



Alexander Hosea Primary School

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

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3rd July 2017

Dear Parents / Carers

BE HEALTHY

Ready, Steady, Go!

School Games Mark - GOLD award

We are very excited to have been awarded the gold School Games Award, which is a massive achievement. It is a testament to the sporting opportunities we provide as a school and from which our children benefit. It is what we have been working towards all year, so that our Year of Sport and its impact is recognised externally too.

This award also adds to our Healthy School bronze award achieved in March 2017, demonstrating our commitment and strengths in promoting fit and healthy lifestyles. Although we completed the application together, a special thank you must go to Miss Pursey for working so hard throughout the year to make this all possible.

Sports Day

The weather was kind to us and the children all participated well. There was a positive atmosphere and it was good to see so many of you there supporting your children and their team. Thank you for all your support. Also thanks to Sarah Spencer and Simon Burton for their commentary and to all the staff for their part in making it such a successful occasion. Special thanks must go to Mrs McAleese who marked the lines but also organised the day with the help of Miss Pursey, Mrs Gee and other TAs, as well as to the sports leaders from KLB who were all past pupils of Alexander Hosea.

District sports

The school once again participated in this annual athletics event at KLB and all the children did exceptionally well, often being placed in the top 4.

Fun run and breakfast

This was an amazing event; the children enjoyed the breakfast and the chance to run for fun. A special thanks to the Friends for organising and running the event.

KS1 Multi-skills

Two teams of KS1 children were entered into the multi-skills event in the Festival of Youth Sport on 10th June. They used the multi-skills they had been taught by the sports coaches this term and one team was placed first. They received a plate in recognition of their achievement. Well done to all the children who took part – their team skills were excellent.

Bristol Together Football tournament

The children who took part in the Bristol Together football competition (which promotes inclusion as the team comprises boys and girls from two very different schools), also had success – they won a silver plate.

Intra-school sporting events

These continue to be held termly and successes celebrated with the awarding of certificates in a sporting assembly, including one for best sporting class and most improved. This is inclusive as it means that children who are not particularly sporty get a chance to succeed and find new talents.

Skipping

The children all benefited from a skipping workshop and provided a display to the rest of the school (and the Parent Council members) at the end of the day by way of a grand finale. Some of them had developed

amazing skills, which they are continuing to use and develop further at play times. We have used the Sports Premium to purchase a school set of the skipping ropes so that children continue to get an opportunity to keep fit and improve their skills.

Circus skills

This Tuesday, all the children will have the opportunity to learn some circus skills as we have a specialist visiting the school to share their expertise.

Swimming

Most of the older children have now managed to swim their 25 metres – and this is the focus for the school, so that we can meet National Curriculum requirements.

Gymnastics

Our gymnasts continue to do well and Lola is currently being trained by international coaches.

PE kit for sporting events

Our new PE kit for sporting events is now in school and ready for use. If your child wears this to an event, please can you make sure that you wash and dry it and return to school as soon as possible afterwards. We will make a note of who borrows the kit and when it is returned as it is a big investment and needs to last a long time!

Table tennis

If you were around on sports day you will have noticed that we took delivery of a new outdoor table tennis table, again funded from our Sports Premium funding. The children are very excited about this and are already using it to play table tennis and invent their own games using other balls. Thank you to the parents who helped with its delivery and siting.

Sports newsletters

Miss Pursey has produced termly sports newsletters which are available on the website. Please take a look, as these will demonstrate how much we have provided during our 'Year of Sport'.

Morfa Bay residential

The Y6 children all had a wonderful time at Morfa Bay. It gave them the chance to try out new things and develop their self-belief and perseverance. Many of the children commented that this was their favourite part of the year (not surprisingly) on their end of year report to parents. Special thanks to Mrs Brooks and Mrs Gee for giving up their week to attend and support the children.

School meals – price change

The price of school meals rises to £2.10 from 1st September 2017.

STAY SAFE

Accessing the school building

Please make sure you sign in at the main office and get a badge before entering the school building – this includes before and after school even if you want to just pop in for something or to speak to a member of staff. This is part of our safeguarding procedures which are in place to keep your child and other members of the school community safe and to protect you too.

ENJOY AND ACHIEVE

Eco- Awards – bronze and silver

Mrs Arrowsmith and her pupil eco-committee have been working hard for the last two years on trying to ensure the school is as eco-friendly as possible. As a result, the school has now been awarded the bronze award, which was closely followed by a silver award, achieved after a couple of additional things were put in place. This is fantastic news. Everybody now needs to keep reducing, re-using and re-cycling!

Project WOWs

Pearl class have visited Harry Potter World as part of their project this term. The children had a wonderful time and were full of it on their return to school.

Jet class visited Berkeley Castle to support their project learning.

Writing

Part of what I and the Senior Leadership Team do (Mrs Moncrieff and Mrs Windmill) is monitor and evaluate standards across the curriculum and the school. Having recently had another look at the children's books and also looked at books of children at other local schools, the standard of writing at Alexander Hosea is generally very high. Local Authority moderators have met with teachers earlier in the year to help secure our assessments and they undertook external moderation of writing in Year 6 as part of the statutory process. They were impressed with the children's writing and agreed with our judgements too. Thank you to Mrs Brooks and Mrs Shrewsbury for all the hard work which went into achieving this success.

Annual report to parents

You will be receiving your child's annual report on Friday 14th July. Overall, the children have had another very successful year at Alexander Hosea.

Classes for 2017-2018

As we currently have single aged classes, all classes will be staying as a class and transferring to their next teacher together. For consistency, Teachers and Teaching Assistants remain in their current classes:-

Topaz – YR – Mrs Windmill, Ms Johns

Emerald – Y1 – Miss Tyler, Mrs Barry

Jet – Y2 – Miss Pursey, Mrs Cleverley, Mrs Lloyd

Crystal – Y3 – Mrs Arrowsmith, Mrs Ward, Mrs Sutherland

Diamond – Y4 – Mrs Moncrieff, Mrs McAleese

Pearl – Y5 Miss Edgar, Mrs Gee

Amethyst – Y6 – Mrs Brooks, Mrs Shrewsbury, Ms Joyner

The exception to this is that unfortunately Mrs Wiffen will be leaving us; Mrs Lloyd has been appointed and will be the Y2 Teaching Assistant from September 2017.

There will be a move up morning on 18th July when children spend time in their new classroom and with their new teacher/TA.

INSET day – 10th July

We use this day for the in-school transition process, which helps ensure your child has a smooth transition into their next class. As part of it, relevant staff discuss individual children and their needs. Data outcomes are shared, as well as the children's next steps. This information is used to inform planning for next term.

POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

Friends

Friends have allocated money to improve the outdoor learning environment for the children across the school. They have

- paid for wet weather waterproof clothes for EYFS children for use in inclement weather
- subsidised the EYFS fencing
- paid for the fencing to create an outdoor learning space for Y3/4
- agreed to purchase larger resources to enhance the outdoor learning environment adjacent to the Y5/6 classrooms
- considered having doors fitted in Y1/2 classes so they can access outside more easily

A huge 'thank you' to the Friends for their generosity.

Circus tickets

These are now on sale and are available from Friends or on-line – see below. This is planned to be a big event to bring our 'Ready, Steady, Go' year to a close so please come along.

Children's fundraising

Some of our children have taken it upon themselves to raise money for good causes.

Ned Kilburn ran a 5km course in the searing heat and raised £160 to help homeless people. He chose to support 'Caring in Bristol', a local homeless charity. Well done, Ned!

Cake sale

Michael Withers, Katie Clausen, Ben Criper and Ben Blanchard from Jet class ran a very successful cake sale for cubs, beavers and scouts, raising £100.15. Another fantastic achievement! Well done.

Collecting stamps

Rev Ray led an assembly recently and gave the children an update about how the sale of the stamps they have collected have helped to fund a school for children in Africa. Please keep collecting stamps from your post – apparently post marks can be sold i.e. where there is no stamp but a post mark instead – so please send these into school too.

Parent Council

The next Parent Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday 6th July, 2.00pm – please make sure class reps have any agenda items. Minutes of Parent Council meetings can be found in the Parent's area of the school's website.

Parent Questionnaire outcomes

I reported these in my last newsletter but did not mention the fact that the reason for the lower percentages for:-

-This school deals effectively with bullying

-This school responds well to any concerns that I raise

was because most of the parents responded that they 'don't know' because they have not ever experienced a situation involving bullying or raising concerns.

Easyfundraising – please remember to use this when buying online; it is an easy way to raise money for the school to support your child's learning.

Community events

Zombies run – 5k cross country – 6pm registration - 12th July (KLB) - £5 adults, £3 children

FORTHCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS

TOM ROBSON – Thursday 13th July – 7.00pm in the school hall– funded through the Wickwar Education Foundation – all adults welcome – bring friends or grans and granddads if you want to.

Tom is returning! If you missed him last time, or even if you came along, please come again, as he will be providing a totally different session for parents. This applies if your child is in Y6 too!

I can't stress how important his messages are – they can make a real difference to you and your children.

I would especially like to thank WICKWAR EDUCATION FOUNDATION for paying for Tom to come back to Alexander Hosea to enhance the children's character education and to provide food for thought for you as parents/ grandparents.

Saturday 15th July – Wickwar Games

Please come and support this event – the Friends and others work hard to help make this a successful community event.

Monday 17th July – Y6 leaver's play for parents of children in Y6

Tuesday 18th July – Children's end of year discos

Thursday 20th July – Happy's Circus – please come along – tickets are available from members of the Friends committee or on-line: www.pta-events.co.uk/FriendsOfAHS.

It is hoped this will be successful in terms of entertainment and fundraising to ensure your children benefit from an enriched learning environment and resources.

DIARY DATES FOR TERM 6 2016-17

July	Monday 3 rd	SEN Parents' Coffee Morning at AHPS
	Tuesday 4 th	Circus Skills Workshop – whole school event
	Thursday 6 th	Crystal Homework Share
	Thursday 6 th	Amethyst visit to Cemex Quarry
	Thursday 6 th	Parent Council Meeting – 2 pm

	Friday 7 th	Diamond Homework Share
	Friday 7 th	Emerald Bristol Museum-Dinosaur Discovery
	Monday 10th	Staff INSET day – school closed to pupils
	Wednesday 12 th	Amethyst and Pearl Homework Share
	Thursday 13 th	Tom Robson
	Friday 14 th	Pupil Reports home to parents
	Saturday 15 th	Wickwar Games
	Monday 17 th	Y6 Leavers Assembly – 6.00 pm (Y6 parents invited)
	Tuesday 18 th	Friends – Summer Disco
	Tuesday 18 th	Move Up Day
	Thursday 20 th	Friends of AHS – Big Family Event
	Friday 21st	End of Term 6

TERM AND INSET DATES – ACADEMIC YEAR 2017/2018

TERM 1

Friday 1st September - Inset Day

Begin: Monday 4th September 2017

End: Thursday 19th October 2017

Friday 20th October 2017 – Inset Day

TERM 2

Begin: Monday 30th October 2017

End: Friday 15th December 2017

Monday 18th December 2017 – Inset Day

TERM 3

Begin: Tuesday 2nd January 2018

End: Friday 9th February 2018

TERM 4

Begin: Monday 19th February 2018

End: Friday 23rd March 2018

TERM 5

Monday 9th April 2018 – Inset Day

Begin: Tuesday 10th April 2018

Monday 7th May – Bank holiday

End: Friday 25th May 2018

TERM 6

Begin: Monday 4th June 2018

Friday 13th July 2018 – Inset Day

End: Friday 20th July 2018

Yours sincerely

Ms. V. Quest
Headteacher