

Alexander Hosea Primary School

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

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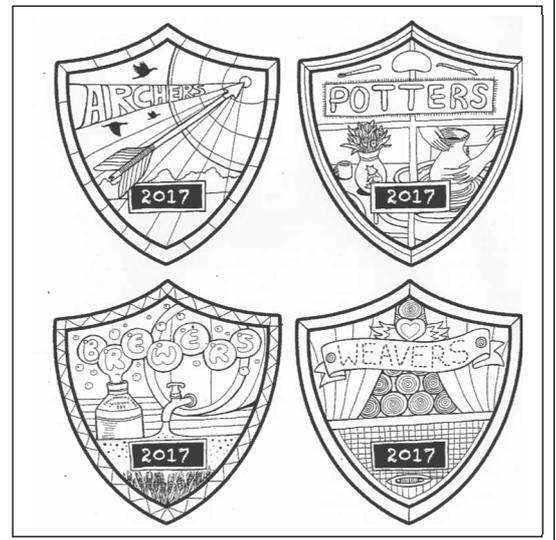
Newsletter 4 - 19th October 2017

From the Headteacher...

In the past fortnight we have had a visit from Rev Ray about CRY Charity; had a new carpet fitted in the library; welcomed parents/ Carers to home learning and learning journal sharing; hosted a Macmillan coffee morning; had visitors in assembly to talk about 'Be safe, Be Seen' road safety and Year 3 have had a school trip to Cadbury World. We have definitely made the most of every minute!

Mrs Hathaway has been beavering away behind the scenes to develop a draft of the new house shield designs for the school hall (see opposite). I think they look amazing and skilfully apply the children's original designs. I cannot wait to see the final products.

We wish you all a happy and relaxing half term!



10 DAYS LEFT To VOTE!

Tesco Bags for Schools: Pond area renovation

We are delighted that our application to the Tesco Bags of Help Grant Scheme has been successful and our project has been put forward to a customer vote in the following Tesco stores:

YATE STATION ROAD EXP	BS37 4PH
BRIMSHAM PRK YATE EXP	BS37 7PJ
YATE EXTRA	BS37 4AS

To vote, you will need to make a purchase within store of any value. You will receive one token per transaction and it's not necessary to purchase a carrier bag in order to receive a token.

Voting will take place from **now until**

Tuesday 31st October.

Open afternoons for prospective Reception children for 2018

We would like to extend an invitation to parents of children who will be eligible to start school in September 2018. During the visit there will be an introduction to the school by the Headteacher, Mrs Deb Williams; the opportunity to meet the Reception Staff and to see our happy and successful school in action.

Friday 17th November 2-3pm

We are very proud of our school and look forward to meeting you.

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.

We need your help!

- Second call: We are very excited to announce that we have successfully applied for some free hedge saplings from the Woodland Trust! They should be arriving sometime in November and we are looking to put together a working party to plant them all. If this is something you could help us with, please contact allison.hall@sgmail.org.uk
- Second call: Please could we ask that cars are not parked in the drop off/pick up spaces at the front of the school at the end of the day. It would help the flow for everyone. Also avoid parking over the driveways of residents.

PAN – Pupil Admission Numbers

After careful consideration by the Governing Board over the past few years, the Governors have decided to propose to South Gloucestershire Council that our school pupil admission level reduces from 45 children to 30 children per year group. This change will reflect our current pupil levels, as we have 30 children or less in all year groups (except Year 6 which has 32 children), so that we can retain the high quality provision that we are able to offer for every year group.

With cohort intakes of 30 we would still be able to accommodate children living in the local Wickwar area, which is classed as our area of prime responsibility. Places would continue to be prioritised for local children. Currently we have a wider catchment area that we serve (Rangeworthy, Cromhall, Iron Acton, Chipping Sodbury, Yate and Peg Hill etc) - a 30 intake would still accommodate these children as they come into Reception for the foreseeable future too. Current pupils would not be affected.

We will keep parents/carers informed about the process as it proceeds via school newsletters.

If you have any questions that you think it might be helpful for me to discuss with Parent Council, please drop me an email to Debbie.williams@sgmail.org.uk with the subject 'School PAN'.

Tom Robson Visit 1st November

-  **Ruby** - being aware of others and how what you do or say, might make them feel
-  **Emerald** - bouncing back from mistakes and disappointment, and controlling your anger if it tries to get out!
-  **Sapphire** - keeping focused and staying in control of the monster distractions
-  **Diamond** - being able to notice a problem and thinking of ways to solve it

We are delighted that Tom Robson will be visiting us again on 1st November. During the day, he will spend some time training a group of children who will become experts in the gem powers and so known as 'Gemsters'. This will be followed by visits to as many classes as he can. In the evening, we would like to invite parents/carers to attend a meeting hosted by Tom Robson from 6-7pm. We hope that you will be able to attend. Please contact the school office to book your place.

Thank you to the Wickwar Endowment Fund for funding Tom's visits.



Home learning and learning journal sharing

It was wonderful to see so many parents/carers in school over the past fortnight, to look at the children's learning. During the visits, we had some very positive feedback about the quality of the learning; the learning environment and the value that parents/carers place on visiting the children in classrooms in the run up to parents' evening.

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.

In Term 2 the focus will be on:

1. **Children in Need** (17th November). Children can bring round pounds and wear spotty clothes for a voluntary donation of £1.
2. **Poppy appeal** (in the run up to 11th November). There is usually a range of items to purchase from 20p for a poppy to £1.
3. **Tombola items** (w/c 20th November – for the Christmas Fair on 1st December).
4. **Christmas Jumper day** (15th December). Children can wear their own jumper for £1. Funds to go towards new books for the school library.

FREE Children's Workshops

5 – 12 year olds.
Accompanied by a responsible adult

October 25th

10.30 am or 1.30pm

Tudor Witch Finder



October 26th

10.30 am or 1.30pm

Cats, Bats and Pumpkins.

Make your own felt minibeasts.

Bookings only

Limited places

Phone:

01454 862200

Email:

yate.heritage@yateheritage.gov.uk



Workshops at:

Yate and District
Heritage Centre

Church Rd, Yate,
Bristol, BS37 5BG

www.yateheritage.co.uk



You can no longer spend your old pounds, but we can still collect them and put them to work changing young lives here in the UK. Millions of round pound coins are still in circulation. We're challenging the nation to hunt for them in saving jars, piggy banks, coat pockets and down the back of sofas, then put them to good use by donating to BBC Children in Need!

We're aiming to collect as many as we can before our big Appeal Day on **17th November**.

So hunt for your last round pounds and donate them to make them count!



Macmillan Cake Sale/Year of Computing Launch



The Macmillan Cake Sale was a success thanks to the Year 5 children, who were amazing ambassadors for the school. They shared their computing skills with the younger children and helped them to use Beebots, animation and Scatch. The total raised was £242.94. 70% of funds (£170) raised will go direct to the Macmillan charity and 30% (£72.94) towards resourcing/activities for the children in the Year of Computing.



Thank you to everyone for making the very impressive (and tasty) computer themed cakes and parents/carers who visited for the coffee morning.

In the news!

Did you see our article in the Gazette on 12th October?



We were delighted to feature on page 2 of the Gazette last week. Each class has a copy of the newspaper, so that they can read about the library opening. The carpet has now been laid and the room is ready for use by the children.

Henry (Y5) – 'I really like the sensory things and the lights'.

Hannah (Y6) – 'I like that there is more space to sit and look at the books. It is easier to find books now because it's more open'.

Emily (Y4) – 'I love the new decorations, the shiny balls, the felt and the puppets'.

Jack (Y3) - 'The painting is really good. I like that the birds are flying away'.

Ben (Y3) – 'I like the new carpet. I am proud that Mummy made the painting'.

Guney (Y2) – 'I like the fish light that changes colours. It makes the library very colourful. I am excited that my Mummy made the library and that I was in the newspaper'

School Diary – please also see calendar on school website

Date	Day	Start time	End time	Event
20/10/17	Friday			Staff INSET 2 – school closed to children
30/10/17	Monday			Start of Term 2
30/10/17	Monday	9:00am	3:30pm	Life Bus visit
30/10/17	Monday	3:00pm	3:30pm	Parents’ session on the Life Bus
31/10/17	Tuesday	9.30am	3.30pm	Topaz trip to Redwood
31/10/17	Tuesday	9:00am	3:30pm	Life Bus visit
31/10/17	Tuesday			Deadline for applications for Year 7 places
01/11/17	Wednesday	6:00pm	7:00pm	Tom Robson visit and parents’ meeting
07/11/17	Tuesday	1:10pm	1:30pm	Rev Canon David Russell visiting – Remembrance assembly
10/11/17	Friday	1:10pm	1:30pm	Rotary Club assembly about ‘End Polio Now’ charity
10/11/17	Friday	11.40am	4.15pm	Amethyst Lifeskills Trip
13/11/17	Monday	TBC		Flu vaccination for Reception and Year1-4 children.
15/11/17	Wednesday	1:10om	1:30pm	Rev Canon David Russell visiting – Christingle assembly
17/11/17	Friday			Children in Need – bring round pounds and wear spots
17/11/17	Friday	2pm	3pm	Meeting for prospective parents – Reception 2018
20/11/17	Monday	7pm	8pm	Community Centre AGM
23/11/17	Thursday	2:45pm	3:30pm	Parent Council meeting
01/12/17	Friday	TBC		Christmas Fair
04/12/17	Wednesday	10:30am	11:30am	Y1/2 (Jet and Emerald) performance to parents
06/12/17	Monday	2pm	3pm	Y1/2 (Jet and Emerald) performance to parents
06/12/17	Wednesday	12:45	5:40	Whole School theatre trip – Wizard of Oz
07/12/17	Thursday	TBC		Topaz Christmas performance to parents
11/12/17	Monday	6:30pm	7:30pm	Y5/6 Christmas show at Holy Trinity Church - TBC
13/12/17	Wednesday	2pm	3pm	Y5/6 Christmas show at Holy Trinity Church - TBC
15/12/17	Friday	9:00am	10:00am	FoAHS Christmas coffee morning
15/12/17	Friday			Last day of Term 2
18/12/17	Monday			Staff INSET 3 – school closed to children
02/01/18	Tuesday			Term 3 starts
15/01/18	Monday			Deadline for parents to apply for primary places

06/02/18	Tuesday			Online safety day
06/02/18	Tuesday	2:30pm	3:30pm	Jo Briscoombe hosting parents' meeting about online safety
01/03/18	Thursday			World Book Day
01/03/18	Thursday			Y6 parents receive offers of secondary places
15/03/18	Thursday			Deadline for Y6 parents to respond to offers of Y7 places
16/04/18	Monday			Prospective YR parents receive offers of primary places
30/04/18	Monday			Deadline for YR parents to respond to offers of primary places