

Alexander Hosea Primary School

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

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Newsletter 7 – 1st December 2017

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

From the Headteacher...

What a busy time of year! The school is full of joy (and excited children) in the run up to the festive season. Thank you so much for all parents/carers who have been in school to help. In the past fortnight we have:

- Appointed a teacher to cover Miss Pursey's maternity leave. Mrs Ashdown will be attending the KS1 show on Monday 4th December, if any parents would like to introduce themselves to her.
- Held a Parent Council meeting – see below.
- The children have been preparing for their Christmas celebration performances/service. The singing sounds wonderful and we cannot wait to see them in action over the coming weeks (see the December planner).
- The children have been working very hard to make their products for their class stalls at the Christmas fair (4:30-6:30pm today). The delicious smells have been wafting around the school from various cookery sessions.
- Thank you to Mrs McGrellis and Mrs Woodward for planting our hedge saplings from the Woodland Trust and to Mr Hall for fitting the decking friction strips in the playground (and helping with our water challenge last week).

There are many activities in the coming weeks, so please check the school calendar on the website (follow link above) and/or December Planner. We are already getting into the festive spirit at school!



We are all looking forward to our whole school trip!

Please see separate letter 'Arrangements for the theatre trip to The Wizard of Oz', which was emailed this week.

We will try to get all children back to school for about 5:45pm (traffic dependent).

Please note that ALL children must be collected from school by a parent/carer.

Applying for a primary place for September 2018

The booklet about admissions into Primary School is now available on <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-education/school-admissions/apply-online-for-a-school-place/>

Deadline for applications 15th January 2018.



School Gate Running

Andy from Wickwar Wunners has kindly agreed to host a school gate running group on Friday mornings at 9:15am. The first sessions will be on the school field on **1st December and 8th December**. These sessions will focus on Couch to 5K but everyone is welcome.

We need you!

- We are starting our renovation of the ICT Suite and have **several metres of good quality laminate worktop** (dark wood) to go to a good home for a small donation. If you would not need it, but could assist the caretaker to remove it, your help would be much appreciated too.
- Come along and enjoy the **Christmas Fair this evening**. The children will be running class stalls to sell their products that they have been making over the past weeks.
- If you are in receipt of **pupil premium**, we can help with some costs of Christmas events (e.g. your child's product for free or entrance fee for the disco). Please speak to the class teacher if you would like this.

Family Fun Day

Sunday 10th December



Fun and entertainment for the whole family!

What's On

- Richard Noble – Talks about Bloodhound SSC
- Hear about the science behind the car; from the engineers and ambassadors themselves.
- Bring a BLOODHOUND SSC Christmas theme models with you. The winner will receive a £20.00 Bloodhound Voucher to spend in our shop.
- How far can you make a K'nex car or paper rocket travel; only using the power of air?
- Enjoy our STEM Zone; make an airzooka, Bernoulli Blower, electrical circuit
- Come and draw the car; then enter it into our drawing competition. (Ages 3-5, 6-9, 10-14, 14-16+)
- Try out your driving skills on the Bloodhound Simulator. Fastest time of the day will win 'Science Behind the Speed Manual' signed by Andy Green, the driver.
- Take a selfie by the actual supersonic car.

Prices [Tickets Available Here](http://www.bloodhoundssc.com/visits/BTC-10Dec) <http://www.bloodhoundssc.com/visits/BTC-10Dec>

- 1 adult - £15
- Children (5-18) - £5
- Children under 5 are free

For further information or queries about other BLOODHOUND SSC events please email: visit.us@bloodhoundssc.com

- Meet Richard Noble
- See the actual 1000mph Car
- Make an air powered vehicle
- BLOODHOUND SSC Christmas model Competition
- Visit our STEM Zone
- Be the fastest driver on the BLOODHOUND SSC simulator
- Drawing competition
- Fun for the whole family

BLOODHOUND SSC
BE PART OF THE ADVENTURE



All parents/children welcome

Wickwar Chapel in High Street

11.00am Sunday 17 December-refreshments available



Primary Maths Challenge

On Wednesday 15th November 20 children from year 5 and 6 took the primary maths challenge. This is a national competition where children across the country answer a series of maths challenges and problems. The results are entered into a national data base and the children are then awarded certificates depending on their achievements. We may even have some children that are entered into the next round...watch this space!

Mrs Brooks – Maths Leader

Parent Council

At our Parent Council meeting on 23rd November, we discussed:

- Agreed the Terms of Reference for 2017-18.
- Feedback from the Catering Working Party (choice; portion size and healthy eating standards). The catering provider is going to prepare a FAQ for families.
- Follow up on homework (raised at last meeting) – new format. Letter sent out by Mrs Moncrieff.
- Follow up on transition from last meeting.

Next meeting 1st February

- Extra-curricular club arrangements.
- Communication strategy feedback (shared at last meeting).
- Feedback from Catering Working Party (follow up).

Charities and fundraising

We are approached by charities all the time and try to:

- Support those which the community hold dear.
- Not overload families with fundraising requests.
- Spread the events throughout the year.
- Choose events that the children will enjoy.

Forthcoming events:

1. **Christmas Jumper day** (15th December). Children can wear their own jumper for £1. Funds to go towards new books for the school library. There have been some girls' Christmas jumpers (age 6-8) donated by other parents, for anyone who would
2. **Rev Avent's stamp collection box** (for CRY charity) is in the front entrance.



Children's Disco - Tuesday 12th December.

Infants: Topaz, Emerald and Jet **5-6pm**

Juniors: **6:15-7:15pm**

All children (including those in Y5/6) will need to be collected from the event.

Thank you to the FoAHS for putting on this event. We know the children will love it!



Alexander Hosea Primary School December Planner for Parents/Carers - December 2017

	Topaz	Emerald	Jet	Crystal	Diamond	Pearl	Amethyst	Whole school/ other
Fri 1 st Dec	Journal share 3pm	Dress rehearsal to the school	Dress rehearsal to the school					FoAHS Christmas Fair
Mon 4 th Dec		2-3pm performance	2-3pm performance	9:30-10:30am performance	9:30-10:30am performance	Practice at the church (am)	Practice at the church (am)	
Tues 5 th Dec				Swimming (am)				
Wed 6 th Dec		9:45-10:45am performance	9:45-10:45am performance			Practice at the church (am)	Practice at the church (am)	Pm whole school theatre trip - "Wizard of Oz"
Thurs 7 th Dec	9:30-11 celebration and coffee morning			2-3pm performance	2-3pm performance			Girls' football team - county competition (pm)
Fri 8 th Dec						Dress rehearsal to school	Dress rehearsal to school	
Mon 11 th Dec						6:30-7:30pm Service at Holy Trinity	6:30-7:30pm Service at Holy Trinity	
Tues 12 th Dec	5-6pm Disco	5-6pm Disco	5-6pm Disco	6:15-7:15pm Disco	6:15-7:15pm Disco	6:15-7:15pm Disco	6:15-7:15pm Disco	Christmas lunch
Wed 13 th Dec						2-3pm Service at Holy Trinity	2-3pm Service at Holy Trinity	

As we are coming into the busiest period of the year, a December Planner has been emailed to you.

We hope you will find it helpful!

Christmas shows

	Date	Time
Topaz	Thurs 7 th Dec	9:30-11am *
KS1 (Jet and Emerald)	Mon 4 th Dec Weds 6 th Dec	2-3pm 9:45-10:45
Crystal and Diamond	Mon 4 th Dec Thurs 7 th Dec	9:30-10:30 2-3pm
Amethyst and Pearl	Mon 11 th Dec Wed 13 th Dec	6:30-7:30pm 2-3pm

*this includes a coffee morning

Please note the Y5/6 service is at Holy Trinity Church. All other shows are in school. Please aim to arrive about 10 minutes before the start of the show. Doors will open 15 minutes before the show is due to start.

I am very grateful to the staff for the work behind the scenes to start preparing for the shows, which take a lot of time and effort to put together.

Tesco Bags for Schools: Pond area renovation

A massive thank you to everyone who supported us by putting blue tokens in the Alexander Hosea Primary School cause at local Tesco stores during September and October. We are delighted to announce that we have recently found out that we came second and have been awarded **£2,000!**



Friends of AHS

The FoAHS will be meeting on Tuesday 21st November 7-9pm.

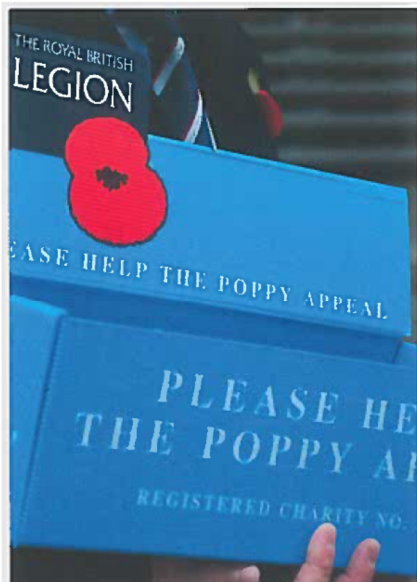
Forthcoming events:

- 1st Dec 100 Club draw
- 1st Dec Winter Fair (4:30-6:30pm)
- 5th Dec Christmas discos (TBC)
- 15th Dec Christmas coffee morning

Please do look at the FoAHS Autumn newsletter for more information.

Contact FoAHS: friendsofAHS@hotmail.com

We are very grateful to the FoAHS for all the hard work they put into all the events to enrich our children's experiences.



—POPPY APPEAL—

Thank you very much for helping with our Appeal.

£ 253-34

was collected by you.
Without your help, we would be unable to
continue our vital welfare and benevolent work.

Yours sincerely

ANTHONY WADE
Local Honorary Organiser

District Total (if available) £ 502-67
Registered Charity No. 219279 WICKWAR



Christmas hats 12th December

The children are invited to make their own Christmas hat at home to wear at the Christmas lunch on 12th December.

There will be a small prize for the best hat for each class (judged by the class lunch break supervisor).

Pick up arrangements from clubs

As the darker nights are drawing in, Mrs Packer has texted all parents of children at this term's clubs to ask them to confirm the pick-up arrangements. This is of particular importance for children in years 5 and 6. If you have not yet responded, please contact the school office.

We have asked external club providers to ensure that there is a space on the application form for pick up arrangements from January 2018. The walk home from school permission forms for Y5/6 children only apply for 3:30pm end of school day and will no longer be shared with club providers.

If you need to make any different pick up arrangements on any particular day, the school office can take a message to pass on to the club provider.

Please ensure that children are collected promptly from clubs.



The updated School Development Plan for children is now available on the school website.



Vacancy for Lunchbreak Supervisor

Are you interested in joining our **lunchtime break supervisors'** team?

We are currently looking for an extra person on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday (this could be done by one person or shared between more people). The hours are 11:45am to 1pm.

If interested, please contact Allie Hall (School Business Manager) for an application form allison.hall@sgmail.org.uk or (01454) 294239.

INSET day reminder

The school is closed to children on the following dates:

Monday 18th December;
Monday 9th April and
Friday 13th July.