

Alexander Hosea Primary School

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

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Headteacher: Mrs D Williams



Newsletter 2 21st September 2018

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

From the Headteacher...

Our school year has started as we mean to go on, with a rich variety of experiences for our children. We pride ourselves on the excellent provision we offer to our children and look forward to another successful year, where we continue to go from strength to strength, working in partnership with parents/carers for the benefit of all children.

Celebrations

- **New reception children** have started their transition into school and are settling in well. We look forward to seeing them around school in the weeks to come.
- We have already started showing around some **prospective parents for September 2019**. If you have a child who is due to start school in September 2019, you are invited to attend one of our open afternoons on **Tuesday 25th September 2-3pm or Friday 23rd November 2-3pm**. We would be delighted to show you around our wonderful school.
- The first **clubs** of the year have started. We have tried to offer a variety of clubs to match children's interests. If parents have suggestions for future clubs, please contact Mrs Packer in the school office. We are interested to know your ideas and those of your children.
- The **Wickwar Village Fair** was a tremendous success. We are grateful to Mrs Werreitt, Mrs Andrews, Ms Days, Mrs Jater and friends for their excellent achievement. It was great to see so many people from the wider village community. Approximately 500 people visited on the day and the Friends of AHS raised an astounding £2500 from the event. Our thanks go also to Mrs Boulton for securing a £1000 grant from Bromford to go towards the event.
- Around 30 members of the community came forward to attend the **Helpers in School** briefings last week. If you would be interested in volunteering, please arrange an appointment with Mrs Williams via the school office.
- There was an excellent turn out at the **Meet the Teacher** events over the past week. Thank you for taking the time to come in to school. We hope that you found the sessions helpful.
- Year 5 and 6 have started their **cello and junior saxophone** lessons this week. We are looking forward to seeing them progress over the coming 9 weeks. We are very grateful to Wickwar Education Foundation for providing funding so that all children across the school can learn to play a musical instrument this year.

Next INSET day reminder: The school is closed to children on **Friday 26th October**.

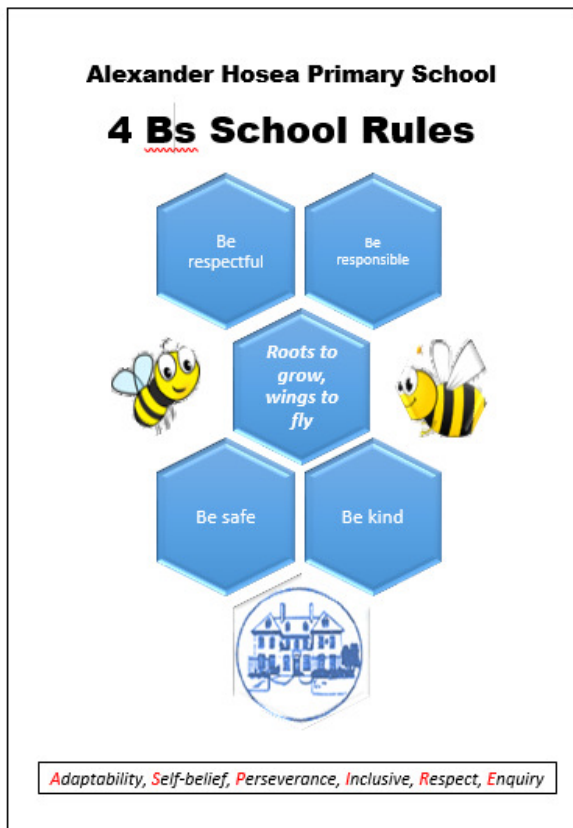
Harvest Service – Wednesday 26th September

Our annual harvest service is next Wednesday morning. We are looking for volunteers to walk to Holy Trinity at 9am on 26th September. We need: 2 volunteers for Emerald; 1 for Jet and 3 for Crystal.

Please can children bring their donations (cans/packets of food and supplies) with them to school. They will carry them to the church so items that would be easy for them to carry would be perfect.

School Rules and update to Behaviour Policy

The 4 Bs are going well and the children are getting used to the new language we are using to talk to them about behaviour expectations.



We look forward to finding out which children are nominated for the Citizenship Cup at the end of term.



School Library

We are in the process of setting up our student librarians for the year. These children will be responsible for keeping the library tidy and well-organised.

Three of our Helpers in School have put themselves forward to help with the library so that children can change books on a set afternoon per week. Thank you in advance to Mrs Gregory, Mrs Wood and Mrs Palmer.

We look forward to being able to let the children borrow books to take home through the lending service in the near future.

SPARE CLOTHING

If you have any spare PE t-shirts (any size) or waterproofs for Reception that your child has outgrown, please bring them to the school office.

School Meals

The final draft of the winter menu should be published by the end of this term. When we receive it, we will email it to parents/carers.

Meal prices

Infants (Ruby, Topaz, Emerald and Jet) - FREE

Juniors (Y3-6) - £2.20

Adults - £2.90

Payments should be made in advance using Sims Agora online payment system.

The next school census is coming soon (date tbc – we will let you know by text) .

Part of our school budget is determined by the number of children in the infants who have a school meal on census day. This is FREE for parents but makes a big difference to the school. We would greatly appreciate as many children as possible (in Topaz, Ruby, Emerald and Jet) having a free school dinner on this date.

The menu is swapped with Friday that week, so fish fingers and chips.

Medicines Reminder

Please make sure that if your child needs to bring medicines or creams into school, they are brought directly to office and not kept in book bags/bags. All medicines should be prescribed and in original packaging with pharmacy label.

Parent Council

Our Parent Council meetings for the year are:

2nd October

8th January

14th May

All meetings are 2:45-3:30pm

The Class Reps for this school year are in the process of being confirmed. If you would be interested in being part of the group, please contact the school office.

The purpose of the meeting is for parents to talk about the things that are going well and raise questions or discussion points. A member of the senior leadership team will attend these meetings (usually Mrs Williams) and give feedback on any aspects identified at the previous meeting.

I would be interested in ideas that parents/carers would like to discuss at these meetings. Please send suggestions to the school email address by Thursday 27th September.

Friends of Alexander Hosea Primary School

The Friends hosted their AGM last week. There was an excellent turn out with many parents offering to get involved. We now have our new committee. Thank you to everyone who volunteered.

Last year the Friends raised close to £6000 for the children of Alexander Hosea and spent a similar amount on contributions to the school. In 2017-18 the Friends helped finance new library books; an update to Shaun's garden; some new IT equipment; some immersive learning environment resources. All of these were greatly appreciated by the school and helps us to provide a richer experience for our children.

Mrs Lock and Mrs Cheeseman have now stepped down after a very successful year as co-chairs of the Friends. We now welcome **Mrs Daniel and Mrs Murray** as the new Chair and Vice Chair of the Friends. **Mrs Gregory** remains as secretary and **Mrs Hill** as Treasurer. Friends have also been able to appoint their 8 statutory committee members with ease.

To assist in communication for the Friends, a team of volunteers have agreed to be the reps for each year group: Reception- Mrs Lock; Year 1 – Mrs Gregory/Mrs Daniel; Year 2 – Mrs Wood/Mrs Spencer; Year 3 – Ms Days; Year 4 – Mrs Gregory/Mrs Lock; Year 5 – Mrs Wood and Year 6 – Mrs Dummer/Ms Days.

We really value to work of the volunteers on the Friends team. Thank you to everyone involved.

Student Council

We are looking for our new class representatives for Student Council. If your child is interested in putting themselves forward for the role, they may wish to prepare a short pitch to present to their class. Their first meeting with Mrs Moncrieff is on Friday 28th September.

Year 6 responsibilities

Mrs McNeill and Mrs Windmill have been very impressed with the quality of applications for Year 6 roles this year. The children have the opportunity to be an Office Helper (interviews next week) and/or Play Pal, to support the new Reception children in the dinner hall and playground.

SIMS AGORA - Parents of Ruby and Topaz

An email has been sent with a code to log on to our Sims Agora online payment system which can be accessed via our website. You can use this to pay for future trips and lunch money from Year 3. Our IT desk have advised us of a registration delay, if this happens, you will receive an email, please click on the link noreply@capita.co.uk which will enable you to try again.

Safety reminder

Please do not allow children to play on the school play equipment after school. Thank you.

School Cleaning Operative Required

Direct Cleaning Services are looking to recruit a new operative to join our team at Alexander Hosea Primary School. The Position is 10 hours per week Monday to Friday 3.15pm to 5.15pm term time only at a rate of £8.25 per hour. The ideal candidate will be hardworking, reliable and committed to providing high standards.

If you would like any further information regarding this position or are interested in applying, please contact either

Erin or Tina on 01225 812496

or

e-mail: e.walsh@direct-cleaning.com



Friends of AHS

8th November – Clothes for a Cause

23rd November 7:30pm – Christmas Shopping Evening

Clothes for a Cause

If you are clearing out your wardrobes or getting rid of outgrown summer clothes, please consider donating them to our next Clothes for a Cause event. We need clean unwanted clothes, paired shoes, hand bags and belts (in plastic bags) to be left by the school "Duck" gates before 9am on 8th November. No clothing with school logos – thank you. We earn 40p for every kilogramme we collect so please ask friends, family and neighbours help our cause.

Christmas Shopping Evening

Get your Christmas Shopping off to a flying start with our Christmas Shopping Evening. Tickets are only £5 each and includes a glass of wine or soft drink and a sweet treat, plus the first 25 people through the door will be given a gift bag. Tickets on sale soon!

Do you or someone in your family own a small business and would like to attend our shopping evening? We'd love anyone selling crafts, jewellery, children's gifts/toys, candles, toiletries, sweet treats etc. to get in touch with us via email or Facebook so we can give you some more information.

More events to come...

On the run up to the end of the year, the Friends will be hosting a number of fun fundraising events. To keep up to date with what's happening and when please check out the Friends' page on the school website (under the 'Parents' section) or like our Facebook page.

friendsofahs@hotmail.com

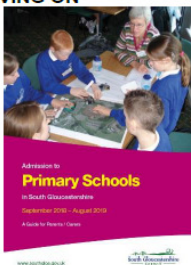
www.facebook.com/FriendsOfAHS

STARTING SCHOOL / MOVING ON

RECEPTION 2019 ADMISSIONS

Information about admissions into Primary School is now available on the South Glos website – Click on the book to be taken to the site.

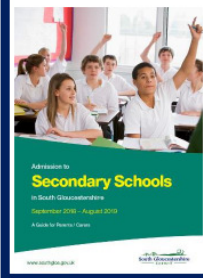
Deadline for applications 15th January 2019.



YEAR 7 2018 APPLICATIONS

Information about admissions into Secondary School is also available on the South Glos website – Click on the book to be taken to the site.

Deadline for secondary applications is 31st October 2018



Homework Expectations 2018-19

	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
READING	Read 5 times a week Bug Club - weekly	Read 5 times a week Bug Club - weekly	Read 5 times a week Bug Club - weekly	Read 5 times a week Bug Club - weekly	Read 5 times a week Bug Club - weekly	Read 5 times a week Bug Club - when linked to learning	Read 5 times a week Bug Club - when linked to learning
PHONICS/ SPELLING	Weekly phonics to feed into class learning	Weekly phonics/spellings tested on a Thurs.	Weekly phonics/spelling tested on a Tuesday	Weekly spellings - tested on a Friday.	Weekly spellings - tested on a Tuesday	Weekly spellings - tested on a Monday	Weekly spellings - tested on a Friday
MATHS	Maths fluency tasks as needed.	Mathletics Learn 10x - to practice mental maths - fortnightly.	Mathletics Learn 10x - to practice mental maths and times tables - fortnightly.	Mathletics Additional maths fluency tasks to reinforce concepts as needed.	Mathletics Times tables - ongoing assessments throughout the week. Additional maths fluency tasks to reinforce concepts as needed.	Mathletics Times tables - weekly test on Friday Additional maths fluency tasks to reinforce concepts as needed.	Mathletics Times tables - weekly test on a Wednesday Additional maths fluency tasks to reinforce concepts as needed.
PROJECT LINKED	Homework linked to projects when relevant.	Homework linked to projects when relevant.	Homework linked to projects when relevant.	Termly open-ended homework tasks - 3 times a year. In class homework share at the end of odd terms with parents/carers and even terms with peers.	Termly open-ended homework tasks - 3 times a year. In class homework share at the end of odd terms with parents/carers and even terms with peers.	Termly open-ended homework tasks - 3 times a year. In class homework share at the end of odd terms with parents/carers and even terms with peers.	Termly open-ended homework tasks - 3 times a year. In class homework share at the end of odd terms with parents/carers and even terms with peers.
STATUTORY ASSESSMENT/PREP		Additional phonics homework in run up to assessment in June.	Additional basic skills homework in run up to SATS in May.		Additional times tables homework in the run up to national times tables assessment in May/June.		Additional basic skills/ exam practice homework in the run up to SATS in May.

Following feedback from Parent Council, we have reviewed our homework progression so that expectations move on smoothly from year to year. We will email a copy to parents for information. We hope it is helpful.

House Captains and Vice Captains

The children have met in their houses and taken part in a ballot. Congratulations to all the Y6 children who put themselves forward for this role. We are proud of them for standing on the edge and using their emerald power. The House Captains and Vice Captains that have been elected are:

Brewers – Millie and Jamie
Weavers – Leyton and Isabel
 Archers – Betty and Francis
 Potters – Henry and Hannah

The Captains and Vice Captains will have various responsibilities throughout the year and are expected to be excellent role models for the younger children at all times.