



Arunside Announcements Week Commencing Monday 13th May 2024

Elmer Day 2024

On Friday 24th May, EYFS and KS1 will be taking part in Elmer Day to celebrate 35 years of Elmer the Elephant. During the morning the children will learn about Elmer and why David McKee first created him, as well as doing some fun Elmer related activities. If any of the children have an Elmer story which they would like to bring in to school to share during Family Reading, that would be lovely. Please ensure all books are clearly named so that they go home with the correct children! More information about Elmer Day 2024 can be found here. <https://www.elmer.co.uk/elmer-day/>

Free School Meal Vouchers – May Half-Term

Utilising funding from the government's Household Support Fund to help those most in need and to help with global inflationary challenges and the significantly rising cost of living, West Sussex County Council is pleased to confirm that families with Free School Meal (FSM) eligible children will once again be entitled to one £10.00 voucher per FSM child during the upcoming May school holiday 2024. These will be issued during the week. For children who are not FSM eligible but whose families need urgent support with food we would advise that the Community Hub is continuing to operate.

After School Clubs

The basketball club which runs on a Monday is set to change to summer dodgeball as from Monday 13th May with the last session being held on 22th July. If your child is in Years 4, 5 or 6 and looking for a new after school opportunity you can sign them up with Jake direct on tel: 07749342474 or email: JL7SPORT@OUTLOOK.COM. The cost of the club is £6 per session and will be held on the ball court.

Horsham Parade

Year 5 are once again excited to be participating in the Horsham Parade. The theme this year will be 'The Olympics'. The event will take place on Sunday 7th July, with participants arriving at the assembly point at the Drill Hall Car Park, Denne Road at 10.30am. The parade itself will start at 11am, making its way through the town, to the finishing point at Horsham Park, for an approximate arrival of 12-12.30pm. Parents/carers will need to pick their child up from Horsham Park, but families are also welcome to join the general public as they watch the parade through the streets of Horsham.

As in previous years, we have spaces for 30 Year 5 children to participate in the parade itself and will allocate these on a first come first served basis. If your child would like to take part, you will be asked to request a place through the MCAS app. In advance of the booking system opening, please email comms@arunside.school by Friday 10th May if you are experiencing any difficulties with the MCAS app. This is to ensure everyone has a fair opportunity to reserve a place for their child. The MCAS booking system will then open on Wednesday 15th May and all requests should be placed by Thursday 23rd May. If spaces remain after this date, these will be offered to our Y6 pupils.

WSCC Consultation on Millais School becoming Coeducational

A public consultation has commenced proposing a change of status at Millais School from a single sex girls' school to coeducational. The consultation runs from 8 May to the 12 June 2024. Responses via the WSCC [website](#) would be preferred but letters and emails will also be welcome and can be sent to vanessa.cummins@westsussex.gov.uk. Please contact Vanessa direct if you wish to further discuss the proposal.

Personal Toys or Cards

Mrs Jagger has asked that no toys or cards (e.g. Football cards or Pokémon cards) be brought into the school – these are tending to get lost or broken during break and lunch-times and are causing unnecessary distress.

Packed Lunches

If your child is having a packed lunch from home that needs to be eaten with a fork, please ensure that you provide one in their lunch box as the forks issued by Easy Lunch are being borrowed and then not returned. If by chance you have any of the Easy Lunch forks at home in your cutlery drawers, please do return them to the school. Thank you.

Unwanted Bean Bag Chairs for the Balcony

Following the recent redecoration of the balcony, during which our visiting artist incorporated the children's artwork into the most wonderful wall murals, we are now seeking donations of unwanted bean bag chairs for the children to sit on whilst using this newly developed learning environment. Please contact the office if you have any that you would like to donate.

Year 6 SATs Breakfast

Year 6 pupils are invited to the early morning breakfast session from 8.00am during SATs week, (Monday 13th – Thursday 16th May). If possible, we ask children to bring a plastic bowl, plate and cup which they can leave this in school, all week, to use each morning.

Key Dates for the Diary

- W/C 13th May - KS2 SATS
- 20th May – Year 2 Little Big Sing
- 24th May – Sports Day (7th June Reserve Sports Day)
 - KS2: 9.15-11.45 - Parents to arrive at 9.10 am
 - KS1: 1.15-3.15 - Parents to arrive at 1.10 pm
- 27th – 31st May Half-Term
- 3rd June – Inset Day
- 6th June – Class Photos
- 26th June – Y3 International Morning
- 26th June - Y2 visit to Preston Manor

PTA Messages and Dates for your diary:

Summer Fete - Teddy Tombola

If you are having a Spring sort through your soft toys, the PTA would like you to consider donating good quality, clean, reusable toys for their upcoming Summer Fete tombola stalls. Donations can be left at the school office, marked for the PTA's attention.