



AFNORTH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

British Section

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

British.office@afnorth-is.com

3 May 2024

Dear Parents,

Huge Congratulations to all those involved in the musical "Seussical" last weekend. The performance was excellent and left everyone astonished that these were primary school children. Each child really played their part in the success of the production and it was evident just how much they enjoyed the experience and how proud they were of themselves.

During this final term, the children will take part in national assessments. The following is an outline of these assessments. Should you have any questions please do reach out to your child's class teacher.

Year 6

Monday 13 May English grammar, punctuation and spelling

Tuesday 14 May English reading

Wednesday 15 May Mathematics papers 1 and 2

Thursday 16 May Mathematics paper 3

The outcomes of these tests will not be known until mid July. Parents will be notified of your child's results via email.

Year 2 will participate in the optional assessments during the month of May. These include Reading, English grammar, punctuation and spelling and Maths

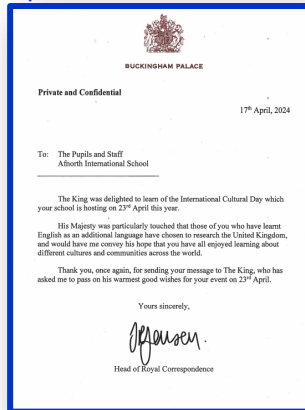
Year 1 10-15 June Phonics screening check. This is a short assessment for children in Year 1, and those in Year 2 who did not obtain the expected score in Year 1. More information can be found at [phonics-screening-check](#)

Year 4 10-14 June Multiplication tables check. This is an online test where pupils are asked to answer questions on times tables from 2 to 12. They are given six seconds per question, so the test should last less than five minutes. Questions about the six, seven, eight, nine, and 12 times tables are likely to come up most often, as these are the hardest for most children to learn.

There is nothing in the assessments to cause concern and we just expect

the children to do their best as they do every day.

We received a very special letter this week



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

17 Irish Storyteller-
Niall de Burca

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%



Bucket Fillers



Simon, Vojtech, Junstine, Alberto, Ginevra, Iwan, Jenson, Naglis, Rory H., Stepan, Charlotte, Javier, Joris, Maria Sofia, Matthew, Lexi, Balkan, Freya, Julia, Maddy, Pari, Silvia

Have a lovely weekend

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.



TEACHER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON
MAY 7TH 10:30
LOOKING FOR FOOD DONATIONS AND VOLUNTEERS
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0945A5AB2CA3FE3-48490406-ptopta#/>
SCAN ME

Rhinestone Reader



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



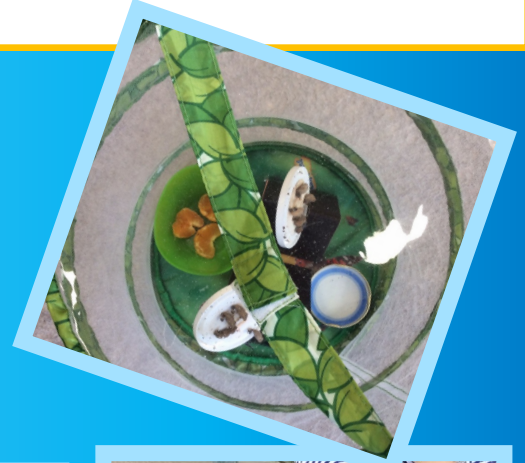
If you would
like to help
scan here



AFNORTH International School

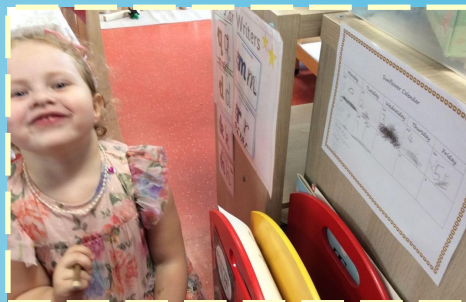
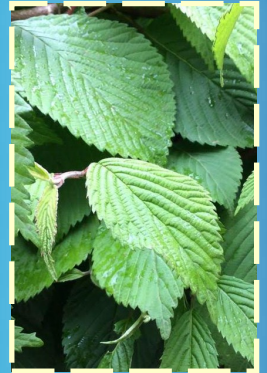
Sunbeams


Our Super Sunbeams have had a wonderful week eagerly anticipating the arrival of our beautiful painted lady butterflies. We have researched different types of caterpillars, thinking about size, shape, colour and then considered what they might eat and where they might live. We were incredibly fortunate that all 10 of our caterpillars successfully made the change into gorgeous butterflies which we had the pleasure of releasing them into our butterfly garden this morning. What a week!



Reception

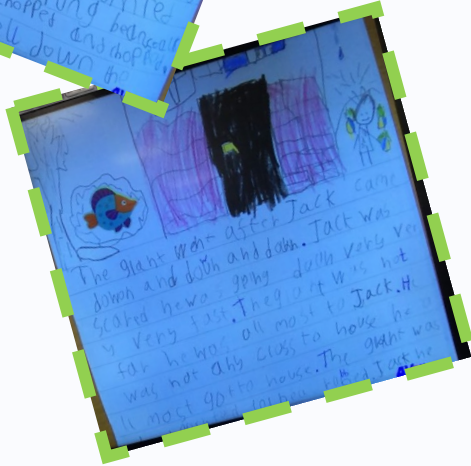
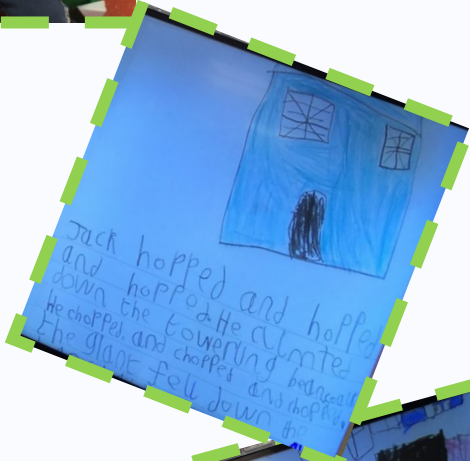
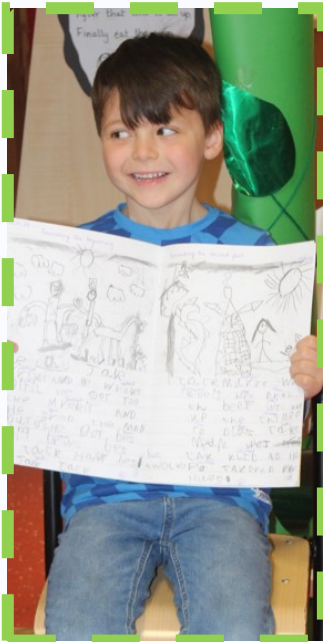
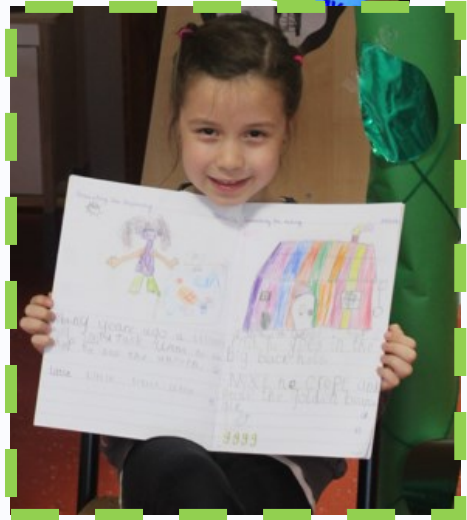
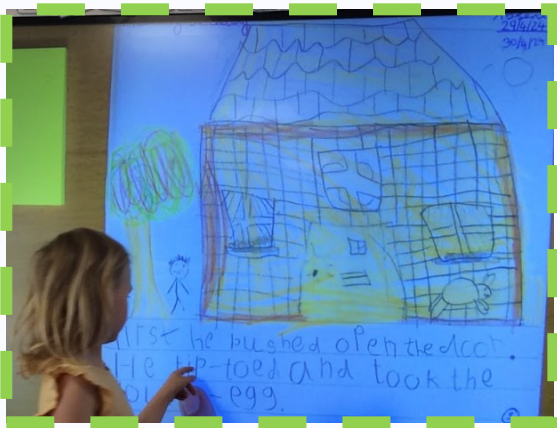
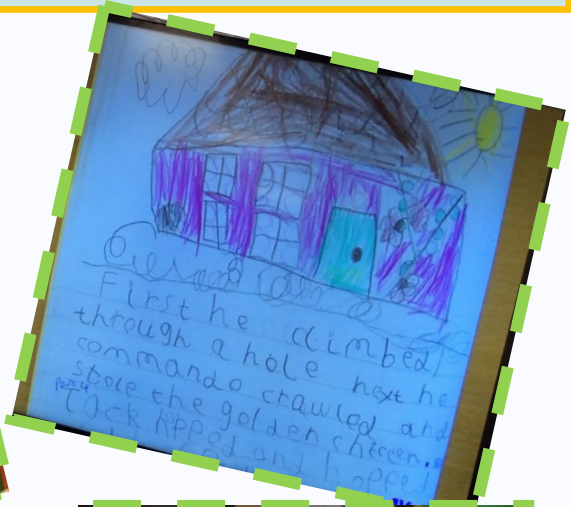
High-quality teaching ideas from the UK. Reception Class children have been joining in with The Sunflower Challenge, a maths project from Karen Wilding. The children subitised, counted and planted seeds using egg boxes as ten frames, sorted seeds by type, estimated outcomes such as how long they would take to grow and recorded progress on a calendar. The children looked for patterns on seeds, plants and minibeasts. They found lots of stripes and spirals that they replicated using chalks. The challenge has many more exciting activities to come!



<p>The seeds are in the paper.</p> <p>Orange seeds, black seeds</p> <p>The seeds need water, soil and sun</p>	<p>Seed Confetti</p> <p>We think the paper shows the colour of the flower that will grow.</p>  <p>We think 10 or 20 seeds are in the paper.</p> <p>What do we notice ?</p>	<p>Small baby seeds</p> <p>2 yellow 3 blue 2 green 5 red 9 orange</p> <p>It will take 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 days to grow.</p>
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Year 1

The children in year one have finished their writing about Jack and the Beanstalk. They loved sitting on the teacher chair and having their work up on the big screen, they even read their work to the class too. We are very proud of them and their super writing.



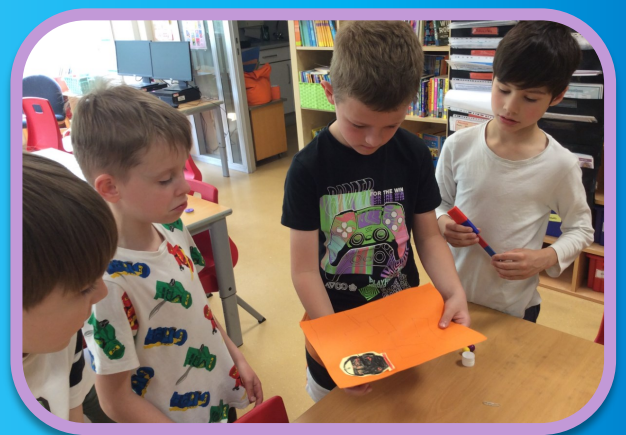
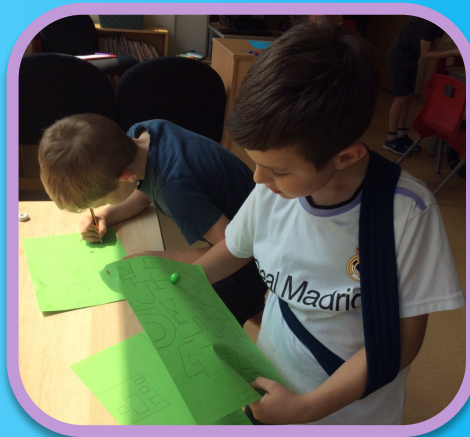
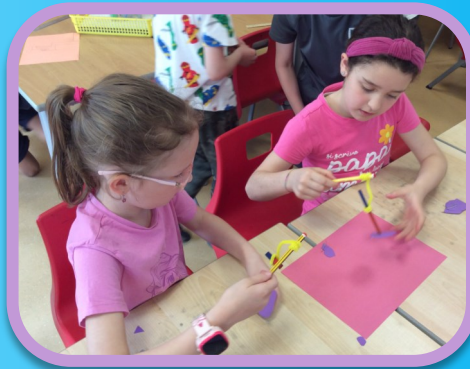
Year 2

This week Year 2 has produced some amazing art work in response to their science project. We have been studying Vincent Van Gogh Sunflowers as we studied the life cycle of a sunflower. We absolutely loved producing these and have really shown our creative flair and talent. Don't you agree they're wonderful?



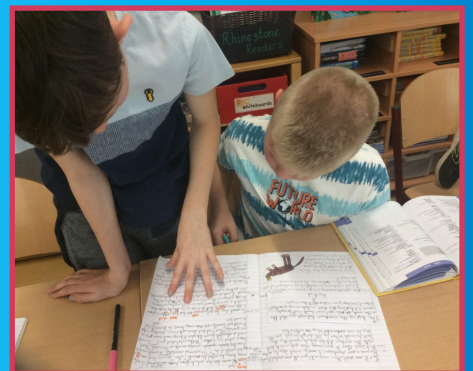
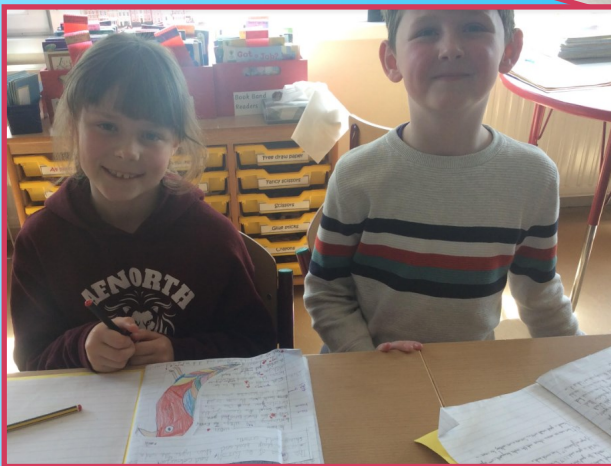
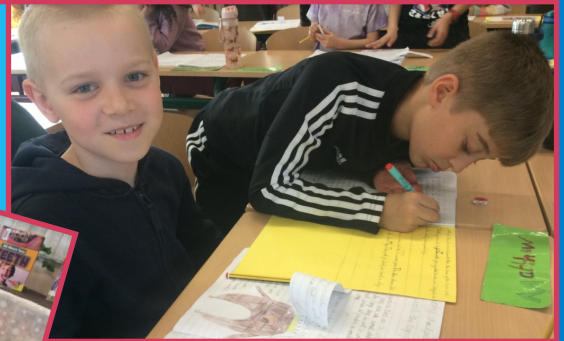
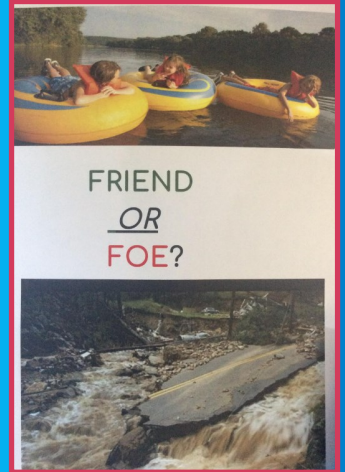
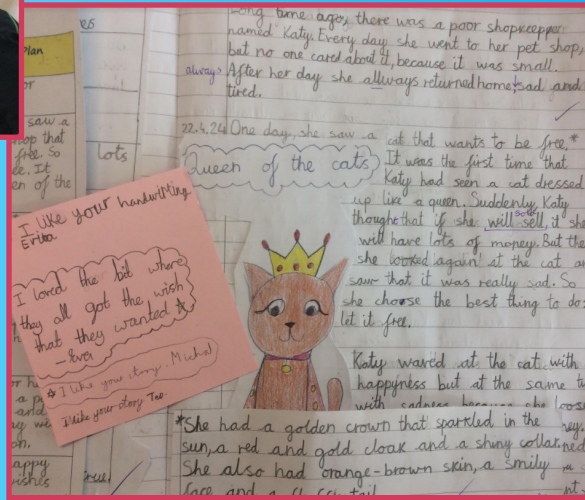
Year 3

This week Year 3 have been innovating our very own folk tales, there have been many mighty beasts slain by our young heroes, who were heralded by their villages in thanks! We have continued to work on time and finding out the duration of an event. In science we have continued our work on magnets and forces and made more fun games using magnets. In geography we have been thinking about London and how it has changed over the years. We've been discovering lines of latitude and longitude and learned about the importance of the Prime Meridian!



Year 4-5

"We finished writing our 'King of the Fishes' stories this week. We edited them with a partner and now we are busy publishing them. We have written positive comments to our friends about their work and are enjoying listening to them being read aloud to the class. In spelling this week, we focused on words beginning with the prefix -inter. Intergalactic was a great example! In Maths, we have been working with money - we estimated, calculated and problem-solved. In our river learning, we researched landforms that a river creates and also talked about the idea that rivers can be a 'friend' or 'foe'. It's been a great week!" **Reported by Dylan C and Dylan S**

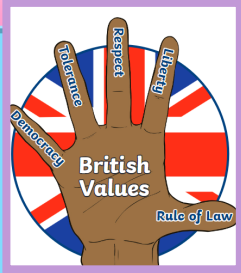


Great story Anders the characters have a lot of depth I can see you becoming a great author

Year 5 practicing for their Ukulele workshop



Year 6



Year 6 were lucky to enjoy a visit from Mr Church-Taylor, our SGC governor for quality of education. He took part in a whole class reading session where the children were responding to a dilemma from the class novel they are reading, linked to humanities: WW2. The dilemma was what to do with a pilot who had crash-landed near to their village - turn him in to the correct authorities, or hand him over to 'the mob' (villagers). The classroom was turned into a court room, presided over by 'His Honourable Church-Taylor'. We had 'defence' and 'prosecution' and a 'defendant'. The children had to construct arguments 'for' or 'against', giving reasons and evidence for their thinking. This was a wonderful opportunity for the children to demonstrate their comprehension of the book, and also develop their skills of oracy. In addition, they learned about International Law and 'British Values' of democracy, tolerance, respect, liberty and Rule of Law. The children absolutely loved this session and entered into character with passion! Their skills of debate were impressive and we think we have a few aspiring lawyers in our midst! Thanks must go to Mr Church-Taylor for giving of his time and expertise, and to Mrs Church-Taylor who planned this lesson as part of her PGCE teaching degree which she is nearing the end of!





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 19 06-05 t/m 10-05-2024

MONDAY

Omelet, Mashed Potato, White Beans in Tomato Sauce	1, 2, 3
Pork Sausage	3, 5
Mashed Potato	1
White Beans in Tomato Sauce	3
Gravy	3

TUESDAY

Veggie Balls, Baked Potato, Mixed Vegetables	3, 4, 9
Chicken Schnitzel	1, 2, 3, 6
Baked Potato	3
Mixed Vegetables	9
Bell Pepper Sauce	3

WEDNESDAY

Quiche, Rice, Cucumber	1, 2, 3, 9
Sweet Chicken Filet	3, 6
Rice, Parsley & Corn	
Cucumber	

THURSDAY

No School Today

FRIDAY

Veggie Snack, 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

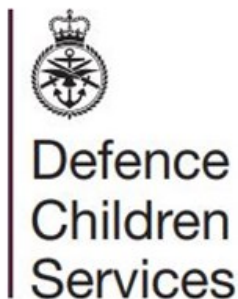


All meals are nut free



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)

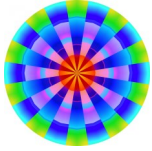
Email: jane.kelly239@mod.gov.uk

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.

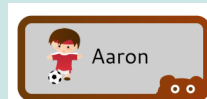
During periods of inclement weather please wait inside the main entrance (in the well area under the stairs or when this area is in use please wait outside the British Office). Staff will collect/deliver the children to you. There is no need to sign in

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