



AFNORTH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

British Section

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

British.office@afnorth-is.com

19 April 2024



April

- 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

- 20 End of Year BBQ
- 21 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL



Dear Parents,

Thank you coming along today to show your pride and appreciation at our first ever "Clap Out" recognising our Military Children. The sun even joined us and the hail shower waited until the last child was on the bus...phew!

We are so excited for Culture Day next Tuesday. Many of the classes have had visits from parents and community members sharing their knowledge about their country. Student Council will lead us through the Assembly where we will have dancers from Turkiye and Spain. We will also learn the winners of the drawing contest "Friends Across The World". It will be a wonderful day and we very much appreciate all parents who have been able to volunteer ... with your help activities like are made possible.



In recognition of Earth Day our Recycling Champions on Student Council have requested we think carefully next week about packaging and litter. They would like everyone to plan their snack/lunches so we have little to no plastic or waste after eating.

A very busy week ahead including a visit from the RAF Stem team who will be working with Year 5 and the event we have all been waiting for..... "Seussical The Musical". Good Luck to everyone involved.

Well Done to Year 6 who were our Attendance Champions last term with 97%

Have a lovely weekend



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



Avyaan, Erdem O., Melisa, Heloise, Hugo, Orla, Mete Maria Gabriella, Agatka, Henry, Joshua, Year 4-5, Charles, Kaan, Pari, Silvia

FRIENDS
are
FOREVER!
~~~~~

SCHOOL  
RULES!

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AFNorth Elementary  
2024

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# Sunbeams

Our Super Sunbeams have spent a wonderful two weeks welcoming new friends into our setting. Gianluca, Fionn, Asher and Santino have explored our beautiful setting alongside the support of our existing Sunbeams, finding out about the toys and resources we love the most and caring for some other new class residents, our sunflower challenge our very wiggly and hairy caterpillars! What an exciting term awaits us!



# Reception

How do we encourage the Characteristics of Effective Learning in Reception Class? The children found some lost baby dolls in the forest who needed looking after. They adopted the roles of parents and siblings. In small teams the children selected tarps, clips, blankets and bowls to make shelters. They used the Characteristics of Effective Learning to problem-solve together, to adapt plans, to work with others, to negotiate, to include everyone, to play roles and to enjoy the satisfaction of a job well done!



# Year 1

Year 1 have been occupied with finding out about the magic beanstalk growing in our classroom. We've fed the giant's boots and then on Tuesday he arrived in our cupboard looking for them! They loved talking to the giant and asking him about how he got here and what he likes.

We have also been spending some time learning about Denmark in preparation for culture day. We went online to research different aspects of Denmark and the children have each made their own flag.

We are all now great storytellers when it comes to Jack and the Beanstalk and have been exploring the sequence of the story as well as discussing each of the characters. Much to our surprise the missing golden egg appeared in our room in a flowerpot so we are eagerly waiting to see what happens next!



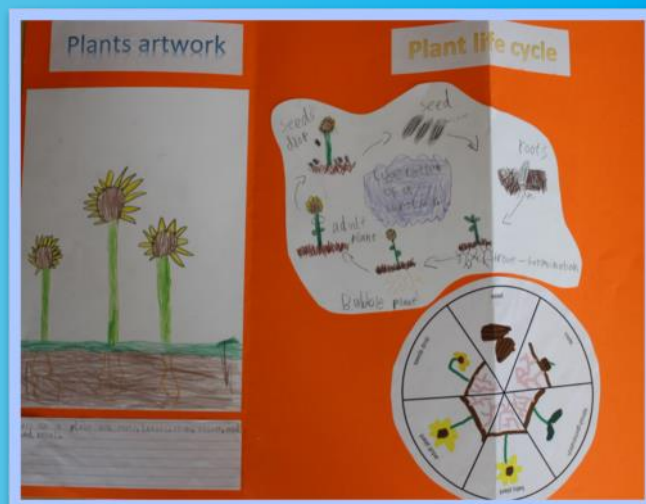
# Year 2

This week year 2 have been focussing on the life cycle of plants. We have learnt lots of new amazing words and have made a video teaching others about the life cycle of plants. Once the video is ready I will share a link. We have also been working on fractions in maths. This has been tricky but they've done amazingly well! Hard work and perseverance pays off!

Functions of parts of a plant

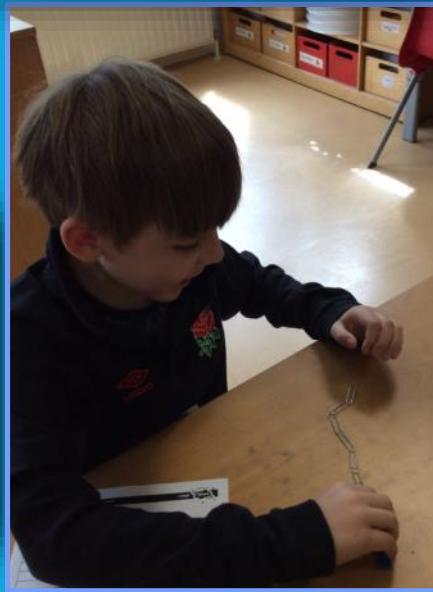
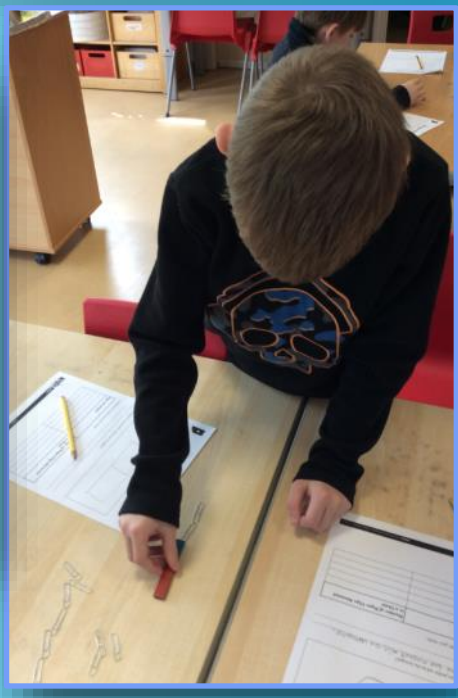
Petal ④  
Anther ⑤  
Leaf ②  
Roots ③  
Stem ①

|        |                                                                                                                           |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Roots  | The function of the roots is to anchor the plant to the ground with soil and get the water and nutrients from the ground. |
| Stem   | The function of the stem is to help the water get around the plant and also it can stay up tall.                          |
| Leaves | The function of a leaf is they make food from sunlight and water the sun makes the water.                                 |
| Anther |                                                                                                                           |
| Petals | The function of petals is to attract insects, bees and animals to look at and smell.                                      |



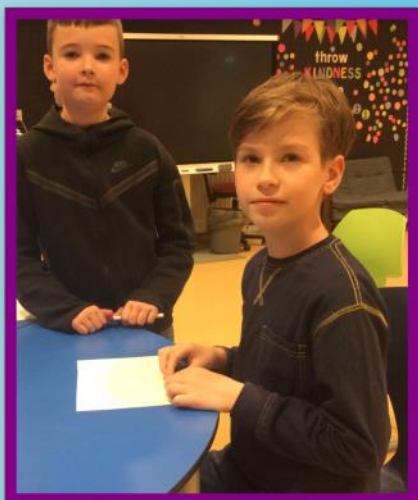
# Year 3

This week we have been doing lots of calculations using 7,12,60,365. Can you guess why? (We also know why February is the 'break the rules' month!) In English it has been interesting to make comparisons in folklore between different countries. We also used 'fronted adverbials' in our sentences. We've really enjoyed researching our special country, Romania, for the Culture Day. Our special Romanian guest, Mihnea, shared lots of interesting and fun facts with us. At the library we searched for books related to folk tales and Romania and shared these with our friends.



# Year 4-5

"In Science, we have been learning about the Digestive System - What happens to our food? We can now name the different parts of the food's journey e.g.oesophagus, small intestine, rectum...and know their functions. In English, we started our story innovation using descriptive words and interesting sentences - super writing so far! We have also been busy making our Turkije board for Culture day next week. We found lots of pictures and made lots of labels - great teamwork! Thank you to Deniz's mum and Bade's mum for coming in to work with us. It was fun! Look out for more photos in next week's news!" **Reported by Evita and Oliver**





# Year 6

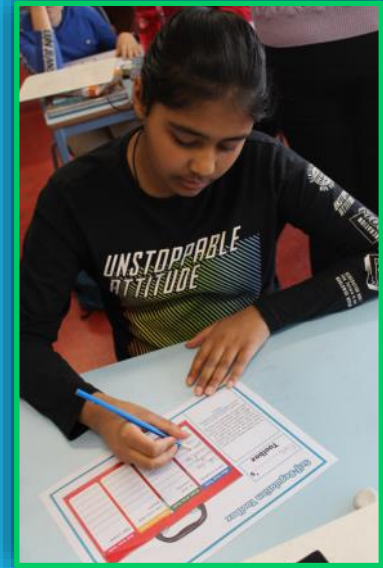
Year 6 started investigating their new unit in Science : Animals Including Humans.

Here we can be seen trying to label the human body and its organs and other systems. We loved finding out about the circulatory system, looking at video footage and playing a game where we had to match into groups of three - diagram, vocabulary and description of meaning. This allowed us to show that we understand the difference between, for example, a vein and an artery (how they might look, and their function). We also enjoyed a fun session, led by Charles, where we researched some interesting information



# Year 6

In PSHE we have been talking about 'Healthy Me' - emotional and mental health. We used a Zones of Regulation chart and explored the range of feelings that it is natural for anyone to have, and then strategies we might use to help us get to/stay in the zone we would like to be in. The children responded very positively to the session, and are keen to take their own charts home to share and complete with their parents. Thank you to Leo who shared in his chart and how he uses it to help him be in the 'green zone' when he needs to be. We also talked about the fact that 'all the zones are ok'.



## How can you help yourself?

| The BLUE zone                                                                             | The GREEN zone                                                                                                  | The YELLOW zone                                                                                                  | The RED zone                                                                                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                           |                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                           |
| <b>How might you feel?</b>                                                                | <b>How might you feel?</b>                                                                                      | <b>How might you feel?</b>                                                                                       | <b>How might you feel?</b>                                                                                                |
| sad<br>tired<br>bored<br>moving slowly                                                    | happy<br>okay<br>focussed<br>ready to learn                                                                     | nervous<br>confused<br>silly<br>not ready to learn                                                               | angry<br>frustrated<br>scared<br>out of control                                                                           |
| <b>What might help you?</b>                                                               | <b>What might help you?</b>                                                                                     | <b>What might help you?</b>                                                                                      | <b>What might help you?</b>                                                                                               |
| Talk to someone<br>Stretch<br>Take a brain break<br>Stand<br>Take a walk<br>Close my eyes | The goal of this exercise is to get to the GREEN zone.<br>What can you do to be happy, calm and ready to learn? | Talk to someone<br>Count to 20<br>Take deep breaths<br>Squeeze something<br>Draw a picture<br>Take a brain break | Stop what I'm doing<br>Make sensible choices<br>Take deep breaths<br>Ask for a break<br>Find a safe space<br>Ask for help |



# 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](mailto:hostnation@afnorth-is.com)

*Kind regards,*

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

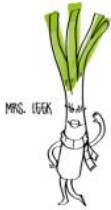
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*Host Nation Teachers*



# LUNCH

Please note the price for lunch is €3.75



Week 17 22-04 t/m 26-04-2024

## MONDAY

|                                          |               |
|------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Veggie Balls, Mashed Potato, Peas & Mint | 1, 2, 3, 4, 9 |
| Beef Pie                                 | 1, 2, 3, 10   |
| Mashed Potato                            | 1, 3          |
| Peas & Mint                              | 3, 9          |
| Gravy                                    | 3             |

## TUESDAY

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

## WEDNESDAY

|                                               |               |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Empanada, Tomato Rice, Cucumber, Garlic Sauce | 1, 2, 3, 4, 8 |
| Empanada                                      | 2, 3, 4, 8    |
| Tomato Rice with Zucchini                     | 3             |
| Cucumber                                      |               |
| Garlic Sauce                                  | 1, 2, 3       |

## THURSDAY

|                                                   |             |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Omelet, Potato with Onions & Pickles, Green Beans | 1, 2, 3     |
| Beef Meat Balls                                   | 2, 3, 4, 10 |
| Potato with Onions & Pickles                      | 3           |
| Green Beans                                       |             |
| Curry Sauce                                       | 3           |

## FRIDAY

|                                            |            |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|
| Veggie Snack, Fries, Carrots, Tartar Sauce | 1, 2, 3    |
| 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>

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**Defence Children Services**

Building 183  
Trenchard Lines  
UPAVON  
Pewsey  
SN9 6BE

Tel: 01980 618710  
E-mail: [RC-DCS-HQ-Mailbox@mod.gov.uk](mailto:RC-DCS-HQ-Mailbox@mod.gov.uk)

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:jane.kelly239@mod.gov.uk)

Direct line: +443001616669

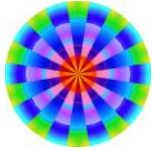
Group email: [RC-DCS-HQ-WSW@mod.gov.uk](mailto:RC-DCS-HQ-WSW@mod.gov.uk)

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



# 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:

- bereavement or serious illness of relatives.
- medical needs where treatment is required in the Home Country.
- 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:

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

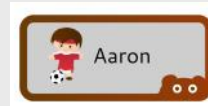
During periods of inclement weather please wait inside the main entrance (in the well area under the stairs or when this area is in use please wait outside the British Office). Staff will collect/deliver the children to you. There is no need to sign in

**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