



AFNORTH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

British Section

www.afnorth-is.com Twitter: @AFNORTH_IS www.facebook.com/AFNORTHSchool

British.office@afnorth-is.com

1 December 2023



DATES TO NOTE

December

- 6 Last Day to Order Christmas Lunch
- 7 Elementary Holiday Party
- 8 Sinterklaas Visit
- 11 Early Years Christmas Presentation
- 21 Christmas Lunch
- 21 Last Day of Term

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Dec 22-Jan 5

January

- 8 Back to School

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your support in making last Saturday such a huge success. From the moment General Miglietta opened the Fayre there was such a special atmosphere and a great range of activities for everyone to enjoy; Father Christmas, Secret Room, Gingerbread House, Military Wives Choir, Island Dancers, Line Dancers, HS Band, Face Painting etc etc. A big THANK YOU to WO Kabulevu and the the hard-working committee, staff and parents who put in many hours of work behind the scenes to ensure the success of the day. We would also like to thank everyone who so generously provided donations and prizes for the Raffle and Class Baskets.

Huge congratulations to all the lucky winners. There was great excitement when our Chair of Governors, Sqn Ldr Roberts drew the lucky tickets!

The biggest winners of all are our children whose experiences and opportunities at AFNORTH are greatly enriched as a result of the money raised on Saturday. The final count is not complete but we believe we have raised over €7000!!!!

With the exception of Sole Mates, our final clubs sessions took place this week. Many thanks to all our club leaders who have volunteered their time to teach the children many new skills.



Well Done to our latest readers to join the Rhinestone Readers Club!

Have a wonderful weekend



Bucket Fillers



Demir, Heloise, Joseph, Justine, Agtake, James, Joshua, Mariateresa, Shiv, Charlotte, Eva, Rory G, Alexander, Lexi, Bade, Julia, Kaan, Sílvia, Viki, Fernando, Alena

Christmas & Thanksgiving

Fayre 2023





HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

HO HO HO! Calling all volunteers!

The AFNorth Elementary PTO is happy to hold a holiday party for all 4 sections! We need Volunteers to make this happen! Sign up to run a game or a craft and spread the holiday cheer! Each Volunteer will be entered in to win a special raffle.

Thursday, 7 December

<https://signup.com/go/mwkbmLs>

AFNORTH Elementary PTO

BOOK Sale

2023

WEDNESDAY 13 DEC
FROM 9:00 - 14:00

Our December used book sale is coming up!
Donations are always needed! Send them
with your kids to the sale or place in the
donation totes in the elementary pods at any
time.

Many different genres, reading levels, &
languages available, from board books
through adult!

€0.50 each OR 3 books for €1



Host Nation news

November 2023

Sinterklaas in the Netherlands



On Saturday, November 18, 2023 Saint Nicholas, or as the Dutch people call him Sinterklaas, will arrive in the Netherlands with his helper Pieten. According to the Dutch tradition Sinterklaas travels from his country of residence Spain to the Netherlands with his steamboat 'Pakjesboot 12'.

The arrival of Sinterklaas is a huge happening in the Netherlands and is always broadcasted live on television and watched by nearly every child. In the past the event has even often been attended by the Dutch King Willem-Alexander and his wife Queen Maxima and their children.

The traditional feast is celebrated yearly on the 5th of December when Sinterklaas and his Pieten drop or bring presents for children at their homes. This is the eve before Sinterklaas' birthday. During the period before that celebration, children put their shoe at the fireplace or near an open window. With the shoe, the children leave a carrot or some hay for Sinterklaas' horse. Then the children sing a song for Sinterklaas and the next day they will hopefully find some candy or presents in their shoes.

*We are happy to announce that Sinterklaas will visit the elementary students of AFNORTH International School again this year and want to let you know that his visit will take place on **Friday, December 8** instead of December 1 (as previously mentioned in the newsletter regarding the clogs).*

The Pieten assist Sinterklaas in delivering presents and sweets to the children, but since the 1960's there has been a lot of discussion about the appearance of the traditional 'Zwarte Piet' (Black Pete). In recent years, the Pieten have been transformed into soot and chimney Pieten so that they are no longer seen as offensive. We will not include Zwarte Piet in our school, but we want to be proactive and inform you about the Dutch folklore with this newsletter.

Have a great Sinterklaas celebration!

Kind regards,

*Ms. Dyon Damen and Mr. Craig McMorland
Host Nation Teachers - AFNORTH International School*



Sunbeams

This week has been all about preparing for Sinterklaas and Christmas. We have been busily decorating our clogs in the hope that Sinterklaas and his Piets will fill them with delicious treats! After lots of anticipation, Christmas has finally arrived in Sunbeams with a tree awaiting budding decorators, some scrummy cookies needing decorating and finally opening our advent calendar for the first time this year. We would also like to welcome our new friend, Arturs to our class. He has been a wonderful addition of smiles and good fun!



Reception

We realised that it was the first of December and we could get our classroom ready with seasonal activities! We pulled together as a team to decorate the tree and the Magic Wardrobe, put out Christmas stencils, bells, nativity cribs and dough utensils and our wonderful Christmas village. We even had time for a festive snack and we decorated our cookies.



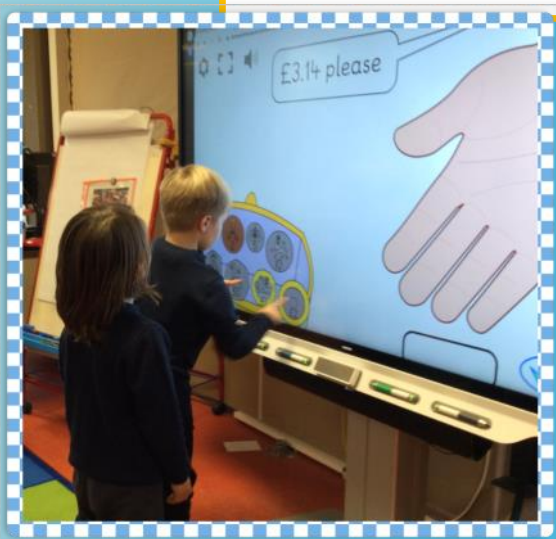
Year 1

Year 1 had a wonderful time at forest school this week. They learnt about fire safety and then had the chance to toast a marshmallow to make s'mores. The children were all very sensible around the fire and listened carefully to all the rules. They thoroughly enjoyed eating their tasty treats. The children even collected firewood ready for the next group. We are very proud of Year 1 and they are looking forward to more cooking on the fire in the future.



Year 2

This week in maths we have continued our money unit. We are mastering how to count in pounds and pence and how to use a range of different notes and coins to make the same amount in more than one way. This has challenged our understanding of the difference between pounds and pence and the different types of coins, but with practice and perseverance we have got it! We have also been reading the story 'Rainbow Fish'; thinking about the different characters and the setting, and the problems and solutions that occur in the story. We are currently working on a very special piece of art related to the Rainbow Fish story and we are so excited to share these with you soon!



Remember to only use real money!

Draw 2 ways of making:

1. 8p = 2p, 2p, 2p, 2p, 1p, 1p

2. 12p = 10p, 2p, 2p, 2p

3. 17p = 10p, 5p, 2p, 2p, 2p, 1p, 1p

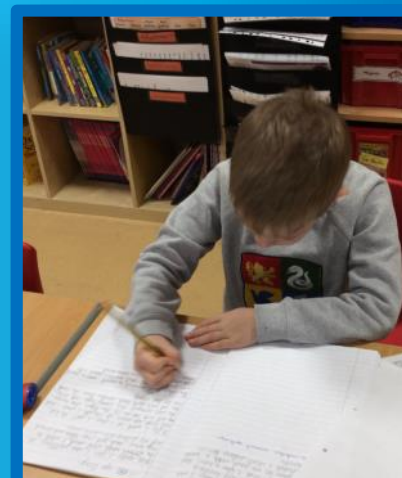
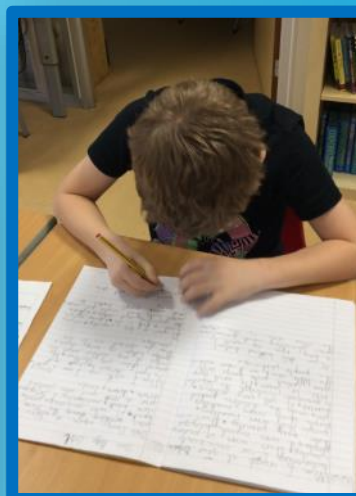
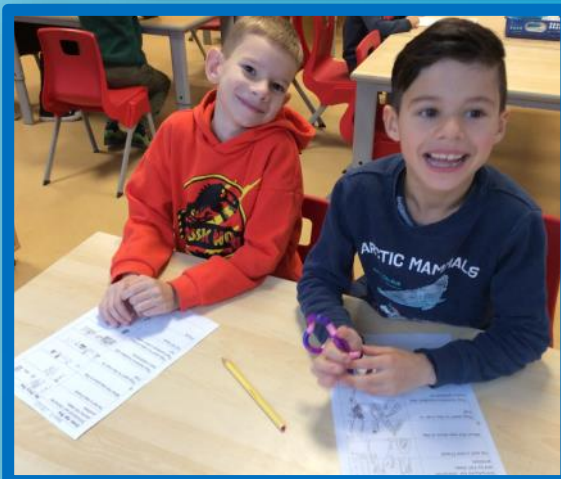
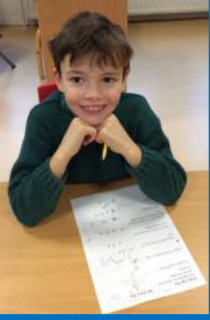


Handwritten student work showing four examples of making different amounts:

- £12.90p: £10, £1, £1, 50p, 20p, 20p
- £17.50p: £10, £5, £1, £1, 50p
- £19.20p: £10, £5, £1, £1, £1, 20p
- £13.30p: £10, £1, £1, £1, 20p, 10p

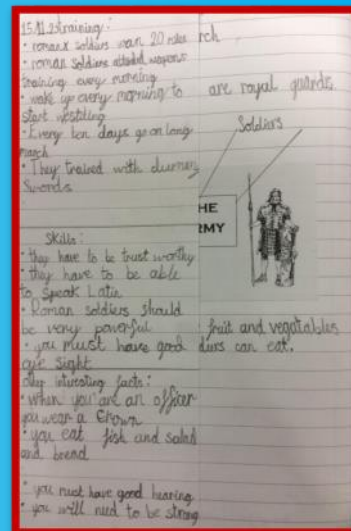
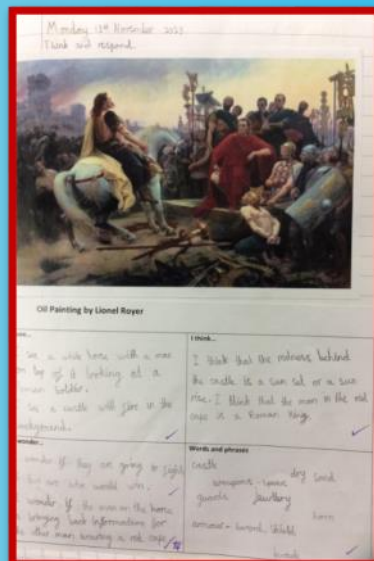
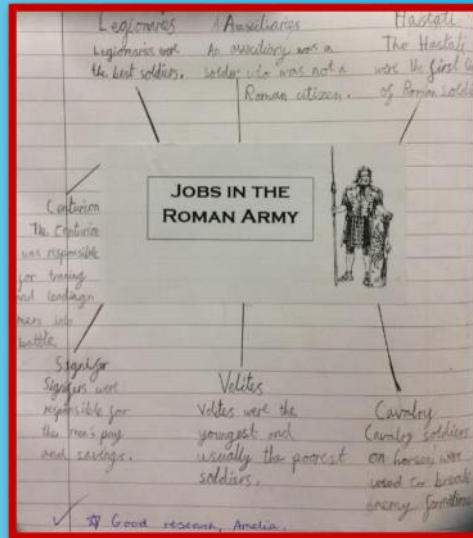
Year 3

This week we have been focusing on developing our Cave Boy story plans. We have used our Talk for Writing skills and dramatised some of the events that happen in our stimulus text. Then we have worked on drawing out the events that will happen in our own stories and talking through them with our partners. Now we are writing our stories. In maths we have used money to think about multiplying larger numbers and problem solve questions.



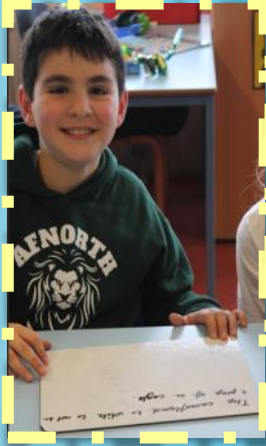
Year 4-5

"In History, we are learning about the Roman Empire starting with the questions - Who are the Romans? Where did they come from? We found out that the Romans conquered lots of countries and states with their very strong and powerful army. We researched how they trained as soldiers and what skills they had to learn. We have some Roman artefacts in class and had fun trying out helmets, shields and sandals. We even made our own Roman soldier and Matthew named him 'Bob'!" Written by Javier and Matthew

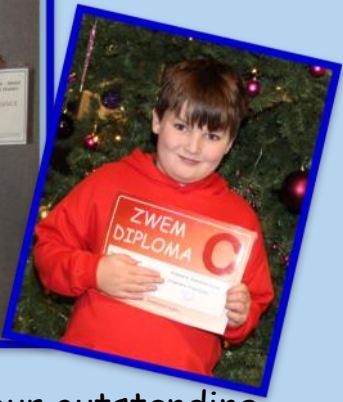


Year 6

In Year 6 this week, we have been continuing with our science topic of evolution. We have been looking closely at plant and animal adaptation and why living things need to adapt to be able to survive. The children worked in pairs to choose an animal and, using their best Sir David Attenborough voice, described their animal and how they have adapted to their environment. After a little practice, the children then filmed themselves to make a mini documentary.



Bucket Fillers



Congratulations Fernando on your outstanding achievements last weekend.

Congratulations Mariateresa and Matthew on gaining Zwem Diploma C!

LUNCH

Please note the price for lunch is now €3.75



Week 49 04-12 t/m 08-12-2023

MONDAY

Korean Rice, Spring Roll or Omelet	1, 2, 3, 4
Spring Roll or Omelet	1, 2, 3, 4
Korean Rice	
Atjar Salad	3
Hot Sauce	3

TUESDAY

Pasta Penne, Tomato-Zucchini Sauce	3, 4
Bolognese Sauce	3, 10
Pasta Penne	3
Snack Tomato	

WEDNESDAY

Quiche, Potato & Vegetable Mix	1, 2, 3, 9
Quiche (French Pie with cheese, cream, vegetables)	1, 2, 3, 9
Potato & Vegetable Mix	3, 9
Mustard Sauce with Thyme	3

THURSDAY

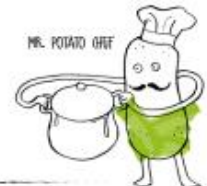
Veggie Balls, Baked Potato, Beetroot	3, 4
Fish Schnitzel	2, 3, 4, 7
Baked Potato	3
Beetroot	3

FRIDAY

Veggie Snack, Fries, Carrots	1, 2, 3, 4, 8
Fish Filet or Hot Dog Sausage	2, 3, 5, 7
Fries	
Carrots	
Tartar Sauce	1, 2, 3

LISTED PRODUCTS AND DISHES CAN CONTAIN TRACES OF ALLERGENS.

- 1 = milk
- 2 = egg
- 3 = gluten
- 4 = soy
- 5 = pork
- 6 = chicken
- 7 = fish
- 8 = sesame
- 9 = peas
- 10 = beef



All meals are nut free



Looking for suggestions for your child's lunchbox...

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>



Christmas Lunch

We invite all staff members, students, parents and family to join our special AIS Christmas luncheon which will be served by Sodexo in the cafeteria of the school on Thursday 21 December

Stuffed Turkey Roulade
Potato Gratin Cranberry Sauce Carrots & Peas
Christmas Coupe Custard Forest Fruit Trifle

There will also be a vegetarian option

Christmas Lunch tickets must be pre-purchased before Thursday December 7th

Elementary Child's Lunch €4.25 Adult Lunch €4.75

Google sign up form [Christmas Lunch](#)

Children/Families who do not wish to purchase a lunch may bring a packed lunch from home.



Story Character Holiday Card Collection

01—21 December

What holiday card would your favorite storybook characters send out this season?

Make a greeting card and show us your creativity:

- choose a story and characters that you love
- you can draw, paint, collage, or use any other materials
- include a message inside the card

How would your character express their winter holiday greetings?
Who would they send it to?

Bring your card to the library to be displayed in our entry.

Please include your name/class so it can be returned.

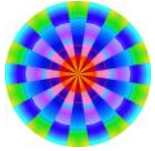


library@afnorth-is.com



Attendance

It is really important that we work together to do all we can to prioritise children's attendance at school so that they can enjoy their learning and socialising with their peers. The profile of attendance is a key priority for schools and as school has returned to normal following Covid restrictions we have been instructed to adhere strictly to school policy.



Our attendance target is 96%. To achieve this a child should have less than 7 days absence across the school year. Our current whole school attendance is 95.42%.

Reporting Absence

Unplanned Absence e.g. your child is unable to attend due to ill health

Parents must notify the school on the first day of an unplanned absence by 0900 or as soon as practically possible. Parents should email british.office@afnorth-is.com or call 045 5278241 to report an unplanned absence. Absence due to illness will be authorised unless the school has a genuine concern about the authenticity of the illness. If the authenticity of the illness is in doubt, the school may ask parents to provide medical evidence, such as a doctor's note, appointment card or other appropriate form of evidence.

Leave in Term Time

We recognise the challenges our parents face when living overseas. However, regular attendance at school is vital in helping children to achieve their full potential and get the best possible start in life.

Authorised and Unauthorised Absence

Headteachers may not grant leave of absence to pupils during term time unless they consider there to be 'exceptional circumstances'. Examples of 'exceptional circumstances' include:

- a. bereavement or serious illness of relatives.
- b. medical needs where treatment is required in the Home Country.
- c. where delivery of the Defence Mission by service parents employed in specific roles impacts on the ability to observe standard leave patterns.

The school considers each application for term-time absence individually, taking into account the specific facts, circumstances, current attendance figure, and relevant context behind the request. The headteacher may choose to discuss a request with their local Assistant Chief Education Officer (ACEO); however, a leave of absence is granted entirely at the headteacher's discretion.

Valid reasons for authorised absence include:

- a. Illness and medical/dental appointments.
- b. Religious observance - where the day is exclusively set apart for religious observance by the religious body to which the pupil's parents belong.
- c. Post Operational Leave.

REMINDERS

Parent Drop Off and Pick Up Times

Reception -Year6

School Day 0900-1530

Drop off from 0845.

Please note there is no supervision prior to this time.

Pick Up at Main Gate

Reception/Year 1 1525 Year 2-6 1530



NO NUTS

We have a number of children with a nut allergy and we therefore ask for no nuts or products containing nuts to be brought into the school. Thank you for your cooperation.

WATER BOTTLES



Children are encouraged to bring a filled water bottle to school every day and to keep hydrated during lessons. The children have access to chilled water fountains to top up their bottles. Children should take their bottle home each night to be washed. permitted. Cans and bottles of carbonated drinks, including energy drinks, are not permitted in school.

END OF THE DAY CHANGES

If you are making changes to your child's routine e.g. Parent Pick Up rather than the bus we request that these changes are sent via email to:

TO: british.office@afnorth-is.com

CC: class teacher

CC: firstname.lastname@afnorth-is.com (teacher)

These changes should be made before 1000

Sunbeams

Session 0900-1200

Drop off from 0855

Pick up at 1200

Location for Drop Off and Pick Up is at the Flagpoles.

During periods of inclement weather please wait inside the main entrance (in the well area under the stairs or when this area is in use please wait outside the British Office). Staff will collect/deliver the children to you. There is no need to sign in

EDC Pick Up 1500 or 1525-Children will be brought to the gate.

Times and locations are related to supervision and to avoid congestion outside of Sunbeams.

LABEL LABEL LABEL

Please assist us in preventing items being lost or misplaced by labelling your child's belongings e.g. items of clothing, footwear, bags, packed lunch boxes/containers. Please also impress on your child that they



PE SHOES (Y2-Y6)

Please ensure your child has a separate pair of shoes for PE/Gym lessons with Coach Guest. Shoes should have non-marking soles.



PERSONAL ITEMS

Children should NOT be bringing anything to school other than essential items or requested by the teacher to support their learning. Please ensure unnecessary items do not slip into bags e.g. toys, pokemon cards.

AFNORTH Calendar 2023-2024

Autumn Term

August 21 School Opens

September 6 1400 Dismissal

September 18 STAFF DAY-NO SCHOOL for Children

October 23 to October 27 SCHOOL CLOSED

October 30 School Opens

November 1-2 1230 Dismissals (Parent Conferences)

November 29 STAFF DAY NO SCHOOL for Children

December 22-January 5 SCHOOL CLOSED

Spring Term

January 8 School Opens

January 24 1400 Dismissal

January 29 STAFF DAY-NO SCHOOL for Children

February 12-February 16 SCHOOL CLOSED

February 19 School Opens

March 25-April 5 SCHOOL CLOSED

Summer Term

April 8 School Opens

April 17 1400 Dismissal

May 9 STAFF DAY NO SCHOOL for Children

May 20 SCHOOL CLOSED

June 21 LAST DAY 1230 Dismissal