

Alexander Hosea Primary School

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

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Newsletter 6 – 17th November 2017

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

From the Headteacher

In the past fortnight we have:

- Been visited by Cordelia Cripps, who has been consulting with the digital leaders, staff and governors about developing the current ICT Suite into a more flexible space (possibly a STEM Lab) to suit the school ethos.
- Had marketing photos by Tulip Photography – these will be used for website and marketing documents.
- Started our draft plans for the new projects (to launch in January) and carried out peer critique in a staff meeting.
- Interviewed and appointed a new teacher for Jet Class – Mrs Ashdown (to cover Miss Pursey's maternity leave).
- Met with the Catering Working Party to follow up from parent questionnaires and pupil conferencing.
- Hosted a second open afternoon for prospective parents for Reception in September 2018.

There are many activities in the coming weeks, so please check the school calendar (follow link above).

Homework Grids

All KS2 children should have now received the new style homework grids.

We have changed the format for this in light of feedback from the Parent Council. We have also improved our internal systems for tracking the progression in expectations, so that all staff have the opportunity to peer critique and subject leaders can check progression in expectations is appropriate.

As explained on Mrs Moncrieff's letter on the subject, children are expected to do the Maths and English tasks and at least one task from one of the other curriculum groups (they can do more if they would like to).

We hope you like the new format.

Applying for a primary place for September 2018

The booklet about admissions into Primary School is now available on <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-education/school-admissions/apply-online-for-a-school-place/>

Deadline for applications 15th January 2018.

School Gate Running

Andy from Wickwar Wunners has kindly agreed to host a school gate running group on Friday mornings at 9:15am. The first sessions will be on the school field **on 24th November, 1st December and 8th December**. These sessions will focus on Couch to 5K but everyone is welcome.

We need you!

- Please could the children bring in tombola items for the Christmas Fair, by **Friday 24th November**.
- Please return permission slips and payments for The Wizard of Oz by **Wednesday 22nd November**.
- Thank you to Mrs Boulton for being proactive and arranging the sale of rocks to parents for the anti-bullying week rock painting activity. It was much appreciated.

Wickwar Out of School Club (WOOSC)

WOOSC is a healthy, thriving childcare setting, used by over 50 local families, with up to 80 childcare places provided every day before and after school.

We aim to provide a safe, secure and relaxed environment, offering a range of activities to reflect the interests of the children in our care including physical play, home corner, board games and crafts.

The Club is registered as **GOOD** by Ofsted (**Registration No136114**), and is based in The Olive Pollard Community Rooms adjacent to the Alexander Hosea School in Wickwar. We are open from 7.45 am until 9.00 am and 3.30 pm until 6.00 pm weekdays, during term time. We also offer some holiday care from 8.00 am till 6 pm according to demand.

Please email Emma James for any enquiries regarding our Christmas Holiday Club 2017 sessions.

You can download our last inspection report here <http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/CARE/136114>

Current availability of Term–Time Sessions

The Club is well used with the majority of session fully booked with regular users. However, we do still have spaces for select afternoon sessions for **either regular or casual bookings**. Please call us direct on 07815 561783 to make an enquiry or alternatively email woosc@hotmail.co.uk. (N.B. All children must be registered prior to their first session)

Current availability is as follows:

Day	Morning Session (07:45 – 09:00)	Afternoon Session (15:30 – 18:00)
Monday	Fully Booked	Fully Booked
Tuesday	Fully Booked	Fully Booked
Wednesday	Fully Booked	Places available
Thursday	Fully Booked	Places available
Friday	Places available	Places available

General enquiries can also be sent to our email address woosc@hotmail.co.uk.

Catering Working Party

The catering working party has been set up as a short term team to follow up on some comments that were brought to Parent Council. The team is made up of: 2 senior leaders; 2 representatives from Integra catering; a governor; 2 parents and 3 lunch break supervisors.

In our meeting today, we started to review the parent questionnaires (on survey monkey) and the comments from children at Pupil Council. We found that several aspects could be addressed through raising awareness about the service (e.g share how sourcing and use of organic foods, along with 75% home cooked meals contribute to the overall 'healthiness' of the menu on offer). Integra are preparing a FAQ for parents to respond to some of the questions that arose.

Our next meeting is on 12th January 2018. Focus: choice.

Charities and fundraising

We are approached by charities all the time and try to:

- Support those which the community hold dear.
- Not overload families with fundraising requests.
- Spread the events throughout the year.
- Choose events that the children will enjoy.

Forthcoming events:

1. **Tombola items** (w/c 20th November – for the Christmas Fair on 1st December).
2. **Christmas Jumper day** (15th December). Children can wear their own jumper for £1. Funds to go towards new books for the school library.



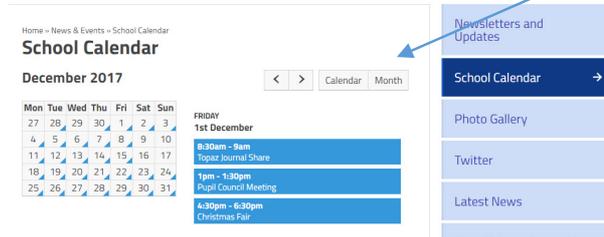
School Netball Team

A photograph of the netball team at a tournament this Wednesday. Amazing attitude from all children, great emerald and ruby powers!

Mrs Brooks is very proud of the way the team represented the school. Congratulations to you all!

Using the online calendar on the website

There are two different views with the calendar. The most helpful view we find is the 'month' one as you can see events clearly, without having to click on each one.



Christmas shows

	Date	Time
Topaz	Thurs 7 th Dec	9:30-11am *
KS1 (Jet and Emerald)	Mon 4 th Dec	2-3pm
	Weds 6 th Dec	9:45-10:45
Crystal and Diamond	Mon 4 th Dec	9:30-10:30
	Thurs 7 th Dec	2-3pm
Amethyst and Pearl	Mon 11 th Dec	6:30-7:30pm
	Wed 13 th Dec	2-3pm

*this includes a coffee morning

Please note the Y5/6 service is at Holy Trinity Church. All other shows are in school. Please aim to arrive about 10 minutes before the start of the show. Doors will open 15 minutes before the show is due to start.

I am very grateful to the staff for the work behind the scenes to start preparing for the shows, which take a lot of time and effort to put together.



Permission forms and payments are due by **22nd November** for 'The Wizard of Oz' whole school theatre trip on 6th December. If you are in receipt of pupil premium and you would like to use this to pay for your child's place, please let the school office know. We are happy to pay for these children to attend the trip.



Friends of AHS

The FoAHS will be meeting on Tuesday 21st November 7-9pm.

Forthcoming events:

- 24th Nov Collection of tombola items
- 1st Dec 100 Club draw
- 1st Dec Winter Fair (4:30-6:30pm)
- 5th Dec Christmas discos (TBC)
- 15th Dec Christmas coffee morning

Please do look at the FoAHS Autumn newsletter for more information.

Contact FoAHS: friendsofAHS@hotmail.com