

# Alexander Hosea Primary School

## 'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

Honeyborne Way, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire, GL12 8PF

Tel: 01454 294239 or 01454 294638

Email: AlexanderHoseaPrimary@sgmail.org.uk

www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs D Williams



### Newsletter 11 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018

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

From the Headteacher...

Where did that term go? It passed in a flash and the children have already gained a wealth of new skills and knowledge through their projects. We hope that everyone has a healthy and happy half term break, ready to return to school bright and refreshed on 19<sup>th</sup> February.

#### What else has happened over the past fortnight?

- We were delighted that Jo Briscoombe visited us to host a meeting for parents on national Safer Internet Day – 6<sup>th</sup> February. Parents commented that they found the session helpful.
- Amethyst Class (Y6) really enjoyed their STEM day on 30<sup>th</sup> Jan. The facilitator was impressed by their skills and attitude as they rose to the challenge of using coding to set up a fairground ride complete with moving parts and lights.
- Topaz Class (R) enjoyed their stargazing experience. The children will remember it for years to come!
- We have shown around a group of potential parents with children in almost all year groups. We look forward to giving them a warm welcome to our school in the future.

**Friends of AHS Spring Newsletter**

**Welcome to the Friends of Alexander Hosea Newsletter!**

Welcome to our spring newsletter! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas holiday and New Year.

We hosted a number of events last term which we hope you all enjoyed. Our biggest event was our Christmas Fair, which raised a brilliant £190 for the school. A huge thank you to everyone who came, and also to the organisers.

We also hosted Children's Christmas Dinners which all the children enjoyed and raised £230. Our Christmas Coffee Morning at the end of term also raised £348. Thank you to everyone who came and donated cake. We hope you enjoyed the children's singing and perform parts of their Christmas plays.

We hope you all liked the children's Christmas cards. They raised £348 for our school.

**Since September, we have raised just over £2300!! Thank you to everyone who supported our events.**

With ever diminishing school budgets this money is valued by the school more than ever before. Please see the "How is the Money Used?" section to find out how your money has helped your children at school.

**Upcoming Events**

- **Clothes for a Cause**  
8:00 - 9:30am  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February
- **PartyLife Coffee Morning**  
10am - 12:30  
Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February
- **100 Club Draw**  
Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March
- **Concert for all the Family**  
2:00 - 3:30pm  
Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March
- **Sports Relief**  
Morning of 23<sup>rd</sup> March  
Details to follow!
- **Quiz Night**  
Date to be Confirmed  
Look out for posters!
- **Children's Spring Disco**  
Date to be Confirmed

#### Y6 SATS meeting

**21<sup>st</sup> Feb 9:15-9:45am**

Mrs Brooks would like to invite Year 6 parents to attend a SATs information session. There are enough places for all parents, so there is no need to book with us. Just turn up on the day.

#### INSET day reminder

The school is closed to children on the following dates:

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July.

#### We need you!

- Please double check your child's uniform to check it matches school expectations. We have noticed few minor slippages creeping in (eg jojo bows, bracelets). The policy is saved on the school website under school information, policies, 'health, safety, welfare and premises'.
- Coats! All children need a coat in school every day during the winter months. It can be very chilly on the playground during break and lunch times.
- Parking – when parking for school drop off and collection, please park considerately and avoid parking across neighbour's driveways.

### Thinking Day 22<sup>nd</sup> February

As some community groups celebrate 'Thinking Day', children are welcome to come into school on this day in community group uniform (brownies, cubs etc.). For children who do not belong to these groups, they can wear a uniform from another club they attend or their own clothes if they would like to. A voluntary donation of £1 for wearing non-school uniform will go towards resources for the new computer lab.

### FREE SCHOOL HOLIDAY CYCLE TRAINING COURSES – February Half Term 2018

#### Level 3 Training (School year 7 and above must have completed level 2)

This half day course is designed to build on skills learned in Level 2. Trainees will learn about and encounter more complex, busier road situations.

#### Bradley Stoke ~ Bradley Stoke Community School, Fiddlers Wood Lane, BS32 9BS

**Level 3** – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February – 9am – 1pm (one session required)

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February - 9am – 1pm (one session required)

**All elements of the course must be achieved to a competent, confident and consistent standard to gain the Bikeability standard.**

All trainees must have a signed and completed consent form. Trainees must have and be able to ride a roadworthy bicycle. Trainees must have a properly fitted cycle helmet.

All Instructors are DBS checked and work for the Council's Road Safety Team. Bikeability certificates are awarded to all trainees who successfully complete the course.

Email [cycle.training@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:cycle.training@southglos.gov.uk) for further details. *Please note courses are subject to a minimum number of children attending on the date. Locations of training may vary according to availability.*

### Year 5 information meeting for parents about Kilve

**Tuesday 20 February 3.30pm**

It is important that parents/carers attend this meeting, particularly if your child has any medical or other needs.

Important paperwork is being handed out for completion so if you are unable to make it for any reason, please contact the office.

### Keep in touch!



Email: [friendsofAHS@hotmail.com](mailto:friendsofAHS@hotmail.com)

Facebook: [facebook.com/FriendsOfAHS](https://facebook.com/FriendsOfAHS)

Twitter: @FriendsAHS

Website: [www.alexanderhoseprimary.co.uk](http://www.alexanderhoseprimary.co.uk)  
Click on the "Parents" tab

### Parking on roundabout

Please avoid parking or dropping off on the 'keep clear' areas, for the safety of pedestrians and other drivers.

### Reception and Y3 Parent/Carer Lunches

At the recent Catering Working Party meeting we agreed to host some sample sessions for parents/carers. As the Reception children are newest to the school and Year 3 is a changeover from universal free school meals, we decided that these year groups would be most appropriate. Dates to follow.

Each child can invite one adult to have a school meal with them. The cost is £2.80 per adult and £2.10 per child (free for Reception children). Both adult and child meals must be booked and paid for in advance. The purpose of this event is for the parent to sample a school meal with their child, so that they can see what might be on offer, so a school meal must be booked. If you have dietary needs please let the catering team know.

There will also be a tasting session in the playground after the new menu is launched (around May 2018) – more information to follow closer to the time.

### STEM Workshop Day Amethyst Class 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Amethyst Class had a busy day working on an exciting STEM project. They had to construct a working Fairground ride using K-NEX and working to design criteria. They then created a computer program (using FLOWOL4 to write the code) that would get their fairground ride to move, change speed and direction. Finally, they added sub routines to their program that included sounds and lights for the ride.



## Opportunities for Parents/Carers to get involved with the Year of Computing

Would you be interested in helping to run a Coding Club (using a range of resources including Scratch and coding websites) in school? If so, contact me on the email below.

Also I am putting together a Computing Working Party to discuss what computing opportunities you would like to see in school; to make links with the wider community and to tap into expertise in our school community. I am looking for a group of parents who would like to get involved in this project.

Do you have a job that involves computer science or information technology and would be willing to talk to small or large groups of children? If so, we are running an 'Aspirations Week' linked to Computing during the week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018 and would like you get involved by sharing some information about your job and how computing is used.

If you are interested in any of the above, please contact me either via the school office or by email at [Kimberley.edgar@sgmail.org.uk](mailto:Kimberley.edgar@sgmail.org.uk).

## Guidance for parents about clubs run by external providers

The Governors have reviewed our processes for working with external club providers (eg Girls' and Boys' Football; Cheerleading; Tennis; Mudpie Explorers) so that roles and responsibilities are clear for everyone.

There are also big changes ahead linked to data protection. We will therefore no longer be able to share information about children (e.g. medical needs, walk home from school permissions) with external club providers. As a result, medication should be provided separately by parents for the use of externally run clubs. There is a box in the school office for this purpose. Inhalers etc can be handed in and returned on the day of the club or kept in the box for the duration of the club.

After much thought and discussion, the guidance for external providers has been updated and guidance for parents about clubs run by external providers has been produced – see summary below (the full document will be emailed to parents for information). We hope that this will provide clarity.

### Summary

- The clubs are paid for by parents, not the school, and are **completely separate** to the school.
- The club providers hold their own Public Liability Insurance.
- Information about the child is not shared between the school and the clubs.
- Guidance is provided for the club providers which they are expected to comply with, but ultimately the school has limited control over the clubs' staff.
- Parents are responsible for providing access for club providers to the child's medication.

### Year 6 Dates for the Diary:

**Code Cracking Event for Amethyst parents/carers.**

**19<sup>th</sup> March 9.20am-10.30am**

**Morfa Bay meeting.**

**24<sup>th</sup> April 3.30-4.30pm**

**(Please inform us if you cannot attend the Morfa Bay meeting)**

### 'Year of Computing' update

Phase one of the development of the ICT suite is now complete. The unwanted chairs, laptop trolley and worktop have been removed/collected, leaving us with a blank canvas for Phase 2.

Our final aim is to have a STEM Lab (this may be called something different, depending on the children's suggestions), which contains the 'icing on the cake' technology for the children to use.

**In May all children will have the opportunity to participate in an Aardman animation workshop and this will be the big launch for the space.**

### Parents Evenings 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> March (4-6:30pm)

After half term we will be sending out a link to enable parents to book an appointment online. As appointment slots are limited, we encourage families to book one appointment per child where possible.

### INSET days for 2018-19 academic year

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2018

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019

We have provided these dates early to assist parents when booking holidays.

### Online Safety Day – 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018

We were delighted that Jo Briscoombe could visit us to host a meeting for parents on national Safer Internet Day. It was great to see so many parents in attendance.

During the week, the children have also learned about how to keep themselves safe online through sessions in their classes and Miss Edgar led an assembly to remind children of their responsibility to be good citizens online.

We have emailed you two of the leaflets from the parents meeting, which might help you to support your children to stay safe online:



### Speech and Language Therapy

## Drop in session

Speech and Language Therapy

Alexander Hosea



Date	Time	Location
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2018	3.30pm	Alexander Hosea Music Room

Informal drop in sessions for anyone with a child attending the school.

Pop in to chat about your child's speech and language development.

We can talk about any concerns and answer your questions

We can also give you tips and ideas to support speech and language development.

Free service to anyone with children at the school.

Holly Wheatley

Speech and Language Therapist

### Key dates for next term (Term 4)

#### Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February

Term 4 starts

#### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March

World Book Day

#### Weds 21<sup>st</sup> March and Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> March

Parents' Evenings 4-6:30pm for both dates

#### Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

Sports' Relief

#### Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

Last day of Term 4 – Easter holidays start

### FREE Children's Craft Workshops

Yate & District Heritage Centre



#### February 13<sup>th</sup>

Make a colourful picture using seeds



10.30-12noon or 1.30pm-3pm

Ideal for children 5 – 12 years old accompanied by a responsible adult



Workshops at:

Yate & District Heritage Centre

Church Rd. Yate, Bristol. BS37 5BG

[www.yateheritage.co.uk](http://www.yateheritage.co.uk)

#### February 14<sup>th</sup>

Take a closer look at traditional games and make your own noughts and crosses game

**Booking is essential:** Limited places

Phone: 01454 862200

Email: [info@yateheritage.co.uk](mailto:info@yateheritage.co.uk)

