# Alexander Hosea Primary School 'Roots to grow, wings to fly'



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#### Newsletter 12, 24th March 2023

For school calendar: http://www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk/calendar/?calid=1&pid=3&viewid=1

#### From Mrs Williams:

**Author visits:** Y5/6 enjoyed an author visit by Joseph Elliott on 15<sup>th</sup> March. The whole school also had sessions with poet Zohab Zee Khan on 21<sup>st</sup> March, see items below.

**Musical performances**: Our Y5 and 6 children performed their instruments (junior saxophone and cello) to their parents this week. They have engaged very well with the Integra Music programme and made the most of this opportunity, making huge progress across the 10 weeks. Thank you very much to the Friends of AHS, who have funded some of this provision. As a school we have funded the rest using our School Fund.

Staff news: Mrs Grainger had her baby on Mother's Day! Maisie was the best present for the family. Congratulations!

#### Dates for your diary:

27<sup>th</sup> March – Ukulele (Y4) performance to parents

28th March and 29th March - Parents' evening

31st March - INSET day

9th -12th May Y6 SATs

10th May (2:30-3:20pm) - Online safety update for parents by Avon & Somerset Police

18<sup>th</sup> May – Sports Day – provisional date

## Author Visit - Joseph Elliott

The Y5/6 children had an inspiring visit from author Joseph Elliott. He talked to them about how he became an author; the writing process (including the importance of editing) and how to blend animals together to create a new mythical creature.

The children then designed their own creatures (see example below) with Mrs Hathaway, parent and local illustrator. They also wrote some descriptive writing about them.









# Wickwar Environmental Action Group

Thank you for the entries for the WEAG Garden Design poster competition. The winner this year is Lacey in Y6.
Congratulations!



We have some great events planned for the summer term and will need helpers to make them happen. To find out more, join https://www.facebook.com/groups/FriendsOfAHSCommunity You can also email us via FriendsOfAHS@hotmail.com.

Cake sale update: Huge thanks to Ruby class for running a cake sale for us and raising and amazing £175 for the Friends! Next term we will be asking **Jet class** to supply the cakes for the refreshments on Sports Day (18 May) and Topaz to bring in cakes for the Summer Fair (17 June).

Easter Shop: Thank you to everyone who ordered sweet cones. The Easter shop will be open in school on Thursday 30 March, so look out for those goodies coming home!

NEON DISCO tickets on sale NOW! The Friends are holding a disco for adults from 7.30-11pm on Saturday 20 May. We'll supply the neon face paint, fully licensed bar and DJ, so you just need to bring your best dance moves! Book your tickets now at www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofahs

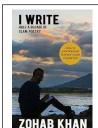
Circus tickets ON SALE NOW! Don't forget that Happy's Circus will be coming back to the village on Monday 31 July with animal-free circus fun for all the family! Buy your tickets now at www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofahs Don't forget to check our <u>Facebook page</u> and <u>webpage</u> for the latest news!

## Poet Visit - Zohab Zee Khan

Poet Zohab Zee Khan visited us on 21st March. He lead sessions throughout the day, to share his love of performance poetry and RAP, which inspired the children to write some free verse of their own. The children really enjoyed hearing from a positive male role model about being a modern poet; how poetry helps him to express himself and how it can be used as an outlet for emotions. He performed versions of 'I Write' (which he won the Australian National Slam Poetry with) and 'Imagine' for Y5/6. We are very grateful to Wickwar Education Foundation for funding this event.



'I thought it was fun and exciting, because of the made me want to learn more.' Azura Y4



'I liked the way he got all of us too.' Mia Y4



looking for more easily and helped me to think of different words.' Leo Y4

# 'I liked that he spoke in a rap-like speaking really fast. I liked the

## Online Safety session for parents

Avon & Somerset Police will be running a session for parents on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2:30-3:20pm. To aid their planning, we would appreciate it if parents could let their Parent Council Rep know any areas you would be particularly interested in covering in this session by the end of term.









# **Essential Spelling**

We have recently updated our Spelling Programme and adopted the Essential Spelling scheme from Herts for Learning. Teachers have started to use this in Y2-6.

The programme contains a clear progression, lesson plans and resources and will lead on in a systematic way from the Unlocking Letters and Sounds programme we use for phonics in Reception and Year 1.

Children will continue to have individual spelling lists, but they will be tested using a range of methods, including dictation.

https://www.hertsforlearning.co.uk/blog/introductionessentialspelling

Mrs Williams - Headteacher and English Leader

# **Drop-off zone**

At Parent Council, a concern was raised about people parking in the drop-off zone (this is the curved bay on the school side of the roundabout). Please only use this area to drop-off and then drive away. We have applied for some funding to have the markings redone and some new signage, which will help to clarify too.







#### **Music Concerts**

The Y5 children have been learning to play the cello for 10 weeks as part of the Integra Music Service provision. This was paid for jointly by the Friends of AHS and using school fund. We were very proud of the children for playing so well and making the most of this opportunity.



Y6 also performed to their families this week. They have been learning the junior saxophone, which they have really enjoyed.





Next week, the Year 4 children will perform their ukuleles to their families. In April Reception, Y1 and Y2 will begin to have Beat Bus percussion lessons.