



ALEXANDER HOSEA PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Roots to grow, Wings to Fly'

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10 th March 2016

Dear Parents/ Carers

I would like to welcome Justin-Lee Burt to Alexander Hosea School.

BE HEALTHY

Topaz class visited Tesco this week, as part of the company's Farm to Fork project. The children learned about the importance of eating healthily.

Cross country

Our cross country team have performed extremely well this year and three of our children finished in the top 10 overall – Maia Parmar was 4th in the Y6 girl's races, Luke Shrewsbury was 4th and Adam Shrewsbury 6th in the Y6 boy's races and they have the medals to prove it! This means they have been entered for the Gloucestershire championships next weekend. We wish them every success. A special 'thank you' must go to Mrs McAleese who trains them during the after school cross country club and supports them at the races.

Their achievements were mentioned in last week's Wickwar Runners newsletter as they have been joining the village runners each week.

A number of our pupils also attend the Parkrun, which has been going now for several years. Parkrun organise free, weekly, 5k timed runs around the world. They are open to everyone, and are safe and easy to take part in. One is held in Chipping Sodbury, which started just over a year ago. The numbers can be in excess of 250 people, including under 12s.

The 5k route equates to 3 times around the rugby field on mainly gravel and part tarmac. It is held each Saturday at 9am across the world. It would be great if you and your child wanted to get involved. They could even wear their school PE T-shirt to help promote the school! Let me know if you go along so it can be celebrated in school.

More details are available from <http://www.parkrun.org.uk/>

Watch out for our new outdoor gym!

Each year we receive Sports Premium funding from the Government, which has to be spent to promote sporting activities and healthy lifestyles in school. We are using this year's funding to purchase an outdoor gym for use by the Key Stage 2 children during PE lessons and at playtimes and lunch times. The Pupil Council have recently asked for a new flip bar, but I think we have gone one better than this!! Hopefully the use of this equipment will improve the children's levels of fitness.

ENJOY AND ACHIEVE

Chinese New Year

We celebrated the Chinese New Year in school with a Chinese meal at lunch time. The children all had a fortune cookie as part of this and, during our Chinese New Year assembly, were able to remember the fortunes told in these, to the letter!! I was very impressed with their knowledge.

Day of the Dot

We started this term with a book called ‘the Dot’, which is based on the theme of self-belief, one of our school values. It is certainly worth a read! We are doing a lot of learning around believing in ourselves with both the children and staff! This focus is part of our school improvement plan for the year. We want everyone to believe they can do anything they want – this also fits with our overarching ASPIRE theme for our values.

Bedtime stories

It was lovely to see all the children turning up to listen to stories and ready for bed! They thoroughly enjoyed the experience. I would like to thank staff for staying on to read the stories and the Friends of Alexander Hosea School for providing the hot chocolate and biscuits.

Thornbury Eisteddfod

Children from Y2 to Y6 took part in the Speech and Drama class in the Thornbury Eisteddfod last Saturday. This involved them learning and presenting a given poem to an audience of parents, grandparents and an adjudicator! They all did extremely well and many were only one or two marks off being placed in the top three. Charlie Noble came joint second in the Y5 class. Well done, Charlie! I was very proud of them all, and what was most striking, was their support for each other – there was a real team spirit, which the children from Alexander Hosea are well renowned for – this is a great asset and reflects the collaborative approach we promote in school through our school values and ELLI powers.

World Book Day

Again the children looked superb in their costumes depicting a favourite character from a story. Some children were unrecognisable under these! As part of the celebrations for World Book Day, the children participating in the Eisteddfod used this as an opportunity to practice their poems in front of an audience. Each class also paraded around the hall so everybody had the chance to identify their character.

Year of Science

Topaz, Jet and Sapphire classes benefited from recycling workshops earlier this term, inspiring them to recycle at school and at home.

Chicks

The latest event in our ‘year of science’ was the delivery of some eggs and the hatching of five chicks. Information about their progress was shared on our website.

Bloodhound Project

The next exciting experience will be the Bloodhound Project which is coming to school on Monday. I am sure your children will tell you all about this afterwards. Keep a look out on the website too!

Easter competition

Every year we try to have some sort of Easter competition for the children to enter. This year we have decided to give children a choice of activity to do at home using their design technology skills— they can either design or make:

a hen house

OR

a carriage to transport an egg or a chick

Entries should be brought to school on Monday 21st March for judging.

Keep up to date with news of our past and forthcoming events via Twitter, our website and the celebration board outside the pedestrian gate.

STOP PRESS

We have taken delivery of two new boards to support the children with their learning – a huge ‘thank you’ must go to the Friends of Alexander Hosea School for providing a large chunk of funding towards these. Further news to follow!

Parents' evenings – Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd March

You will be receiving a separate letter about these, so please look out for it. Timetables will be posted on the main office windows for you to sign up for a slot to discuss your child’s progress and attainment with their class teacher or you can e-mail us to make an appointment.

POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

Sport Relief – 18th March

We are supporting this national fundraising event once again. Please could the children come to school dressed in sports kit, as they will be running round the field as part of our support for this event (weather permitting). They will start with a warm up, during which they will be singing the Sport Relief song with actions!! Please could you send a donation of £1. Thank you

Mrs Johnson

As you already know, Mrs Johnson is sadly leaving us at the end of this term to take up a new post in HR administration after almost 21 years in her role as Teaching Assistant at Alexander Hosea School. She will be greatly missed and I am sure you will join me in wishing her all the best for the future as she takes on this new challenge. Mrs Barry has been appointed to take on her TA role in class, although this will be in the afternoons, as she will continue to support Jet class in the mornings.

I can also inform you that Miss Pursey will be returning from maternity leave on Monday 16th May. She will be returning on a part time basis and will be teaching Sapphire class. Miss Woods will continue to teach the class for the other part of the week. We look forward to welcoming Miss Pursey back – she too already knows the children having taught them in Year 1!

INSET DAYS – 2016-17

Given that there was an issue with South Gloucestershire’s and KLB’s different half term holidays in February, including an additional INSET day, I have tried to ensure our September INSET days are the same. To this end, I have arranged for the first two days of term (Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd September 2016) to be taken as INSET. The school will therefore be closed to pupils; term will start for the children on Monday 5th September. Dates for the remaining three INSET days will be set once staff training arrangements have been made.

DIARY DATES FOR THE REMAINDER OF TERM 4

Friday 18 th	Staff run clubs finish
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Friday 18 th	Sport Relief, sports kit required plus £1.00 donation
Monday 21 st	Parents' Evening 4.00pm – 7.30pm
Tuesday 22 nd	Parents' Evening 4.00pm – 7.30pm
Wednesday 23 rd	End of Term 4 for pupils
Thursday 24 th	Staff INSET school closed to pupils
Monday 11 th	Staff INSET school closed to pupils

Yours sincerely

Ms Quest