



# AFNORTH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

## British Section

www.afnorth-is.com Twitter: @AFNORTH\_IS www.facebook.com/AFNORTHSchool

British.office@afnorth-is.com

26 January 2024

Dear Parents,

Listening to children sharing their knowledge or their joy from what they have read is always a delight. Whether that is a child in Reception who is starting to crack the reading code or a group of Year 6 who relate their experiences to the text or question the content with such maturity. We are very proud of our AFNORTH reading community.

### Rhinestone Readers



Attendance Matters!



Attendance continues to be a key priority for schools. Not only do we want to see children in school every day but we also have a statutory role to monitor attendance, to

ensure all children have the greatest access to learning opportunities. Children miss out when they are not in school and poor attendance can affect your child's progress. We do ask that you send your child to school unless they are very unwell, have a temperature or an upset stomach. The NHS has released information for parents "Is my child too ill for school?" Please follow the link below for further information.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Wherever possible please make non-urgent dental and doctor appointments etc, outside school hours. As we reach the mid-point of the school year, children whose attendance is less than 90% will receive letters of concern about attendance and will be invited into school to meet with myself and the Education Welfare Officer, Jane Kelly.

Apologies we were unable to e-mail your parent-teacher conference appointments today. You will receive these on Tuesday.

**REMEMBER NO SCHOOL ON MONDAY**

*Have a wonderful weekend*

#### January

29 STAFF DAY-No School for children

#### February

2 Family Carnival Bingo  
5 Sunbeams Parent Session Phonics  
5 Spelling Bee Final  
5 PTO Meeting  
9 Carnival Assembly

**February 12-February 16  
SCHOOL CLOSED**

19-23 Parent Teacher Meetings  
29 Dentist Visit (Y3-Y6)

#### March

4 Class Picture Day  
5 Class Reps Meeting

**Term dates for the next school year 2024-2025 are now available**

#### Attendance This Week

**Whole School 95%**

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Reception | 94% |
| Year 1    | 96% |
| Year 2    | 95% |
| Year 3    | 96% |
| Year 4-5  | 95% |
| Year 6    | 94% |



Bucket Fillers



*Joan, Oskar, Vojtech, Maja, Ruben, Frantisek, Primrose, Jenson, Mariateresa, Isaac, John, Matthew, Rory, Lexi, Charles, Leo, Mario, Pari*



AFNORTH Elementary School

# SPRING PICTURE DAY



4-6 MARCH, 2024

PICTURE  PERFECT

Look out  
for the sibling  
sign-ups!





# YEARBOOK COVER CONTEST

Preschool-2nd grade compete for back cover.

3rd-5th grade compete for front cover.

All submissions must be emailed to:  
[afnorthesyearbook@gmail.com](mailto:afnorthesyearbook@gmail.com)  
Include students name, section, and grade.

Each winner will receive a free yearbook.

**Submissions due 1 March. Winners  
will be announced in May.**



# Sunbeams

Our Super Sunbeams have been on a mission to build their shoulder and arm strength, something we know is so very important to develop as a pre-writing skill! Whether it was squishing clay or dough, throwing balls and rolling hoops, whizzing ribbons around, drawing on the big whiteboard and writing our names in the ground we have been working to improve our muscles. Our work on secret symbols has shown how far we have come with lots of practice on whiteboards then children writing secret messages to their friends and posting them in their post-boxes!





# Reception

How do Reception children use their mathematical skills in their play? The photographs show children counting objects, measuring capacities, sharing items, working on doubles and halves, making patterns, measuring, using knowledge of shapes and sorting items.





# Year 1

Year 1 enjoyed learning about instructions this week. We learnt about instructions for a computer and that they have a special name called an 'Algorithm'. The children used symbol cards to make their own algorithm and then read it out for their friend to follow. They were great robots!

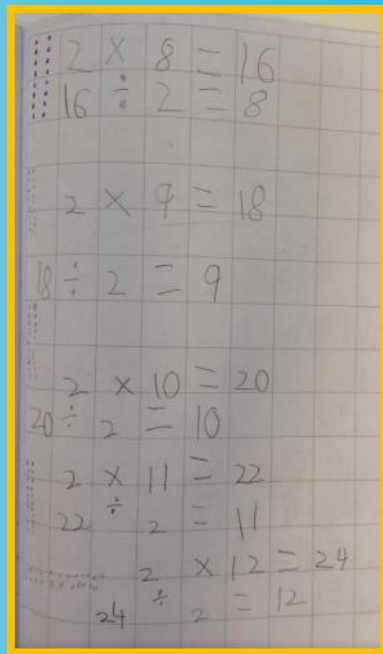
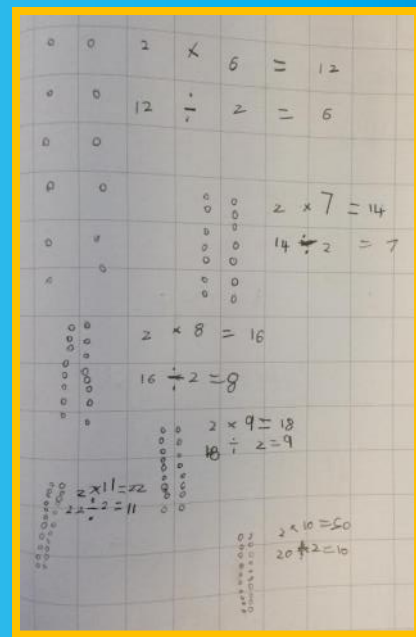
At forest school we have been collecting sticks for an art project. We are going to make a picture of a tree in winter. The children learnt to safely use the secateurs to snip the small sticks and twigs to the right length.





# Year 2

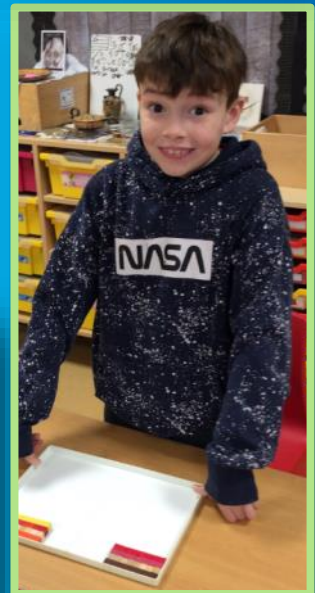
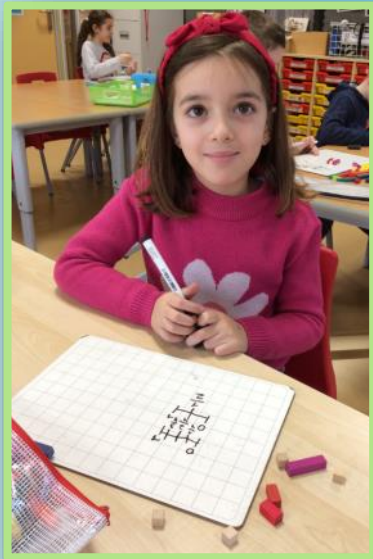
This week we have continued our writing about endangered animals and have been making a fact sheet about them. We have been learning about the two times tables. And in geography, we have learning about the Maasai tribe and comparing our day to that of a child in Kenya.





# Year 3

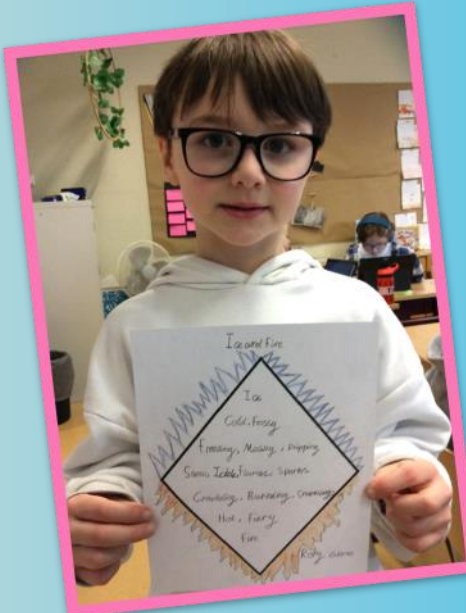
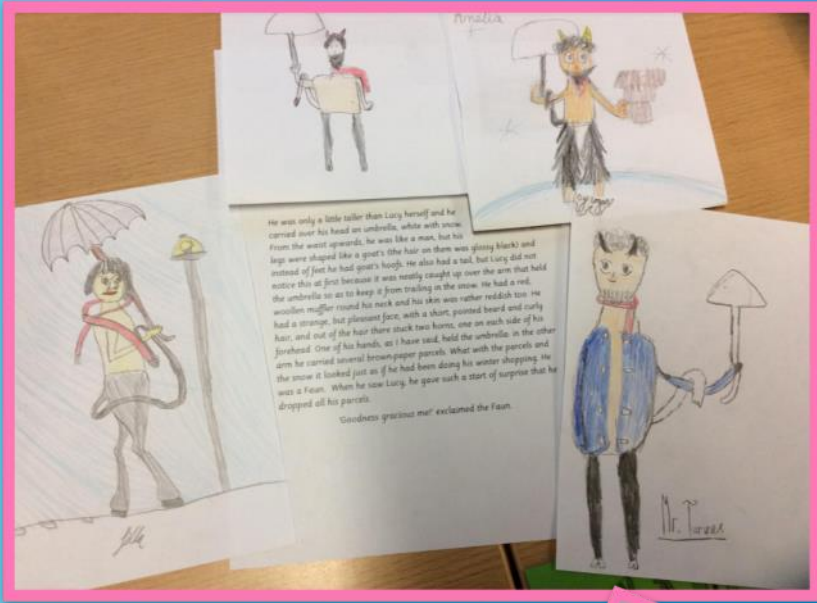
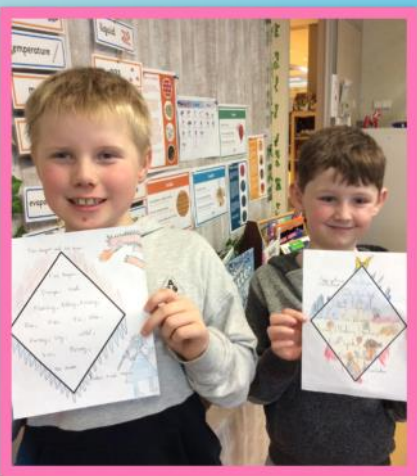
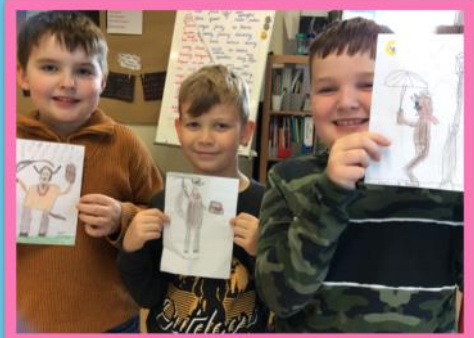
Year 3 are really very interested in Ancient Greece. We have found out that Greek Gods could be very childish, selfish and cruel. It is also fascinating to know that there are so many interesting, amazing myths that are told in many different ways. The children are noticing that different books retell things in alternative ways. In our writing we have been thinking about putting in speech and noticing how this is punctuated in our reading. Our fraction work continues in maths and we have used the cuisenaire rods to represent different fractions, recognising equivalents and thinking about them in a linear way. For instance being half way through a race, a quarter of the way home or a quarter past twelve o'clock.





# Year 4-5

"In English, we have been writing 'Diamond Poems'. We thought of interesting vocabulary about 'Ice and Fire' and looked at opposite meanings which are called antonyms. We had to follow a certain pattern of nouns, adjectives and verbs to create our poems. Some of us chose to write about the 'Ice Queen and Fire Dragon'! We edited our poems with a partner to improve them and then we published them with neat handwriting and illustrations. We are very proud of our work! Our class novel is 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' and one of our 'think and respond' tasks was to read a description of the character Mr Tumnus and then draw what we thought he would look like. Our drawings were all different and everyone did their best. We enjoyed sharing our thoughts with each other - How would we feel if we met him? What questions would we ask him?" Written by Logan and Oliver





# Year 6

The children took part in a really interesting lesson about the Industrial Revolution and how this impacted on life in Great Britain and the wider world. We were impressed by the observations and connections the children made when looking at sources showing Manchester before and after the Industrial Revolution. We used our historical skills of observation, compare and contrast, and reasoning. Children debated the positive and possible negative effects of this time in history and how it impacted on life even today. We were hugely impressed by observations made:

Before

"The city looks peaceful and quiet which is because there is no pollution from the factories yet" - Julia

"The people seem happy and joyful, I think this because the air is clean and they have a rushing river." - Lexi



After

"I

can see lots





# Year 6

We have also been enjoying using our whiteboards to show our understanding in class where the teacher will say: 'One, two, three, SHOW ME!' - and we do!





# Bucket Fillers



Linked to the book "Have You Filled a Bucket Today?" by Carol McCloud our Bucket Filler Award recognises positive behaviours e.g. kindness, respect, responsibility, resilience as well as hard work and achievement.

Everyone carries an invisible bucket that holds our good thoughts and feelings. When our buckets are full, we feel happy and when our buckets are empty, we feel sad.

Our actions and words can either fill a bucket or dip into it. We fill buckets when we do and say things that are kind, considerate, caring, and respectful. But if we are inconsiderate or disrespectful, we dip into buckets and remove those good feelings.

[Click here for the story.](#)





# LUNCH

Please note the price for lunch is €3.75



Week 5 29-01 t/m 02-02-2024

MONDAY

No School Today

TUESDAY

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Veggie Pie, Mashed Potato, Peas & Mint, Gravy | 1, 2, 3, 9  |
| Beef Pie                                      | 1, 2, 3, 10 |
| Mashed Potato                                 | 1, 3        |
| Peas & Mint                                   | 9           |
| Gravy   | 3           |

WEDNESDAY

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Veggie Balls, Baked Potato, Cauliflower, Pepper Sauce | 1, 2, 3, 4 |
| Chicken Schnitzel                                     | 1, 2, 3, 6 |
| Baked Potato  | 3          |
| Cauliflower   | 1, 3       |
| Pepper Sauce  | 3          |

THURSDAY

|   |      |
|---|------|
| Pasta, Tomato Vegetable Sauce, Snack Tomato | 3, 4 |
|---|------|

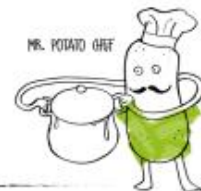
|                  |       |
|------------------|-------|
| Pasta            | 3     |
| Bolognaise Sauce | 3, 10 |
| Snack Tomato     |       |

FRIDAY

|                                 |            |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Veggie Sausage, Fries, Carrots  | 1, 2, 3, 4 |
| Fish Nuggets or Hot Dog Sausage | 2, 3, 5, 7 |
| Fries                           |            |
| Carrots                         |            |
| Tartar Sauce                    | 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>



AFNORTH PTO PRESENTS

# CARNIVAL

*Bingo*

**FEBRUARY 2ND**

1700-1900  
AFNORTH CAFETERIA

- \$/\$€2 entry fee per person
- Food for sale
- Costumes highly encouraged

Register with the QR code  
\*\*Registration is required\*\*

ORYGINALNA CERAMIKA BOLESLAWIEC  
*Millena*

POLISH POTTERY  
SALE AND  
**Spring Bazaar**  
HOSTED BY ASGK

ICC - East Entrance  
Ouverbergstraat 1  
6445 PC Brunssum, NL

Kick off Spring 2024 with some beautiful Polish Pottery and products from your favorite Foggy Fields Vendors!

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>8 March</b><br/>9:00- 10:00</p> <p>ASGK members and volunteer only shopping (you can sign up for membership at the door. Please visit our page for membership eligibility)</p> <p><b>10:00-18:00</b><br/>Shopping open to the Public</p> <p>Millena's accepts Euros only. Bazaar vendors accept Euros and Cards.</p> | <p><b>9 March</b><br/>10:00- 18:00</p> <p>Shopping open to the Public</p> <p><b>To volunteer:</b><br/>Use QR code or follow this link <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D4EABAE2FA2FD0-polish2#/">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D4EABAE2FA2FD0-polish2#/</a></p> <p>Beautiful Pottery Raffle for all volunteers.<br/>All teardown volunteers receive €10 voucher</p> |
|--|---|

For any questions please email [asgk.contact@gmail.com](mailto:asgk.contact@gmail.com)

ASGK PRESENTS

# Family DISCO Night

7 FEBRUARY 2024  
5PM TO 7PM  
AF NORTH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL CAFETERIA

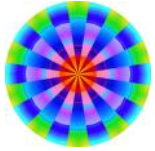
**\$5 PER PERSON  
ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT - NO CHILDCARE WILL BE PROVIDED**





# 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](mailto: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.

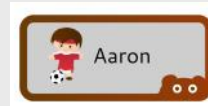
During periods of inclement weather please wait inside the main entrance (in the well area under the stairs or when this area is in use please wait outside the British Office). Staff will collect/deliver the children to you. There is no need to sign in

**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