



Blended News @ Alexander Hosea



Blended Newsletter @Alexander Hosea Issue 7

26th February 2021

Editions of all newsletters are on the school website <https://www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk/>

We were really pleased to hear the Government announcement this week about schools fully reopening to all pupils on 8th March. Balancing work, home schooling and family life through the dark winter months of lockdown 3 has been a huge challenge for all of us, but there is a brighter future ahead thanks to the roll out of the covid vaccine.

We cannot wait to fling open our doors and welcome all the children back (attendance for all children is mandatory). We are very impressed with how well they have engaged with their blended learning and we are very grateful to all parents for going above and beyond to try to keep them on track whilst juggling multiple priorities at home. Every minute, hour and day the children were able to engage for makes a difference and is a valuable step along their learning journey.

The Teachers have already started planning for the return to full face-to-face teaching and I am sure that you will join with me in thanking all our wonderful staff for their outstanding efforts in providing a blended learning offer so that all children have been able to continue to learn, wherever they have been during lockdown 3. Planning is also underway for the inspiring summer term projects and classroom environments. We will be making a gradual return to our usual amazing environments, as the months pass, with soft furnishings coming out of retirement really soon, we hope.

Value this Term: Inclusion

This term we talk about the importance of being respectful of each other and tolerant of differing world views (linking to British Values). We are fortunate to have kind and considerate children, who enjoy making a positive impact on others through their thoughts, words and actions. We shine a light on this through this value.

Protective measures

To reflect the national gradual easing of restrictions, we will be continuing our protective measures for the time being and will start to ease in line with the progress nationally.

The staggered drop off and pick up (reminder of times and places on next page) and all other preventative measures will revert back to our pre-lockdown model from the autumn 2020.

Parents should continue to follow the one way system; respect social distancing expectations (2m); wear a mask within the school gates and disperse quickly away from the site to avoid over congestion. Some staff have been offered the vaccine, but there will remain large groups of staff and parents, who have not yet been vaccinated until the summer, so please help us to keep them safe.

In school, we will be continuing our safety measures from our risk assessment. These include separating bubbles of children to limit contact between children and staff; staff will continue to be offered lateral flow tests (new from Feb 2021); staff wear masks in the communal areas; regular cleaning; limited sharing of resources; frequent handwashing etc. We know that these measures are effective as we have had very few cases of covid in school and these were quickly contained.

Contact Details for School: 01454 294239

Alexanderhoseaprimary@gmail.org.uk

Reporting Covid incidents

It is important that you let us know of any suspected or confirmed Covid 19 cases in your household. We are required to report this to DfE.

If someone in your household is showing one of the main symptoms:

*A high temperature.

*A new, continuous cough.

*A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

Stay at home and get a test to check if you have coronavirus. The whole household must stay at home until a negative result is received.

Please let us know via the school office.



WOW!!!! How fantastic we are, Alexander Hosea! I am so proud of every member of our school community who took part in our half term challenge.

We achieved 5th place for Absolute Distance, ranking up an amazing distance of 3,699km. We were awarded 2nd place for both percentage of pupil participation and average distance per pupil.

Both of these achievements are all down to you and your fantastic scooting, walking, riding or running! We were competing against 79 other schools, many of which were a lot larger than us at Alexander Hosea, which makes the achievement even more amazing.

Thank you for your enthusiasm for this event!
Mrs Rehman - PE Lead

We would like to say a big thank you to the Wotton-Under-Edge Lions for their kind donation of £100 to the School to enable us to buy some head phones for pupils.

If you think you might be eligible for free school meals, we would strongly encourage you to apply.

Free school meals

Free school meals are available to pupils in receipt of, or whose parents are in receipt of, one or more of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods, and your monthly average income over three assessment periods should be no more than £616.67)
- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

<https://find-information-for-adults-children-families.southglos.gov.uk/kb5/southglos/directory/advice.page?id=96T2gCAk10A>

We are really proud of all that you have achieved over the lockdown. We know that you have used your ELLI powers to get through and to keep motivated about your blended learning



As we prepare to return to school, it is a good time to remind ourselves of our ELLI Learning Powers. Please watch today's Blended Assembly for the ELLI story.

You have been using these in the past 7 weeks since we were all last together and you should be really proud of what you have achieved.

It has not been easy, it has tested us, but living through history has taught us unique lessons for our generation.

Thank a Teacher/ member of staff

We know from the many, many emails and the overwhelmingly positive responses to the parent questionnaire, that you really value the outstanding work of all of our staff. Thank you for your feedback.

If you would like to go further and nominate a member of staff for an award, please follow this link <https://thankateacher.co.uk/thank-a-teacher-day/>

Other arrangements for reopening

- **PE days** will be as autumn term – children should wear PE kit into school on these days.
- The current **menu** will continue up until the Easter break (see website).
- **Children should bring in all home learning books, reading books they have borrowed and pencil cases (KS2) if they took them home.**
- **WOOSC** will reopen on 8th March for breakfast and after school club.
- **Essential visitors only** will be permitted on site to carry out social care, SEN or premises essential maintenance.
- **Communication** through email and Google Classroom (Evidence Me for Topaz) will continue. Please phone or email the office, or drop paperwork in the black post box at the front of the school.
- If you have borrowed one of the **DfE laptops** from school, these must be returned to Mrs Hall on 8th March to sign them back in. In the event of bubble closure, these will be available for self-isolating families to use.
- **Y5/6 children** with permission from school and home may resume walking to school and back home alone. A signed form is required.
- **Siblings** may enter through the front door once admitted by a member of staff – please wait to the side (retaining social distancing) whilst class groups are entering.

If you have any further questions, please contact the school office, your child's Teacher or your Parent Council Reps (we are meeting on 3rd March).

Topaz

8:45am-3pm (red gate)

Emerald

8:50am-3:05pm (front door)

Jet

8:55am-3:10pm (Playground gate)

Ruby

8:55am-3:15pm (Front door)

Crystal

9:05am-3:20pm (Playground gate)

Diamond

9am-3:25pm (Front door)

Pearl

9:10am-3:30pm (Playground gate)

Amethyst

9:15am – 3:30pm (Front door)

We are listening

Keep talking to us to let us know what is going well and what further support you need. We are committed to helping every child to continue their education wherever they are during Lockdown and throughout their transition back into school.

Who should I contact about....?

Information	Who to contact	Contact details
Covid symptoms and/or positive test (for child who is attending school as critical worker /vulnerable child)	School Office	Alexanderhoseprimary@sgmail.org.uk and Debbie.Williams@sgmail.org.uk
Covid positive test (for children at home)	School office	Alexanderhoseprimary@sgmail.org.uk
Remote learning, including access to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence Me (Reception), • Google Classroom (Y1-6), • Times Tables Rock Stars (Y2-6), • Athletics (Y1-6) and • Bug Club (all years). 	Class teacher(s)	Topaz Sally.Windmill@sgmail.org.uk Emerald Nicola.Grainger1@sgmail.org.uk Jet Laura.Cleverley@sgmail.org.uk and Rebecca.Rehman@sgmail.org.uk Ruby Sarah.Wigginton@sgmail.org.uk Crystal Amy.Clark@sgmail.org.uk Diamond Angela.Moncrieff@sgmail.org.uk and Rebecca.Chalmers@sgmail.org.uk Pearl Kimberley.Edgar@sgmail.org.uk Amethyst Heidi.Brooks@sgmail.org.uk
Attendance (for children with provisional places booked to attend school)	School Office	Alexanderhoseprimary@sgmail.org.uk
Safeguarding	Designated Safeguarding Lead	Debbie.Williams@sgmail.org.uk Or in her absence, Deputy DSLs Angela.Moncrieff@sgmail.org.uk Sally.Windmill@sgmail.org.uk
Finance and Pupil Premium matters (including receiving food packages for FSM children)	School Business Manager	Allison.Hall@sgmail.org.uk
Special Educational Needs matters (including access to Nessy programme)	SENCO	Kimberley.Edgar@sgmail.org.uk