

# Alexander Hosea Primary School

## 'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

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Artsmark  
Silver Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



### Newsletter 21, 16th July 2020

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

From Mrs Williams:

Thank you so much to all members of our community for pulling together, looking after each other and being kind and supportive to us during these very challenging times. We are looking forward to welcoming all children back to school in September. During lockdown, we have been able to bring back two of the three year groups that we were asked to by the government. We would have liked to have been able to open a further 3 bubbles to accommodate the Year 1 children, but this has not been possible. We know that the government's decision for schools to hold off with opening further year groups will have been disappointing for parents (and children) and that children will have been keen to get back to school. We really look forward to seeing you all in September.

We know that education has been a different experience for every child and our teachers are keenly awaiting the return of their new classes. Whilst some children will come back with learning gaps, others will have kept up with the home learning tasks and will have fewer gaps in learning. We are ready for this and one of the main priorities for the start of the year will be to find out where every child's starting point is so that we can plan our recovery curriculum from this to support the children to catch up with learning as quickly as possible.

We are now planning for a safe return to school for all children and we will be adding some extra staffing capacity to help us to run the bubbles safely (so that staff do not need to work across bubbles). From September, the classes will be grouped in pairs to make four bubbles: Reception & Year 1; Year 2 (2 classes); Years 3 & 4 and Years 5 & 6. The bubbles will have different start and end of days, break and lunchtimes (see information below). We know that coronavirus has not gone away and we will continue to be vigilant in our safety measures to keep the children and staff safe and well.

- All children and adults will be expected to follow the safety measures (see below).
- It will be mandatory for all children to attend school every day. Punctuality is very important to help us to ease congestion around the site.
- All children will be expected to wear full school uniform. Children will come in to school in PE kits on PE days.

#### 2020/21

Term	Starts	Ends
Term 1	Tuesday 1 September 2020	Friday 23 October 2020
Term 2	Monday 2 November 2020	Friday 18 December 2020
Term 3	Monday 4 January 2021	Friday 12 February 2021
Term 4	Monday 22 February 2021	Thursday 1 April 2021
Term 5	Monday 19 April 2021	Friday 28 May 2021
Term 6	Monday 7 June 2021	Wednesday 21 July 2021

#### 2021/22

Term	Starts	Ends
Term 1	Thursday 2 September 2021	Friday 22 October 2021
Term 2	Monday 1 November 2021	Friday 17 December 2021
Term 3	Tuesday 4 January 2022	Friday 18 February 2022
Term 4	Monday 28 February 2022	Friday 8 April 2022
Term 5	Monday 25 April 2022	Friday 27 May 2022
Term 6	Monday 6 June 2022	Friday 22 July 2022

Welcome to Mrs Michelle Rice, who will be joining our staff team as a SEN Teaching Assistant (KS1) from September. Mrs Rice will be in Jet Class.

#### INSET Dates for next year

We have now booked our 5 INSET dates for 2020-21. Where possible we try to tag INSET days onto the start or end of a holiday to make it more convenient for working parents.

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June

### A Fond Farewell

We wish our wonderful Year 6 a fond farewell as they embark on new adventures at secondary school. We know that they will be amazing and they have a bright future ahead. They have proved themselves to be resilient and conscientious and despite the change to their end of primary experience, they have remained positive and optimistic. We will really miss them all and their families. All the very best from all of us.

### FoAHS about Rags2Riches

We collected over half a tonne of donations, raising £272.40 for the Friends. The next collection will be in term 2.



We are very grateful for all the kind words, cards and gifts for our wonderful staff. They have given their all during this challenging time and your support is appreciated.



### Safety Measures for September 2020

As coronavirus has not gone away, there will be a series of safety measures that we will put in place to protect the children and staff. The attached parent/carer's guidance (link below) provides more details.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

- Any child or adult with symptoms of coronavirus must not come to school. School must be informed of any suspected cases of coronavirus immediately. The individual should take a test for coronavirus as soon as possible and report the results to school.
- In the event of a confirmed case, all children and staff in the bubble must follow the government's stay at home advice and self-isolate for 14 days. The bubble will be closed for this period.
- Children will be encouraged to wash their hands frequently.
- 'Catch it, bin it, kill it' approach to help good respiratory hygiene.
- Minimising contact and maintaining social distancing: children will be in bubbles with staggered starts, break times, lunchtimes and end of the day (see below). We have a number of measures in school to help protect the children and staff in this way. We will help the children to understand these measures as part of their return.
- Classrooms will be set up with easy clean surfaces and resources.
- All spaces around school will be cleaned frequently (we are currently recruiting a cleaner for the midday communal spaces cleaning, so that teachers, TAs, Admin and lunchtime staff do not need to continue to do this when we are fully open). Existing staff will continue to clean down classrooms during the day.

### Drop off and collection times

Bubble	Classes	Drop off	Pick up	Where?
1	Topaz*	8:45am	3pm	Red gate
	Emerald – Y1	8:45am	3pm	Front door
2	Ruby – Y2	8:55am	3:10pm	Front door
	Jet – Y2	8:55am	3:10pm	Main playground gate
3	Crystal – Y3	9:05am	3:20pm	Main playground gate
	Diamond – Y4	9:05am	3:20pm	Front door
4	Pearl – Y5	9:15am	3:30pm	Main playground gate
	Amethyst – Y6	9:15am	3:30pm	Front door

It is really important that children are picked up and collected promptly. Please line up at your allocated space and the time given (not too early, as another group might be using the same gate/door). If you are late because of an emergency, let the office know you have arrived. You may have to wait a few minutes until a member of staff from the bubble can come up to the office.

If your child is going to be absent for the day, then please let us know (with a clear reason for absence for our records). We need to know urgently if your child (or a member of the household) has symptoms of coronavirus.

\*Topaz timings when they start full time.

## Handwashing

The government regularly updates its guidance and has asked schools to share the updated information on handwashing. Please see below for details.

*It is essential that everyone washes their hands more often, using soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Hand washing with soap employs mechanical action that loosens bacteria and viruses from the skin, rinsing them into the drain. Drying hands afterwards makes the skin less hospitable to the virus. Hand sanitiser can be effective if soap is not available or the situation makes using soap less feasible (i.e. when outside) but using hand sanitiser provides none of the virus-destroying friction that rubbing your hands together and rinsing with water provides.*

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands/>

## School Meals

In September, the children will have the option to have a hot meal at school again at school (there have only been sandwiches since March). We will not be using the school hall to begin with and children will eat their lunch in their classrooms. The lunches will be provided in takeaway boxes and with disposable cutlery during this transition period.

All children should bring a bottle of water to school for lunch, whether they are having school meals or packed lunch.

School meals are free for reception, year 1 and year 2 children and **£2.30** (two courses) for children in KS2. Unlike previous years, there has been no price increase this year. Payments must be made online in advance via Sims pay. No cash please. The school menu was emailed to parents on 10<sup>th</sup> July.

We are in the process of appointing additional lunchtime staff so that each bubble can have consistent staff with them for their lunch hour.

Dear Parent/Guardian

## Re. Childhood Flu Immunisation - Academic Year 2020/21

The 2020/21 Flu Immunisation Programme is being led by Sirona care & health.

The nasal flu spray will be offered to children in Reception Year and Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

**You will receive a flu information pack in September 2020 which will include a letter, a consent form and a leaflet explaining the Childhood Flu Programme.**

Parents/Carers will be asked to complete the consent form and return it to us in the original envelope. The consent form must be completed by someone who has parental responsibility for the child. This means that legally they have the power to make important decisions in relation to the child. One form must be completed for each child receiving the vaccination.

Once you have received your pack in September, please can we ask you to return the form(s) to school as soon as possible. Once you have returned the form to school, if you wish to change your mind you should contact us as soon as possible on 01275 373104. Any change should be notified to us at least 2 working days before the planned immunisation date at the school.

If your child currently has a health problem which prevents them attending school, we can arrange for them to be immunised at a community clinic. Please contact the team directly on [sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net](mailto:sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net) or 01275 373104

A document with some 'Frequently Asked Questions' will be emailed to parents which you may find helpful.

## Covid-19 and Flu

Flu vaccination is one of the most effective interventions we have to reduce pressure on the health and social care system this winter. We are currently seeing the impact of COVID-19 on the NHS and social care, and this coming winter we may be faced with co-circulation of COVID-19 and flu. Those most at risk from flu are also most vulnerable to COVID-19. We must do all we can to help protect them this winter.

Please be assured that we will be working with your child's school to ensure that we adhere to the latest government guidelines whilst delivering the Childhood Flu Programme.

If in the meantime if you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us either via email at [sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net](mailto:sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net) or telephone on 01275 373104.



Congratulations to all the children who took part in the Virtual School Games 2020.

We had a large number of children take place in the event this year, as you can see in the photo below of all the certificates!

The events were

- Around the world (Netball)
- Speed Bounce Challenge ( Athletics)
- Tuck in, Tuck out ( Gymnastics)
- Tap Up ( Tennis)
- Catch and Clap ( Cricket)

We also had two of our children awarded an extra special "spirit of the games" certificate. It is amazing news to have been recognised for these after 3000 children in the South West entered these virtual games

Mrs Rehman



## Year 5/6 Walk Home Alone

If you wish for your Y5/6 child to walk to or from school alone from September, you will need to complete a request for permission form.

Y6 parents who have already completed a form (pre-March 2020), will not need to fill this in again. If you have changed your mind and wish to withdraw permission, please contact the school office.

The forms have been sent to you by email and can be returned by email or in person via the school post box at the front of the school (preferably before term starts).

If you would not like your child to walk home alone between October and March clock changes, please contact the office.

## Help us promote fostering with South Gloucestershire Council

The fostering service are always working to actively recruit foster carers to join us. We have a target to recruit 24 new foster families this year.

We are asking for your support to help us promote fostering across South Gloucestershire please. Spread the word among friends or family that could be interested in becoming foster carers for us and refer them to our Fostering Recruitment Team on 01454 866423, [fostering@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:fostering@southglos.gov.uk)



**Artsmark  
Silver Award**  
Awarded by Arts  
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After 18 months of working towards the targets we set in the arts, we are delighted to have achieved the Silver Artsmark. Thank you to Mrs Cleverley for leading this project and for all the children and staff who enthusiastically took part in it and WEF for funding some of the aspects (eg music tuition for all children in 2018-19) for the children to enjoy.

We wish you all a happy and relaxing summer break. I am sure that you will be glad of the break from home learning, as this has taken a great deal of time and energy for families. All your efforts will be worthwhile in helping your child(ren) to continue with their education in whatever way you have been able to. It would be great if you could continue to read with your child(ren) through the holidays.

If you are wishing to continue with homelearning (there is no expectation that you should) the Oak Academy, White Rose and BBC Bitesize all have some excellent online resources you might like to access. Mathletics and Times Tables' Rock Stars will still be live as will Bug Club for our younger readers. Alternatively, if you like workbooks, WHSmith have a wide range available on line.