



ALEXANDER HOSEA PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

8th December 2016

Dear Parents / Carers

BE HEALTHY

Ready, steady, go!

Our children have participated in a number of sporting events this term including orienteering at Gillingstool School, indoor athletics at KLB and a netball tournament also hosted by KLB. The children have all enjoyed the opportunities offered and have shown great team skills.

Cross country

Children are continuing to participate in the Saturday cross country races at KLB. I am grateful to Mrs McAleese who trains them at her cross country club, which is always popular.

Swimming

Thanks to Mrs Howes for stepping forward to help with swimming after my last plea. Much appreciated! The children are doing really well and are not only gaining confidence in the pool but also getting their distance badges. This is a great achievement! Well done!

Girl's football

Four of our Y5 / Y6 girls attended the trials and have successfully been selected for the South Gloucestershire girl's football team. Congratulations go to Charlotte, Lily, Jess and Molly.

Miss Pursey is producing a monthly sports related newsletter as part of our 'Ready, Steady, Go' physical development focus. The first was e-mailed out to you, but future editions will be available from the school's website.

PE kit

Another reminder – girls need to bring their own hair bands to tie hair up for PE lessons and require tape to cover earrings. Thank you.

Please could you also ensure that your child has a pair of trainers in their PE bags for outdoor lessons – children currently have some very mud-caked daps which they have worn to play tag rugby on the field. These also do not look good on stage when they are dressed as angels, kings etc.!

Coats

Now that winter is well and truly here, please ensure your child wears a coat to school. The playground is quite exposed so gets very cold. Hats, scarves and gloves are a good idea too!

School gates running or walking

We have decided to promote this fantastic opportunity for a free coach to run a parents' club after drop off, following Christmas when there may be more of you wanting to get fit or lose a few pounds after the excesses of the festive season. We are really keen to make this happen. It will support our ready, steady, go year as well as providing great role models for your children!

STAY SAFE

Safeguarding

Keeping your children safe at school is always a high priority and we have a number of policies and procedures which support our practice. These are available on the website.

Coming into the school building

As you will be aware, anybody (including parents) entering the school building must enter through the main reception doors where they sign in and are given a badge, which must be worn at all times whilst in the building. Please can I therefore remind you that should you wish to speak with a member of staff, you must come to the main reception area and sign in and not come in through the external doors from the playground.

Green button

Just a reminder that we teach the children in school that they are not to touch the green button which releases the security door into the building and that this is for adult use only (members of staff or leaders of after school clubs). This means that they cannot release the door, even if you, as their parent, are waiting in the lobby.

Anti-bullying charter

This has been reviewed by the children and is on display for reference throughout the year. Whilst our children are very well behaved, we take any incidents of inappropriate behaviour very seriously and follow these up straight away. It is always easier to do this if your child tells an adult about this at the time. We tell them this in school and it would be good for you to reiterate this too.

New school entrance from 5th January 2017

As I'm sure many of you have already noticed, we have a new branded school sign by the top pedestrian gate. We are going to make this the main entrance into and out of school.

At the start of the school day, you will be able to access the school via either the top pedestrian gate or the bottom pedestrian gate. For security reasons there will continue to be a member of staff on the bottom gate and the staff member who was previously on the black gate into the main playground will now be on the top pedestrian gate.

As always:

- Wherever possible, please avoid crossing Honeyborne Way opposite the top pedestrian gate (at the neck of the roundabout).
- The drop off zone will continue to be for just dropping children off and drivers must not leave their car parked here.
- The school gates will open at 8:50am – please do not arrive before then.
- Please do not access the school on foot via the school car park.

- Please only use the school car park if you are disabled – we have one designated space.

Thank you for helping to keep your children safe.

ENJOY AND ACHIEVE

Clifton Cathedral

The Y6 children travelled to Clifton Cathedral last Friday, where they took part in the annual carol service which tells the story of the nativity. They sang beautifully and if your child is in Y5 or Y6, you will hear this for yourselves as part of their carol service in church next week.

Again their behaviour was impeccable and several of them commented on the misbehaviour of the children sitting behind us! One said – “I bet they don’t sit silently in assemblies”!

Tom Robson

The children continue to earn their diamonds and emeralds from the grown-ups in school for problem-solving and independence skills. Hopefully you may have noticed a difference in these attributes at home too!

Our **‘Big Me’ day** was extremely successful and a lot of effort had gone into outfits for this. The children all looked amazing and £161 was raised for Action Aid. Thank you for your support with this. The impact has been that some of the children really have started to think about what they might like to do in the future and what skills they will need to learn to help them reach their goal!

Y6 project - What makes us powerful?

Visit from Luke Hall

The local MP, Luke Hall, visited the children to support their learning about democracy and Parliament. He asked for their views on certain topics and has since written to every child individually providing feedback.

Educational visits

Jet class went to Cineworld to see ‘Capture the flag’ which supported their learning about space. The children thoroughly enjoyed it.

POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

SEND coffee morning

Thank you for coming along to support this. I think you found it useful to have an informal chat. Look out for the next one! Thanks to Gayle Holcombe for organising it.

‘Friends’ coffee and pastries

Again, this proved to be a very popular new event and there are plans for it to be repeated later in the school year. Thanks go to the Friends!

Winter Fair – Friday 9th December

Thank you all for providing so much chocolate for the Winter Fair chocolate tombola. I do hope you will all come along and join in the fun on Friday evening – 4.30 – 6.30pm.

All classes will have a stall; they will be selling goods which they have designed, costed and made, as part of the 'enabling enterprise' / economic well-being aspect of the 2014 maths curriculum. Please support them by purchasing their products – I am sure they will make great Christmas gifts! All the money raised will be for purchasing class resources, which the children will decide upon and then budget for – great real life experiences being given here!

Charity for Christmas performance collections – Children in Need

As always, we will be having a collection at the end of each performance. This year we have decided to support Children in Need, as we did not support this national charity a few weeks ago, due to collecting for Action Aid and the MacMillan coffee morning just beforehand.

Stamp collection

As Christmas is almost upon us I am sure you are already receiving lots of Christmas cards through the post. Please remember to tear the stamps off and bring them into school to support the CRY charity.

Christmas in school!

There is always plenty going on – please refer to the letter which gives the dates and times of our Christmas events; it went out last Friday. Alternatively, these are also on the website.

DIARY DATES FOR TERM 3 2016-17

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| January | Tuesday 3rd | Staff INSET – school closed to pupils |
| | Wednesday 4th | Staff INSET – school closed to pupils |
| | Thursday 5 th | Start of Term 3 |
| | Monday 9 th | Staff run clubs start |
| | Monday 9 th | Emerald-“Alice in Wonderland” film at Amadillo Youth Centre |
| | Tuesday 10 th | Emerald Parent Phonics meeting – 9.00 am |
| | Tuesday 10 th | Friends meeting – 8 pm |
| | Tuesday 17 th | Young Voices Concert in London |
| | Wednesday 18 th | Bedtime stories – 5.15.- 6.00pm |
| | Friday 20 th | Lifeskills – year 6 visit - pm |
| | Monday 23 rd | KS2 SATS Meeting 9.15am |
| | Friday 27 th | KS1 SATs meeting (Y2) – 9.15 am |
| February | Monday 6 th – Friday 10 th | Safer Internet week |
| | Tuesday 7 th | Kilve Court Meeting for parents-3.30pm |
| | Friday 10 th | Friends Valentine family disco |
| | Friday 10th | End of Term 3 |

As this will be the last newsletter of the year, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a happy Christmas and a very happy New Year.

Yours sincerely

Ms. V. Quest