



# Alexander Hosea Primary School

*'Roots to grow, wings to fly'*

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## **Re: Secret School Trip 24<sup>th</sup> April**

Dear Parents,

I have today had an email from Sevvington School which outlines the finer details of the day. The organisers aim is to make it a very authentic experience from the time the children step off the coach and they have asked for the following:

- The children to be dressed in Victorian Costume. Many apologies as I had assumed that the costumes would be provided at the School hence the idea of keeping it a secret seemed easy to do. This new information now compromises the original plan, which is a shame. However, it would be lovely for the children to still have an air of expectation so my suggestion (if possible) would be for the children to come to school already dressed in costume, but still not tell them where they are going- the journey would still be a mystery. I have copied and pasted Sevvington's suggestions for dressing up :

***“It is important to try and obtain an authentic look that is based on research and contemporary pictorial evidence of village school pupils. Girls could wear a woollen shawl over long sleeved blouse and mid length skirt, dark tights and sturdy shoes or boots - not trainers or sandals. Overlong skirts are not authentic, they are also difficult to walk and play in. Long hair was usually gathered from sides and fastened on top with back hanging loose. Mob caps and pinafores can be worn.***

***Boys could wear cut off below knee length trouser/ shorts s, long dark plain trousers, long sleeved shirt, a waistcoat, buttoned jacket or plain dark jumper.***

***Sturdy shoes or boots - not trainers or sandals. Caps must be worn.***

***Sevvington is a Victorian building and can feel very cold by modern standards so please emphasise the wearing of something warm under costume.”***

- They have also asked for lunch time to also be as authentic as possible and again I have copied and pasted their suggestions :

***“A hunk of bread and cheese with an apple would be simple and authentic. Other suitable items include raw carrot, cold boiled or jacket potatoes, pasties, a pastry pie. Gingerbread, shortbread, or a slice of cake could be included as a treat. Children should bring their food in a named paper bag or wrapped in greaseproof paper or a tea towel. These can then be brought in two or more large baskets or cardboard boxes – one for girls, one for boys. No other food is necessary, especially not sweets or snacks. Remember that oranges, bananas, yoghurt are not appropriate to the Victorian eras. Please do not bring drinks as we supply water.”***

I understand that you know the needs of your child best and I am sure that you will be able to interpret these requests in a way best suited to your child.

I am sure that the children will truly experience what school would have been like in Victorian times and look forward to your cooperation in bringing this trip alive for them. If you have any queries please email me.

Kind regards,  
Mrs Moncrieff

