



ALEXANDER HOSEA PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

12th September 2016

Dear Parents / Carers

WELCOME

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We especially welcome our new staff, Miss Tyler, Mrs Pearson and Mrs Lakeman, and our new reception children. We have also had three new children join us this term in other classes - Leo (Crystal class), Sophie (Jet class) and Betty (Diamond class) - and I would like to take this opportunity to also welcome them to Alexander Hosea.

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	Friday 14 th	KS1 sharing Learning Journals
	Monday 17 th	KS1 sharing Learning Journals
	Wednesday 19 th	Parents' Evening 4.00pm – 7.30pm
	Thursday 20 th	Parents' Evening 4.00pm – 7.30pm
	Friday 21st	End of Term 1 for pupils

Please note that the Open afternoon for Jet class parents to share their child's Learning Journal will be on Monday 17th October, NOT Monday 10th October as on the Calendar for 2016-17.

Yours sincerely

Ms. V. Quest



ALEXANDER HOSEA PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

12th September 2016

Dear Parents / Carers

WELCOME

Welcome back! I trust that you all had a fabulous summer and are looking forward to another exciting school year.

We especially welcome our new staff, Miss Tyler, Mrs Pearson and Mrs Lakeman, and our new reception children. We have also had three new children join us this term in other classes - Leo (Crystal class), Sophie (Jet class) and Betty (Diamond class) - and I would like to take this opportunity to also welcome them to Alexander Hosea.

We have had a very busy summer in school! The learning environment has had a huge makeover as you might have seen from my tweets earlier this week. The staff and children are all very excited about this and we hope that it has a huge impact on the children and their learning.

During the year there will be plenty of ways you can get involved; with our new curriculum approach, there is bound to be some real life project events for you to come along to!

BE HEALTHY

Year of sport, physical development and outdoor learning

This is our focus for 2016-17 so the children will be involved in lots of different physical events throughout the year. We have given this special year a title - **'Ready, steady, go!'**

Tour of Britain

We all had an amazing afternoon when the whole school from Y1 – Y6 walked up to see the cyclists whizz past as the Tour of Britain cycle race sped through Wickwar. There was a real community feel and a great atmosphere. The children waved their flags and cheered the cyclists on (as well as any other vehicles that went past whilst they were waiting). Thank you to all parents who offered their help during the afternoon.

As a follow up to this event we will be promoting cycling throughout the week beginning 12th September as the first 'Year of Sport' event. Children are therefore asked to ride or bring their bike or scooter to school for their class events on the following days:

Monday 12 th September	Emerald class – Year 1
Tuesday 13 th September	Jet class – Year 2
Wednesday 14 th September	Crystal class – Year 3 Diamond class – Year 4
Thursday 15 th September	Pearl class – Year 5
Friday 16 th September	Amethyst class – Year 6

Please ensure your child also brings their cycling helmet. Bikes, scooters and helmets must all be named!

Swimming

Thank you for completing the slip requesting details of your child's swimming ability. If you have not yet returned this to school, please could you do so by Friday 16th September (it was at the bottom of the last newsletter of term). We will then be able to decide which children will go swimming this term.

Walk to school

If you live locally, please encourage your children to walk to school. If you live further afield, please remember that you can use the car park at the "Buthay" pub and walk from there.

School meals / dinner money

School lunches are £2.00 per day.

STAY SAFE

Safeguarding

All staff had safeguarding and asthma and anaphylaxis training during our first INSET day last week.

Picking up at the end of the school day

If you have a child in YR (Topaz) and/or Y1 (Emerald), please remind their older brothers and sisters to meet you in the small playground rather than the main playground so they are collected safely.

Play equipment

Please ensure that your children, including younger brothers and sisters, do not play on any of the playground equipment, including the outdoor gym, at drop off and pick up times. This applies to the Reception children's outdoor learning area in the small playground once they have started school.

Please remember to keep the pavement by the barrier clear.

ENJOY AND ACHIEVE

Class themes for Term 1

These will be posted on the website so you can find out what each class will be learning. There will also be a number of ways you can get involved in the learning outcomes too, so look out for these on class newsletters. Class newsletters are posted on the class pages on the website every Friday.

'Big Friendly Read' summer reading challenge

I hope your child got involved in this. I believe they have until the end of September to complete the challenge. Please can they bring in their certificates so we can celebrate their achievement in our celebration assembly which is held every Monday afternoon.

PE Kit

Please ensure your child has their full PE kit in school every day and that all items are named so that we can return any items which may get lost or mislaid to the children as soon as possible.

POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

Bringing money to school

If you or your child are paying for anything school related e.g. school lunches, educational visits, please can you make sure that the money/cheque is placed in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name, class and what the payment relates to. This will prevent money getting lost and will also be a great help to office staff.

Parent helpers

We are always very grateful to all our parent helpers who make a huge contribution to the children's learning in school. If you are interested in helping this year, you need to attend a meeting with me first. Following our first meeting, which was held this morning, another meeting is scheduled for Friday 16th September at 3.10pm. If you are not able to attend either of these meetings, please contact the office to arrange a meeting with me at another time.

Parent Council

Parent Council meets six times a year and we have a representative from each class. If you are interested in becoming a member or want to find out more, please pop in and see me. We usually meet on a Friday afternoon at 2.00pm (although we are able to vary the day of the meeting if Friday is not convenient to the majority). Also, if you are not able to commit to all six meetings but are interested in becoming a representative, I am aware that parents from the same class have previously split the role between them and attended three meetings each.

Meet the teacher

The meetings are from 3:45pm-4:15pm on the following days:-

Monday 12 th September	Diamond and Pearl classes
Tuesday 13 th September	Crystal class
Thursday 15 th September	Jet class
Friday 16 th September	Emerald and Amethyst classes

Please do come along to these as you will be provided with key information relevant to your child's class. This changes year on year. Following the meetings, a **general information sheet** will be issued which it will be important to read, as it gives more detailed information about the way the children learn and how you can support them with this.

Friends Village Fair and craft show with a Rio theme – Saturday 17th September 2016

Please encourage your children to enter the show. Mrs Woodward has explained to the children how they can get involved and flyers and entry forms have been sent out to you too. I look forward to seeing you all there – let's hope the sun shines!

ASPIRATION WEEK – which links with our ASPIRE values – week beginning 7th November 2016

Children's self-belief as a learner is essential to their performance and critical to resilient and successful learners.

I have booked two very inspirational visitors to come and tell you and your children more about this, so please put the date below in your diaries. More information will follow nearer the time

FOR PARENTS: MONDAY 7TH NOVEMBER (evening) - INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKER – TOM ROBSON

I have managed to book Tom Robson to lead an evening for parents (and other adults you know who might be interested) on developing a growth mind set, which is a key factor in your child (and you as adults) becoming successful and making dreams a reality! This is a must, so please come along and bring any friends, as it is potentially very relevant to your personal and professional life too!

FOR CHILDREN: TUESDAY 8TH NOVEMBER – ANDY COPE

As part of Aspiration week, I have also booked Andy Cope to come and work with our Y5 and Y6 children the next day. He is also a motivational ex-teacher who teaches children the 'art of brilliance' in order to develop their self-belief and a growth mind set. This will provide long term skills but also support them with their preparation for SATs.

MacMillan Coffee Morning – Friday 30th September

Please put the date in your diary. More information will be sent nearer the time; perhaps you could donate a raffle prize.

COMMUNITY LINKS

Secondary School Open evenings

KLB – Thursday 15th September

Yate International Academy – Wednesday 5th October – 6.00 – 8.00pm

Tennis

Alexander Hosea Mini tennis club - from Wed 28th Sept to 19th Oct (3:30pm to 4:15pm) cost £12.40 for 4 weeks. To reserve a place please complete the return slip on the letter which was emailed out last week and return to the office by Tues 20th Sept marked FAO Elaine Weightman and also advise Elaine direct by email/text/phone (elaineweightman@btinternet.com (01454) 315023 / 07725165181). If you are unable to get along to the school club, please speak to Elaine about activities which are run throughout the year in the local area including during holidays.

OTHER DIARY DATES FOR TERM 1 2016-17

September	Thursday 1 st	Staff INSET school closed to pupils
	Friday 2 nd	Staff INSET school closed to pupils
	Monday 5 th	Term 1 starts for pupils
	Tuesday 6 th	Jet class Space Dome Project launch – After school experience for parents & children , years 3, 4, 5 & 6. (limited numbers)
	Thursday 8 th	Tour of England Cycling comes through Wickwar
	Monday 12 th	Parent helper meeting with Ms Quest – 9.05 am
		Meet the Teacher – Mrs Moncrieff & Miss Edgar– 3-45 pm – 4.15 pm
	Tuesday 13 th	Meet the Teacher – Mrs Arrowsmith – 3-45 pm – 4.15 pm
	Thursday 15 th	Meet the Teacher – Miss Pursey & Mrs Cleverley – 3-45 pm – 4.15 pm
	Friday 16 th	Parent helper meeting with Ms Quest – 3.10 pm
		Meet the Teacher – Miss Tyler & Mrs Brooks – 3-45 pm – 4.15 pm
	Saturday 17 th	Village Fair
	Tuesday 20 th	Upper KS2 – Home learning sharing - Parents invited – 3.00 – 3.30pm
	Wednesday 21 st	Literacy evening for Reception parents – 7.30pm
	Thursday 22 nd	Lower KS2 – Home learning sharing - Parents invited – 3.00 – 3.30pm
	Friday 23 rd	Parent Council
	Tuesday 27 th	Harvest
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