

# Alexander Hosea Primary School

## 'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

Honeyborne Way, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire, GL12 8PF  
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www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk  
Headteacher: Mrs D Williams



### Newsletter 10 – 26th January 2018

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

From the Headteacher...

The projects are in full swing now and the children are developing their understanding of the areas they are learning about. In a few week's time there is a national online safety day. To tie in with this we have invited a computing advisor (Mrs Jo Briscombe) to visit us on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February (2:30-3:30pm) to host a meeting for parents about how to keep your child(ren) safe online. This session is highly recommended. Please sign up with the school office. I hope you will be able to come along.

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

- Opal Room has been decluttered and redecorated. This space is used by Y5/6 children during the day, for meetings and we plan to be able to let the space for school staff and governor training in the near future.
- We have finalised plans for the permanent home for the fantastic anti-bullying pebbles created by the children. Thank you very much to Mr Murray for assisting with this.
- Due to the winter sickness bug that has made some Infant children feel unwell this week, we have reminded all children about effective handwashing and the 'Catch it, bin it kill it' approach.



#### Friends of Alexander Hosea

Forthcoming events:

- |                           |                                      |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 27 <sup>th</sup> February | FoAHS meeting (7-9pm)                |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> March     | Quiz night (8-10pm?)                 |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> March    | Family friendly orchestra (2-3:30pm) |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> March    | Sport's Relief (am)                  |
| TBC                       | Spring disco (new!)                  |

#### 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!

- The remaining worktop is due to be collected at the end of school today. It has been great to know that it will be reused. Also KLB have purchased the chairs from the ICT suite and another secondary school purchased the laptops trolleys. We have almost finished clearing the space ready to set up in the new way.
- Clubs: please make sure that the club providers know at least a working day before the first session whether your child will be continuing to attend clubs, which carry on for more than one term. The club providers need this information to have up-to-date registers, contact details, medical needs and collection arrangements. They found at football this week that a significant group of children arrived at clubs, who were not on the register.

### Attendance

We are proud of our good attendance at Alexander Hosea and we know that families are committed to making sure that their child(ren) attend well so that they can make the most of the high quality education on offer.

Good attendance and punctuality are important for children to build good routines and to be able to access the full education and positive social experiences on offer at our school. Evidence shows that when children attend school well, they also achieve well and are better prepared for the next stage of their education.

We know that children do get unwell from time to time and it is very important that if your child has been sick or had diarrhoea that they are kept away from school for 48 hours to prevent the spread of infection.

Attendance is monitored each term. Where attendance falls below 90% (well below the school average of 97%), this is classed as 'persistent absentee' and contact will be made with parents to seek ways to improve the child's attendance at school.

We do not authorise holidays in term time, as it is disruptive to children's learning. With this in mind, please note the term dates for South Glos Council below when booking family holidays for the next academic year. Please note that holidays for South Glos and Gloucestershire schools (including KLB) are different in October 2018 (and this coming Easter).

#### Term dates 2018-19

##### TERM 1

Begin: Monday 3rd September 2018  
End: Friday 26th October 2018

##### TERM 2

Begin: Monday 5th November 2018  
End: Friday 21st December 2018

##### TERM 3

Begin: Monday 7th January 2019  
End: Friday 15th February 2019

##### TERM 4

Begin: Monday 25th February 2019  
End: Friday 5th April 2019

##### TERM 5

Begin: Tuesday 23rd April 2019  
Monday 6th May 2019 - May Bank Holiday  
End: Friday 24th May 2019

##### TERM 6

Begin: Monday 3rd June 2019  
End: Tuesday 23rd July 2019



### Vacancy for Lunchbreak Supervisor

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

We are currently looking for bank staff to work occasional hours to cover sickness. The shifts are 11:45am to 1pm.

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

### Winter Illnesses

I understand that a group of children in the Infants have succumbed to a winter sickness bug in the past week and I know this can be upsetting for children and their families. Unfortunately this is the time of year when people can sometimes become unwell. As the weather begins to warm up these winter illnesses tend to decrease.

To help prevent the spread of illnesses, please keep children off school for 48 hours from the time the last sickness/diarrhoea ends. We are happy to welcome children back at any point during the school day, once the period has passed. Some parents have raised concerns that children are returning to school before the end of this exclusion period, which can then spread infection further.

We have a capable cleaning team who clean classrooms, water fountains, toilets and communal areas every day. This means that the facilities are as clean as possible. We have a duty to provide drinking water for all children at school so drinking fountains remain in use. Many children choose to bring their own water bottles to school and it is helpful if they take these home every night for a wash then bring them back the next day.

This week we have also reminded the children about the importance of handwashing properly (noting that a brief splash of water won't do it!) and following the 'Catch it, bin it, kill it!' principles. We are also in the process of purchasing hand sanitiser pumps for the school hall so that children can do an extra top up as they pass to collect their school meal.

We hope that the winter illnesses will pass soon, so that the children can return to their normal good health.

## What has the funding raised by Pupils at the Christmas Fair been used for?

### Topaz (R)

We bought some big wooden blocks for building outside.

### Emerald (Y1)

We spent the money on furniture and preparation for the circus environment.

### Jet (Y2)

We have spent some on the classroom environment (table covers, books for the project). We will be using the rest to buy resources for our SS Great Britain environment in term 4 and some more small tables or cushion rests Y3 have.

### Crystal (Y3)

We spent our money on classroom furniture and other items to support our projects over the next two terms. (e.g. our roundhouse fire).

### Diamond (4)

We spent our money on buying construction equipment for the children for new project this term.

### Pearl (Y5)

The money was spent on our sensory garden for plants, fencing and other resources to make parts of the garden.

### Amethyst (Y6)

Amethyst class raised £80 from their Fair Trade stall. They have donated £40 to The Kyatika Children charity in Uganda, a group of orphans that we have made a link with. We have yet to spend the other £40, it will be spent on the classroom environment in discussion with the children.

### Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day 2018 will be celebrated globally on Tuesday 6th February with the slogan 'Create, Connect and Share Respect: a better internet starts with you.'

Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre the celebration sees hundreds of organisations get involved to help promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people.

The UK Safer Internet Centre – a partnership of three leading charities; Childnet, the South West Grid for Learning and the Internet Watch Foundation – provide resources for children, schools and families, and tools for getting involved at [www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk).



Safer Internet Day 2018 | Tuesday 6 February  
Create, connect and share respect: A better internet starts with you.  
[www.saferinternetday.org.uk](http://www.saferinternetday.org.uk)

### Parents' Meeting about Online Safety

We are delighted that Jo Briscoombe (Local Authority Advisor for Computing) has agreed to host a meeting for parents on national safer internet day – 6<sup>th</sup> February 2:30-3:30pm.

This is highly recommended and will give an insight into the opportunities and risks of online use for children. We hope that you will be able to come along. Please contact the school office to book a place.



Charfield, Cromhall, Tortworth, Falfield, Rangeworthy, Wickwar & Cotswold Edge



**Everyone is welcome**

*All local residents and organisations*

- Raise any concerns you have about your community
- Hear about what is happening in your area
- Meet with representatives from South Gloucestershire Council, Councillors, Avon & Somerset Police, Avon Fire & Rescue, Voluntary & Community Groups and your Town & Parish Councils

**7pm on Wednesday 7th February 2018**

**Cromhall Chapel  
Cromhall, GL12 8AQ**

*Your voice counts in shaping your community*



[www.southglos.gov.uk/icef](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/icef)  
01454 868113  
[communityengagement@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:communityengagement@southglos.gov.uk)

South Gloucestershire Council



### **“Year of Computing’ update**

Our Year of Computing was launched with a Computing themed coffee morning where the children in Year 5 demonstrated various resources we have in school with parents and children. A competition was also held for the best Computing themed cakes which Douglas (Y6) and Ruby-Jo (Y5) won.

So far this year we have also gathered opinions from the children (including the involvement of our newly appointed digital leaders) about how they would like to see our ICT suite transformed. The transformation has begun and will continue to be changed over the coming months to make the space more open and allow children to explore many different technologies with designated areas for animation and green screen filming as well as space to use the programmable devices more freely. We will be running a competition soon to come up with a name for the new area and design a sign.

Later in the year we will be holding both Scratch and Lego animation challenges within school and at home for you all to join in with. We will also be having Aardman come in to school to run model making workshops which we will follow up with learning around animation.

We will also be looking to begin a Coding club for children to take part in after school.

Miss Kim Edgar – Computing Leader

#### **Key dates for this term (Term 3)**

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February (2:45-3:30pm)**  
Parent Council meeting – Blue Rm

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February (2:30-3:30pm)**  
Parents’ meeting with Jo Briscoe about how to keep your children safe online. Highly recommended. Please contact the school office to book a place.

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February**  
End of Term 3 – half term holiday begins

#### **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

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**  
Sports’ Relief

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**  
Last day of Term 4 – Easter holidays start

ALEX HOSEA MINI TENNIS CLUB

FROM WEDNESDAY JANUARY 31st 3.30pm to 4.15pm 🎾

Dates: 31/1 7/2 21/2 28/2 7/3 14/3 & 21/3 Cost of 7 week Club £22.40

**BY cash or BACS payment** to bank account: *on request*

Reference: Your Surname, AlexH (please send an email & when transfer to the account was made

For BACS pyts) CHEQUES NO LONGER ACCEPTED.

TO RESERVE A PLACE: Please return the slip below in a sealed envelope to the school secretary by

**TUESDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY** in order to assist with administration MARKED

F.a.o.E Weightman Tennis **AND ALSO ADVISE Elaine direct by email/text/Phone,**

If you are unable to get along to the school club please enquire about activities

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR IN THE LOCAL AREA INCLUDING DURING HOLIDAYS

On 01454 315023 / 07725165181 or email [elaineweightman@btinternet.com](mailto:elaineweightman@btinternet.com) LTA Coach

-----Detach & Return to office or email Elaine -----

Name .....ADDRESS.....

D.O.B/ Year Group .....Email .....

Mob/home tel .....Fee enclosed/cash/bank pyt. £..... WED AH

(Please inform if any medical issues we need to be aware of & who will be collecting players)