



AFNORTH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

British Section

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

British.office@afnorth-is.com

26 April 2024

Dear Parents,

Tuesday was a very special day as we celebrated our rich and diverse community with Culture Day. Classes, along with the help of their parent volunteers, created wonderful displays throughout the school. We learned many new things and sampled delicious treats from around the world.

Well done to our Student Council who led the Opening Assembly. We were thrilled by the fabulous Flamenco Dancers and everyone was so impressed with Zeynep, Hilal, Deniz, and Mete who treated us to a traditional dance from Türkiye. There was great excitement when Sylvia assisted Colonel Husnu, SNR from the Turkish Delegation in announcing the winners of the drawing contest "Friends Around The World". The entries were all fabulous and have created a lovely display around the stairwell. We are very grateful to the Turkish Delegation for sponsoring this activity and to Colonel Husnu for sharing the messages of Children's Day.



A team from RAF Cranwell, visited this week and delivered a series of exciting STEM sessions. The focus of the sessions was problem solving, teamwork and computer coding. Scenarios were given to the children where they worked in groups to formulate ideas and then create and find solutions. FS George Austen and Chf Tech Phil Betts were very complimentary of the children who were eager to engage in the challenges. They tested their engineering, mathematical and scientific transferable skills through various activities. Responding with lots of questions it was lovely to see the children working in groups to think of different design options and trial the making of their ideas.

We created Lego robots using Spike Lego. We were told that our robot rescue vehicles had to help in a natural disaster. It was fun to build and work in groups. It was hard to think of ideas that could cope with different disasters. We had a race at the end, all the robots finished and some finished further than others. Dylan and Maria Sofia.

Our idea was to make a robot that would push a wall down. We had to test and check that it worked. Our robot had to be rebuilt to cope with the challenge. We connected our robots to a bluetooth tablet and programmed it to move and go through the escape route using coding.
Rory and Michel



Have a lovely weekend

Bucket Fillers



Maxime, Wilbur, Alda, Ewan, Maja, Martín, Joshua C., Gabin, James J., Mete, Sofia, Dylan S., Evita, John, Viki Matthew, Alena, Bade, Fernando, Freya, Julia, Mario,

April

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

May

9 SCHOOL CLOSED-
STAFF DAY
13-16 Y6 National Assessments
14 Sunbeams Reception Trip
20 SCHOOL CLOSED
31 Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 Trips

June

4 Year 4/5 Trip
20 End of Year BBQ
21 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

Attendance Matters!



Every Student, Every School, Every Day

Attendance This Week

Whole School 95 %

Reception	93%
Year 1	96%
Year 2	94%
Year 3	95%
Year 4-5	95%
Year 6	95%

ATNORTH Fine Arts Festival

Join us for an exciting evening showcasing
ATNORTH's Visual and performance Artists
of all ages and all Nations



Meander through the various **Visual Art Shows**, **10-minute Music & Drama Performances**, **Interactive Short Film Projects**, and participate in **live Interviews** with **Mr. Eddington** or in a **Maker's Workshop** with **Mr. Jaeger**.

Bid on Art in the **Silent Art Auction** (Cash only please). Proceeds go towards permanent art frames to continually showcase your children's artworks.

Light snacks provided

Thursday May 2, 2024
Drop by anytime from 5 to 8PM
Cafeteria

Information for the closure of Sodexo accounts for families that are leaving

Information about the Sodexo lunch account procedures and the steps to close the Sodexo lunch account can be found here:

<https://afnorth-is.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/4090.008-Pro-Sodexo-lunch-Account-2024.02.01.pdf>

The families that remain at AIS will be able to use their lunch account next SY, they do not need to re-register.

FLEA MARKET & SECOND HAND CLOTHES

SA, 01/06/2024
9:30 – 13:30h



INFORMATION

When? Saturday 1st of June 2024 09:30a.m – 13:30p.m

Where? AFNORTH International School / Cafeteria
Ferdinand Bolstraat 1 | NL-6445 EE Brunssum

What? >> **Flea Market: CASH ONLY**
Sale of Toys, books, board games,
more information in the info sheet "flea market"

>> **Clothes Sale: Cashless payment available**
Sale of baby, children's and teenage clothing & shoes,
Strollers, bicycles, sporting goods, Child seats

>> **Cake buffet: CASH ONLY**
Organized by the Canadian-German student council

For more info
& registration
scan here

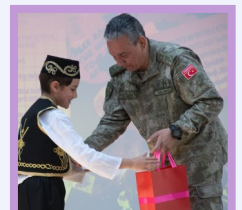
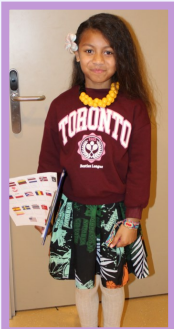


If you would
like to help
scan here



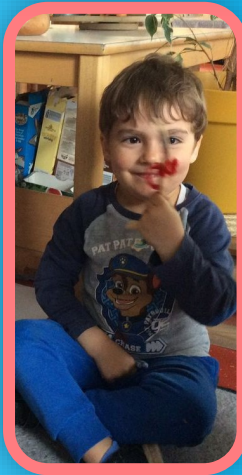
AFNORTH International School

Culture Day 2024



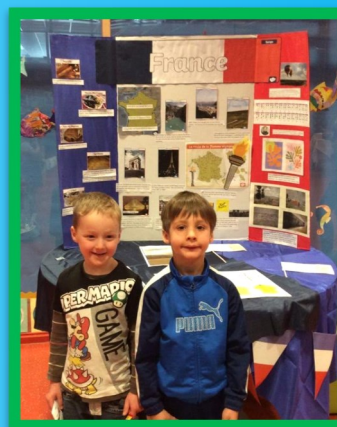
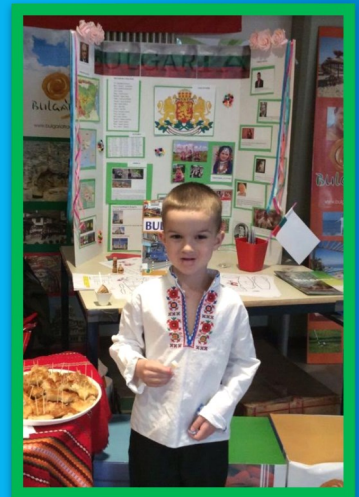
Sunbeams

Thinking Thursday is a firm favourite of our weekly schedule with a focus on building confidence to talk and developing questioning language. Our wonderful children can bring in from home something that they would like to share with their friends. This could include anything from favourite toys to information gathered from a trip or holiday, something they have made and even some very special bedtime soft toys. We light our calming candle, take a breath and look at our question words for the session. The children then take it in turns to showcase their special item which they do with pride and confidence. The next part blows me away each and every week...our children can ask their friend a question about their special item, looking carefully at the choices of who, what, where, why and which and then delving a little deeper to find out more information about their friend's item. The questions our 3 and 4 year olds ask are amazing...Where did you get it from? Which bit was the hardest to make? Where does it like to live in your house? Why do you love it so much? Our Thinking Thursday session wouldn't be complete without our children and families taking on the role of baker of the week, bringing us a whole host of treats to share with our friends.



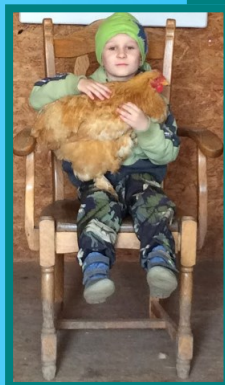
Reception

Reception Class children were thrilled to be involved in Culture Day! The children learnt all about their adoptive country of Hungary and were able to talk about many interesting facts. They went to the assembly and even spotted a mummy doing Spanish dancing. They saw many more parents as they explored the displays and everyone found their own country and showed pride in belonging there. We also ate our way round the world, tasting many different foods!



Year 1

Year One began the week completing our Denmark display. The children loved culture day, we made sure to visit every country especially where everyone in our class is from. In our classroom the beanstalk has continued to grow. Another golden egg even appeared. We learnt about how to pot our seeds with soil and ensure the roots are covered. On Friday the children had a fantastic day at the farm petting and feeding lots of animals as well as having the opportunity to hold some too.



Year 2

This week year 2 has been learning all about fractions in maths. We have learnt how to find thirds and quarters and the whole when we only know what $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ is. We have been learning what a unit and non unit fraction is. We had a wonderful time on culture day and we would like to say a huge thank you to Mr and Mr Kabulevu who helped us run and resource an amazing stall showing all about their home country of Fiji. The children loved learning about native Fijian animals, where in the world Fiji was and the oceans and countries that are nearest. Once again, thank you Mr and Mrs Kabulevu for helping us.



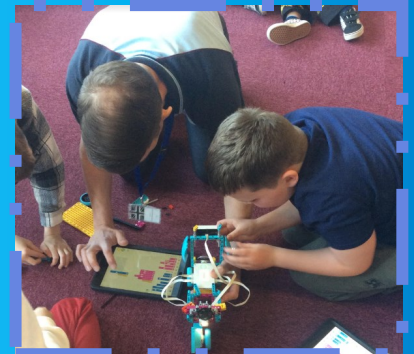
Year 3

It's been a busy and fun week in Year 3. Culture Day was amazing. We learned so much about many countries and ate lots of delicious food from around the world. We were so proud of Mete who performed a traditional Turkish dance on stage in front of the entire school! In maths we have been learning about time durations. In English we've been writing our own folktales which are full of interesting characters, various settings and the most amazing plots. In science it's been all about magnificent magnets and we even made our own compasses!



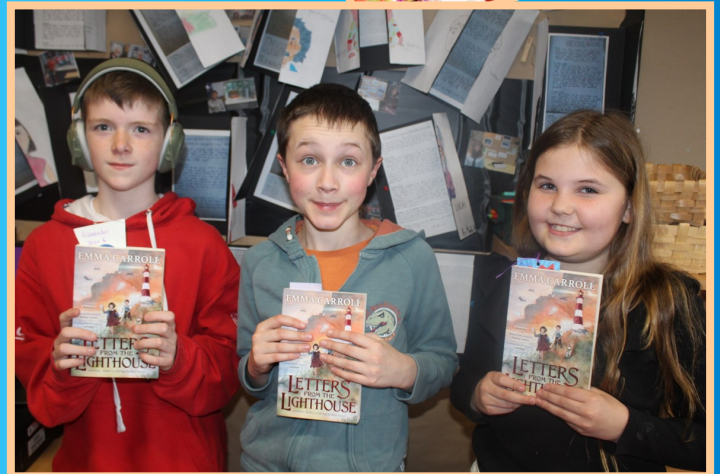
Year 4-5

"On Tuesday, we had a STEM session with Royal Air Force visitors from the UK. We worked with partners and used Lego to build a rescue vehicle. Then we coded them to move using I pads and had a vehicle race. Anders, Dylan C and Oliver's team won; their robot was called Scooper. It was fun, interesting and a great experience! On the same day, we also went on a 'World Tour' around the school to visit different displays. We had a piece of paper with all the flags from different countries and at every stand we visited, we got a stamp. Lots of the stands had food samples from their countries - they were delicious! We really enjoyed it and learned lots about different countries and cultures. Tuesday was certainly a busy day!" **Reported by Eva and Mihnea**



Year 6

Year 6 have had a very busy week with a talk about bicycles and the equipment we need to make sure and check before using our bikes. We also spoke about what we should wear - such as helmets that fit properly and high visibility vests and reflective gear, along with correct shoes. This is in preparation for the up-and-coming Arnhem residential trip, but also for when we use our bikes in general



We enjoyed our Culture day! What a feast we had, but also what an amount of amazing displays. The assembly was a riot of colours and really brought home the wonderful international community we have here in Afnorth school. We were proud to see and hear Mario and Silvia present at the assembly. Well done to both: you spoke very clearly and confidently! It was wonderful to see parents taking the stage with their national dancing too. We had a wonderful couple of days in class listening to music from Sweden as we worked together to make our Swedish display. We LOVE Abba and Avicii! :)

We are also currently gripped by our class novel : Letters From The Lighthouse. More about this next week...! :) But we LOVE BOOKS!!

Bucket Fillers

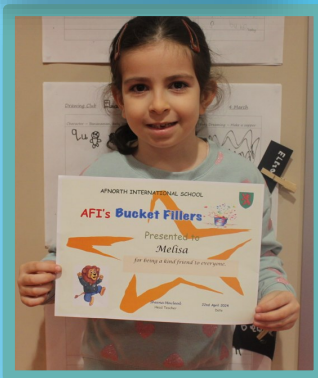
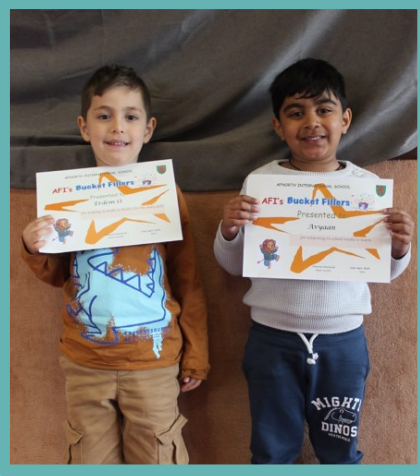


Linked to the book "Have You Filled a Bucket Today?" by Carol McCloud our Bucket Filler Award recognises positive behaviours e.g. kindness, respect, responsibility, resilience as well as hard work and achievement.

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 18 29-04 tm 03-05-2024

MONDAY

Empanada, Dollar Chips, Coleslaw	1, 2, 3, 4, 8
Chicken Filet	3, 6
Dollar Chips	
Coleslaw	
BBQ Sauce	3

TUESDAY

Soy Roti with Curry Beans	3, 4
Crispy Chicken	3, 4, 6
Roti (Savoury Pancake)	3
Curry Beans	3

WEDNESDAY

Pasta with Tomato Vegetable Sauce	3, 4
Pasta & Basil	3
Beef Ragout	3, 10
Snack Tomato	

THURSDAY

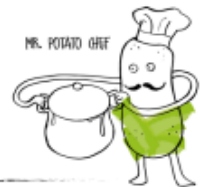
Vegetable Stew, Indian Rice, Naan Bread, Cucumber	1, 2, 3, 4
Indian Beef Meat Balls	2, 3, 4, 10
Indian Rice	3
Naan Bread	1, 2, 3
Cucumber	1, 3

FRIDAY

Veggie Burger, Fries, Peas	1,2,3, 4, 8, 9
Fish Nuggets or Hot Dog Sausage	2, 3, 5, 7
Fries	
Peas	9
Tartar Sauce	2

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

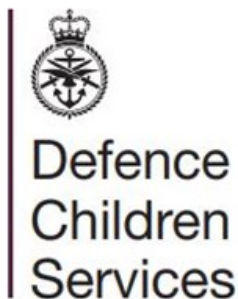


All meals are nut free



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)

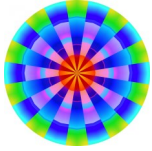
Email: jane.kelly239@mod.gov.uk

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.

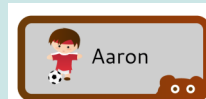
During periods of inclement weather please wait inside the main entrance (in the well area under the stairs or when this area is in use please wait outside the British Office). Staff will collect/deliver the children to you. There is no need to sign in

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 should take responsibility for their own items.



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