



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

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Headteacher: Mrs D Williams



Newsletter 5, 8th November 2019

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

From Mrs Williams:

***** 3 weeks to go until Christmas Fair (Saturday, 30th November) *****

We hope that everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable half term. There is so much to look forward to this term.

This week, we received a letter of commendation from the Minister of State for School Standards to congratulate the school on our outstanding achievements in the 2019 Y1 Phonics Screening Check (see letter later in the newsletter). We are very pleased to have received this recognition for the second time in recent years.



Thank you to Wickwar Education Foundation, who have funded the Jigsaw PHSE programme for our school. This is a highly regarded programme, which pulls together all aspects of the PHSE curriculum in a meaningful scheme for schools to use. WEF will also be funding a Big Foot Drama event later in the year, which we hope the children will really enjoy.

Some key dates for your diary:

Odd Socks Day – on Tuesday 12th November, the children are invited to wear odd socks for anti-bullying week.

National School Meals Day – on Thursday 14th November, we will have a special menu (see item on last page)

Children in Need – On Friday 15th November, children are invited to wear a spotty or yellow item of clothing with their school uniform. A separate email was sent to parents last week from Amethyst class.

School Meal Taster session – Integra Catering would like to invite Infant parents/carers to attend a taster session, to sample some of the food from the new menu on Friday 22nd November at 3pm in the hall.

Children's Christmas Gift Sale – The Friends are running a Christmas sale, so that children can purchase a 'secret' present for their special adults, during the school day on Monday 25th November. See FoAHS section below.

Christmas Fair – see information below Saturday 30th November in the Community Centre.

Class Product Sale – Classes will set up a sale of the items they have made in class after school (rather than at the Christmas Fair) on Monday 9th December. Weather permitting, this will be held in the playground (in the case of inclement weather, it will be in hall).

Christmas Dinner – On Tuesday 10th December, the children are invited to have a Christmas Dinner at school for the same price as usual (FREE for Reception, Years 1 and 2; £2.30 for Years 3-6). Please book using the online system.

Christmas shows – see dates later in newsletter.

Christmas Jumper Day – Children are invited to wear Christmas jumpers to school for £1 (to school fund) on 19th Dec.

Friends' Coffee Morning – All parents and grandparents are invited to attend the coffee morning on 19th December (am). This is a popular event and all classes come along to sing songs to the visitors.

INSET days – Friday 20th December, Monday 6th January, Friday 3rd April and Friday 3rd July.

Please do read this newsletter, the school calendar and the Teachers' weekly bulletins to keep up to date.



We will send home a questionnaire soon, to see how it is going for the families who have got involved with Children's University. We hope that the children are enjoying collecting credits.

<https://www1.uwe.ac.uk/study/schoolsandcolleges/childrens/university.aspx>



We were delighted to receive many designs for the Year of Citizenship.

Congratulations to everyone who took part and to Jessica (Y6), whose design will be used this year.



CHRISTMAS FAIR

The Christmas Fair is the biggest fundraiser of the school calendar and hopefully this year is going to be another successful event. But this will not be possible without your help.

This year we are asking for three separate donations, however big or small, any donations will be greatly received and very much appreciated. we are running 3 tombola's, Bottle, jolly Jar and chocolate, we need donations for all 3 please!

- Bottle tombola: any bottle, any filling! Could be wine, ketchup, shampoo or even nail varnish! Just an unopened, unused bottle of something please! Please bring into class by Monday 11th November
- A chocolate bar, again any size, any brand, in exchange for Mufti day on Wednesday November 6th
- A Jolly Jar, for this you need any sized old jar. All you need to do is wash it out, and fill it with anything, sweets, chocolate, stationary, small toys, hot chocolate powder and marshmallows, anything you can think of. Get the children involved in filling and decorating and there will be a prize for the best, most original 'Jolly Jar' in each class. Please bring into class by Monday 11th November
- If you are available on the day to help on a stall for just half an hour, please see either Leanne Woodruff or Hannah Murray
- Finally, please try and come along on Saturday 30th November! We have lots of stalls to get a few Christmas gifts, we will have hot pork rolls, lots of games and crafts and of course Father Christmas himself will be there with a little early Christmas gift in the school Grotto.

SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 1PM TIL 4PM



Macmillan Cake Sale

Alexander Hosea Primary School, the World's Biggest Coffee Morning is nothing without you. **Thank you so much for donating a gift of £171.52.**

We hope you felt proud as everyone came together to tuck into all those delicious treats; you did something extraordinary.

Every penny raised will help Macmillan be right there for people living with cancer, as we continue to offer physical, financial and emotional support to those who need us.

Clothes for a Cause Collection on 4th November raised £193.60. Thank you to all who donated.

Stamps for CRY

Reverend Ray Avent, from the local chapel, is a regular visitor to our school and leads Tuesday assemblies at intervals throughout the year. The children enjoy his stories about his life and his messages about kindness. He is an avid supporter of the CRY stamp appeal.

CRY aims to rescue and restore children and young people broken by poverty, oppression, exclusion and abuse. They set up projects that provide for the most basic needs - food, water, shelter, education - in some of the poorest nations in the world.

CRY can use your old stamps to generate additional income for the charity. Please trim them from the envelope, collect them together and post them in the collection box in the school entrance.

<https://www.cry.org.uk/donate/stamps>



Cotswold Alliance Orchestra

The Cotswold Alliance is a group of like-minded schools (Alexander Hosea, Trinity, Hawkesbury, Horton, St John's Mead, Iron Acton and Old Sodbury), with a passion for improving opportunities for children to shine.

With this in mind, Mrs Webber (Headteacher at Old Sodbury) would like to invite children who are learning a musical instrument to consider being part of the Cotswold Alliance Orchestra.

If your child has musical instrument tuition (at school or home) and they would like to get involved this year, please contact the school office. It would be helpful to know which instrument they play and the most recent grade they have achieved.

We have set a provisional date for the first session at Old Sodbury for 14th January 2020.

Friends of AHS

22 nd Nov	Christmas Gift Shop Voucher Deadline
w/c 25 th Nov	Children's Christmas Gift Shop
30 th Nov	1 to 4pm Christmas Fair
1 st Dec	100 Club Christmas Draw
17 th Dec	Children's Christmas Disco (Infants 4:45-5:45, Juniors 6:00-7:00pm)
19 th Dec	Christmas Coffee & Carols Morning

Christmas Gift Shop: This year we are giving children the opportunity to treat someone special to a gift this Christmas. For every voucher purchased, your child will be able to select a gift from our great range of presents (one voucher = one gift). The gifts are wrapped, labelled and then sent home to be placed under the Christmas tree ready for the big day! Vouchers are £2.50 each and are available online: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofahs> or by sending an envelope with your child's name and class, and payment to school (FAO: Sarah Spencer).

Christmas Fair: Thank you for donations from the non-uniform day this week. We also need donations for our Bottle Tombola (any bottle, any filling, unopened) and Jolly Jars (filled with anything – crafts, sweets, stationary) by Monday 11th November. This year's Christmas fair will feature children's Craft and Games, Santa's Grotto, "Elf on the Shelf", Glitter Tattoos, Hot Pork Rolls, Gift Stalls, Raffle plus much, much more!!

friendsofahs@hotmail.com [facebook.com/FriendsOfAHS](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfAHS) School website: 'Parents' section

Online Pupil Survey

In the summer term our children in yrs 4, 5 and 6 completed an online health and wellbeing survey. We will use the feedback to make things even better for our children but these are some of the highlights:

86% of our children are always happy to come to school compared with 77% in South Glos schools.



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81% of our children feel confident and happy about their future compared with 73% in other S Glos schools.



81% thought they were good at making and keeping friends compared with 77% in other S Glos schools.

100% thought they had at least one good friend.

72% thought that bullying is dealt with well at our school compared with 65% in other S Glos schools.

29% of children reported having problems sleeping compared with 25% in other S Glos schools.

As part of our newly launched Jigsaw PHSE we will be talking to the children about ways to relax so I am hoping to see an improvement in this figure this year.



To find out more about Jigsaw follow this link to a parent information leaflet.

<https://www.alexanderhoseprimary.co.uk/page/?title=Personal%2C+Social+and+Health+Education&pid=160>

National School Dinners Day – 14th November

Thank you for the entries for the drawing competition for National School Dinners Day. The winner (selected by Integra Catering), is Jasmine in Y5.

As part of the competition, Jasmine recommended her favourite meal, so this will be the menu for 14th November.

Macaroni Cheese

Chocolate fudge cake and sauce

(jacket potatoes and salad bar will be available on this day as usual)

South Glos Youth Award

We are delighted to celebrate the success of one of our Year 6 pupils. Justin is the first Year 6 child to win the Duke of Edinburgh style Gold South Glos Youth Award.

He has taken part in the South Glos Mini Youth Council in his own time and completed the Make a Difference, Life Skills and Activities sections (10 hours each).

This is a huge achievement and we hope it may pave the way for other Year 6 children to take part in the programme in the future.

<https://www.southglos.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/care-and-support-children-families/young-people/youth-awards/south-gloucestershire-award-for-young-people/>



Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP
Minister of State for School Standards

Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, SW1P 3BT
tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus

Mrs Debbie Williams
Alexander Hosea Primary School
Honeybourne Way
Wotton-under-Edge
Gloucestershire
GL12 8PF

(November 2019

Dear Mrs Williams,

I would like to congratulate you, your staff and your pupils on your school's outstanding achievements in the 2019 phonics screening check. Your excellent teaching of phonics is something I hope to see replicated across the country: decoding skills are the foundations for pupils to progress to reading fluently, for purpose and for enjoyment.

There is a substantial body of evidence that demonstrates that systematic phonics is a highly effective method for teaching children to read. We want to ensure that every child develops a firm grasp of phonics, which is why I was delighted to see your results. With 97 per cent of pupils at Alexander Hosea Primary School reaching or exceeding the pass mark in the check, your school is in the top five per cent of all primary schools in the country.

This year's figures show that 88 per cent of pupils who achieve the expected standard in the check go on to achieve at least the expected standard in key stage 1 reading teacher assessment, which underlines the importance of teaching pupils to decode words effectively at an early age.

Your success in teaching phonics and early reading so effectively means your pupils are developing a firm foundation in literacy, from which they can develop excellent vocabulary and cultivate a love of reading that can last a lifetime.

Thank you for your commitment and success in teaching the next generation to read so effectively.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Christmas Shows

Reception

Tuesday 17th December 9:30am

Years 1 & 2

Monday 9th December 2-3pm

Wednesday 11th December 10-11am

Years 3 & 4

Tuesday 10th December 9:30-10:30

Thursday 12th December 2-3pm

Years 5 & 6

At Holy Trinity Church.

Monday 16th December 2-3pm

Wednesday 18th December 6-7pm



Remembrance

On Monday 11th November, Rev Canon David Russell will be leading a remembrance assembly. There will be a minute's silence at 11am.