

Arunside Announcements Week Commencing Monday 9th October 2023

School Photos – Wednesday 11th October

We remind parents that the individual school photos will be taken on Wednesday 11th October so please send the children into school on that day in smart school uniform. This will be the same for the Year 1 and Year 2 children who normally have PE on a Wednesday. Please can they bring their PE kit into school in a bag so they can get changed after lunch. Likewise, Rowan class have Forest School on a Wednesday so we will ensure that they are the first to have their photos taken in the morning, then if they bring in their Forest School kit in a bag, they can change after their photos have been taken.

Starting School – September 2024

The application process for children due to start school in September 2024 will open on 2nd October 2023. As in recent years, parents are being encouraged to apply for their child's school place using the online system at www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions. Applications must be submitted by the **national closing date of Monday 15 January 2024**. The online system is now open. For parents who do not have access to the Internet at home, free access has been arranged at all West Sussex libraries and Children and Family Centers.

Parent Consultation Evenings

We have set up the two parent consultation evening events and you will find these on MCAS. The dates available are:

Wednesday 1st November (late meetings)

Thursday 2nd November (early meetings)

If you previously booked onto the sessions that were incorrectly showing on MCAS last week, please can you rebook as these appointments have now been deleted. We apologise for any in convenience caused

Xmas for Schools

Your children should have brought home their Christmas designs over the course of this week and we hope you are proud of their artwork. Christmas cards, poster calendars, tea towels, mugs and gift labels are all available through the fundraising scheme and £1 from the sale of each product will go straight back to the PTA to support the school. To order, all you need to do is complete the order form on the reverse of your child's artwork and return it to the school office by Wednesday 11th October 2023. Once Xmas4schools have received your forms, they will send you an email and text message containing your order code and a link to their online ordering portal. Parents will then need to enter their order code to log in and complete their order, making the necessary payments.

Science Selfie

Science Selfie is back for the October half term! Please take a photo of your child doing something science-y over the break and email it in, with the subject **#ScienceSelfie**, to: scienceselfie@arunside.school. There will be a winner selected from Early Years, Key Stage One, Upper Key Stage Two and Lower Key Stage Two, with exciting Science prizes! The deadline for the photos will **be Friday 3rd November**. We can't wait to see your #ScienceSelfies!

Year 6 EVACUATION DAY

As part of our History topic on World War 2, we have arranged for the Year 6 children to take part in an Evacuee Day to experience what other children may have felt whilst being evacuated during the war.

Our Evacuation Days will take place on:

*Tuesday 7th November 2023 for **Lime Class** and*

*Wednesday 8th November 2023 for **Rowan Class***

We will be having lunch when we return to school. Families of children entitled to free school meals can order packed lunches from Easy Lunch via Ellen Gardner in the school office but the deadline for doing this is 20th October.

Voucher Scheme – October Half Term 2023

Utilising funding from the governments' Household Support Fund, West Sussex County Council is pleased to confirm that families with Free School Meal eligible children will once again be entitled to a voucher for each FSM child during the upcoming October half-term. **There will be a £10.00 voucher per child for the week.** For children who are not eligible for FSMs but whose families need urgent support with food, West Sussex are operating the Community Hub where help can be sought.

Parking

Yet again we have received a complaint from a neighbour, regarding parking in Arunside. The resident was very concerned to find, on their return home at 3pm that the whole road has been blocked by parents picking up their children. In particular, they reported the attitude received from one parent whose child was wearing an Arunside uniform to be appalling with foul language being used. Photos of the cars in question were attached to the complaint and the resident has forwarded everything to Operation Crackdown. The office staff would like parents to know how difficult to defend behaviour such as this and yet again request considerate behaviour within our community.

Year 6 – Marchants Hill

Some parents may be aware of the BBC News article this week regarding the fine imposed on PGL for a matter dating back to 2021. We obviously dealt with parental concerns that were raised at the time of the incident and have, since this time continued to reassure parents that Marchant's Hill have confirmed to us that they have fixed the problem with 'finger guards' on all their doors.

Fun with Words - Week 1

Can you think of a word and act it out? Can someone in your family guess what your word is? Show your teacher and get a MM if they can guess it!

Key Dates for the Diary

- Wednesday 11th October – Individual Pupil Photos
- Tuesday 17th October - Open Afternoon (1.15pm) for our EYFS in-take September 2024
- Wednesday 18th October – Open Morning (9.15am) for our EYFS in-take September 2024
- Thursday 19th October – Year 3&4 Harvest Assembly (09.10) and Y1&2 (14.45)
- Half Term – 23rd – 27th October
- Year 6 Transition to Year 7 – Application Deadline 31st October 2023
- Wednesday 1st November – Parents Evening (Late: 5.50 – 8.00pm))
- Thursday 2nd November - Parents Evening (Early: 3.45 – 5.55pm))