



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

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Newsletter 12, 28th February 2020

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

From Mrs Williams:

Year 4 took part in the '**Festival of Youth Dance**' at Abbeywood on 12th February. Miss Edgar and Mrs McAleese were really proud of the children, who performed very well in this showcase.

'**Number 8 Day**' proved a huge hit with the children across the school at the end of last term. Mrs Brooks was thrilled to see so much brilliant maths around school based on this number. There was a great learning buzz around school.

Year 5 spent 3 exciting days at **Kilve Court** for their residential visit at the end of last term. Fortunately, they were away in the space between Storm Ciara and Storm Denis!

This week, we have had two focus areas:

Aspirations Week –visitors came in to talk about various jobs they do (dietician, rheumatologist, yoga teacher, psychiatric nurse, engineers, police forensics, hydrographer, barrister, computer systems expert). Thank you to Mrs Windmill for organising the week and all the visitors for committing their valuable time and efforts to helping the children to learn more about jobs that grown-ups do.

Online safety week – whilst we reinforce staying safe online throughout the year, this has a particular spotlight in classes in February each year (close to national online safety week). There are some great resources for parents on NSPCC website <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>. You might also find it helpful to look at game ratings and descriptions for console games <https://www.commonssensemedia.org/game-reviews> and guidance for parents about having conversations with their children about staying safe online <https://www.esrb.org/tools-for-parents/>. When you think it is the right time for your child to have a mobile phone (usually around Y6), you may wish to set out your ground rules (such as no phones after a certain time, or leave phone in kitchen after tea/Xpm) from the outset. Children should not bring mobile phones to school.

Some key dates for your diary:

INSET days –Friday 3rd April and Friday 3rd July. (We will be considering our dates for the next academic year during the spring term).
Please do read this newsletter, the school calendar and the Teachers' weekly bulletins to keep up to date.

Welcome staff on gate

Our staff enjoy being on the gates to welcome the children and families into school. In line with our classroom welcome routine, we try to speak to as many people as we can, to reconnect for the start of the day.

The gates close promptly at 9am as register is closing and staff need to be back in class to start lessons. If you would like a longer conversation, please make an appointment to meet after school.

Children who arrive after 9am should come in through the front office and be signed in as late. We encourage all children to arrive between 8:50-8:55am, so that they are in and ready for the start of the day.

Phonics Information session – Year 1

The Year 1 teachers would like to invite parents to an information session about the forthcoming phonics screening (in June).

The session will be on Friday 13th March 9-9:30. Please let the office know if you are able to attend, so that we know how many chairs to put out. Thank you.

Friends of AHS

friendsofahs@hotmail.com facebook.com/FriendsOfAHS School website: 'Parents' section

1 st Mar	100 Club Draw
3 rd Mar 7:30pm	Friends Meeting at The Buthay – All Welcome!
19 th May	Sports Day Refreshments

Quiz Night: Congratulations to the winners "Quiz team Aguilera" and the runners up "Wickwar Assemble" who both won vouchers kindly donated by The Buthay Inn. We are very pleased to say the event raised a whopping £795.45. This will really help us narrow the gap of the amount we need to raise for new IT equipment for our school.

Seed Swap: Thank you to everyone who braved the weather. We are pleased to say we made a total of £75, which includes a very kind £21 donation from the Book Sale. This money will be used for the school garden.

Rags 2 Riches: Thank you for all your clothes donations. We had 68 bags donated, which raised £161.20 for our school! The next collection will be on Monday 6th July.

Don't forget to check our Facebook page and webpage for the latest news and events!

Coronavirus – Advice for parents/guardians

Latest information and advice is updated on the Public Health website, which is updated as needed at 2pm each day:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/common-questions/> is also a helpful guide for parents.

You should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your children catching the Coronavirus. There is no reason why your children should not continue to attend their early years, school or further education setting as normal. If you child starts to feel unwell and you are concerned, contact 111 for advice.

We recognise that some families or children may be planning to travel abroad during the forthcoming Easter break. If so, please refer to the FCO's latest travel advice via the link above.

The Government and NHS are well prepared to deal with this virus. You can help too. Germs can live on some surfaces for hours. To protect yourself and others:

- Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.
- Bin the tissue, and to kill the germs, wash your hands with soap and water, or use a sanitiser gel.
- If you have arrived back from China within 14 days follow the specific advice for returning travellers. This is the best way to slow the spread of almost any germs, including Coronavirus.

Handwashing

We regularly encourage children to wash their hands before eating in school. In assembly this week we reminded them about effective washing and Sarah in Y4 created new hand washing posters in the toilets to remind children.

It would be very helpful if all families could reinforce good hand hygiene at home, so that children have a consistent message at home and school. Mrs Windmill also recommends eBug programme as a source of further information for pupils. https://e-bug.eu/ind_home.aspx?cc=ind&ss=1&t=Welcome%20to%20e-Bug

Young Carers support

A young carer is a child or young person aged 8-18 years, who provides regular ongoing support and care to a family member who is disabled, has a long term illness, mental health issues or is affected by substance misuse. If you think your child might benefit from support as a young carer, contact Mrs Williams to find out how to apply. Further information is available from www.carerssupportcentre.org.uk

WICKWAR OUT OF SCHOOL CLUB (WOOSC) VACANCY

Wickwar Out of School Club (WOOSC) is registered with Ofsted, and is run as a not for profit organisation, based in The Olive Pollard Community Rooms adjacent to the Alexander Hosea School in Wickwar. The club is open from 7.45 am until 9.00 am and 3.30 pm until 6.00 pm weekdays. We also offer some holiday care from 8.00 am till 6 pm according to demand.

WOOSC aim to provide childcare in a safe, secure and relaxed environment, offering a range of activities to reflect the interests of children who use the club. Our website provides further information about our services. We currently have a vacancy for an Unqualified Staff Playworker (based at The Olive Pollard Community Centre) The post is for 9 hours 10 minutes per week (term-time only) with a starting salary of £8.21 per hour. The successful candidate/s will need:

- to be available to work at our Wickwar site from 07:40 to 09:00 every weekday (term-time only) and from 3.30 until 6.00 pm one evening per week.
- previous experience of working with children aged 4-12
- ability to provide and facilitate safe, creative play
- good communication skills and confidence when speaking to parents/carers and children

We provide flexible working conditions, the opportunity to work as part of a team and provide training and support. The closing date for applications is to be confirmed. Interviews will be held once short listing has taken place and a start date will be confirmed with the successful candidate(s) taking into consideration any notice period required.

Application packs may be requested via our email address woosc@hotmail.co.uk or by calling Emma James on 07815 561783 outside of club hours.

Wickwar Out of School Club (Ofsted Registration No136114)

Baguettes

The Catering Team have been trialling an offer of baguettes as one of the lunch options. There has been limited take up at present, so they have run their stock down and these will no longer be available at present. There is the possibility that they might offer these again in the summer months - more information later in year.

Reception Parent Lunches

The Catering Team would like to invite parents from Topaz Class to come into school on either Tues 10th or Thurs 12th March from 11:45-12:30 to try a school meal (vegetarian/vegan and other dietary needs are catered for, please let the office know if you have particular dietary needs) The cost of a parent meal is £3 for 2 courses. The child's meal is free as usual. At the end of the meal, parents say farewell to their child, before they go to the playground.

Big Moments with All Stars Cricket.

All Stars Cricket returns this May! Guarantees a fantastic first cricket experience for all 5-8 year-old girls and boys with 8-weeks of jam-packed fun, activity and skills development.

Plus, we'll kit them out with their very own All Stars Cricket backpack full of goodies including a cricket bat, ball, personalised shirt and cap – free of charge with each registration.

Learn more at allstarscricket.co.uk
Registration opens March.

Dynamos Cricket.

A brand new cricket programme for 8 – 11 year-olds graduating from All Stars or those new to the sport! Apply your skills in an exciting, fast paced, and energetic game of countdown cricket!

Each child will be kitted out with their own New Balance t-shirt, personalised with their name and number on the back, just like the heroes of The Hundred.

Get ready to download the Dynamos Cricket participant app, packed full of exclusive videos, challenges and activities to practice at home or with friends.

Learn more at dynamoscricicket.co.uk
Registration opens February.