



ALEXANDER HOSEA PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

9th November 2016

Dear Parents / Carers

BE HEALTHY

Ready, steady, go!

Now this has been re-launched, I am hoping that we can regain our Healthy School status this year as part of 'Ready, Steady, Go! Watch out for more information!

PE kit

It is very important that your child has their PE kit in school every day – shorts, house or plain white T-shirt and daps as a minimum. It is a legal requirement that children do PE every week, as it is part of the National Curriculum. If your child does not have their kit, they will have to wear the spare kit we have in school. We would appreciate donations of any outgrown items of PE kit should this be needed. Thank you for your help and co-operation with this.

School uniform

Just a reminder that if girls are wearing boots to school, these need to be black ankle boots, as stated in our uniform policy.

Cross country

The cross country season has started again and some of our children are participating in the Saturday races at KLB.

Swimming

We are still desperate for a parent to accompany staff and children to the swimming pool on Tuesday afternoons, initially until Christmas. It does not matter whether your child is actually going swimming or not. Please let the office staff know if you would like more details or can help out. Many thanks.

Girls' football

Our girls' football team recently played in a tournament at KLB school and although they did not win, they all played very well and won their first match, losing the other two 1-0, 1-0. Once again, thank you to parents and grandparents for transporting them.

Thornbury Cluster sports events

This year we are also taking part in some of the Thornbury Cluster sports events. The first of these is orienteering for KS1 and KS2 children, which will take place on 14th November.

The next event will be pop lacrosse; this involves the children learning how to play and then playing against each other.

School gates running or walking

This is a free opportunity for you to get active once you have dropped the children off at school. For more details see the form attached and return to school by Monday 14th November if interested so we can try and organise a coach to lead the sessions.

Life Bus

The children learnt a lot about how they can be fit and healthy during their visit to the Life Bus last week. Class newsletters will have given you more information about this, but pupil conferencing shows that this had a positive impact on the children.

STAY SAFE

Anti-bullying week

The Life Bus visit also coincided with our anti-bullying week, which again was successful. The theme was 'the power of good'. Children have presented their learning as part of an assembly this week. The Pupil Council also reviewed and discussed our school's 'charter to prevent bullying' which is done every year. This will form the focus of next week's 'peer groups'.

Be safe, be seen assembly

A member of the South Gloucestershire Road Safety Team talked to the children about ways in which they can stay safe during the shorter winter days. I hope they will have shared their leaning with you.

Staff/Disabled car park

We have a new disabled car parking sign in the staff car park.

Please remember that the school must not be accessed through the car park and children must wait with you on the path when waiting for the Foundation gates to open at the beginning of the school day.

Also a reminder to avoid blocking the barrier on the exit from school, so children and parents are not encouraged to step out into the road.

ENJOY AND ACHIEVE

Congratulations from Nick Gibb MP!

I was thrilled to receive a letter congratulating the school on last academic year's 100% phonics screening outcomes. I am sure you will agree this is a fantastic achievement, which also supports Tom Robson's view that our school is amazing! Please see the attached letter.

Aspiration Week – week beginning 7th November

Tom Robson

This week sees the launch of our 'Aspiration week', which Tom Robson got off to a flying start. He worked with all the year groups across the school, including reception, and was amazed by the children's focus, behaviour and developing resilience. He kept saying how much he loved our school and how special a place it is!

I have been undertaking some pupil conferencing following this and all the children were able to tell me clearly what they had learnt and knew that they needed to take responsibility for solving their problems, without relying on others or adults to help them, unless they had a big or serious problem! They also seem to have understood how this will help them in the future too!

Tom also provided an inspirational evening for parents, staff and governors and certainly gave everyone plenty of food for thought. He told the parents that they were lucky to have their children at Alexander Hosea. He also said he would like to be a little boy or a member of staff here – this is a great compliment from someone who visits schools across the UK and all over the world!

One of our parents, Jane Daniels, very kindly agreed to write a summary for those parents who were unable to attend; she said having to do this proved that having a growth mindset works! I have attached her words of wisdom! Thank you, Jane!

The evaluation forms we have already received have been extremely positive, which is great news. If you have not completed your evaluation of the evening, please hand in by Friday - thanks

If you want some more information about Tom Robson and his educational philosophy, visit his website www.tredu.co.uk. If you click on 7th November on the calendar link at the bottom of the page, Alexander Hosea School will appear. Here you will find a copy of his powerpoint and also some slides including questions you can ask your children, rather than 'what did you do at school today'?

Andy Cope – author of Spy Dog books and the Art of Brilliance

Another huge success!

Andy worked with the Y5 and Y6 children today using the theme – 'the art of being brilliant'. Again, he focused on the importance of having a growth mindset and being a positive 2 percenter! Children were totally engaged and now have some "huge unbelievably great goals" (HUGG) to set themselves. If they take on board what they have learnt, he said this should have a positive impact on their lives now and in the future. It will be interesting to see!

Parents and grandparents

Several of our children's family members have offered to visit school to share the skills they have learnt and their careers. A vet has already talked to Topaz class. The aim is to inspire the children to aspire to great things.

'Big Me' day – Thursday 10th November

The aim is for children to dress up as a pilot, doctor, chef etc. to represent what they would like to be when they grow up, whilst supporting the Action Aid charity. Please send in £1 donations.

Y6 project - What makes us powerful?

Year 6 children have been learning about leadership and the British Value of 'democracy' as part of their project. They shared their manifestos with the school and all the children were able to vote for the party they wished to win the election. It was great fun as well as teaching about real life.

Educational visits

Emerald class are off to the zoo on Friday to learn more about the rain forest.

POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

Library/ IT suite refurbishment

We were wondering whether any parents work for companies that get involved in community projects by providing either a working party to 'do' things or funding, or whether you know of any grants we can apply for or you could help us apply for. If so, please could you drop me or Allie Hall an email or pop into school at some time to discuss further. Many thanks

Parent Council

Your Parent Council representatives are:-

Topaz – Sarah Spencer

Emerald - Tracey Brough

Jet -Rachel Hathaway

Crystal – Kerry Widera

Diamond - Antonia Clausen

Pearl - Sarah Quick

Amethyst - Jacqui Howes

Becky Woodward

Container

Thank you to those parents who came along to help start filling the container – your time and effort is much appreciated.

If any of you are carpenters, a handyperson or have access to wood offcuts / planks, I would like to hear from you as we need to start covering this as soon as possible.

Parents' evenings

Thank you for coming along to parents' evenings. I trust you found these helpful and were impressed with your child's progress so far.

Friends of AHPS

We have a completely brand new committee with lots of new ideas. We look forward to continuing to work together to organise a range of events, whilst raising additional funds for the school. Please support them as much as you can.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing committee members for all their dedication and hard work over the past few years, especially Vicky, Gayle, Kate and Caroline.

Also thanks for serving wine and nibbles at our growth mindset evening.

Children in Need

We have decided not to do anything in school for 'Children in Need' this year as you have recently given a lot of money for Macmillan and we are supporting Action Aid on our 'Big Me' day. The Friends will also be asking for donations for the chocolate tombola and items for Christmas hampers for the Christmas Fair and raffle.

SEND coffee morning – Monday 14th November

Don't forget you are invited to come along to a coffee morning organised for parents by parents of children with special educational needs and any others who wish to come along. Our Parent Support Advisor, Chris Cranney, and our special needs co-ordinator, Miss Edgar, will both be there too, so catch them for a chat! This is very informal - Everyone is welcome!

DIARY DATES FOR TERM 2 AND 3 2016-17

	Friday 11 th	Remembrance Day
	Friday 11 th	Emerald trip to Bristol Zoo
	Sunday 13 th	Remembrance Sunday – House Captains representation at church
	Monday 14 th	SEND parents' coffee morning – 9.15 am
	Tuesday 15 th	Flu Vaccinations for Yr 1,2 & 3 (for pupils who have returned a permission form only) - pm
	Friday 25 th	Parent Council Meeting – 2.00 pm
	Tuesday 22 nd	Jet class – cineworld trip
	Friday 25 th	Clubs run by staff end for term 1 and 2
December	Friday 2 nd	Y6 - Clifton Cathedral Carol Concert - pm
	Tuesday 6 th	Emerald class Christmas performance – 2.45 pm – 3.30 pm
	Wednesday 7 th	Diamond and Crystal Christmas Performance – 9.30am Jet Christmas Performance -2.45pm
	Thursday 8 th	Diamond and Crystal Christmas Performance – 2.15pm
	Thursday 8 th	Jet Christmas Performance –9.30am
	Thursday 8 th	Emerald class Christmas Performance – 10.45 am – 11.30 am
	Friday 9 th	Friends Christmas Fair – 4.30 pm – 6.30 pm
	Monday 12 th	Pearl & Amethyst Christmas Performance in Church - 6.30pm
	Tuesday 13 th	Topaz Christmas Performance 9.45 am
	Tuesday 13 th	School Christmas Lunch Choir singing at Old People's home
	Tuesday 13 th	Friends Disco
	Wednesday 14 th	Jet animation and coffee morning – 9.30 am
	Wednesday 14 th	Diamond & Crystal Christmas party - pm
	Wednesday 14 th	Pearl & Amethyst Christmas Performance in Church – 2pm
	Thursday 15 th	Emerald class Christmas party - am
	Thursday 15 th	Topaz Christmas party – am
	Friday 16 th	Friends Coffee morning – 9.15 – 11.00 am
	Friday 16 th	KS1 party pm Pearl & Amethyst Christmas Party pm
	Friday 16 th	End of Term 2
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
	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

Hope to see you all at our various Christmas events and end of project outcomes!

Yours sincerely

Ms. V. Quest

