



Alfriston School



Fair, friendly, fulfilling and fun!

Newsletter - 26th September 2024

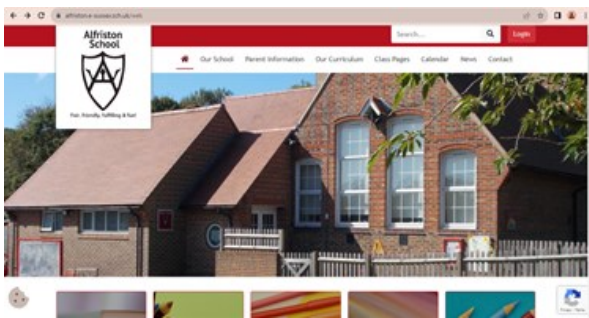
Ploughing Match Trip

Sapphire and Emerald had a great time at Church Farm attending the Laughton & District Agricultural Society Ploughing Match. The children enjoyed a range of activities that included watching the ploughing match, grinding grains of wheat to make flour, being shown the machinery used by farmers, making corn dollies and learning about where fruit and vegetables come from. Many of our children won prizes for their excellent learning and wonderful competition entries.



Class Learning

Information about your child's learning can be found on the class pages of the school website https://www.alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk/web/class_pages/54918



Our website also includes lots of other useful information including a calendar of events and will continue to be updated.

Important Reminders

We are still finding a lot of uniform that has not been named. Please ensure all uniform items are named to enable us to reunite them with their owner.

Safeguarding Reminders

As you know safeguarding your children is our top priority so we would like to remind you of the following:

- If you are inside the school please do not open the gate or front door to anyone (even if you know them) - the gate/door should only be opened by a member of staff.
- No one, including parents/carers should be interacting with or observing the children, either from their vehicle or on foot without the permission of the school. This includes while they are on the playground, recreation ground or outdoor learning areas. The only time anyone should need to be outside the school is if they are dropping off or collecting their children.

As ever, we thank you for helping us to keep the children safe.

Contacting the School

If you have any questions or information to share with us relating to your child's **class work** or **friendships**, then please email your child's class teacher. Class emails are checked after school every day. For all other queries or questions please contact the school office, they are always there to help.

Pearl Class - pearl@alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk
Ruby Class - ruby@alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk
Sapphire Class - sapphire@alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk
Emerald Class - emerald@alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk

School office - office@alfriston.e-sussex.sch.uk
 Telephone number: 01323 870203

School Attendance

The Department for Education has issued new statutory guidance for attendance called 'Working Together to Improve School Attendance'. This came into effect on the 19th August 2024. It details what schools, parents and Local Authorities should do to improve pupils' attendance at school.

There are some important changes to attendance management which will affect the support parents and pupils receive from schools, and the legal sanctions that are used in certain circumstances.

Schools are legally obliged to provide support and intervention for pupils who are at risk of persistent absence (90% attendance or below). This will take the form of meetings with parents, school-based interventions, and the offer of support from outside agencies and professionals.

Schools are very keen to identify the barriers to attendance that families face and will welcome opportunities to overcome these barriers together. However, when a child's attendance falls outside of the parental legal obligations to send their child to school, there are legal pathways that must be followed.

Changes to Penalty Notices:

Term Time Leave

If a pupil takes unauthorised term time leave of ten sessions or more, within 10 school weeks, they will be subject to a penalty notice. The fine for a penalty notice has increased - to £80 per parent, per child. This increases to £160 if paid after 21 days but within 28 days. If a penalty notice remains unpaid, parents may be the subject of court proceedings for failing to ensure the regular school attendance of their child and this could result in a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a term of imprisonment of up to 3 months, per parent.

For second offences of unauthorised term time leave within a three-year rolling period, the fine is a flat £160 per parent, per child.

For the third offence in a three-year rolling period, the referral will be automatically considered for prosecution in relation to Section 444 Education Act 1996.

The three-year rolling period begins from the date the first PN fine is issued to the parent.

Irregular School Attendance Over Time

If a parent is willing to support their child and the school in improving school attendance, and engage with school to achieve this, an 'Assess, Plan, Do, Review Plan (APDR) will be offered. This is a way of school and parents working together to improve attendance in a supportive way. Having an APDR in place will mean regular meetings to identify any barriers to a pupil's attendance and discuss what support can be put in place to overcome those barriers.

If these attempts at support fail, and a pupil's attendance continues to be a concern, the school will consider next steps, including the use of the penalty notice pathway.

Requests for Absence

We believe every school day counts to give your child the greatest opportunity of attaining a good education and to support a happy and healthy future and would strongly discourage term time leave being taken. Should you wish to make an absence request, this should be done by completing a withdrawal from learning application prior to any absence. As is currently the case, Headteachers may still only authorise absence that they consider to be an unavoidable and exceptional circumstance. The school will reply to parents to advise them whether the absence will be authorised or not.

Dates for the Diary 2024-2025

27 th September	Harvest Assembly led by Sapphire 2.15pm followed by Celebration Assembly
1 st October	English parent/carer information session with all teachers (3.30pm) – crèche available
3 rd October	National Poetry Day - Poetry Competition at Kings Academy Ringmer (pm)
4 th October	INSET Day
14 th October	Performances for School Glyndebourne – Emerald Class (11am)
17 th October	Individual photos
25 th October	FoAS non-uniform day
25 th October	Last day of Term 1
28 th Oct – 1 st Nov	Autumn holiday
4 th November	Children return to school – Start of Term 2
4 th November	Open classrooms (after school)
6 th November	Parent consultations (15:45 to 18:15) Face to Face (including ADPR meeting, where relevant)
7 th November	House Talent Competition
11 th November	Armistice Day
11 th November	Parent consultations (15:45 to 18:15) Telephone (including ADPR meeting, where relevant)
14 th November	Parent consultations (15:45 to 18:15) Face to Face (including ADPR meeting, where relevant)
19 th November	Flu vaccinations
21 st November	Open morning for prospective parents with Mrs Hudson (9.30 to 10.45)
21 st November	Open evening for prospective parents with Mrs Hudson & Miss Foster (18:30 to 19:30)
27 th November	Maths parent/carer information session with all teachers (3.30pm) – crèche available
6 th December	Christmas tree decorating Celebration assembly (2.30pm start)
9 th December	Christmas decoration afternoon
11 th December	Pearl & Ruby Class Nativity dress rehearsal to rest of the school (pm)
12 th December	Pearl & Ruby Class Nativity performance to parents (pm)
19 th December	Christmas lunch
19 th December	Christmas class party afternoon
19 th December	FoAS non-uniform day
20 th December	Christmas Carol Service (14:00 to 15:00)
20 th December	Last day of Term 2
23 rd Dec – 3 rd Jan	Christmas holiday
6 th January 2025	Children return to school – Start of Term 3
23 rd January	Open classrooms (after school)
3 rd – 7 th February	Children's Mental Health Week (Fri 7 th – Express Yourself Day)
11 th February	Safer Internet day
14 th February	FoAS non-uniform day
14 th February	Last day of Term 3
17 th – 21 st Feb	February holiday
24 th February	Children return to school – Start of Term 4
4 th March	Open classrooms (after school)
6 th March	World Book Day
10 th – 14 th March	Science Week
12 th March	Mid-Year Reports & Parent consultations (15:45 to 18:15) Face to Face (including APDR meeting where relevant)
13 th March	Open classrooms (after school)

18 th March	Mid-Year Reports & Parent consultations (15:45 to 18:15) Telephone (including APDR meeting where relevant)
20 th March	Mid-Year Reports & Parent consultations (15:45 to 18:15) Face to Face (including APDR meeting where relevant)
31 st March	Year 6 SATs parent meeting (after school)
3 rd April	FoAS non-uniform day
4 th April	Easter Service, led by Sapphire Class (2 – 3pm TBC with Kelly)
4 th April	Last day of Term 4
7 th – 17 th April	Spring holiday
22 nd April	Children return to school – Start of Term 5
23 rd April	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check parent meeting (after school)
5 th May	Bank Holiday Monday – school closed
12 th – 15 th May	Year 6 SATs
19 th May (Monday)	Open classrooms (after school)
23 rd May	FoAS non-uniform day
23 rd May	Last day of Term 5
26 th – 30 th May	May holiday
2 nd June	Children return to school – Start of Term 6
5 th June	New to reception meeting with Mrs Hudson & Miss Foster (17:00 to 18:00)
12 th June	School Games Day
16 th June	INSET day
17 th June	Reserve School Games Day
19 th – 20 th June	Yr 2 Overnight Stay at school
23 rd – 27 th June	Emerald Class residentail
1 st July (Tuesday)	Open classrooms (after school)
7 th July	Meeting with Teacher for next year's Ruby Class parents (after school)
8 th July	Meeting with Teacher for next year's Sapphire Class parents (after school)
9 th July	Meeting with Teacher for next year's Emerald Class parents (after school)
11 th July	End of year reports out to parents (+ APDR sheets, where relevant)
14 th July	Whole school transition day
16 th July	Whole school celebration event (09.00 to 09.30)
18 th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly (14:00 to 15:00)
18 th July	FoAS non-uniform day
18 th July	Last day of Term 6
21 st July	INSET day
22 nd July	INSET Day