

Alexander Hosea Primary School

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

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Headteacher: Mrs D Williams



Newsletter 9 – 12th January 2018

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

From the Headteacher...

I hope that everyone had a relaxing Christmas. The children have returned to school with positive attitudes to learning and they have loved their project launches. Thank you for all the efforts made to dress up - e.g. as Circus acts (Emerald Class Y1), Explorers (Jet Class Y2) and Celts (Pearl Class Y5) and to bring items for the Wow days – e.g. an item to deconstruct in Diamond Class – Y4.

What else has happened over the past fortnight?

- Friends of AHS meeting. See forthcoming events below.
- Trial of new pick-up arrangements at the end of the school day. This has gone smoothly and we have received positive feedback about all the children coming out onto the same playground, as it is easier for families as well as easing congestion inside the building. Thank you for your co-operation.
- The choir attended the Genting Arena, Birmingham to take part in the Young Voices event. They had a great time and will be able to treasure the memories from the experience.
- Catering Working Party meeting – see item below.



Friends of Alexander Hosea

Forthcoming events:

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

New Year, New Sporting Activities

Miss Pursey has organised for all KS2 classes to have a series of rugby sessions with an international player – Rhiannon Parker, who plays for Wales' Ladies team.

Also Years 2 and 6 will be taking part in yoga sessions during the spring term.

INSET day reminder

The school is closed to children on the following dates:

Monday 9th April

Friday 13th July.

We need you!

- We have several metres of kitchen-style work top (with a metal frame below) that is available for collection for a small donation. This might be suitable for a garage or workshop. If you are interested please contact the school office.
- Parking reminder: please do not park over residents' driveways or on the 'Keep Clear' areas on the roundabout.
- 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 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).

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.

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.

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

Five Inset dates to be confirmed



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 or (01454) 294239.



House Shields

Mrs Hathaway has completed the Archers Shield and started work on the Weavers Shield. I am sure you will agree that they look brilliant.

Once all the shields have been completed, they will be displayed in the school hall and used to record the running total of house points.



Catering Working Party update

The Catering Working Party met this morning to review the FAQ document from Integra Catering. This document was produced in response to the questions and comments raised by parents in the survey monkey questionnaire in the autumn term.

This document will be emailed to all parents for information. We hope that you will find it helpful.



The national theme for anti-bullying this year was 'All Different, All Equal' so we decided to link this with English and art by using a book called 'Only One You.' This has some wonderful messages in it about making the world a better place every day and valuing each other. Every child in the school designed, evaluated, drafted and peer critiqued a plan for their individual fish. They all carefully painted and then they were varnished.

We want the fish to make the children's journey into school more interactive, so by Easter they will have a channel along the routes into school to 'swim' in. In the meantime, the pebbles have been placed along the pathways at the front of the school as a temporary home, so that the children get to see and enjoy them. We have explained to the children that they need to stay on school grounds, so please help them to leave them within the gates. I hope that they make your journey into school more colourful.

We continually reinforce anti-bullying messages in school. This week the Pupil Council will discuss the charter and start to talk about an information leaflet for parents about how we tackle bullying in school.

After school mini tennis club

WEDNESDAYS at Alexander Hosea school.

Tennis restarts at the end of the month:

Dates: 31/1 7/2 (half term 14th) 21/2 28/2 7/3 14/3 & 21/3

7 week club £22.40.

TO RESERVE a place please let me know by text or email elaineweightman@btinternet.com

Marling School and Stroud High School

Volunteers needed for Admission Appeal Panel Members. No experience is necessary as full training will be provided. We are particularly looking for parents of school pupils but must ensure that panel members have no personal or professional interest in the cases they hear.

For further information please contact Sarah Chilman at Marling School 01453 762251 and/or Pauline Blacklock at Stroud High School 01453 764441.

Community Engagement Forums

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/cef
 01454 868113
 communityengagement@southglos.gov.uk

South Gloucestershire Council

Fundraise for

Lifeskills
 LEARNING FOR LIVING

by running the

BATHALF 2018

on Sunday 4th March 2018

Entry fee = £30
 Sponsorship target = £300

Please contact the Lifeskills office
 for more information or to show an interest.

0117 9224511
 johanna@lifeskills-bristol.org.uk

Clothes for a cause

Dates for this year are:

Thurs 22nd February

Thurs 14th June

Thurs 8th November

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 1st February (2:45-3:30pm)
Parent Council meeting – Blue Rm

Tuesday 6th 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 9th February
End of Term 3 – half term holiday begins

Key dates for next term (Term 4)

Monday 19th February
Term 4 starts

Thursday 1st March
World Book Day

Weds 21st March and Thurs 22nd March
Parents' Evenings

Friday 23rd March
Sports' Relief

Friday 23rd March
Last day of Term 4 – Easter holidays start