



AFNORTH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

British Section

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

British.office@afnorth-is.com

12 April 2024

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the summer term, we hope you all had a lovely break and are ready for the warmer weather and longer days! It's hard to believe we are already at this point in the school year, but there is still lots of work to be done and fun to be had.



We were delighted to welcome Air Commodore Kilvington, UK NMR, based at SHAPE to school on Monday. The children shared their experiences being a military child living in the Netherlands and Germany. Well done Y2 and Y6 who explained and demonstrated all that they had been learning prior to the holidays. Air Commodore Kilvington was accompanied by UK SNR, Col. Blunt and Padre Northfield who we look forward to joining us again in May.



Military Child Appreciation

CALL MILITARY PARENT! FALL IN! Let's celebrate Month of the Military Child; a time to honor the sacrifices made by military families worldwide, with an emphasis on the children of military members serving and those that have served.

Next week we will have Spirit Week recognising "Month of the Military Child".

See page 3 for more information.

On Friday April 19th we invite our military parents to join together at the front of the school to clap and cheer the students as they exit school and board the buses. We hope lots of you will be able to join the Clap Out.

We would appreciate your help as we start to make plans for the next school year. Please click on the following link and complete the form indicating whether you are staying at AFNORTH or you expect to be leaving.

[School Year 24-25](#)



Have a lovely weekend

April

15 **Drawing Contest Entries Due**

15-19 Month of the Military Child Spirit Week

19 15:20 Clap Out

17 1400 Dismissal

23 Children's/ Culture Day

23-24 RAF STEM Visit (Y5)

26-27 Seussical the Musical
26th @1900 27th @ 1200

May

9 SCHOOL CLOSED-STAFF DAY

13-16 Y6 National Assessments

20 SCHOOL CLOSED

June

21 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

Attendance Matters!



Attendance This Week

Whole School 95%

Reception 93%

Year 1 96%

Year 2 94%

Year 3 95%

Year 4-5 95%

Year 6 95%



Bucket Fillers



Daniel, Killian, Mattia, Santi, Hilal, Miguel, Ruben, Jenson, Rory H., Anders, Jan, Balkan, Bade, Freya, Julia, Viki

Thank you for all your support for this year's Readathon sponsored by our PTO.



I'm a Rhinestone Reader

We were thrilled when Joris brought in his swimming trophy this week and shared all his success in the pool with us.



CULTURE DAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please let us know if you are able to help at one of the tables during Culture Day on Tuesday April 23rd.

AFNORTH Elementary PTO

BOOK Sale

2024

WEDNESDAY 17 APR
FROM 9:00 - 14:00

Our APRIL 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

AFNORTH PTO NEWS

THE PTO NEEDS YOU!

We are an international group that supports all 4 sections of the elementary school. There are 11 available positions with opportunities for leaders and volunteers. These positions secure the funds that we raised for your children and their school experience.

JUST SHOW UP!



SCAN ME

WHAT DOES THE PTO DO?

While you might know the PTO from our fun events, such as our back to school bash, fall fun run, and holiday parties, we actually support a lot of programs that our name is not on. Every year we fund the Spelling Bee, Math Olympiads, the School Musical, the Story Teller, and so much more! Anytime your child's section cannot fund or support a project, the Teacher's have an opportunity to ask us for help.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

April 8th *Board Nominations*
May 6th *Voting*
June 3rd

UPCOMING EVENTS

Book Sales March 20th
Yearbook Sales begin March 18th
Readathon ends March 31st

Reminders!

Meetings are held at 16:30 in the AFNorth Library Conference room located on the 2nd floor

CONTACT: AFNORTH.IS.E5.PTO@GMAIL.COM FOR QUESTIONS

BOOK SALE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - We have a particular need for volunteers during set-up in the afternoon before and at the end of the afternoon/clean-up shift.

If you are able to spare any time to help, please follow the link below to sign up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0945A5AB2CA3FE3-afnorth2#>

WORLD CHILDREN'S DAY DRAWING CONTEST & CELEBRATIONS

THEME: FRIENDS AROUND THE WORLD

AFNORTH International School is organizing a Drawing Contest as part of the World Children's Day celebrations. All students of AFNORTH & JFCBS Community in the Elementary and Grade 6 are encouraged to take part in this event.

RULES FOR PARTICIPATION

Open to all Elementary and Grade 6 students & Children of JFCBS members

Two Categories (Sambans: Year 3/Pre-K - Grade 2) and Year 4-6/Grade 5-6)

A3 Size Paper should be used.

One person with one drawing only

Drawings should be submitted to the British Office no later than 15 April 2024

Name, Nationality, Section and Grade of the participant to be written on the back of the drawing. (The children of JFCBS members from other schools, please send your info & screenshot of the picture to british.office@afnorth-is.com)

Winners announced at AFNORTH Culture Day Assembly on April the 25th (09:15)



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Order yours today!

Softcover- \$35
HardCover- \$45
eYearbook- \$10

AFNorth Elementary
2024

Buy yours today at
<https://store.shopyearbook.com/afnorth-2023-2024-elementary-yearbook>



Don't miss your chance to own this special keepsake!
Orders close 13 May 2024!
If you PCS'd and need us to mail out email:
afnorththeyearbook@gmail.com



MON 4/15

... have traveled the world!

WEAR A TRAVEL LOCATION SHIRT

TUES 4/16

... can fit in no matter where they are!

WEAR CAMO to blend in or **SPARKLES** to stand out

WED 4/17

... can be anything they choose to be!

DRESS FOR A CAREER

THURS 4/18

... have their own style!

WEAR something FANCY or something **COMFY**

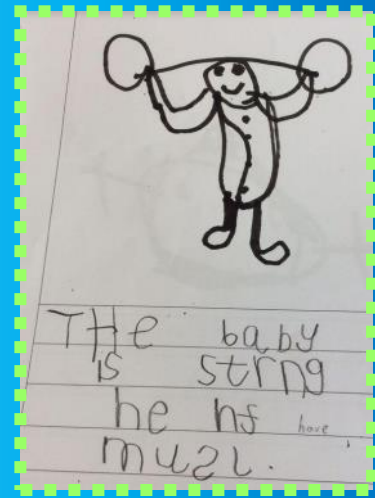
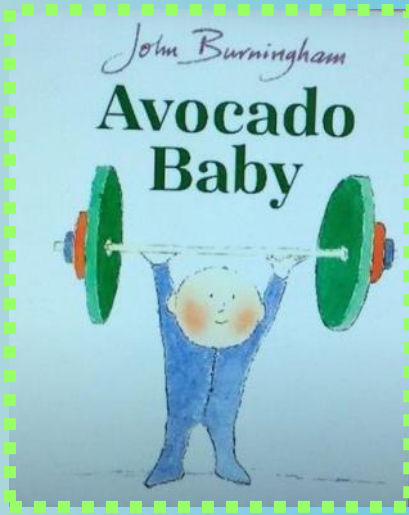
FRI 4/19

... are **AMAZING!**

WEAR PURPLE for **PURPLE UP DAY**

Reception

Story immersion. Reception Class children love a good story! This week they have immersed themselves into the world of Avocado Baby. They have written their own versions, acted it out, drawn pictures, written secret messages and made avocado dip. Next week they will make up further adventures for Avocado Baby to go on!



Year 1

There has been a lot of excitement in year 1 this week. Our 5 caterpillars have arrived and the children have named them all! They are enjoying watching them move and grow, eager to see them make their cocoons. In maths we have been working on the beginnings of multiplication by counting in groups of 2, 5 and 10. We have been adding groups of the same number together too. On Wednesday we discovered having planted our bean seeds that we must have had a magical bean! A hug beanstalk had begun growing out of the cupboard. It has grown bigger every day and the children have many questions and lots of ideas about here it has come from and what will happen next! We have also planted various different vegetable seeds outside our classroom. We are looking forward to seeing everything grow.



Year 2

This week we have had a wonderful week of exploring plants and flowers in our local environment. We have learnt the varied parts of a plant and a flower and we have explored what the function of each of the parts is.



Year 3

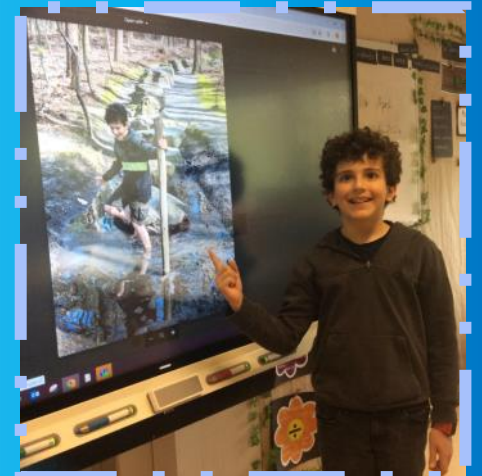
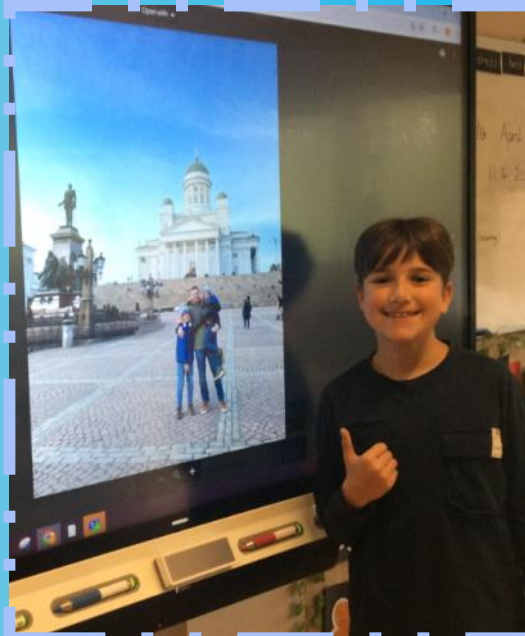
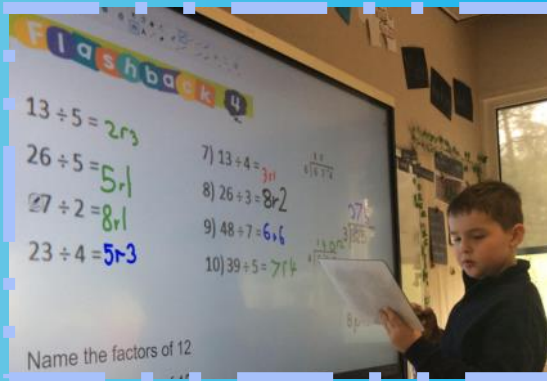
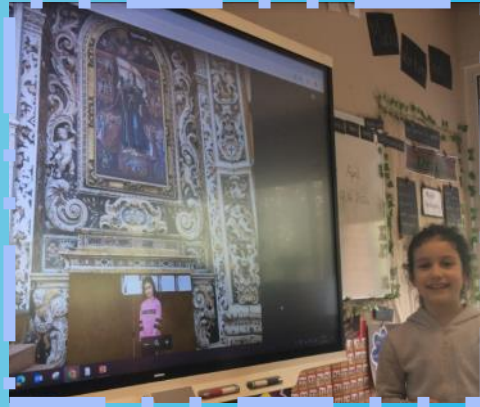
This week year 3 have returned full of enthusiasm for their learning, we have begun a new topic about folktales and in science we have begun to learn about forces. We have investigated friction using ramps and cars, finding out which surfaces had more friction than others. In maths we have been learning about time and been trying to tell the time to the minute. We found that something had been in the classroom, which caused much discussion, as to whether the big bad wolf was back!



Year 4-5

"We are happy to be back at school and lots of us had amazing news to share about our holiday adventures. We are also happy to have Dylan back at Afnorth and joining our class!"

In Maths, Year 5 have been learning about angles - reflex, acute, obtuse and right angles. We have also been measuring angles using a protractor. Year 4 have continued working with decimal numbers and enjoying their daily 'flashback' questions. In English, we have looked at the story plot of our model text 'The King of the Fishes'. We then created our own story plans with our own characters. We could 'hug' the model text or 'shake hands' with it - now we are ready to write!" **Reported by Amelia and Poyraz**



Year 6

It was lovely hearing all about what Year 6 got up to during the Easter holidays and they were ready for some great learning this week!

In Science, we investigated how mirrors work as part of the unit of light. The classroom was transformed into a mini investigation room with different stations and experiments. As you can see, Year 6 enjoys a 'hands on' approach to their learning. This 'hands on' approach filtered into our spelling lesson this week where the children were asked to spell the words using pipe cleaners, dice, counters and Lego.

Well done Year 6, great start to the term!



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.](#)



Host Nation news

March 2024

We would like to send out this reminder:

***4th and 5th Grade project:
'The Host Nation ducks
explore the Netherlands'***

Inspired by the book
'The orange duck explores the Netherlands',
4th and 5th Grade students are invited
to submit a request to take a small rubber duck
with them on a trip through the Netherlands.

The Host Nation teachers would like to receive
1 or more photos from the trip to create a wall
of photos with the HN rubber duckies and
to evaluate with the students in class.

You can send pictures to
hostnation@afnorth-is.com

Kind regards,

*Ms. Dyon Damen
Mrs. Gina Lavere
(substitute for Mr. Craig McMorland)*

Host Nation Teachers



LUNCH

Please note the price for lunch is €3.75



Week 16 15-04 t/m 19-04-2024

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, Tomato-Zucchini Sauce	3, 4
Carbonara Sauce	1, 2, 3, 5
Pasta	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, Potato Gratin, Mixed Vegetables	1, 2, 3, 4
Chicken Fillet	3, 6
Potato Gratin	1, 2
Mixed Vegetables	

FRIDAY

Veggie Sausage, Fries, Carrots	1, 2, 3, 4, 8
Fish Nuggets 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>



Defence Children Services

Building 183
Trenchard Lines
UPAVON
Pewsey
SN9 6BE

Tel: 01980 618710
E-mail: RC-DCS-HQ-Mailbox@mod.gov.uk

Monday 4th March 2024

Dear Parent/Carers,

Absence During Term Time

I am writing to introduce myself as your Education Welfare Officer for Defence Children’s Services. My role is to support schools, pupils, and parents to ensure attendance is maximised in school. I offer informal support to Service Personnel and entitled MOD civilians who have been identified as requiring early intervention.

The role of The Education Welfare Officer is to replicate where practicably possible the formal Education Welfare Process for children and young people who have been identified as Persistent Absentees (below 90% as outlined by The Department for Education). However, we are fully aware that being part of the MOD can have its challenges for families especially due to living overseas.

We understand that there may be occasions when a child might be absent from school – for example, if unwell. We also understand on occasions there may be compassionate or exceptional circumstances for an absence to be authorised such as Post Operational Leave. However, we request other absences should be kept to a minimum and parents should avoid taking children out of school during term-time to go on a holiday.

Please also refer to your child’s school attendance policy along with JSP 342 Education of Service Children & young people and JSP 760 Tri-Service Regulations for Leave and Other Types of Absence.

Please be aware if the absence request is not authorised by the school and the absence is still taken, this will remain unauthorised. If leave is granted but your child remains absent for longer than agreed, then this extra time will be recorded as an unauthorised absence.

If leave of absence is taken and children are off school further for additional reasons this also impacts attendance. The diagram below highlights for you lost learning from absences over an academic year. Please be aware if your child’s attendance is below 90%, they may fall under the radar of the Education Welfare Officer who supports school with their military family’s attendance matters. As per the DfE the guidance outlines attendance between **96 – 100% is deemed as good**. 90% attendance may sound good however over your child’s academic career this equates to a year and a half of lost learning.

I understand this can be confusing and the Education Welfare Team is here to support and help navigate you as a family through your child’s learning journey with all attendance related matters and can offer both formal and informal support.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly for advice or guidance on the email below or contact The Education Welfare Team group mailbox: RC-DCS-HQ-WSW@mod.gov.uk

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours Sincerely

J Kelly

Jane Kelly | Education Welfare Officer (ROW)

Email: jane.kelly239@mod.gov.uk

Direct line: +443001616669

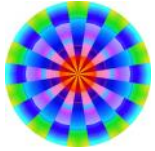
Group email: RC-DCS-HQ-WSW@mod.gov.uk

Attendance	Days absent	Lost learning hours
100%	0	0
98%	4	20
96%	7.5	37.5
94%	11	55
92%	15	75
90%	19	95
86%	28	140
80%	39	195



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. 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.

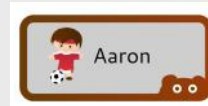
During periods of inclement weather please wait inside the main entrance (in the well area under the stairs or when this area is in use please wait outside the British Office). Staff will collect/deliver the children to you. There is no need to sign in

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