



Alexander Hosea Primary School 'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

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Newsletter 6, 22nd November 2019

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

From Mrs Williams:

***** 1 week to go until Christmas Fair (Saturday, 30th November) *****

This term is progressing at quite a pace and it is certainly feeling more wintery! In recent weeks we have been focussing on citizenship aspects of anti-bullying and charity work linked to Children in Need. The children donned their odd socks for anti-bullying awareness day. Whilst bullying is rare at our school, we use this week to help the children to know what to do if they are worried about themselves or someone else potentially experiencing this. We help the children to understand what bullying is (multiple incidents with an imbalance of power) and what it is not (e.g. a one-off falling out with someone); how they can seek help in school from a trusted adult and how to be a helpful rather than harmful bystander. The Pupil Council have redrafted the anti-bullying charter (which they do each year) and it will be shared by them in their classes.

As we move into December, we will commence our Christmas activities, which we hope will bring joy to the children and their families. Key dates and information is in this newsletter and on the weekly class newsletters, so please do make the time to read these. This is a particularly special time for our new Reception children who will be experiencing a school Christmas for the first time.

Some key dates for your diary:

Children's Christmas Gift Sale – The Friends are running a Christmas sale, so that children can purchase a 'secret' present for their special adults, during the school day on Monday 25th November. See FoAHS section below.

Christmas Fair – see information below Saturday 30th November in the Community Centre.

Class Product Sale – Classes will set up a sale of the items they have made in class after school (rather than at the Christmas Fair) on Monday 9th December. Weather permitting, this will be held in the playground (in the case of inclement weather, it will be in hall).

Christmas Dinner – On Tuesday 10th December, the children are invited to have a Christmas Dinner at school for the same price as usual (FREE for Reception, Years 1 and 2; £2.30 for Years 3-6). Please book using the online system.

Christmas shows – see dates later in newsletter.

Christmas Jumper Day – Children are invited to wear Christmas jumpers to school for £1 (to school fund) on 19th Dec.

Friends' Coffee Morning – All parents and grandparents are invited to attend the coffee morning on 19th December (am). This is a popular event and all classes come along to sing songs to the visitors.

INSET days – Friday 20th December, Monday 6th January, Friday 3rd April and Friday 3rd July.

Please do read this newsletter, the school calendar and the Teachers' weekly bulletins to keep up to date.

New Chair and Vice Chair of Governors elected

Celia Rogers, Chair and Aaron Smith, Vice-Chair are both stepping down after five years of dedicated service to the school. See letter from Celia overleaf.

We would like to thank them wholeheartedly for the time and dedication they have given to the roles and their unwavering commitment.

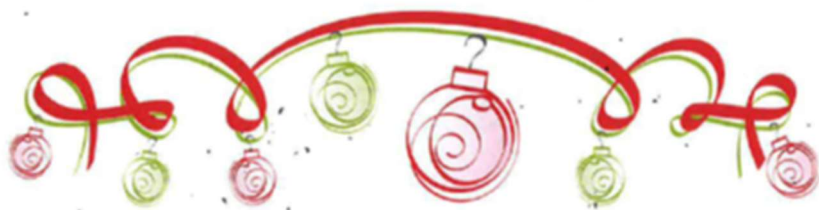
From this time on, parent governor Trevor Lee is Chair and we welcome new governor Jo Dent to the position of Vice-Chair. Trevor and Jo have both held teaching and leadership roles in schools for many years.

The Governors

Terracycle crisp packet recycling scheme

We have come to the end of our trial period for this programme. We have had a trickle of donations in autumn term and we will send these away for recycling. However this has not been as successful as hoped and it demands a significant amount of storage space, so we will be discontinuing this service from next week.

If you have any packets that you have been collecting that you would like us to send away, please bring them into the school office by Weds 27th November.



CHRISTMAS FAIR

The Christmas Fair is the biggest fundraiser of the school calendar and hopefully this year is going to be another successful event. But this will not be possible without your help.

This year we are asking for three separate donations, however big or small, any donations will be greatly received and very much appreciated. we are running 3 tombola's, Bottle, jolly Jar and chocolate, we need donations for all 3 please!

- Bottle tombola: any bottle, any filling! Could be wine, ketchup, shampoo or even nail varnish! Just an unopened, unused bottle of something please! Please bring into class by Monday 11th November
- A chocolate bar, again any size, any brand, in exchange for Mufti day on Wednesday November 6th
- A Jolly Jar, for this you need any sized old jar. All you need to do is wash it out, and fill it with anything, sweets, chocolate, stationary, small toys, hot chocolate powder and marshmallows, anything you can think of. Get the children involved in filling and decorating and there will be a prize for the best, most original 'Jolly Jar' in each class. Please bring into class by Monday 11th November
- If you are available on the day to help on a stall for just half an hour, please see either Leanne Woodruff or Hannah Murray
- Finally, please try and come along on Saturday 30th November! We have lots of stalls to get a few Christmas gifts, we will have hot pork rolls, lots of games and crafts and of course Father Christmas himself will be there with a little early Christmas gift in the school Grotto.

SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 1PM TIL 4PM



Children in Need

The Y6 children invested their time and energy into fundraising for this charity. Younger children loved the treasure hunt and other activities. Well done to Amethyst Class.

Thank you to the community for the impressive homemade Pudsey cakes.

The children have now added up the donations from spotty clothes, the treasure hunt and the cake sale and have raised £333!

Thank you to parents/carers for your support and cake donations.

Christmas Shows

Reception

Tuesday 17th December 9:30am

Years 1 & 2

Monday 9th December 2-3pm

Wednesday 11th December 10-11am

Years 3 & 4

Tuesday 10th December 9:30-10:30

Thursday 12th December 2-3pm

Years 5 & 6

At Holy Trinity Church.

Monday 16th December 2-3pm

Wednesday 18th December 6-7pm



Cotswold Alliance Orchestra

The Cotswold Alliance is a group of like-minded schools (Alexander Hosea, Trinity, Hawkesbury, Horton, St John's Mead, Iron Acton and Old Sodbury), with a passion for improving opportunities for children to shine.

With this in mind, Mrs Webber (Headteacher at Old Sodbury) would like to invite children who are learning a musical instrument to consider being part of the Cotswold Alliance Orchestra.

If your child has musical instrument tuition (at school or home) and they would like to get involved this year, please contact the school office by **Friday 29th November**. It would be helpful to know which instrument they play and the most recent grade they have achieved.

We have set a provisional date for the first session at Old Sodbury for 14th January 2020.



Shoe Boxes for Rotary Club

Thank you so much for your generosity in making up shoe boxes for the Rotary Club charity appeal. The Rotary Club said that they were really pleased that the children embraced the shoe box appeal.

News from the Governors

This will be my last contribution to the school newsletter - I stepped down as chair and as a governor at our full governing body meeting held on the 13th. I have moved house and now live in Bath. Although I am only 40 minutes away from Wickwar, I feel that I am unable to serve the school community as it deserves. However, I am very happy to tell you that the new chair of Governors is Trevor Lee and the new vice-chair is Jo Dent.

Aaron Smith is also stepping down as vice-chair and governor. Aaron's son has now moved to the KLB and Aaron's workload means that he is not able to devote as much time as he would like to school. He has been a governor for more than 5 years and has been vice chair for 4 years.

We now have a new parent governor, Lucy Fitzsimmons, whose daughter started school this September.

At our November meeting Mrs Windmill gave a presentation about how the curriculum is developed at Alexander Hosea. This was very informative and demonstrated that the school is well placed in meeting the new Ofsted requirements. Whilst this gave us an overview of the curriculum as a whole, the class newsletters are the best source of more detailed information about the curriculum being offered to your children.

Finally I would like to wish to whole school community all the best for the future. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as both volunteer and as a governor. I have always found the children to be keen learners, well behaved and enthusiastic, and I have found all the staff to be very welcoming and professional. I have also been impressed by the enthusiasm and fundraising ability of the 'Friends'. The school is worthy of its good reputation.

ALDI Vouchers

Do you shop at Aldi?
If the answer is YES!
Then we need your help!

ALDI'S KIT FOR SCHOOLS

We're collecting Team GB stickers with Aldi's Kit for Schools.

Help us collect 300 stickers to complete our poster and we'll receive an exclusive sports kit plus a chance to win **£20,000!**

Please send any stickers into school and your child can add them to our special chart.

School Meals Arrears (Yr3-6)

We still have a number of parents who do not pay for their meals in advance, please help us by ensuring that arrears do not accrue on your account. Thanks

Walking home from after school clubs

As the dark nights are coming in now, it will be starting to be dark when children are leaving after school clubs (especially those with a 4:30 or 5pm finish).

Whilst some Year 5/6 children might have permission to walk home alone usually from clubs, please can parents reconfirm this with the providers (including for school run clubs – netball, choir etc). The school office can pass on messages to staff who are running clubs.

In the past many parents have chosen to withdraw permission for the winter months, so that their children are not walking home in the dark alone.

Friends of AHS

25 th Nov	Children's Christmas Gift Shop
30 th Nov	Christmas Fair (1:00-4:00pm)
1 st Dec	100 Club Christmas Draw
17 th Dec	Children's Winter Disco (Infants 4:45-5:45, Juniors 6:00-7:00pm)
19 th Dec	Christmas Coffee & Carols Morning (9:00-10:15am)

New Reading Scheme Books: We are pleased to announce we have funded the purchase of 240 new phonics reading scheme books! These books were purchased with money raised through our "Sponsored Reading Challenge" and will replace many of the old books which were extremely well-read! We hope the children enjoy reading them.

Christmas Gift Shop: On Monday afternoon the children will be taken to our gift shop, with siblings, and will come home with wrapped, labelled presents ready to be placed under the Christmas tree! The children do not need to bring their vouchers to school as we will have a list (but they can bring vouchers if they want!). Thank you for your support.

Christmas Fair: Thank you for all your fabulous donations! This year's Christmas fair will feature Santa's Grotto, children's Craft and Games including a Bottle Tombola and Chocolate Tombola, "Selfie Sleigh", "Knock Elves off the Shelves" (with snowballs!), refreshments including lots of yummy cakes, local market stalls, Christmas raffle plus much, much more! Free entry and everyone is welcome, so dust off your Christmas Jumper and kick start the festive season at our fair!

friendsofahs@hotmail.com facebook.com/FriendsOfAHS School website: 'Parents' section

First South Glos STEM Awards Ceremony 11th October 2019



Stem Awards Evening

There were two special guests handing awards to everyone. They both did presentations one did maths and the other did science. As a prize we got a certificate, a mug and a £25 gift voucher for the mall. We had half an hour to look around the Concorde hangar before the awards ceremony.

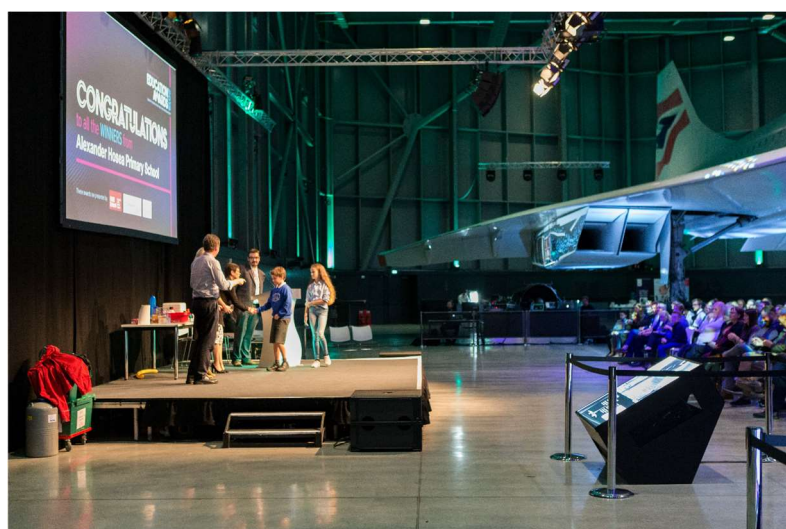
As part of the new South Gloucestershire Council STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Maths) awards, we were asked to nominate two Year 5 students who showed passion and the 'want' in these areas.

After careful consideration (and much competition), Miss Edgar nominated Layla-Rose and Robert. Congratulations to them both.

In a recent ceremony at Aerospace Museum, the two children received their awards. This was a special evening with speakers from STEM industry and in the same room as Concorde.

We will be looking for our nominees from Year 5 again in June 2020. Who the next winners will be?

Robert & Layla-Rose (Y6) receiving their awards





Christmas Lunch 2019

Roast turkey
Pigs in blankets, stuffing

OR

Vegetarian sausage plait

Roast potatoes, sprouts
Carrots, peas, gravy


Yule cup cake

OR


Christmas biscuit

OR

Fresh fruit



These sprouts
are spectacular!



The carrots are
pretty tasty too!