



ALEXANDER HOSEA PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Roots to grow, Wings to Fly'

Honeybourne Way, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire, GL12 8PF

Tel: 01454 294239 / Fax: 01454 294638

Headteacher: Ms V J Quest B.Ed Hons M.A. (Educ)

Email: AlexanderHoseaPrimary@sgmail.org.uk www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk

6th June 2016

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome to the start of Term 6 with lots of exciting learning and events planned to complete this academic year.

BE HEALTHY

Mental Health Week – 16th – 20th May

Children undertook a range of activities to teach them about the importance of mental health as well as physical health.

School meals / dinner money

Thank you for your support with the new dinner money procedures – paying on time is a great help to our office staff and ensures there is no impact on our budget.

The cost of meals for term 6 is £70

STAY SAFE

Sun safety

Now that summer is here, please ensure your child has a sun hat in school every day and that they are wearing sun tan lotion. Please note, we are unable to apply this in school.

Road safety

Y3/Y6 Road Safety

I booked the South Gloucestershire Road Safety Team to teach the Y3 and Y6 children about how to keep safe on the roads. This is always a useful training session for the children and its interactive nature ensures they have the opportunity to practice the skills taught.

Y6 cycling proficiency

The Y6 children have been undertaking cycling proficiency training and are now able to cycle safely on the roads.

Keeping pavements clear to ensure children's safety

Parent Council has raised the fact that, particularly at the end of the day, there is often a congestion point by the barrier which is there to stop children running out into the road. This space appears to get blocked by parents with buggies and dogs etc. so it is difficult to get through – this then causes some of the children to go into the road to get past. Please can you be mindful of this when waiting for or collecting your children so their safety is not compromised.

If you have your dog with you when dropping off and collecting children, it should be kept on a lead and you should wait on the far side of the roundabout. This has always worked well in the past, especially as some children are afraid of dogs.

Reminders

Please ensure that your children do not use the outdoor gym equipment, play trail or the things in Foundation outdoor learning environment at the start or end of the school day when you drop off or pick up. This is for their safety as well as to preserve the children's learning, which is often left for them to continue the following day.

We have a number of children who are arriving at school very early in the morning. They should not be dropped off until at least 8.45am. The main gates open at 8.50am.

Our Behaviour Strategy

After a lot of research and consultation, we introduced a new Behaviour Strategy almost three years ago. This has been very effective in promoting positive behaviour and this is evident in the excellent behaviour of our pupils. We frequently receive very positive feedback about their behaviour from parents, visitors and members of the public. Parent Council has asked for an explanation of how the school's behaviour strategy works. This will be available on the school's website soon.

ENJOY AND ACHIEVE

FOOTBALL SUCCESS - LATEST NEWS!

Freya Marshall, Olivia Belsten, Maia Parmar, Amelie Haskins, Mia Chapman, Grace Page, Cerys Forsdike, India Hampshire and Ruby May all represented the school at Saturday's Festival of Youth Sport. They played in the girls' football event against schools from the whole of South Gloucestershire and came out as winners, winning 5 of their 6 matches and drawing one, which took them into the final which they won too! Congratulations girls – you are truly amazing! They have brought back a plate and each have an individual medal. Thanks go to Kris England from Progressive Sports who has trained them throughout the year and who supported them on Saturday too.

Year of Science

The Eco-club have been busy finding out about how eco-aware we are as a school and identifying ways we can improve this.

Class themes

These continue to be very successful and pupil conferencing has shown that the pupils are greatly enjoying this approach to their learning. Several classes have enjoyed educational visits to support their learning – Y5 and Y6 children went to the Planetarium, Jet class have been to the ssGreat Britain and Emerald class went to Wild Place.

Children sharing their learning

Last term we provided lots of opportunities for you to come and find out about your child's learning. Children in Topaz, Emerald and Jet classes shared their Learning Journals and parents in all KS2 classes had the opportunity to see the home learning produced by the children. This was trialed in Pearl, Diamond and Amethyst classes and due to the success, especially in the improvement noted in the quality of home learning outcomes, this has now been extended to Sapphire and Crystal classes. Feedback from parents has also been very positive.

PE Multi-skills

KS1 children enjoyed the opportunity to join in this event hosted by KLB. It involved the development of a range of physical skills to support PE.

Bristol Together Football

Once again, we have a team of children who are involved in training for a football tournament against other South Gloucestershire and Bristol schools. Half the team is made up of children from Alexander Hosea and half from Glenfrone School in Bristol. They train together fortnightly; this provides an opportunity to get to know children from different school contexts.

Morfa Bay Residential Visit

Our Y6 children went on camp last week and had a wonderful time. They were all extremely well behaved and I felt very proud of them and their achievements during the week. Our continuous focus on our school values and ELLI learning powers were really evidenced in their attitude towards the various activities and challenges they faced; these involved being adaptable, having self-belief, persevering, including and respecting others, and aspiring to be the best they could be! These, along with their strong team work made them stand out from the crowd and achieve great things. Mia Chapman and Oliver Trickey won the 'top banana' awards for the week, which were presented by Morfa Bay staff. Please see the tweets sent last week along with some photographs. We will endeavour to get more pictures uploaded onto the website as soon as possible.

A special 'thank you' to Mrs Brooks, Mrs Gee, Mrs McAleese and Mrs Barry for giving up their own family time to accompany and support the children during the week.

SATs

The Y2 and Y6 SATs have been completed and the children were all amazing in their attitude towards these.

Our KS1 children took their maths papers early, as we were selected by the DfE to be part of national benchmarking. The KS1 grammar and spelling paper was cancelled due to its publication on the DfE website prior to the tests, which meant they only had to do their reading SAT.

The Local Authority undertook a monitoring visit to ensure the security of all our papers which they remarked were very impressive. Two of our Governors also monitored the administration of KS2 SATs and test paper security, both commented on the calm atmosphere, the exemplary behaviour of the children and the fact that staff had the welfare of the children at the heart of their actions. Again, thank you for supporting your children with their SATs too. It will be interesting to see the results, given the revised assessments and increased national expectations.

Assessments

Y1 phonics screening will be taking place at the end of the month, as will the completion of Foundation end of year data, which has to be submitted to the Local Authority by 30th June with all other Teacher Assessments.

Sport's Day – 28th June

KS1 – morning

KS2 – afternoon

We are planning for you to have your usual picnic lunch with your child/children on sports day (weather permitting). The school kitchen will also be providing lunches for your child to eat with you if you wish.

The reserve date is Friday 1st July.

Sapphire class project – a plea from the children - SCRAP MATERIALS NEEDED

Sapphire class is using their learning about the Iron Man to inspire an art project. This is being supported by a visiting artist; in order to enable them to get the most from this, they require lots of scrap materials – wood e.g. dowel, broom handles, spoons, bowls, cotton reels, egg cups (NOT MDF plywood or chipboard), metal e.g. keys, spoons, copper pipe, steel food cans, aluminium drinks cans, washers, lids, hinges, plastic e.g. beach spades, buckets. Bottle tops and lids, plus leather belts / leather goods which can be cut up. If you have anything you could donate, please leave with Sapphire class staff or in the office by Wednesday 22nd June. Thank you

Light coloured emulsion needed!

Mrs McAleese needs a good supply of light coloured emulsion paint, so if you have any which is left over after decorating or which you are throwing away, please can she have it, as it is useful for marking the lines on our sports pitches. Thank you

Stamps

We are continuing to collect used stamps so please keep sending into school. We have already raised over £200 for the CRY charity through our stamp collections to date.

POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

Trail of silver

A special 'thank you' to the Friends for organising this event in school and to you for providing the silver. The children made a range of 'pictures', such as crowns, linked to the Queen's birthday.

Ofsted Parents' View questionnaire outcomes

In total, 71 responses were received, although not all questions were answered. Overall, all aspects of the school were considered to be either outstanding (strongly agree) or good (agree) – see below. The fact that a relatively high percentage of parents did not know about how bullying is dealt with is mostly due to the fact that they have not had any experience of this, which can be considered a good thing. We will be working on the areas highlighted to make further improvements. Parent Council has suggested we re-run this questionnaire with the end of year reports, so please look out for this.

Parent Questionnaire outcomes

		<i>Strongly agree / Agree</i>	<i>Disagree/strongly disagree</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
1	My child is happy at this school	99%	1%	0%
2	My child feels safe at this school	99%	1%	0%
3	My child makes good progress at this school	98%	2%	0%
4	My child is well looked after at this school	99%	1%	0%
5	My child is taught well at this school	98%	2%	0%
6	My child receives appropriate homework for their age	93%	7%	0%
7	This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	98%	1%	1%
8	This school deals effectively with bullying	67%	7%	26%
9	This school is well led and managed	92%	2%	6%
10	This school responds well to any concerns that I raise	82%	8%	10%

11	I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	95%	4%	1%
12	Would you recommend this school to another parent?	95%	2%	3%

What's new in education?

It was good to see you at the curriculum and assessment update evening for parents. Although we acknowledge that this was rather too long because we had so much we wanted to share with you, the feedback from parents who attended was very positive. There are a lot of exciting changes taking place and hopefully you will have started to recognise these. A summary of the information shared during the parents' evening is now available on our website in 'School Information', 'Curriculum'.

School website

Please continue to use the school website for up to date information. The class pages are especially important, as the weekly class newsletters often inform you about learning, events and how you can support your child's learning.

New parents' evening – 23rd June – 7.30pm start

This is for all parents who have a child starting in Reception in September 2016. We look forward to welcoming you to our school community.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

There are flyers in the school reception area which promote a number of sports activities which your child or you can access:-

For children

Road to Rio - FREE SPORTS SESSIONS at Wotton Sports centre (KLB)

Squash – Sunday 19th June – 10.00am – 12.00

Badminton – Sunday 3rd July - 10.00am – 12.00

Tennis – Sunday 17th July - 10.00am – 12.00

To book a place, please ring 01453 520365

Summer holiday sports provision for 5-11 year olds - £15/day

Sports - Multi sports and football

Dates – 1st – 5th August

22nd – 26th August

For more information call – 01453 367270, or to book places e-mail vince@kickoffstroud.co.uk

For adults

Social Rounders

Again, this is run by Wotton Sports Centre for all abilities aged 16 and over, every Tuesday between 6.30 and 7.30pm throughout the summer. Just turn up and play - £1 per session!

Diary Dates for Term 6

June	Thursday 16th	Topaz Weston Sea Aquarium
	Tuesday 21 st	3.45 pm – 5.45 pm Festival (Pearl, Diamond & Amethyst pupil and parents only)
	Thursday 23 rd	New Parents Evening
	Friday 24 th	2.30 pm – 3.00 pm – Story-time for new reception pupils and their parents
	Tuesday 28 th	Sports Day
July	Friday 1 st	Reserve Sports Day
	Thursday 7 th	Homework sharing 3pm – Sapphire class
	Friday 8 th	9.15 am – 10.00 am – Explore the classroom (new reception pupils)
	Tuesday 12th	Topaz Dance
	Friday 15 th	Pupil Reports home to parents
	Friday 15 th	9.15 am – 10.00 am – Explore the classroom (new reception pupils)
	Monday 18 th	Y6 Leavers Assembly – 6.00 pm (Y6 parents invited)
	Tuesday 19 th	Move Up Day
	Friday 22nd	End of Term 6

Yours sincerely

Ms. V. Quest
Headteacher