



Arunside Announcements

Week Commencing Monday 9th September 2024

After School Clubs – Autumn Term 2024

The schedule for the autumn term after-school clubs was sent out at the end of July and can also be found on our school [website](#). To advise the office of your child's choice of clubs, please complete the online form [here](#). We will allocate clubs on a first come, first served basis.

Parents are also reminded of the Taekwondo martial arts club that will start on Wednesday 11th September. There will be three sessions for three different age groups with the first one starting at 5.00pm and the last session finishing at 7.30pm. More details are available [here](#).

Meet the Teacher

This term we are offering three sessions for parents to 'Meet the Teacher'. They will be held on Monday 16th September and will give parents the opportunity to meet their child's year group team and to hear about the year's learning and school routines. Each session will last for 20-30 minutes and each will deliver the same presentations. The presentation will start at 3.45pm, 4.30pm and 5.15pm.

Communication to and from School

At arunside we use the My Child at School (MCAS) app for communication and payment purposes. If you are not yet signed up for this system please click [here](#). Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any problems logging in to the site.

Lost Property – Clothes and Water Bottles to be Named

Parents will not be unfamiliar with our pleas to assist with 'lost property', they may however be shocked to hear that last year there was 4 bags of unclaimed clothes going to the recycling centre each term and that 127 water bottles were thrown away at the end of the summer term and by day 2 of the autumn term we had accumulated a pile of unnamed clothing as well as a pair of prescription glasses and two pairs of sunglasses. Our Eco Councillors will be working hard to come up with ideas on how we can minimise such waste in future and setting themselves targets, but we start by asking parents to ensure that everything brought in to school by their child is named. Please make it a weekend task to ensure that all school jumper and water bottles arrive in school on Monday named. Thank you so much for your help with this every growing problem!

Year 6 – Secondary School Places

We have been asked to make parents aware that applications for secondary school places in West Sussex for September 2025 are now open. The easiest way to apply is online via the West Sussex [website](#). The process is quick and simple to do, and you will receive an automatic confirmation when your application has been submitted. Applications close on **Thursday 31 October 2024** and it is vital that applications are made on time for the best chance of being offered one of your preferred places.



Christ Hospital – Open Morning - Saturday 7 September

Families who are considering secondary education in September 2025 are warmly invited to the Christ Hospital Open Morning on Saturday 7 September, and places can be booked [here](#).

Forest School - Clothing

As we start the autumn term, we remind parents of the expected clothing that children should wear for Forest School session:

- Long trousers (essential at all times, regardless of the weather)
- Long sleeved top (essential at all times, regardless of the weather)
- Several thin under layers
- Thermal leggings under trousers (not jeans)
- Warm jumper/zip up hoodie
- Walking boots or wellies
- Warm waterproof jacket
- Waterproof trousers
- Warm Woolly hat
- Gloves
- Thick warm socks/2 pairs

Long sleeves, long trousers and closed shoes are required at all times. Wellies or walking boots are recommended for every session but should definitely be in school on wet days. Please do check the weather forecast before sending your child into school on their Forest School days and please ensure that they have adequate clothing to keep them warm. Unless there is thunder and lightning the children stay outside and even on dry days, please bear in mind that it is often damper under the trees behind the Rainbow Fence.

Whilst updating you on the clothing for Forest School, may we remind you that **it is essential that children do not do PE wearing earrings**. All earrings should be removed at home on PE days. However, if this is not possible because the ears have just been pierced, then please ensure your child has their earrings tapped over and covered with microporous tape or similar on PE days.

Family Reading

Family Reading for Y1&2 will start in the next few weeks, once the children have settled back into the early morning school routine. EYFS Family Reading will start later in the term or early next term. Please keep checking the Arunside Announcements for updates.

Library Opening Times

The library opening at Arunside will be open Monday - Friday from 08:35-8:55 and 12:00-13:00. Children are very welcome to visit the library during these times and can borrow one book at a time.



What Nature Means to You

Sussex Nature Recovery are inviting 5-7year olds to indicate what nature means to them by submitting a photo, drawing or poem. All entries will be placed into a draw and there is the chance to **win one of ten £25 Post Office One4all Gift Cards**. More information can be found on the following website: <https://www.sussexnaturerecovery.org.uk/what-sussex-nature-means-to-you-prize-draw>

School Traffic and Infrastructure Issues

Many of you will have be aware of the past concerns that the Arunside community has about traffic and the associated infrastructure issues around school drop-off and pick-up times. A small working party was established last term with the aim of improving safety for the whole community and if you have not as yet submitted your feedback via the questionnaire please do so as soon as possible by clicking this [link](#). Further action will only be possible if we receive sufficient feedback on the concerns.

Key Dates for the Diary

- Sunday 15th September - [Horsham Riverside Walk](#)
- Friday 20th September – PTA Back to School Picnic
- Tuesday, 24th September – PTA Annual General Meeting at 7pm – School ICT Suite
- Friday 11th October – PTA Firework Display
- Monday 14th October – School Photos (individual)
- Monday 14th October – Deadline for the return of the children’s Xmas4Schools Artwork
- Tuesday 15th October – Open Day Tours for EYFS in-take September 2025 9.30 – 11.00am
- Thursday 17th October – Open Day Tours for EYFS in-take September 2025 1.00 – 2.30pm
- Tuesday 22nd October – Harvest Festival (Y3&4 at 9.30 and Y1&2 at 2.30pm)
- Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November – **HALF TERM**
- Monday 4th November – Inset Day