is no need to do anything.

Swimming

We are very grateful to Mr McDonald, our pool manager, and Mr Gown, our caretaker, for their hard work in preparing our pool for the swimming season. Final preparations are taking place now so that the children can start to swim on Monday. Please refer to the previous swimming letter for all the details but as a reminder Emerald Class swim on Mondays, Sapphire Class on Tuesdays, Pearl Class on Wednesdays and Ruby Class on Thursdays. Please also remember that if your child suffers from any sickness and/or diarrhoea at any point during the swimming season that you must notify the school office and your child will be unable to swim for 2 weeks from the last date of such an illness.

Football Tournament

Our first ever Inter-School Football Tournament takes place on Tuesday 16th May, and we are looking forward to a fun event with hopefully good weather! If your child is taking part, please refer to the original letter for all the details.

Outdoor Classroom Day - Reminder

We are really looking forward to this international day which takes place next Thursday, 18th May, and will be a chance to celebrate and inspire outdoor learning and play. As the school will be outside for the day, we would like the children to come to school in non-uniform which is suitable to take part in activities such as pond dipping and exploring the wildlife garden. Please can they come to school wearing shoes and also bring in their welly boots in a plastic bag, to change into if required. Further details about Outdoor Classroom Day can be found by visiting www.outdoorclassroomday.org.uk

Wildlife Garden

If anyone has any spare bird seed, fat balls or bird feeders you would like to donate to our wildlife garden we would very much appreciate it. Any donations can be left with at the school office. Thank you.

Year 2 Overnight Stay

If your child/children wish to take part in this trip, please can the payment of £25 be sent in to the school office by tomorrow, Friday. By this time we also require the reply slip to be handed in advising if your child will be taking part on this trip or not. A meeting for parents and children will take place on Monday, 15th May, at 3.30pm in the Ruby classroom.

‘The Great Get Together’ at Drusillas

We are delighted, and very fortunate, that Drusillas directors, Laurence and Christine Smith, have offered us the opportunity to be involved in ‘The Great Get Together’ which is taking place on Saturday 17th June. This event is a nationwide event to celebrate the life of former Labour MP Jo Cox, who was sadly killed by a gunman on the steps of her constituency surgery a year ago. The event aims to bring people together within communities with thousands of street parties and baking competitions taking place. The Duchess of Cornwall and Jamie Oliver are part of the group who hope to see the biggest community event take place since the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee. Drusillas Park is offering us some free tickets for families to enjoy a fun day out with tea and cakes thrown in at 3pm! It’s planned as a very informal day with families pleasing themselves when they arrive and how long they stay – the only organised aspect of the day is tea and cakes served on Explorers lawn at 3.30pm in the marque. If you would like to be considered for the tickets, please complete the reply slip below and return it to the school office by Monday 22nd May. Please note that these tickets are intended for children at Alfriston School and their parents/carers and siblings and not extended family members and friends. On this day you will also have the opportunity to have a go on their new attraction – Go Safari! – which comes into operation from 26th May as well as seeing their new animal attraction – Giant anteaters. We are extremely grateful to Drusillas for considering our school to join them for this event and for giving us the free tickets.

Clergy House Trip

Last Friday Pearl Class went to the Clergy House to support their 'Glorious Growing' topic. Thankfully the weather was good so they were able to go on a minibeast hunt – they found spiders, caterpillars and woodlice - they explored the gardens including the herb garden, the vegetable patch and the flower beds and re-enacted what plants need to grow!

Parking

Please can I remind parents and carers to be considerate where parking your vehicle when doing the school run. The yellow zig zags are a safety zone outside school and should not be used to stop in, or opposite, to drop off children. We really do want everyone to be as safe as possible, so thank you for your help in this matter.

Whole School Trip

On Thursday 25th May the whole school will be going out for a trip. A letter with all the details was sent home at the start of the week. Please note that the reply slip needs to be returned to the school office by Thursday 18th May.

Rec Playground

Alfriston Parish Council has asked us to advise parents and carers that repairs have taken place on the equipment in the playground; on the red roundabout and the chain assault course. The refurbishment plans are progressing well and they are hoping for it all to be ready for the summer. We will update you when we receive more details in due course.

News From The Friends of Alfriston School (FoAS) Email foaschool@gmail.com

Sussex Day – we will be attending the village's Sussex Day celebrations on Saturday 10th June. We will be holding a mufti day on Friday 19th May where the children can come to school in non-uniform for the day in return for a full bottle of wine for our stall.

Yours sincerely,



Lindsey Hudson – Headteacher

Reply Slip – 'The Great Get Together' at Drusillas – to be returned to the school office by Monday 22nd May

I would like to be considered for tickets to 'The Great Get Together' at Drusillas on Saturday 17th June with tea and cake at 3pm.

I would liketickets to the above event (maximum 4 per family).

I would likeextra tickets should more be available.

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

Class(es).....

Signed.....

Print Name.....Date.....