

Alexander Hosea Primary School

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

Honeyborne Way, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire, GL12 8PF
Tel: 01454 294239 or 01454 294638
Email: AlexanderHoseaPrimary@gmail.org.uk
www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs D Williams



Newsletter 8 20th December 2018

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

From the Headteacher...



What a wonderful end to the term! The children really brought the Christmas spirit alive with their beautiful singing and acting in their performances over the past fortnight. We are really proud of them all. We wish you all a very merry Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday 7th January.

Celebrations and latest news

- **Enchanted Christmas Fair** – What a special evening! Thank you very much to the Friends of AHS for all their hard work to make the event a success. There was a lovely atmosphere and it was great to see so many families there.
- **Christmas performances** – the children across the school put on amazing performances over the last fortnight. Their singing was beautiful and we were so proud of all the children for believing in themselves and being brave to perform in front of such big audiences. We hope that you enjoyed it as much as they (and we) did!
- **League Tables** – The national league tables were published last week. We were really delighted to be ranked 6th highest performing in South Gloucestershire for 2018. This is a great achievement and we are thrilled.
- **Christmas school dinner** – Thank you to the catering team for a delicious lunch last week.
- **Disco** – as usual the children threw themselves into the disco experience and danced their socks off! Thank you to the Friends for organising.
- **Carols and coffee morning** – There was an amazing turn out this morning, with every seat taken and standing room only. Thank you for coming along and we hope it added to your festive feelings. Thank you to Friends for organising.

INSET dates: INSET 3 - **Friday 21st December 2018**; INSET 4 – **Tuesday 23rd April 2019** and INSET 5 – **Monday 8th July 2019**.

Applications for Reception for September 2019

The deadline for applications for Reception 2019 is Tuesday 15th January 2019. South Gloucestershire Council manage all our admissions and all the information you may need is on <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-school-admissions/>

Admission to primary school booklet

For more information on Primary admissions please see our Primary Admissions Guidance below:



It is very important that you read the appropriate admissions booklet before making an application, including considering how your child will travel to their preferred school (s).

Start reading

Christmas Jumper Swap!



Thank you for your generosity with donating Christmas jumpers to other members of the school community. We rehomed 19 jumpers this year.

Wickwar Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

Looking for fun, friendship and an opportunity to put something back into your community? Then volunteer with Girl Guiding in Wickwar. We need more adults to join our team to provide the best opportunities for our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. There are many ways in which you can help. We also welcome Young Leaders, aged 14-18 - a great way to gain the service element of D of E Awards. Contact me NOW for more information - Rosalind Abbott, South Cotswold Division Commissioner (a posh title for local adult recruitment and support!) [email: rosabbott@hotmail.com](mailto:rosabbott@hotmail.com) or 07709 739846.



Sink on offer!

As a result of some changes in the ladies' toilet, we have a good quality top mounted sink on offer.

If anyone would like it for a bathroom, please pop in to the office. We would rather that someone could make use of it than put it in the skip!



Mathletics

Mathletics is a great resource that we pay for as a school (£5 per pupil) to help children to practice their maths skills at home. We know that having fluent number skills (number bonds and times tables) really helps children with their learning across the maths curriculum. Mathletics is a helpful way to build speed and stamina and the children can earn bronze, silver and gold certificates as rewards.

All children have their own login to access the activities for their year group. Please speak to the teacher if you need a copy of this.

There are other good online resources available that you might also like to try at home. At the moment the children seem to like 'Hit the Button'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> and 'Daily 10'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10>

Year 4 Times Tables Assessment

Our Year 4 children will be taking part in the national times tables test for the first time in summer 2019.

The national expectation is that all children should have quick recall for all their tables up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4. Whilst we do not know the exact format for this new online test, we do know that the children will have 6 seconds to answer each question, so rapid recall is essential.

The staff are sampling Times Tables Rock Stars at the moment to see whether they think their classes will enjoy this. If you would like to have a look, follow the link below:



<https://ttrockstars.com/home>



'Bank' lunchtime staff required

We are currently looking to expand the number of people we have on our books as 'bank' lunchtime staff (i.e. lunchtime supervisors who are available to come in and cover on an ad hoc basis when our permanent lunchtime supervisors are absent for any reason).

If you would be interested in applying to be a member of 'bank' lunchtime staff, please contact the School Business Manager Allie Hall on (01454) 294239 or allison.hall@sgmail.org.uk



JIGSAW THORNBURY is a small welcoming group set up by parents to support families with children and young people with any additional needs. This may be learning problems such as dyslexia to complex disabilities or health problems and may be without diagnosis.

<http://www.jigsawthornbury.org.uk/>

Parent Council

The Parent Council meet 3 times a year to talk about various aspects of the day-to-day running of the school. A representative from each class bring ideas about **what is going well and talking points for consideration**. This is complimented by the contribution of a member of the senior leadership team (usually Mrs Williams), who bring reflections/actions from previous meeting and possible ideas for future school development. The next meeting is **8th January 2:45-3:30pm**. Our current representatives are:

Infants: Mrs Hall (Ruby), Mrs Mason (Topaz), Mrs Heffernan (Emerald), Mrs Leighton (Jet).

Juniors: Mrs Zlobec-Short (Crystal), Mrs Hathaway (Diamond), Mrs Carter (Pearl) and Ms Days (Amethyst).

League Tables 2018

The national league tables have been published and we are delighted that we have achieved 6th place out of 110 schools (top 5%) in South Gloucestershire for overall performance in 2018. We are also particularly pleased with our reading and writing progress, which places us 4th and 5th respectively in these areas.

https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=default&table=schools®ion=803&geographic=la&for=primary&orderby=ks2.0.PTRWM_E

I am very proud of our achievements in 2018 and these reflect the excellent teaching and learning that our staff provide on a day to day basis, as well as the motivation and hard work of our pupils and their families.

We will continue to aim high this year and provide the support and challenge your children need to help them to reach their potential. We are particularly focusing on accelerating progress in arithmetic this year (especially number bonds and times tables) and the children are responding well to the raised expectations in these areas. We are seeing really good progress as a result of the new system for daily mental maths sessions in years 1-6 in particular. It is very helpful when the children (Y1-6) engage fully with Mathletics at home as there are some great learning opportunities on this programme. Please speak to your child's teacher if you need a copy of their log in. Many of the children value the bronze, silver and gold Mathletics certificates they can achieve on the system.

Mrs Deb Williams

Artsmark – going for gold!

We are pleased that over the next 18 months Alexander Hosea will be working towards the Artsmark award (hopefully Gold). We have submitted our Statement of commitment, which highlights the main areas of improvement. These focus on three main areas:

- supporting professional development for all staff in the arts;
- building partnership with outside agencies to enhance arts and cultural learning throughout the school;
- developing the use of sketchbooks to display children's skills and artwork clearly.

We are looking forward to starting our Artsmark journey and will keep you updated with our achievements.

Mrs Laura Cleverley (Art Leader)

Little Stoke - Beginner Strings Class

Have fun playing a string instrument for the first time and choose between the violin or cello. Sessions will teach general musicianship, singing, theory and string instrument technique.

Lessons are delivered by a professional string player who is also a qualified primary school teacher

The class is open to all children age 4+ and no previous musical experience is required

Fee: £31 per double term (which includes the loan of an instrument*)

*As long as stocks last

Sign up online for this exciting opportunity at <https://live.paritor.com/p/1748> where you can create an account and enrol for activities.

The 'Little Stoke Beginner Strings Class' is available under 'Music Centres'

Lessons start 12th January 2019 on Saturdays at 11:00 - 11:30



Yate Library
What's On in December

Vision West of England – Information, Advice and Support for visually impaired people
Thursday 6th December 2 – 4pm
First Thursday of the month

LEGO CLUB
Saturday 8th 10.30 – 11.30pm
Free drop in fun for 4 – 11 year olds

Wriggle and Rhyme
Thursday 6th 10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 13th 10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 20th 10.30 – 11.00am

Christmas Stories & songs round the Christmas Tree
With the members of Yate Teen Focus Group
Thursday 20th 5.30 – 6.30pm
Bookable for young children and their families

Teen Focus Group - Year 7 upwards
Thursday 20th 6.30 – 7.30pm
Every third Thursday of the month - £1.00 per session per child

Just Chillin' – Holiday Drop-In
Saturday 22nd 10.30 – 11.30am *Access for ages 4 – 11 years*

Poetry Group
Tuesday 11th 1.00 – 2.00pm
Every other Tuesday of the month

Craft Group Drop-In
Saturday 1st, 15th & 29th 10.00 – 12 noon



Friends of AHS

Thank You!

We would like to thank YOU, all the parents, grandparents and carers, for supporting our events this year. Our aim has always been to host fun events for all the family whilst raising important funds for our school, so we truly appreciate your support!

Thank you to everyone who has helped on a stall, bought a ticket, played a game, bought refreshments, donated prizes, cakes, clothes or chocolate, help to set-up or clear-up, or help promote our events. Every little bit of support is much appreciated and helps us to purchase much needed resources for our school.

With ever diminishing school budgets the money raised is valued more now than ever before. With your help, this year we have been able to purchase: an oven for the pupil kitchen, various pieces of IT equipment, set of Atlases, benches for Tom's Garden, friction-type pens for the Juniors, book bags for the reception children, and also refurbish the school Library and Shaun's Garden, plus provide money for the fantastic learning environments created by the teachers. We have also agreed to purchase new books for the library and KS1, and more IT equipment next year.

Thank you again and...

Happy Christmas from all the Friends of AHS

friendsofahs@hotmail.com www.facebook.com/FriendsOfAHS



Reach is a free and fun programme for families with children and young people aged 4-16 years who are above a healthy weight

Reach group programmes:

Reach offers two types of family group programmes: 4-11 years and 11+ years. The sessions are free and usually run for 10 weeks at a leisure centre or other community settings. Here are the details for programmes starting January 2019:



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre	Tuesday 22 nd January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks
Kingswood Leisure Centre	Thursday 31 st January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks

Extra family physical activity sessions will also be running alongside these programmes, speak to the Reach team to find out more.



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Yate Fire Station (Delivered in partnership with Avon Fire & Rescue)	Thursday 24 th January 2019	4:15pm-5:45pm	10 weeks

Referral criteria:

Any child referred needs to:

- Live in South Glos. or registered at a GP surgery in South Glos.
- and
- Have a BMI above the 91st centile (a parent/carer is concerned about their child's weight or the young person themselves)

Referrals:

- Parents/carers can self-refer
- Practitioners and health professionals can also refer

You can make a referral by sending a referral form (www.southglos.gov.uk/reach) or contact us by calling: 01454 864005 or email: healthylifestyles@southglos.gov.uk



Just Chillin'

Drop in craft session



Saturday
22 December
Yate Library
10.30—11.30am
Suitable for ages 4-11yrs



Thank you for all the cards and gifts given to our staff this Christmas. They are much appreciated.

Alexander Hosea Primary School

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

Honeyborne Way, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire, GL12 8PF

Tel: 01454 294239 or 01454 294638

Email: AlexanderHoseaPrimary@gmail.org.uk

www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs D Williams



Newsletter 8 20th December 2018

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

From the Headteacher...



What a wonderful end to the term! The children really brought the Christmas spirit alive with their beautiful singing and acting in their performances over the past fortnight. We are really proud of them all. We wish you all a very merry Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday 7th January.

Celebrations and latest news

- **Enchanted Christmas Fair** – What a special evening! Thank you very much to the Friends of AHS for all their hard work to make the event a success. There was a lovely atmosphere and it was great to see so many families there.
- **Christmas performances** – the children across the school put on amazing performances over the last fortnight. Their singing was beautiful and we were so proud of all the children for believing in themselves and being brave to perform in front of such big audiences. We hope that you enjoyed it as much as they (and we) did!
- **League Tables** – The national league tables were published last week. We were really delighted to be ranked 6th highest performing in South Gloucestershire for 2018. This is a great achievement and we are thrilled.
- **Christmas school dinner** – Thank you to the catering team for a delicious lunch last week.
- **Disco** – as usual the children threw themselves into the disco experience and danced their socks off! Thank you to the Friends for organising.
- **Carols and coffee morning** – There was an amazing turn out this morning, with every seat taken and standing room only. Thank you for coming along and we hope it added to your festive feelings. Thank you to Friends for organising.

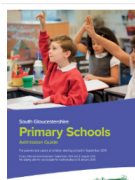
INSET dates: INSET 3 - **Friday 21st December 2018**; INSET 4 – **Tuesday 23rd April 2019** and INSET 5 – **Monday 8th July 2019**.

Applications for Reception for September 2019

The deadline for applications for Reception 2019 is Tuesday 15th January 2019. South Gloucestershire Council manage all our admissions and all the information you may need is on <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-school-admissions/>

Admission to primary school booklet

For more information on Primary admissions please see our Primary Admissions Guidance below:



It is very important that you read the appropriate admissions booklet before making an application, including considering how your child will travel to their preferred school (s).

Start reading

Christmas Jumper Swap!



Thank you for your generosity with donating Christmas jumpers to other members of the school community. We rehomed 19 jumpers this year.

Wickwar Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

Looking for fun, friendship and an opportunity to put something back into your community? Then volunteer with Girl Guiding in Wickwar. We need more adults to join our team to provide the best opportunities for our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. There are many ways in which you can help. We also welcome Young Leaders, aged 14-18 - a great way to gain the service element of D of E Awards. Contact me NOW for more information - Rosalind Abbott, South Cotswold Division Commissioner (a posh title for local adult recruitment and support!) [email: rosabbott@hotmail.com](mailto:rosabbott@hotmail.com) or 07709 739846.



Girlguiding

Sink on offer!

As a result of some changes in the ladies' toilet, we have a good quality top mounted sink on offer.

If anyone would like it for a bathroom, please pop in to the office. We would rather that someone could make use of it than put it in the skip!



MATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

Mathletics

Mathletics is a great resource that we pay for as a school (£5 per pupil) to help children to practice their maths skills at home. We know that having fluent number skills (number bonds and times tables) really helps children with their learning across the maths curriculum. Mathletics is a helpful way to build speed and stamina and the children can earn bronze, silver and gold certificates as rewards.

All children have their own login to access the activities for their year group. Please speak to the teacher if you need a copy of this.

There are other good online resources available that you might also like to try at home. At the moment the children seem to like 'Hit the Button'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> and 'Daily 10'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10>

Year 4 Times Tables Assessment

Our Year 4 children will be taking part in the national times tables test for the first time in summer 2019.

The national expectation is that all children should have quick recall for all their tables up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4. Whilst we do not know the exact format for this new online test, we do know that the children will have 6 seconds to answer each question, so rapid recall is essential.

The staff are sampling Times Tables Rock Stars at the moment to see whether they think their classes will enjoy this. If you would like to have a look, follow the link below:



<https://ttrockstars.com/home>



'Bank' lunchtime staff required

We are currently looking to expand the number of people we have on our books as 'bank' lunchtime staff (i.e. lunchtime supervisors who are available to come in and cover on an ad hoc basis when our permanent lunchtime supervisors are absent for any reason).

If you would be interested in applying to be a member of 'bank' lunchtime staff, please contact the School Business Manager Allie Hall on (01454) 294239 or allison.hall@sgmail.org.uk



JIGSAW THORNBURY is a small welcoming group set up by parents to support families with children and young people with any additional needs. This may be learning problems such as dyslexia to complex disabilities or health problems and may be without diagnosis.

<http://www.jigsawthornbury.org.uk/>

Parent Council

The Parent Council meet 3 times a year to talk about various aspects of the day-to-day running of the school. A representative from each class bring ideas about **what is going well and talking points for consideration**. This is complimented by the contribution of a member of the senior leadership team (usually Mrs Williams), who bring reflections/actions from previous meeting and possible ideas for future school development. The next meeting is **8th January 2:45-3:30pm**. Our current representatives are:

Infants: Mrs Hall (Ruby), Mrs Mason (Topaz), Mrs Heffernan (Emerald), Mrs Leighton (Jet).

Juniors: Mrs Zlobec-Short (Crystal), Mrs Hathaway (Diamond), Mrs Carter (Pearl) and Ms Days (Amethyst).

League Tables 2018

The national league tables have been published and we are delighted that we have achieved 6th place out of 110 schools (top 5%) in South Gloucestershire for overall performance in 2018. We are also particularly pleased with our reading and writing progress, which places us 4th and 5th respectively in these areas.

https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=default&table=schools®ion=803&geographic=la&for=primary&orderby=ks2.0.PTRWM_E

I am very proud of our achievements in 2018 and these reflect the excellent teaching and learning that our staff provide on a day to day basis, as well as the motivation and hard work of our pupils and their families.

We will continue to aim high this year and provide the support and challenge your children need to help them to reach their potential. We are particularly focusing on accelerating progress in arithmetic this year (especially number bonds and times tables) and the children are responding well to the raised expectations in these areas. We are seeing really good progress as a result of the new system for daily mental maths sessions in years 1-6 in particular. It is very helpful when the children (Y1-6) engage fully with Mathletics at home as there are some great learning opportunities on this programme. Please speak to your child's teacher if you need a copy of their log in. Many of the children value the bronze, silver and gold Mathletics certificates they can achieve on the system.

Mrs Deb Williams

Artsmark – going for gold!

We are pleased that over the next 18 months Alexander Hosea will be working towards the Artsmark award (hopefully Gold). We have submitted our Statement of commitment, which highlights the main areas of improvement. These focus on three main areas:

- supporting professional development for all staff in the arts;
- building partnership with outside agencies to enhance arts and cultural learning throughout the school;
- developing the use of sketchbooks to display children's skills and artwork clearly.

We are looking forward to starting our Artsmark journey and will keep you updated with our achievements.

Mrs Laura Cleverley (Art Leader)

Little Stoke - Beginner Strings Class

Have fun playing a string instrument for the first time and choose between the violin or cello. Sessions will teach general musicianship, singing, theory and string instrument technique.

Lessons are delivered by a professional string player who is also a qualified primary school teacher

The class is open to all children age 4+ and no previous musical experience is required

Fee: £31 per double term (which includes the loan of an instrument*)

*As long as stocks last

Sign up online for this exciting opportunity at <https://live.paritor.com/p/1748> where you can create an account and enrol for activities.

The 'Little Stoke Beginner Strings Class' is available under 'Music Centres'

Lessons start 12th January 2019 on Saturdays at 11:00 - 11:30





Yate Library
What's On in December

Vision West of England – Information, Advice and Support for visually impaired people
Thursday 6th December 2 – 4pm
First Thursday of the month

 **LEGO CLUB**
Saturday 8th 10.30 – 11.30pm
Free drop in fun for 4 – 11 year olds

Wriggle and Rhyme

Thursday 6th	10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 13th	10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 20th	10.30 – 11.00am

Christmas Stories & songs round the Christmas Tree
With the members of Yate Teen Focus Group
Thursday 20th 5.30 – 6.30pm
Booked for young children and their families

Teen Focus Group - Year 7 upwards
Thursday 20th 6.30 – 7.30pm
Every third Thursday of the month - £1.00 per session per child

 **Just Chillin' – Holiday Drop-In**
Saturday 22nd 10.30 – 11.30am *Access for ages 4 – 11 years*

Poetry Group
Tuesday 11th 1.00 – 2.00pm
Every other Tuesday of the month

Craft Group Drop-In
Saturday 1st, 15th & 29th 10.00 – 12 noon

Active Libraries



Friends of AHS

Thank You!

We would like to thank YOU, all the parents, grandparents and carers, for supporting our events this year. Our aim has always been to host fun events for all the family whilst raising important funds for our school, so we truly appreciate your support!

Thank you to everyone who has helped on a stall, bought a ticket, played a game, bought refreshments, donated prizes, cakes, clothes or chocolate, help to set-up or clear-up, or help promote our events. Every little bit of support is much appreciated and helps us to purchase much needed resources for our school.

With ever diminishing school budgets the money raised is valued more now than ever before. With your help, this year we have been able to purchase: an oven for the pupil kitchen, various pieces of IT equipment, set of Atlases, benches for Tom's Garden, friction-type pens for the Juniors, book bags for the reception children, and also refurbish the school Library and Shaun's Garden, plus provide money for the fantastic learning environments created by the teachers. We have also agreed to purchase new books for the library and KS1, and more IT equipment next year.

Thank you again and...

Happy Christmas from all the Friends of AHS

friendsofahs@hotmail.com www.facebook.com/FriendsOfAHS



Reach is a free and fun programme for families with children and young people aged 4-16 years who are above a healthy weight

Reach group programmes:

Reach offers two types of family group programmes: 4-11 years and 11+ years. The sessions are free and usually run for 10 weeks at a leisure centre or other community settings. Here are the details for programmes starting January 2019:



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre	Tuesday 22 nd January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks
Kingswood Leisure Centre	Thursday 31 st January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks

Extra family physical activity sessions will also be running alongside these programmes, speak to the Reach team to find out more.



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Yate Fire Station (Delivered in partnership with Avon Fire & Rescue)	Thursday 24 th January 2019	4:15pm-5:45pm	10 weeks

Referral criteria:

Any child referred needs to:

- Live in South Glos. or registered at a GP surgery in South Glos.
- and
- Have a BMI above the 91st centile (a parent/carer is concerned about their child's weight or the young person themselves)

Referrals:

- Parents/carers can self-refer
- Practitioners and health professionals can also refer

You can make a referral by sending a referral form (www.southglos.gov.uk/reach) or contact us by calling: 01454 864005 or email: healthylifestyles@southglos.gov.uk



Just Chillin'

Drop in craft session



Saturday
22 December
Yate Library
10.30—11.30am
Suitable for ages 4-11yrs



Thank you for all the cards and gifts given to our staff this Christmas. They are much appreciated.

Alexander Hosea Primary School

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

Honeyborne Way, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire, GL12 8PF
Tel: 01454 294239 or 01454 294638
Email: AlexanderHoseaPrimary@gmail.org.uk
www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs D Williams



Newsletter 8 20th December 2018

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

From the Headteacher...



What a wonderful end to the term! The children really brought the Christmas spirit alive with their beautiful singing and acting in their performances over the past fortnight. We are really proud of them all. We wish you all a very merry Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday 7th January.

Celebrations and latest news

- **Enchanted Christmas Fair** – What a special evening! Thank you very much to the Friends of AHS for all their hard work to make the event a success. There was a lovely atmosphere and it was great to see so many families there.
- **Christmas performances** – the children across the school put on amazing performances over the last fortnight. Their singing was beautiful and we were so proud of all the children for believing in themselves and being brave to perform in front of such big audiences. We hope that you enjoyed it as much as they (and we) did!
- **League Tables** – The national league tables were published last week. We were really delighted to be ranked 6th highest performing in South Gloucestershire for 2018. This is a great achievement and we are thrilled.
- **Christmas school dinner** – Thank you to the catering team for a delicious lunch last week.
- **Disco** – as usual the children threw themselves into the disco experience and danced their socks off! Thank you to the Friends for organising.
- **Carols and coffee morning** – There was an amazing turn out this morning, with every seat taken and standing room only. Thank you for coming along and we hope it added to your festive feelings. Thank you to Friends for organising.

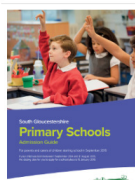
INSET dates: INSET 3 - **Friday 21st December 2018**; INSET 4 – **Tuesday 23rd April 2019** and INSET 5 – **Monday 8th July 2019**.

Applications for Reception for September 2019

The deadline for applications for Reception 2019 is Tuesday 15th January 2019. South Gloucestershire Council manage all our admissions and all the information you may need is on <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-school-admissions/>

Admission to primary school booklet

For more information on Primary admissions please see our Primary Admissions Guidance below:



It is very important that you read the appropriate admissions booklet before making an application, including considering how your child will travel to their preferred school (s).

Start reading

Christmas Jumper Swap!



Thank you for your generosity with donating Christmas jumpers to other members of the school community. We rehomed 19 jumpers this year.

Wickwar Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

Looking for fun, friendship and an opportunity to put something back into your community? Then volunteer with Girl Guiding in Wickwar. We need more adults to join our team to provide the best opportunities for our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. There are many ways in which you can help. We also welcome Young Leaders, aged 14-18 - a great way to gain the service element of D of E Awards. Contact me NOW for more information - Rosalind Abbott, South Cotswold Division Commissioner (a posh title for local adult recruitment and support!) [email: rosabbott@hotmail.com](mailto:rosabbott@hotmail.com) or 07709 739846.



Sink on offer!

As a result of some changes in the ladies' toilet, we have a good quality top mounted sink on offer.

If anyone would like it for a bathroom, please pop in to the office. We would rather that someone could make use of it than put it in the skip!



Mathletics

Mathletics is a great resource that we pay for as a school (£5 per pupil) to help children to practice their maths skills at home. We know that having fluent number skills (number bonds and times tables) really helps children with their learning across the maths curriculum. Mathletics is a helpful way to build speed and stamina and the children can earn bronze, silver and gold certificates as rewards.

All children have their own login to access the activities for their year group. Please speak to the teacher if you need a copy of this.

There are other good online resources available that you might also like to try at home. At the moment the children seem to like 'Hit the Button'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> and 'Daily 10'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10>

Year 4 Times Tables Assessment

Our Year 4 children will be taking part in the national times tables test for the first time in summer 2019.

The national expectation is that all children should have quick recall for all their tables up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4. Whilst we do not know the exact format for this new online test, we do know that the children will have 6 seconds to answer each question, so rapid recall is essential.

The staff are sampling Times Tables Rock Stars at the moment to see whether they think their classes will enjoy this. If you would like to have a look, follow the link below:



<https://ttrockstars.com/home>



'Bank' lunchtime staff required

We are currently looking to expand the number of people we have on our books as 'bank' lunchtime staff (i.e. lunchtime supervisors who are available to come in and cover on an ad hoc basis when our permanent lunchtime supervisors are absent for any reason).

If you would be interested in applying to be a member of 'bank' lunchtime staff, please contact the School Business Manager Allie Hall on (01454) 294239 or allison.hall@sgmail.org.uk



JIGSAW THORNBURY is a small welcoming group set up by parents to support families with children and young people with any additional needs. This may be learning problems such as dyslexia to complex disabilities or health problems and may be without diagnosis.

<http://www.jigsawthornbury.org.uk/>

Parent Council

The Parent Council meet 3 times a year to talk about various aspects of the day-to-day running of the school. A representative from each class bring ideas about **what is going well and talking points for consideration**. This is complimented by the contribution of a member of the senior leadership team (usually Mrs Williams), who bring reflections/actions from previous meeting and possible ideas for future school development. The next meeting is **8th January 2:45-3:30pm**. Our current representatives are:

Infants: Mrs Hall (Ruby), Mrs Mason (Topaz), Mrs Heffernan (Emerald), Mrs Leighton (Jet).

Juniors: Mrs Zlobec-Short (Crystal), Mrs Hathaway (Diamond), Mrs Carter (Pearl) and Ms Days (Amethyst).

League Tables 2018

The national league tables have been published and we are delighted that we have achieved 6th place out of 110 schools (top 5%) in South Gloucestershire for overall performance in 2018. We are also particularly pleased with our reading and writing progress, which places us 4th and 5th respectively in these areas.

https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=default&table=schools®ion=803&geographic=la&for=primary&orderby=ks2.0.PTRWM_E

I am very proud of our achievements in 2018 and these reflect the excellent teaching and learning that our staff provide on a day to day basis, as well as the motivation and hard work of our pupils and their families.

We will continue to aim high this year and provide the support and challenge your children need to help them to reach their potential. We are particularly focusing on accelerating progress in arithmetic this year (especially number bonds and times tables) and the children are responding well to the raised expectations in these areas. We are seeing really good progress as a result of the new system for daily mental maths sessions in years 1-6 in particular. It is very helpful when the children (Y1-6) engage fully with Mathletics at home as there are some great learning opportunities on this programme. Please speak to your child's teacher if you need a copy of their log in. Many of the children value the bronze, silver and gold Mathletics certificates they can achieve on the system.

Mrs Deb Williams

Artsmark – going for gold!

We are pleased that over the next 18 months Alexander Hosea will be working towards the Artsmark award (hopefully Gold). We have submitted our Statement of commitment, which highlights the main areas of improvement. These focus on three main areas:

- supporting professional development for all staff in the arts;
- building partnership with outside agencies to enhance arts and cultural learning throughout the school;
- developing the use of sketchbooks to display children's skills and artwork clearly.

We are looking forward to starting our Artsmark journey and will keep you updated with our achievements.

Mrs Laura Cleverley (Art Leader)

Little Stoke - Beginner Strings Class

Have fun playing a string instrument for the first time and choose between the violin or cello. Sessions will teach general musicianship, singing, theory and string instrument technique.

Lessons are delivered by a professional string player who is also a qualified primary school teacher

The class is open to all children age 4+ and no previous musical experience is required

Fee: £31 per double term (which includes the loan of an instrument*)

*As long as stocks last

Sign up online for this exciting opportunity at <https://live.paritor.com/p/1748> where you can create an account and enrol for activities.

The 'Little Stoke Beginner Strings Class' is available under 'Music Centres'

Lessons start 12th January 2019 on Saturdays at 11:00 - 11:30



Yate Library
What's On in December

Vision West of England – Information, Advice and Support for visually impaired people
Thursday 6th December 2 – 4pm
First Thursday of the month

LEGO CLUB
Saturday 8th 10.30 – 11.30pm
Free drop in fun for 4 – 11 year olds

Wriggle and Rhyme
Thursday 6th 10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 13th 10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 20th 10.30 – 11.00am

Christmas Stories & songs round the Christmas Tree
With the members of Yate Teen Focus Group
Thursday 20th 5.30 – 6.30pm
Bookable for young children and their families

Teen Focus Group - Year 7 upwards
Thursday 20th 6.30 – 7.30pm
Every third Thursday of the month - £1.00 per session per child

Just Chillin' – Holiday Drop-In
Saturday 22nd 10.30 – 11.30am *Access for ages 4 – 11 years*

Poetry Group
Tuesday 11th 1.00 – 2.00pm
Every other Tuesday of the month

Craft Group Drop-In
Saturday 1st, 15th & 29th 10.00 – 12 noon



Friends of AHS

Thank You!

We would like to thank YOU, all the parents, grandparents and carers, for supporting our events this year. Our aim has always been to host fun events for all the family whilst raising important funds for our school, so we truly appreciate your support!

Thank you to everyone who has helped on a stall, bought a ticket, played a game, bought refreshments, donated prizes, cakes, clothes or chocolate, help to set-up or clear-up, or help promote our events. Every little bit of support is much appreciated and helps us to purchase much needed resources for our school.

With ever diminishing school budgets the money raised is valued more now than ever before. With your help, this year we have been able to purchase: an oven for the pupil kitchen, various pieces of IT equipment, set of Atlases, benches for Tom's Garden, friction-type pens for the Juniors, book bags for the reception children, and also refurbish the school Library and Shaun's Garden, plus provide money for the fantastic learning environments created by the teachers. We have also agreed to purchase new books for the library and KS1, and more IT equipment next year.

Thank you again and...

Happy Christmas from all the Friends of AHS

friendsofahs@hotmail.com www.facebook.com/FriendsOfAHS



Reach is a free and fun programme for families with children and young people aged 4-16 years who are above a healthy weight

Reach group programmes:

Reach offers two types of family group programmes: 4-11 years and 11+ years. The sessions are free and usually run for 10 weeks at a leisure centre or other community settings. Here are the details for programmes starting January 2019:



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre	Tuesday 22 nd January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks
Kingswood Leisure Centre	Thursday 31 st January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks

Extra family physical activity sessions will also be running alongside these programmes, speak to the Reach team to find out more.



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Yate Fire Station (Delivered in partnership with Avon Fire & Rescue)	Thursday 24 th January 2019	4:15pm-5:45pm	10 weeks

Referral criteria:

Any child referred needs to:

- Live in South Glos. or registered at a GP surgery in South Glos.
- and
- Have a BMI above the 91st centile (a parent/carer is concerned about their child's weight or the young person themselves)

Referrals:

- Parents/carers can self-refer
- Practitioners and health professionals can also refer

You can make a referral by sending a referral form (www.southglos.gov.uk/reach) or contact us by calling: 01454 864005 or email: healthylifestyles@southglos.gov.uk



Just Chillin'

Drop in craft session



Saturday
22 December
Yate Library
10.30—11.30am
Suitable for ages 4-11yrs



Thank you for all the cards and gifts given to our staff this Christmas. They are much appreciated.

Alexander Hosea Primary School

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

Honeyborne Way, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire, GL12 8PF
Tel: 01454 294239 or 01454 294638
Email: AlexanderHoseaPrimary@gmail.org.uk
www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs D Williams



Newsletter 8 20th December 2018

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

From the Headteacher...



What a wonderful end to the term! The children really brought the Christmas spirit alive with their beautiful singing and acting in their performances over the past fortnight. We are really proud of them all. We wish you all a very merry Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday 7th January.

Celebrations and latest news

- **Enchanted Christmas Fair** – What a special evening! Thank you very much to the Friends of AHS for all their hard work to make the event a success. There was a lovely atmosphere and it was great to see so many families there.
- **Christmas performances** – the children across the school put on amazing performances over the last fortnight. Their singing was beautiful and we were so proud of all the children for believing in themselves and being brave to perform in front of such big audiences. We hope that you enjoyed it as much as they (and we) did!
- **League Tables** – The national league tables were published last week. We were really delighted to be ranked 6th highest performing in South Gloucestershire for 2018. This is a great achievement and we are thrilled.
- **Christmas school dinner** – Thank you to the catering team for a delicious lunch last week.
- **Disco** – as usual the children threw themselves into the disco experience and danced their socks off! Thank you to the Friends for organising.
- **Carols and coffee morning** – There was an amazing turn out this morning, with every seat taken and standing room only. Thank you for coming along and we hope it added to your festive feelings. Thank you to Friends for organising.

INSET dates: INSET 3 - **Friday 21st December 2018**; INSET 4 – **Tuesday 23rd April 2019** and INSET 5 – **Monday 8th July 2019**.

Applications for Reception for September 2019

The deadline for applications for Reception 2019 is Tuesday 15th January 2019. South Gloucestershire Council manage all our admissions and all the information you may need is on <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-school-admissions/>

Admission to primary school booklet

For more information on Primary admissions please see our Primary Admissions Guidance below:



It is very important that you read the appropriate admissions booklet before making an application, including considering how your child will travel to their preferred school (s).

Start reading

Christmas Jumper Swap!



Thank you for your generosity with donating Christmas jumpers to other members of the school community. We rehomed 19 jumpers this year.

Wickwar Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

Looking for fun, friendship and an opportunity to put something back into your community? Then volunteer with Girl Guiding in Wickwar. We need more adults to join our team to provide the best opportunities for our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. There are many ways in which you can help. We also welcome Young Leaders, aged 14-18 - a great way to gain the service element of D of E Awards. Contact me NOW for more information - Rosalind Abbott, South Cotswold Division Commissioner (a posh title for local adult recruitment and support!) [email: rosabbott@hotmail.com](mailto:rosabbott@hotmail.com) or 07709 739846.



Girlguiding

Sink on offer!

As a result of some changes in the ladies' toilet, we have a good quality top mounted sink on offer.

If anyone would like it for a bathroom, please pop in to the office. We would rather that someone could make use of it than put it in the skip!



MATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

Mathletics

Mathletics is a great resource that we pay for as a school (£5 per pupil) to help children to practice their maths skills at home. We know that having fluent number skills (number bonds and times tables) really helps children with their learning across the maths curriculum. Mathletics is a helpful way to build speed and stamina and the children can earn bronze, silver and gold certificates as rewards.

All children have their own login to access the activities for their year group. Please speak to the teacher if you need a copy of this.

There are other good online resources available that you might also like to try at home. At the moment the children seem to like 'Hit the Button'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> and 'Daily 10'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10>

Year 4 Times Tables Assessment

Our Year 4 children will be taking part in the national times tables test for the first time in summer 2019.

The national expectation is that all children should have quick recall for all their tables up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4. Whilst we do not know the exact format for this new online test, we do know that the children will have 6 seconds to answer each question, so rapid recall is essential.

The staff are sampling Times Tables Rock Stars at the moment to see whether they think their classes will enjoy this. If you would like to have a look, follow the link below:



<https://ttrockstars.com/home>



'Bank' lunchtime staff required

We are currently looking to expand the number of people we have on our books as 'bank' lunchtime staff (i.e. lunchtime supervisors who are available to come in and cover on an ad hoc basis when our permanent lunchtime supervisors are absent for any reason).

If you would be interested in applying to be a member of 'bank' lunchtime staff, please contact the School Business Manager Allie Hall on (01454) 294239 or allison.hall@sgmail.org.uk



JIGSAW THORNBURY is a small welcoming group set up by parents to support families with children and young people with any additional needs. This may be learning problems such as dyslexia to complex disabilities or health problems and may be without diagnosis.

<http://www.jigsawthornbury.org.uk/>

Parent Council

The Parent Council meet 3 times a year to talk about various aspects of the day-to-day running of the school. A representative from each class bring ideas about **what is going well and talking points for consideration**. This is complimented by the contribution of a member of the senior leadership team (usually Mrs Williams), who bring reflections/actions from previous meeting and possible ideas for future school development. The next meeting is **8th January 2:45-3:30pm**. Our current representatives are:

Infants: Mrs Hall (Ruby), Mrs Mason (Topaz), Mrs Heffernan (Emerald), Mrs Leighton (Jet).

Juniors: Mrs Zlobec-Short (Crystal), Mrs Hathaway (Diamond), Mrs Carter (Pearl) and Ms Days (Amethyst).

League Tables 2018

The national league tables have been published and we are delighted that we have achieved 6th place out of 110 schools (top 5%) in South Gloucestershire for overall performance in 2018. We are also particularly pleased with our reading and writing progress, which places us 4th and 5th respectively in these areas.

https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=default&table=schools®ion=803&geographic=la&for=primary&orderby=ks2.0.PTRWM_E

I am very proud of our achievements in 2018 and these reflect the excellent teaching and learning that our staff provide on a day to day basis, as well as the motivation and hard work of our pupils and their families.

We will continue to aim high this year and provide the support and challenge your children need to help them to reach their potential. We are particularly focusing on accelerating progress in arithmetic this year (especially number bonds and times tables) and the children are responding well to the raised expectations in these areas. We are seeing really good progress as a result of the new system for daily mental maths sessions in years 1-6 in particular. It is very helpful when the children (Y1-6) engage fully with Mathletics at home as there are some great learning opportunities on this programme. Please speak to your child's teacher if you need a copy of their log in. Many of the children value the bronze, silver and gold Mathletics certificates they can achieve on the system.

Mrs Deb Williams

Artsmark – going for gold!

We are pleased that over the next 18 months Alexander Hosea will be working towards the Artsmark award (hopefully Gold). We have submitted our Statement of commitment, which highlights the main areas of improvement. These focus on three main areas:

- supporting professional development for all staff in the arts;
- building partnership with outside agencies to enhance arts and cultural learning throughout the school;
- developing the use of sketchbooks to display children's skills and artwork clearly.

We are looking forward to starting our Artsmark journey and will keep you updated with our achievements.

Mrs Laura Cleverley (Art Leader)

Little Stoke - Beginner Strings Class

Have fun playing a string instrument for the first time and choose between the violin or cello. Sessions will teach general musicianship, singing, theory and string instrument technique.

Lessons are delivered by a professional string player who is also a qualified primary school teacher

The class is open to all children age 4+ and no previous musical experience is required

Fee: £31 per double term (which includes the loan of an instrument*)

*As long as stocks last

Sign up online for this exciting opportunity at <https://live.paritor.com/p/1748> where you can create an account and enrol for activities.

The 'Little Stoke Beginner Strings Class' is available under 'Music Centres'

Lessons start 12th January 2019 on Saturdays at 11:00 - 11:30



Yate Library
What's On in December

Vision West of England – Information, Advice and Support for visually impaired people
Thursday 6th December 2 – 4pm
First Thursday of the month

LEGO CLUB
Saturday 8th 10.30 – 11.30pm
Free drop in fun for 4 – 11 year olds

Wriggle and Rhyme
Thursday 6th 10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 13th 10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 20th 10.30 – 11.00am

Christmas Stories & songs round the Christmas Tree
With the members of Yate Teen Focus Group
Thursday 20th 5.30 – 6.30pm
Bookable for young children and their families

Teen Focus Group - Year 7 upwards
Thursday 20th 6.30 – 7.30pm
Every third Thursday of the month - £1.00 per session per child

Just Chillin' – Holiday Drop-In
Saturday 22nd 10.30 – 11.30am *Access for ages 4 – 11 years*

Poetry Group
Tuesday 11th 1.00 – 2.00pm
Every other Tuesday of the month

Craft Group Drop-In
Saturday 1st, 15th & 29th 10.00 – 12 noon



Friends of AHS

Thank You!

We would like to thank YOU, all the parents, grandparents and carers, for supporting our events this year. Our aim has always been to host fun events for all the family whilst raising important funds for our school, so we truly appreciate your support!

Thank you to everyone who has helped on a stall, bought a ticket, played a game, bought refreshments, donated prizes, cakes, clothes or chocolate, help to set-up or clear-up, or help promote our events. Every little bit of support is much appreciated and helps us to purchase much needed resources for our school.

With ever diminishing school budgets the money raised is valued more now than ever before. With your help, this year we have been able to purchase: an oven for the pupil kitchen, various pieces of IT equipment, set of Atlases, benches for Tom's Garden, friction-type pens for the Juniors, book bags for the reception children, and also refurbish the school Library and Shaun's Garden, plus provide money for the fantastic learning environments created by the teachers. We have also agreed to purchase new books for the library and KS1, and more IT equipment next year.

Thank you again and...

Happy Christmas from all the Friends of AHS

friendsofahs@hotmail.com www.facebook.com/FriendsOfAHS



Reach is a free and fun programme for families with children and young people aged 4-16 years who are above a healthy weight

Reach group programmes:

Reach offers two types of family group programmes: 4-11 years and 11+ years. The sessions are free and usually run for 10 weeks at a leisure centre or other community settings. Here are the details for programmes starting January 2019:



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre	Tuesday 22 nd January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks
Kingswood Leisure Centre	Thursday 31 st January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks

Extra family physical activity sessions will also be running alongside these programmes, speak to the Reach team to find out more.



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Yate Fire Station (Delivered in partnership with Avon Fire & Rescue)	Thursday 24 th January 2019	4:15pm-5:45pm	10 weeks

Referral criteria:

Any child referred needs to:

- Live in South Glos. or registered at a GP surgery in South Glos.
- and
- Have a BMI above the 91st centile (a parent/carer is concerned about their child's weight or the young person themselves)

Referrals:

- Parents/carers can self-refer
- Practitioners and health professionals can also refer

You can make a referral by sending a referral form (www.southglos.gov.uk/reach) or contact us by calling: 01454 864005 or email: healthylifestyles@southglos.gov.uk



Just Chillin'

Drop in craft session



Saturday
22 December
Yate Library
10.30—11.30am
Suitable for ages 4-11yrs



Thank you for all the cards and gifts given to our staff this Christmas. They are much appreciated.

Alexander Hosea Primary School

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

Honeyborne Way, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire, GL12 8PF
Tel: 01454 294239 or 01454 294638
Email: AlexanderHoseaPrimary@gmail.org.uk
www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs D Williams



Newsletter 8 20th December 2018

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

From the Headteacher...



What a wonderful end to the term! The children really brought the Christmas spirit alive with their beautiful singing and acting in their performances over the past fortnight. We are really proud of them all. We wish you all a very merry Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday 7th January.

Celebrations and latest news

- **Enchanted Christmas Fair** – What a special evening! Thank you very much to the Friends of AHS for all their hard work to make the event a success. There was a lovely atmosphere and it was great to see so many families there.
- **Christmas performances** – the children across the school put on amazing performances over the last fortnight. Their singing was beautiful and we were so proud of all the children for believing in themselves and being brave to perform in front of such big audiences. We hope that you enjoyed it as much as they (and we) did!
- **League Tables** – The national league tables were published last week. We were really delighted to be ranked 6th highest performing in South Gloucestershire for 2018. This is a great achievement and we are thrilled.
- **Christmas school dinner** – Thank you to the catering team for a delicious lunch last week.
- **Disco** – as usual the children threw themselves into the disco experience and danced their socks off! Thank you to the Friends for organising.
- **Carols and coffee morning** – There was an amazing turn out this morning, with every seat taken and standing room only. Thank you for coming along and we hope it added to your festive feelings. Thank you to Friends for organising.

INSET dates: INSET 3 - **Friday 21st December 2018**; INSET 4 – **Tuesday 23rd April 2019** and INSET 5 – **Monday 8th July 2019**.

Applications for Reception for September 2019

The deadline for applications for Reception 2019 is Tuesday 15th January 2019. South Gloucestershire Council manage all our admissions and all the information you may need is on <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-school-admissions/>

Admission to primary school booklet

For more information on Primary admissions please see our Primary Admissions Guidance below:



It is very important that you read the appropriate admissions booklet before making an application, including considering how your child will travel to their preferred school (s).

Start reading

Christmas Jumper Swap!



Thank you for your generosity with donating Christmas jumpers to other members of the school community. We rehomed 19 jumpers this year.

Wickwar Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

Looking for fun, friendship and an opportunity to put something back into your community? Then volunteer with Girl Guiding in Wickwar. We need more adults to join our team to provide the best opportunities for our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. There are many ways in which you can help. We also welcome Young Leaders, aged 14-18 - a great way to gain the service element of D of E Awards. Contact me NOW for more information - Rosalind Abbott, South Cotswold Division Commissioner (a posh title for local adult recruitment and support!) [email: rosabbott@hotmail.com](mailto:rosabbott@hotmail.com) or 07709 739846.



Sink on offer!

As a result of some changes in the ladies' toilet, we have a good quality top mounted sink on offer.

If anyone would like it for a bathroom, please pop in to the office. We would rather that someone could make use of it than put it in the skip!



Mathletics

Mathletics is a great resource that we pay for as a school (£5 per pupil) to help children to practice their maths skills at home. We know that having fluent number skills (number bonds and times tables) really helps children with their learning across the maths curriculum. Mathletics is a helpful way to build speed and stamina and the children can earn bronze, silver and gold certificates as rewards.

All children have their own login to access the activities for their year group. Please speak to the teacher if you need a copy of this.

There are other good online resources available that you might also like to try at home. At the moment the children seem to like 'Hit the Button'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> and 'Daily 10'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10>

Year 4 Times Tables Assessment

Our Year 4 children will be taking part in the national times tables test for the first time in summer 2019.

The national expectation is that all children should have quick recall for all their tables up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4. Whilst we do not know the exact format for this new online test, we do know that the children will have 6 seconds to answer each question, so rapid recall is essential.

The staff are sampling Times Tables Rock Stars at the moment to see whether they think their classes will enjoy this. If you would like to have a look, follow the link below:



<https://ttrockstars.com/home>



'Bank' lunchtime staff required

We are currently looking to expand the number of people we have on our books as 'bank' lunchtime staff (i.e. lunchtime supervisors who are available to come in and cover on an ad hoc basis when our permanent lunchtime supervisors are absent for any reason).

If you would be interested in applying to be a member of 'bank' lunchtime staff, please contact the School Business Manager Allie Hall on (01454) 294239 or allison.hall@sgmail.org.uk



JIGSAW THORNBURY is a small welcoming group set up by parents to support families with children and young people with any additional needs. This may be learning problems such as dyslexia to complex disabilities or health problems and may be without diagnosis.

<http://www.jigsawthornbury.org.uk/>

Parent Council

The Parent Council meet 3 times a year to talk about various aspects of the day-to-day running of the school. A representative from each class bring ideas about **what is going well and talking points for consideration**. This is complimented by the contribution of a member of the senior leadership team (usually Mrs Williams), who bring reflections/actions from previous meeting and possible ideas for future school development. The next meeting is **8th January 2:45-3:30pm**. Our current representatives are:

Infants: Mrs Hall (Ruby), Mrs Mason (Topaz), Mrs Heffernan (Emerald), Mrs Leighton (Jet).

Juniors: Mrs Zlobec-Short (Crystal), Mrs Hathaway (Diamond), Mrs Carter (Pearl) and Ms Days (Amethyst).

League Tables 2018

The national league tables have been published and we are delighted that we have achieved 6th place out of 110 schools (top 5%) in South Gloucestershire for overall performance in 2018. We are also particularly pleased with our reading and writing progress, which places us 4th and 5th respectively in these areas.

https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=default&table=schools®ion=803&geographic=la&for=primary&orderby=ks2.0.PTRWM_E

I am very proud of our achievements in 2018 and these reflect the excellent teaching and learning that our staff provide on a day to day basis, as well as the motivation and hard work of our pupils and their families.

We will continue to aim high this year and provide the support and challenge your children need to help them to reach their potential. We are particularly focusing on accelerating progress in arithmetic this year (especially number bonds and times tables) and the children are responding well to the raised expectations in these areas. We are seeing really good progress as a result of the new system for daily mental maths sessions in years 1-6 in particular. It is very helpful when the children (Y1-6) engage fully with Mathletics at home as there are some great learning opportunities on this programme. Please speak to your child's teacher if you need a copy of their log in. Many of the children value the bronze, silver and gold Mathletics certificates they can achieve on the system.

Mrs Deb Williams

Artsmark – going for gold!

We are pleased that over the next 18 months Alexander Hosea will be working towards the Artsmark award (hopefully Gold). We have submitted our Statement of commitment, which highlights the main areas of improvement. These focus on three main areas:

- supporting professional development for all staff in the arts;
- building partnership with outside agencies to enhance arts and cultural learning throughout the school;
- developing the use of sketchbooks to display children's skills and artwork clearly.

We are looking forward to starting our Artsmark journey and will keep you updated with our achievements.

Mrs Laura Cleverley (Art Leader)

Little Stoke - Beginner Strings Class

Have fun playing a string instrument for the first time and choose between the violin or cello. Sessions will teach general musicianship, singing, theory and string instrument technique.

Lessons are delivered by a professional string player who is also a qualified primary school teacher

The class is open to all children age 4+ and no previous musical experience is required

Fee: £31 per double term (which includes the loan of an instrument*)

*As long as stocks last

Sign up online for this exciting opportunity at <https://live.paritor.com/p/1748> where you can create an account and enrol for activities.

The 'Little Stoke Beginner Strings Class' is available under 'Music Centres'

Lessons start 12th January 2019 on Saturdays at 11:00 - 11:30





Yate Library
What's On in December

Vision West of England – Information, Advice and Support for visually impaired people
Thursday 6th December 2 – 4pm
First Thursday of the month

 **LEGO CLUB**
Saturday 8th 10.30 – 11.30pm
Free drop in fun for 4 – 11 year olds

Wriggle and Rhyme

Thursday 6th	10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 13th	10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 20th	10.30 – 11.00am

Christmas Stories & songs round the Christmas Tree
with the members of Yate Teen Focus Group
Thursday 20th 5.30 – 6.30pm
Bookable for young children and their families

Teen Focus Group - Year 7 upwards
Thursday 20th 6.30 – 7.30pm
Every third Thursday of the month - £1.00 per session per child

 **Just Chillin' – Holiday Drop-In**
Saturday 22nd 10.30 – 11.30am *Access for ages 4 – 11 years*

Poetry Group
Tuesday 11th 1.00 – 2.00pm
Every other Tuesday of the month

Craft Group Drop-In
Saturday 1st, 15th & 29th 10.00 – 12 noon

Active Libraries



Friends of AHS

Thank You!

We would like to thank YOU, all the parents, grandparents and carers, for supporting our events this year. Our aim has always been to host fun events for all the family whilst raising important funds for our school, so we truly appreciate your support!

Thank you to everyone who has helped on a stall, bought a ticket, played a game, bought refreshments, donated prizes, cakes, clothes or chocolate, help to set-up or clear-up, or help promote our events. Every little bit of support is much appreciated and helps us to purchase much needed resources for our school.

With ever diminishing school budgets the money raised is valued more now than ever before. With your help, this year we have been able to purchase: an oven for the pupil kitchen, various pieces of IT equipment, set of Atlases, benches for Tom's Garden, friction-type pens for the Juniors, book bags for the reception children, and also refurbish the school Library and Shaun's Garden, plus provide money for the fantastic learning environments created by the teachers. We have also agreed to purchase new books for the library and KS1, and more IT equipment next year.

Thank you again and...

Happy Christmas from all the Friends of AHS

friendsofahs@hotmail.com www.facebook.com/FriendsOfAHS



Reach is a free and fun programme for families with children and young people aged 4-16 years who are above a healthy weight

Reach group programmes:

Reach offers two types of family group programmes: 4-11 years and 11+ years. The sessions are free and usually run for 10 weeks at a leisure centre or other community settings. Here are the details for programmes starting January 2019:



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre	Tuesday 22 nd January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks
Kingswood Leisure Centre	Thursday 31 st January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks

Extra family physical activity sessions will also be running alongside these programmes, speak to the Reach team to find out more.



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Yate Fire Station (Delivered in partnership with Avon Fire & Rescue)	Thursday 24 th January 2019	4:15pm-5:45pm	10 weeks

Referral criteria:

Any child referred needs to:

- Live in South Glos. or registered at a GP surgery in South Glos.
- and
- Have a BMI above the 91st centile (a parent/carer is concerned about their child's weight or the young person themselves)

Referrals:

- Parents/carers can self-refer
- Practitioners and health professionals can also refer

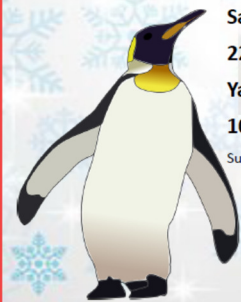
You can make a referral by sending a referral form (www.southglos.gov.uk/reach) or contact us by calling: 01454 864005 or email: healthylifestyles@southglos.gov.uk



Just Chillin'

Drop in craft session

Saturday
22 December
Yate Library
10.30—11.30am
Suitable for ages 4-11yrs



Thank you for all the cards and gifts given to our staff this Christmas. They are much appreciated.



Alexander Hosea Primary School

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

Honeyborne Way, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire, GL12 8PF
Tel: 01454 294239 or 01454 294638
Email: AlexanderHoseaPrimary@gmail.org.uk
www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs D Williams



Newsletter 8 20th December 2018

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

From the Headteacher...



What a wonderful end to the term! The children really brought the Christmas spirit alive with their beautiful singing and acting in their performances over the past fortnight. We are really proud of them all. We wish you all a very merry Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday 7th January.

Celebrations and latest news

- **Enchanted Christmas Fair** – What a special evening! Thank you very much to the Friends of AHS for all their hard work to make the event a success. There was a lovely atmosphere and it was great to see so many families there.
- **Christmas performances** – the children across the school put on amazing performances over the last fortnight. Their singing was beautiful and we were so proud of all the children for believing in themselves and being brave to perform in front of such big audiences. We hope that you enjoyed it as much as they (and we) did!
- **League Tables** – The national league tables were published last week. We were really delighted to be ranked 6th highest performing in South Gloucestershire for 2018. This is a great achievement and we are thrilled.
- **Christmas school dinner** – Thank you to the catering team for a delicious lunch last week.
- **Disco** – as usual the children threw themselves into the disco experience and danced their socks off! Thank you to the Friends for organising.
- **Carols and coffee morning** – There was an amazing turn out this morning, with every seat taken and standing room only. Thank you for coming along and we hope it added to your festive feelings. Thank you to Friends for organising.

INSET dates: INSET 3 - **Friday 21st December 2018**; INSET 4 – **Tuesday 23rd April 2019** and INSET 5 – **Monday 8th July 2019**.

Applications for Reception for September 2019

The deadline for applications for Reception 2019 is Tuesday 15th January 2019. South Gloucestershire Council manage all our admissions and all the information you may need is on <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-school-admissions/>

Admission to primary school booklet

For more information on Primary admissions please see our Primary Admissions Guidance below:



It is very important that you read the appropriate admissions booklet before making an application, including considering how your child will travel to their preferred school (s).

Start reading

Christmas Jumper Swap!



Thank you for your generosity with donating Christmas jumpers to other members of the school community. We rehomed 19 jumpers this year.

Wickwar Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

Looking for fun, friendship and an opportunity to put something back into your community? Then volunteer with Girl Guiding in Wickwar. We need more adults to join our team to provide the best opportunities for our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. There are many ways in which you can help. We also welcome Young Leaders, aged 14-18 - a great way to gain the service element of D of E Awards. Contact me NOW for more information - Rosalind Abbott, South Cotswold Division Commissioner (a posh title for local adult recruitment and support!) [email: rosabbott@hotmail.com](mailto:rosabbott@hotmail.com) or 07709 739846.



Sink on offer!

As a result of some changes in the ladies' toilet, we have a good quality top mounted sink on offer.

If anyone would like it for a bathroom, please pop in to the office. We would rather that someone could make use of it than put it in the skip!



Mathletics

Mathletics is a great resource that we pay for as a school (£5 per pupil) to help children to practice their maths skills at home. We know that having fluent number skills (number bonds and times tables) really helps children with their learning across the maths curriculum. Mathletics is a helpful way to build speed and stamina and the children can earn bronze, silver and gold certificates as rewards.

All children have their own login to access the activities for their year group. Please speak to the teacher if you need a copy of this.

There are other good online resources available that you might also like to try at home. At the moment the children seem to like 'Hit the Button'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> and 'Daily 10'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10>

Year 4 Times Tables Assessment

Our Year 4 children will be taking part in the national times tables test for the first time in summer 2019.

The national expectation is that all children should have quick recall for all their tables up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4. Whilst we do not know the exact format for this new online test, we do know that the children will have 6 seconds to answer each question, so rapid recall is essential.

The staff are sampling Times Tables Rock Stars at the moment to see whether they think their classes will enjoy this. If you would like to have a look, follow the link below:



<https://ttrockstars.com/home>



'Bank' lunchtime staff required

We are currently looking to expand the number of people we have on our books as 'bank' lunchtime staff (i.e. lunchtime supervisors who are available to come in and cover on an ad hoc basis when our permanent lunchtime supervisors are absent for any reason).

If you would be interested in applying to be a member of 'bank' lunchtime staff, please contact the School Business Manager Allie Hall on (01454) 294239 or allison.hall@gmail.org.uk



JIGSAW THORNBURY is a small welcoming group set up by parents to support families with children and young people with any additional needs. This may be learning problems such as dyslexia to complex disabilities or health problems and may be without diagnosis.

<http://www.jigsawthornbury.org.uk/>

Parent Council

The Parent Council meet 3 times a year to talk about various aspects of the day-to-day running of the school. A representative from each class bring ideas about **what is going well and talking points for consideration**. This is complimented by the contribution of a member of the senior leadership team (usually Mrs Williams), who bring reflections/actions from previous meeting and possible ideas for future school development. The next meeting is **8th January 2:45-3:30pm**. Our current representatives are:

Infants: Mrs Hall (Ruby), Mrs Mason (Topaz), Mrs Heffernan (Emerald), Mrs Leighton (Jet).

Juniors: Mrs Zlobec-Short (Crystal), Mrs Hathaway (Diamond), Mrs Carter (Pearl) and Ms Days (Amethyst).

League Tables 2018

The national league tables have been published and we are delighted that we have achieved 6th place out of 110 schools (top 5%) in South Gloucestershire for overall performance in 2018. We are also particularly pleased with our reading and writing progress, which places us 4th and 5th respectively in these areas.

https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=default&table=schools®ion=803&geographic=la&for=primary&orderby=ks2.0.PTRWM_E

I am very proud of our achievements in 2018 and these reflect the excellent teaching and learning that our staff provide on a day to day basis, as well as the motivation and hard work of our pupils and their families.

We will continue to aim high this year and provide the support and challenge your children need to help them to reach their potential. We are particularly focusing on accelerating progress in arithmetic this year (especially number bonds and times tables) and the children are responding well to the raised expectations in these areas. We are seeing really good progress as a result of the new system for daily mental maths sessions in years 1-6 in particular. It is very helpful when the children (Y1-6) engage fully with Mathletics at home as there are some great learning opportunities on this programme. Please speak to your child's teacher if you need a copy of their log in. Many of the children value the bronze, silver and gold Mathletics certificates they can achieve on the system.

Mrs Deb Williams

Artsmark – going for gold!

We are pleased that over the next 18 months Alexander Hosea will be working towards the Artsmark award (hopefully Gold). We have submitted our Statement of commitment, which highlights the main areas of improvement. These focus on three main areas:

- supporting professional development for all staff in the arts;
- building partnership with outside agencies to enhance arts and cultural learning throughout the school;
- developing the use of sketchbooks to display children's skills and artwork clearly.

We are looking forward to starting our Artsmark journey and will keep you updated with our achievements.

Mrs Laura Cleverley (Art Leader)

Little Stoke - Beginner Strings Class

Have fun playing a string instrument for the first time and choose between the violin or cello. Sessions will teach general musicianship, singing, theory and string instrument technique.

Lessons are delivered by a professional string player who is also a qualified primary school teacher

The class is open to all children age 4+ and no previous musical experience is required

Fee: £31 per double term (which includes the loan of an instrument*)

*As long as stocks last

Sign up online for this exciting opportunity at <https://live.paritor.com/p/1748> where you can create an account and enrol for activities.

The 'Little Stoke Beginner Strings Class' is available under 'Music Centres'

Lessons start 12th January 2019 on Saturdays at 11:00 - 11:30





Yate Library
What's On in December

Vision West of England – Information, Advice and Support for visually impaired people
Thursday 6th December 2 – 4pm
First Thursday of the month

 **LEGO CLUB**
Saturday 8th 10.30 – 11.30pm
Free drop in fun for 4 – 11 year olds

Wriggle and Rhyme


Thursday 6th	10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 13th	10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 20th	10.30 – 11.00am

Christmas Stories & songs round the Christmas Tree
With the members of Yate Teen Focus Group
Thursday 20th 5.30 – 6.30pm
Bookings for young children and their families

Teen Focus Group - Year 7 upwards
Thursday 20th 6.30 – 7.30pm
Every third Thursday of the month - £1.00 per session per child

 **Just Chillin' – Holiday Drop-In**
Saturday 22nd 10.30 – 11.30am *Access for ages 4 – 11 years*

Poetry Group
Tuesday 11th 1.00 – 2.00pm
Every other Tuesday of the month 

Craft Group Drop-In
Saturday 1st, 15th & 29th 10.00 – 12 noon



Friends of AHS

Thank You!

We would like to thank YOU, all the parents, grandparents and carers, for supporting our events this year. Our aim has always been to host fun events for all the family whilst raising important funds for our school, so we truly appreciate your support!

Thank you to everyone who has helped on a stall, bought a ticket, played a game, bought refreshments, donated prizes, cakes, clothes or chocolate, help to set-up or clear-up, or help promote our events. Every little bit of support is much appreciated and helps us to purchase much needed resources for our school.

With ever diminishing school budgets the money raised is valued more now than ever before. With your help, this year we have been able to purchase: an oven for the pupil kitchen, various pieces of IT equipment, set of Atlases, benches for Tom's Garden, friction-type pens for the Juniors, book bags for the reception children, and also refurbish the school Library and Shaun's Garden, plus provide money for the fantastic learning environments created by the teachers. We have also agreed to purchase new books for the library and KS1, and more IT equipment next year.

Thank you again and...

Happy Christmas from all the Friends of AHS

friendsofahs@hotmail.com www.facebook.com/FriendsOfAHS



Reach is a free and fun programme for families with children and young people aged 4-16 years who are above a healthy weight

Reach group programmes:

Reach offers two types of family group programmes: 4-11 years and 11+ years. The sessions are free and usually run for 10 weeks at a leisure centre or other community settings. Here are the details for programmes starting January 2019:



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre	Tuesday 22 nd January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks
Kingswood Leisure Centre	Thursday 31 st January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks

Extra family physical activity sessions will also be running alongside these programmes, speak to the Reach team to find out more.



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Yate Fire Station (Delivered in partnership with Avon Fire & Rescue)	Thursday 24 th January 2019	4:15pm-5:45pm	10 weeks

Referral criteria:

Any child referred needs to:

- Live in South Glos. or registered at a GP surgery in South Glos.
- and
- Have a BMI above the 91st centile (a parent/carer is concerned about their child's weight or the young person themselves)

Referrals:

- Parents/carers can self-refer
- Practitioners and health professionals can also refer

You can make a referral by sending a referral form (www.southglos.gov.uk/reach) or contact us by calling: 01454 864005 or email: healthylifestyles@southglos.gov.uk



Just Chillin'

Drop in craft session



Saturday
22 December
Yate Library
10.30—11.30am
Suitable for ages 4-11yrs



Thank you for all the cards and gifts given to our staff this Christmas. They are much appreciated.

Alexander Hosea Primary School

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

Honeyborne Way, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire, GL12 8PF
Tel: 01454 294239 or 01454 294638
Email: AlexanderHoseaPrimary@gmail.org.uk
www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs D Williams



Newsletter 8 20th December 2018

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

From the Headteacher...



What a wonderful end to the term! The children really brought the Christmas spirit alive with their beautiful singing and acting in their performances over the past fortnight. We are really proud of them all. We wish you all a very merry Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday 7th January.

Celebrations and latest news

- **Enchanted Christmas Fair** – What a special evening! Thank you very much to the Friends of AHS for all their hard work to make the event a success. There was a lovely atmosphere and it was great to see so many families there.
- **Christmas performances** – the children across the school put on amazing performances over the last fortnight. Their singing was beautiful and we were so proud of all the children for believing in themselves and being brave to perform in front of such big audiences. We hope that you enjoyed it as much as they (and we) did!
- **League Tables** – The national league tables were published last week. We were really delighted to be ranked 6th highest performing in South Gloucestershire for 2018. This is a great achievement and we are thrilled.
- **Christmas school dinner** – Thank you to the catering team for a delicious lunch last week.
- **Disco** – as usual the children threw themselves into the disco experience and danced their socks off! Thank you to the Friends for organising.
- **Carols and coffee morning** – There was an amazing turn out this morning, with every seat taken and standing room only. Thank you for coming along and we hope it added to your festive feelings. Thank you to Friends for organising.

INSET dates: INSET 3 - **Friday 21st December 2018**; INSET 4 – **Tuesday 23rd April 2019** and INSET 5 – **Monday 8th July 2019**.

Applications for Reception for September 2019

The deadline for applications for Reception 2019 is Tuesday 15th January 2019. South Gloucestershire Council manage all our admissions and all the information you may need is on <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-school-admissions/>

Admission to primary school booklet

For more information on Primary admissions please see our Primary Admissions Guidance below:



It is very important that you read the appropriate admissions booklet before making an application, including considering how your child will travel to their preferred school (s).

Start reading

Christmas Jumper Swap!



Thank you for your generosity with donating Christmas jumpers to other members of the school community. We rehomed 19 jumpers this year.

Wickwar Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

Looking for fun, friendship and an opportunity to put something back into your community? Then volunteer with Girl Guiding in Wickwar. We need more adults to join our team to provide the best opportunities for our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. There are many ways in which you can help. We also welcome Young Leaders, aged 14-18 - a great way to gain the service element of D of E Awards. Contact me NOW for more information - Rosalind Abbott, South Cotswold Division Commissioner (a posh title for local adult recruitment and support!) [email: rosabbott@hotmail.com](mailto:rosabbott@hotmail.com) or 07709 739846.



Girlguiding

Sink on offer!

As a result of some changes in the ladies' toilet, we have a good quality top mounted sink on offer.

If anyone would like it for a bathroom, please pop in to the office. We would rather that someone could make use of it than put it in the skip!



MATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

Mathletics

Mathletics is a great resource that we pay for as a school (£5 per pupil) to help children to practice their maths skills at home. We know that having fluent number skills (number bonds and times tables) really helps children with their learning across the maths curriculum. Mathletics is a helpful way to build speed and stamina and the children can earn bronze, silver and gold certificates as rewards.

All children have their own login to access the activities for their year group. Please speak to the teacher if you need a copy of this.

There are other good online resources available that you might also like to try at home. At the moment the children seem to like 'Hit the Button'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> and 'Daily 10'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10>

Year 4 Times Tables Assessment

Our Year 4 children will be taking part in the national times tables test for the first time in summer 2019.

The national expectation is that all children should have quick recall for all their tables up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4. Whilst we do not know the exact format for this new online test, we do know that the children will have 6 seconds to answer each question, so rapid recall is essential.

The staff are sampling Times Tables Rock Stars at the moment to see whether they think their classes will enjoy this. If you would like to have a look, follow the link below:



<https://ttrockstars.com/home>



'Bank' lunchtime staff required

We are currently looking to expand the number of people we have on our books as 'bank' lunchtime staff (i.e. lunchtime supervisors who are available to come in and cover on an ad hoc basis when our permanent lunchtime supervisors are absent for any reason).

If you would be interested in applying to be a member of 'bank' lunchtime staff, please contact the School Business Manager Allie Hall on (01454) 294239 or allison.hall@sgmail.org.uk



JIGSAW THORNBURY is a small welcoming group set up by parents to support families with children and young people with any additional needs. This may be learning problems such as dyslexia to complex disabilities or health problems and may be without diagnosis.

<http://www.jigsawthornbury.org.uk/>

Parent Council

The Parent Council meet 3 times a year to talk about various aspects of the day-to-day running of the school. A representative from each class bring ideas about **what is going well and talking points for consideration**. This is complimented by the contribution of a member of the senior leadership team (usually Mrs Williams), who bring reflections/actions from previous meeting and possible ideas for future school development. The next meeting is **8th January 2:45-3:30pm**. Our current representatives are:

Infants: Mrs Hall (Ruby), Mrs Mason (Topaz), Mrs Heffernan (Emerald), Mrs Leighton (Jet).

Juniors: Mrs Zlobec-Short (Crystal), Mrs Hathaway (Diamond), Mrs Carter (Pearl) and Ms Days (Amethyst).

League Tables 2018

The national league tables have been published and we are delighted that we have achieved 6th place out of 110 schools (top 5%) in South Gloucestershire for overall performance in 2018. We are also particularly pleased with our reading and writing progress, which places us 4th and 5th respectively in these areas.

https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=default&table=schools®ion=803&geographic=la&for=primary&orderby=ks2.0.PTRWM_E

I am very proud of our achievements in 2018 and these reflect the excellent teaching and learning that our staff provide on a day to day basis, as well as the motivation and hard work of our pupils and their families.

We will continue to aim high this year and provide the support and challenge your children need to help them to reach their potential. We are particularly focusing on accelerating progress in arithmetic this year (especially number bonds and times tables) and the children are responding well to the raised expectations in these areas. We are seeing really good progress as a result of the new system for daily mental maths sessions in years 1-6 in particular. It is very helpful when the children (Y1-6) engage fully with Mathletics at home as there are some great learning opportunities on this programme. Please speak to your child's teacher if you need a copy of their log in. Many of the children value the bronze, silver and gold Mathletics certificates they can achieve on the system.

Mrs Deb Williams

Artsmark – going for gold!

We are pleased that over the next 18 months Alexander Hosea will be working towards the Artsmark award (hopefully Gold). We have submitted our Statement of commitment, which highlights the main areas of improvement. These focus on three main areas:

- supporting professional development for all staff in the arts;
- building partnership with outside agencies to enhance arts and cultural learning throughout the school;
- developing the use of sketchbooks to display children's skills and artwork clearly.

We are looking forward to starting our Artsmark journey and will keep you updated with our achievements.

Mrs Laura Cleverley (Art Leader)

Little Stoke - Beginner Strings Class

Have fun playing a string instrument for the first time and choose between the violin or cello. Sessions will teach general musicianship, singing, theory and string instrument technique.

Lessons are delivered by a professional string player who is also a qualified primary school teacher

The class is open to all children age 4+ and no previous musical experience is required

Fee: £31 per double term (which includes the loan of an instrument*)

*As long as stocks last

Sign up online for this exciting opportunity at <https://live.paritor.com/p/1748> where you can create an account and enrol for activities.

The 'Little Stoke Beginner Strings Class' is available under 'Music Centres'

Lessons start 12th January 2019 on Saturdays at 11:00 - 11:30





Yate Library
What's On in December

Vision West of England – Information, Advice and Support for visually impaired people
Thursday 6th December 2 – 4pm
First Thursday of the month

 **LEGO CLUB**
Saturday 8th 10.30 – 11.30pm
Free drop in fun for 4 – 11 year olds

Wriggle and Rhyme


Thursday 6th	10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 13th	10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 20th	10.30 – 11.00am

Christmas Stories & songs round the Christmas Tree
With the members of Yate Teen Focus Group
Thursday 20th 5.30 – 6.30pm
Bookings for young children and their families

Teen Focus Group - Year 7 upwards
Thursday 20th 6.30 – 7.30pm
Every third Thursday of the month - £1.00 per session per child

 **Just Chillin' – Holiday Drop-In**
Saturday 22nd 10.30 – 11.30am *Access for ages 4 – 11 years*

Poetry Group
Tuesday 11th 1.00 – 2.00pm
Every other Tuesday of the month 

Craft Group Drop-In
Saturday 1st, 15th & 29th 10.00 – 12 noon



Friends of AHS

Thank You!

We would like to thank YOU, all the parents, grandparents and carers, for supporting our events this year. Our aim has always been to host fun events for all the family whilst raising important funds for our school, so we truly appreciate your support!

Thank you to everyone who has helped on a stall, bought a ticket, played a game, bought refreshments, donated prizes, cakes, clothes or chocolate, help to set-up or clear-up, or help promote our events. Every little bit of support is much appreciated and helps us to purchase much needed resources for our school.

With ever diminishing school budgets the money raised is valued more now than ever before. With your help, this year we have been able to purchase: an oven for the pupil kitchen, various pieces of IT equipment, set of Atlases, benches for Tom's Garden, friction-type pens for the Juniors, book bags for the reception children, and also refurbish the school Library and Shaun's Garden, plus provide money for the fantastic learning environments created by the teachers. We have also agreed to purchase new books for the library and KS1, and more IT equipment next year.

Thank you again and...

Happy Christmas from all the Friends of AHS

friendsofahs@hotmail.com www.facebook.com/FriendsOfAHS



Reach is a free and fun programme for families with children and young people aged 4-16 years who are above a healthy weight

Reach group programmes:

Reach offers two types of family group programmes: 4-11 years and 11+ years. The sessions are free and usually run for 10 weeks at a leisure centre or other community settings. Here are the details for programmes starting January 2019:



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre	Tuesday 22 nd January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks
Kingswood Leisure Centre	Thursday 31 st January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks

Extra family physical activity sessions will also be running alongside these programmes, speak to the Reach team to find out more.



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Yate Fire Station (Delivered in partnership with Avon Fire & Rescue)	Thursday 24 th January 2019	4:15pm-5:45pm	10 weeks

Referral criteria:

Any child referred needs to:

- Live in South Glos. or registered at a GP surgery in South Glos.
- and
- Have a BMI above the 91st centile (a parent/carer is concerned about their child's weight or the young person themselves)

Referrals:

- Parents/carers can self-refer
- Practitioners and health professionals can also refer

You can make a referral by sending a referral form (www.southglos.gov.uk/reach) or contact us by calling: 01454 864005 or email: healthylifestyles@southglos.gov.uk



Just Chillin'

Drop in craft session



Saturday
22 December
Yate Library
10.30—11.30am
Suitable for ages 4-11yrs



Thank you for all the cards and gifts given to our staff this Christmas. They are much appreciated.

Alexander Hosea Primary School

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

Honeyborne Way, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire, GL12 8PF

Tel: 01454 294239 or 01454 294638

Email: AlexanderHoseaPrimary@gmail.org.uk

www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs D Williams



Newsletter 8 20th December 2018

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

From the Headteacher...



What a wonderful end to the term! The children really brought the Christmas spirit alive with their beautiful singing and acting in their performances over the past fortnight. We are really proud of them all. We wish you all a very merry Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday 7th January.

Celebrations and latest news

- **Enchanted Christmas Fair** – What a special evening! Thank you very much to the Friends of AHS for all their hard work to make the event a success. There was a lovely atmosphere and it was great to see so many families there.
- **Christmas performances** – the children across the school put on amazing performances over the last fortnight. Their singing was beautiful and we were so proud of all the children for believing in themselves and being brave to perform in front of such big audiences. We hope that you enjoyed it as much as they (and we) did!
- **League Tables** – The national league tables were published last week. We were really delighted to be ranked 6th highest performing in South Gloucestershire for 2018. This is a great achievement and we are thrilled.
- **Christmas school dinner** – Thank you to the catering team for a delicious lunch last week.
- **Disco** – as usual the children threw themselves into the disco experience and danced their socks off! Thank you to the Friends for organising.
- **Carols and coffee morning** – There was an amazing turn out this morning, with every seat taken and standing room only. Thank you for coming along and we hope it added to your festive feelings. Thank you to Friends for organising.

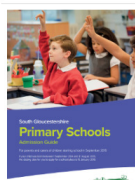
INSET dates: INSET 3 - **Friday 21st December 2018**; INSET 4 – **Tuesday 23rd April 2019** and INSET 5 – **Monday 8th July 2019**.

Applications for Reception for September 2019

The deadline for applications for Reception 2019 is Tuesday 15th January 2019. South Gloucestershire Council manage all our admissions and all the information you may need is on <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-school-admissions/>

Admission to primary school booklet

For more information on Primary admissions please see our Primary Admissions Guidance below:



It is very important that you read the appropriate admissions booklet before making an application, including considering how your child will travel to their preferred school (s).

Start reading

Christmas Jumper Swap!



Thank you for your generosity with donating Christmas jumpers to other members of the school community. We rehomed 19 jumpers this year.

Wickwar Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

Looking for fun, friendship and an opportunity to put something back into your community? Then volunteer with Girl Guiding in Wickwar. We need more adults to join our team to provide the best opportunities for our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. There are many ways in which you can help. We also welcome Young Leaders, aged 14-18 - a great way to gain the service element of D of E Awards. Contact me NOW for more information - Rosalind Abbott, South Cotswold Division Commissioner (a posh title for local adult recruitment and support!) [email: rosabbott@hotmail.com](mailto:rosabbott@hotmail.com) or 07709 739846.



Girlguiding

Sink on offer!

As a result of some changes in the ladies' toilet, we have a good quality top mounted sink on offer.

If anyone would like it for a bathroom, please pop in to the office. We would rather that someone could make use of it than put it in the skip!



MATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

Mathletics

Mathletics is a great resource that we pay for as a school (£5 per pupil) to help children to practice their maths skills at home. We know that having fluent number skills (number bonds and times tables) really helps children with their learning across the maths curriculum. Mathletics is a helpful way to build speed and stamina and the children can earn bronze, silver and gold certificates as rewards.

All children have their own login to access the activities for their year group. Please speak to the teacher if you need a copy of this.

There are other good online resources available that you might also like to try at home. At the moment the children seem to like 'Hit the Button'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> and 'Daily 10'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10>

Year 4 Times Tables Assessment

Our Year 4 children will be taking part in the national times tables test for the first time in summer 2019.

The national expectation is that all children should have quick recall for all their tables up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4. Whilst we do not know the exact format for this new online test, we do know that the children will have 6 seconds to answer each question, so rapid recall is essential.

The staff are sampling Times Tables Rock Stars at the moment to see whether they think their classes will enjoy this. If you would like to have a look, follow the link below:



<https://ttrockstars.com/home>



'Bank' lunchtime staff required

We are currently looking to expand the number of people we have on our books as 'bank' lunchtime staff (i.e. lunchtime supervisors who are available to come in and cover on an ad hoc basis when our permanent lunchtime supervisors are absent for any reason).

If you would be interested in applying to be a member of 'bank' lunchtime staff, please contact the School Business Manager Allie Hall on (01454) 294239 or allison.hall@sgmail.org.uk



JIGSAW THORNBURY is a small welcoming group set up by parents to support families with children and young people with any additional needs. This may be learning problems such as dyslexia to complex disabilities or health problems and may be without diagnosis.

<http://www.jigsawthornbury.org.uk/>

Parent Council

The Parent Council meet 3 times a year to talk about various aspects of the day-to-day running of the school. A representative from each class bring ideas about **what is going well and talking points for consideration**. This is complimented by the contribution of a member of the senior leadership team (usually Mrs Williams), who bring reflections/actions from previous meeting and possible ideas for future school development. The next meeting is **8th January 2:45-3:30pm**. Our current representatives are:

Infants: Mrs Hall (Ruby), Mrs Mason (Topaz), Mrs Heffernan (Emerald), Mrs Leighton (Jet).

Juniors: Mrs Zlobec-Short (Crystal), Mrs Hathaway (Diamond), Mrs Carter (Pearl) and Ms Days (Amethyst).

League Tables 2018

The national league tables have been published and we are delighted that we have achieved 6th place out of 110 schools (top 5%) in South Gloucestershire for overall performance in 2018. We are also particularly pleased with our reading and writing progress, which places us 4th and 5th respectively in these areas.

https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=default&table=schools®ion=803&geographic=la&for=primary&orderby=ks2.0.PTRWM_E

I am very proud of our achievements in 2018 and these reflect the excellent teaching and learning that our staff provide on a day to day basis, as well as the motivation and hard work of our pupils and their families.

We will continue to aim high this year and provide the support and challenge your children need to help them to reach their potential. We are particularly focusing on accelerating progress in arithmetic this year (especially number bonds and times tables) and the children are responding well to the raised expectations in these areas. We are seeing really good progress as a result of the new system for daily mental maths sessions in years 1-6 in particular. It is very helpful when the children (Y1-6) engage fully with Mathletics at home as there are some great learning opportunities on this programme. Please speak to your child's teacher if you need a copy of their log in. Many of the children value the bronze, silver and gold Mathletics certificates they can achieve on the system.

Mrs Deb Williams

Artsmark – going for gold!

We are pleased that over the next 18 months Alexander Hosea will be working towards the Artsmark award (hopefully Gold). We have submitted our Statement of commitment, which highlights the main areas of improvement. These focus on three main areas:

- supporting professional development for all staff in the arts;
- building partnership with outside agencies to enhance arts and cultural learning throughout the school;
- developing the use of sketchbooks to display children's skills and artwork clearly.

We are looking forward to starting our Artsmark journey and will keep you updated with our achievements.

Mrs Laura Cleverley (Art Leader)

Little Stoke - Beginner Strings Class

Have fun playing a string instrument for the first time and choose between the violin or cello. Sessions will teach general musicianship, singing, theory and string instrument technique.

Lessons are delivered by a professional string player who is also a qualified primary school teacher

The class is open to all children age 4+ and no previous musical experience is required

Fee: £31 per double term (which includes the loan of an instrument*)

*As long as stocks last

Sign up online for this exciting opportunity at <https://live.paritor.com/p/1748> where you can create an account and enrol for activities.

The 'Little Stoke Beginner Strings Class' is available under 'Music Centres'

Lessons start 12th January 2019 on Saturdays at 11:00 - 11:30





Yate Library
What's On in December

Vision West of England – Information, Advice and Support for visually impaired people
Thursday 6th December 2 – 4pm
First Thursday of the month

 **LEGO CLUB**
Saturday 8th 10.30 – 11.30pm
Free drop in fun for 4 – 11 year olds

Wriggle and Rhyme

Thursday 6th	10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 13th	10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 20th	10.30 – 11.00am

Christmas Stories & songs round the Christmas Tree
With the members of Yate Teen Focus Group
Thursday 20th 5.30 – 6.30pm
Bookings for young children and their families

Teen Focus Group - Year 7 upwards
Thursday 20th 6.30 – 7.30pm
Every third Thursday of the month - £1.00 per session per child

 **Just Chillin' – Holiday Drop-In**
Saturday 22nd 10.30 – 11.30am *Access for ages 4 – 11 years*

Poetry Group
Tuesday 11th 1.00 – 2.00pm
Every other Tuesday of the month

Craft Group Drop-In
Saturday 1st, 15th & 29th 10.00 – 12 noon



Friends of AHS

Thank You!

We would like to thank YOU, all the parents, grandparents and carers, for supporting our events this year. Our aim has always been to host fun events for all the family whilst raising important funds for our school, so we truly appreciate your support!

Thank you to everyone who has helped on a stall, bought a ticket, played a game, bought refreshments, donated prizes, cakes, clothes or chocolate, help to set-up or clear-up, or help promote our events. Every little bit of support is much appreciated and helps us to purchase much needed resources for our school.

With ever diminishing school budgets the money raised is valued more now than ever before. With your help, this year we have been able to purchase: an oven for the pupil kitchen, various pieces of IT equipment, set of Atlases, benches for Tom's Garden, friction-type pens for the Juniors, book bags for the reception children, and also refurbish the school Library and Shaun's Garden, plus provide money for the fantastic learning environments created by the teachers. We have also agreed to purchase new books for the library and KS1, and more IT equipment next year.

Thank you again and...

Happy Christmas from all the Friends of AHS

friendsofahs@hotmail.com www.facebook.com/FriendsOfAHS



Reach is a free and fun programme for families with children and young people aged 4-16 years who are above a healthy weight

Reach group programmes:

Reach offers two types of family group programmes: 4-11 years and 11+ years. The sessions are free and usually run for 10 weeks at a leisure centre or other community settings. Here are the details for programmes starting January 2019:



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre	Tuesday 22 nd January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks
Kingswood Leisure Centre	Thursday 31 st January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks

Extra family physical activity sessions will also be running alongside these programmes, speak to the Reach team to find out more.



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Yate Fire Station (Delivered in partnership with Avon Fire & Rescue)	Thursday 24 th January 2019	4:15pm-5:45pm	10 weeks

Referral criteria:

Any child referred needs to:

- Live in South Glos. or registered at a GP surgery in South Glos.
- and
- Have a BMI above the 91st centile (a parent/carer is concerned about their child's weight or the young person themselves)

Referrals:

- Parents/carers can self-refer
- Practitioners and health professionals can also refer

You can make a referral by sending a referral form (www.southglos.gov.uk/reach) or contact us by calling: 01454 864005 or email: healthylifestyles@southglos.gov.uk



Just Chillin'

Drop in craft session



Saturday
22 December
Yate Library
10.30—11.30am
Suitable for ages 4-11yrs



Thank you for all the cards and gifts given to our staff this Christmas. They are much appreciated.

Alexander Hosea Primary School

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

Honeyborne Way, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire, GL12 8PF
Tel: 01454 294239 or 01454 294638
Email: AlexanderHoseaPrimary@gmail.org.uk
www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs D Williams



Newsletter 8 20th December 2018

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

From the Headteacher...



What a wonderful end to the term! The children really brought the Christmas spirit alive with their beautiful singing and acting in their performances over the past fortnight. We are really proud of them all. We wish you all a very merry Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday 7th January.

Celebrations and latest news

- **Enchanted Christmas Fair** – What a special evening! Thank you very much to the Friends of AHS for all their hard work to make the event a success. There was a lovely atmosphere and it was great to see so many families there.
- **Christmas performances** – the children across the school put on amazing performances over the last fortnight. Their singing was beautiful and we were so proud of all the children for believing in themselves and being brave to perform in front of such big audiences. We hope that you enjoyed it as much as they (and we) did!
- **League Tables** – The national league tables were published last week. We were really delighted to be ranked 6th highest performing in South Gloucestershire for 2018. This is a great achievement and we are thrilled.
- **Christmas school dinner** – Thank you to the catering team for a delicious lunch last week.
- **Disco** – as usual the children threw themselves into the disco experience and danced their socks off! Thank you to the Friends for organising.
- **Carols and coffee morning** – There was an amazing turn out this morning, with every seat taken and standing room only. Thank you for coming along and we hope it added to your festive feelings. Thank you to Friends for organising.

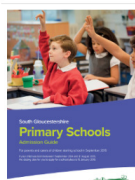
INSET dates: INSET 3 - **Friday 21st December 2018**; INSET 4 – **Tuesday 23rd April 2019** and INSET 5 – **Monday 8th July 2019**.

Applications for Reception for September 2019

The deadline for applications for Reception 2019 is Tuesday 15th January 2019. South Gloucestershire Council manage all our admissions and all the information you may need is on <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-school-admissions/>

Admission to primary school booklet

For more information on Primary admissions please see our Primary Admissions Guidance below:



It is very important that you read the appropriate admissions booklet before making an application, including considering how your child will travel to their preferred school (s).

Start reading

Christmas Jumper Swap!



Thank you for your generosity with donating Christmas jumpers to other members of the school community. We rehomed 19 jumpers this year.

Wickwar Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

Looking for fun, friendship and an opportunity to put something back into your community? Then volunteer with Girl Guiding in Wickwar. We need more adults to join our team to provide the best opportunities for our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. There are many ways in which you can help. We also welcome Young Leaders, aged 14-18 - a great way to gain the service element of D of E Awards. Contact me NOW for more information - Rosalind Abbott, South Cotswold Division Commissioner (a posh title for local adult recruitment and support!) [email: rosabbott@hotmail.com](mailto:rosabbott@hotmail.com) or 07709 739846.



Girlguiding

Sink on offer!

As a result of some changes in the ladies' toilet, we have a good quality top mounted sink on offer.

If anyone would like it for a bathroom, please pop in to the office. We would rather that someone could make use of it than put it in the skip!



MATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

Mathletics

Mathletics is a great resource that we pay for as a school (£5 per pupil) to help children to practice their maths skills at home. We know that having fluent number skills (number bonds and times tables) really helps children with their learning across the maths curriculum. Mathletics is a helpful way to build speed and stamina and the children can earn bronze, silver and gold certificates as rewards.

All children have their own login to access the activities for their year group. Please speak to the teacher if you need a copy of this.

There are other good online resources available that you might also like to try at home. At the moment the children seem to like 'Hit the Button'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> and 'Daily 10'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10>

Year 4 Times Tables Assessment

Our Year 4 children will be taking part in the national times tables test for the first time in summer 2019.

The national expectation is that all children should have quick recall for all their tables up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4. Whilst we do not know the exact format for this new online test, we do know that the children will have 6 seconds to answer each question, so rapid recall is essential.

The staff are sampling Times Tables Rock Stars at the moment to see whether they think their classes will enjoy this. If you would like to have a look, follow the link below:



<https://ttrockstars.com/home>



'Bank' lunchtime staff required

We are currently looking to expand the number of people we have on our books as 'bank' lunchtime staff (i.e. lunchtime supervisors who are available to come in and cover on an ad hoc basis when our permanent lunchtime supervisors are absent for any reason).

If you would be interested in applying to be a member of 'bank' lunchtime staff, please contact the School Business Manager Allie Hall on (01454) 294239 or allison.hall@sgmail.org.uk



JIGSAW THORNBURY is a small welcoming group set up by parents to support families with children and young people with any additional needs. This may be learning problems such as dyslexia to complex disabilities or health problems and may be without diagnosis.

<http://www.jigsawthornbury.org.uk/>

Parent Council

The Parent Council meet 3 times a year to talk about various aspects of the day-to-day running of the school. A representative from each class bring ideas about **what is going well and talking points for consideration**. This is complimented by the contribution of a member of the senior leadership team (usually Mrs Williams), who bring reflections/actions from previous meeting and possible ideas for future school development. The next meeting is **8th January 2:45-3:30pm**. Our current representatives are:

Infants: Mrs Hall (Ruby), Mrs Mason (Topaz), Mrs Heffernan (Emerald), Mrs Leighton (Jet).

Juniors: Mrs Zlobec-Short (Crystal), Mrs Hathaway (Diamond), Mrs Carter (Pearl) and Ms Days (Amethyst).

League Tables 2018

The national league tables have been published and we are delighted that we have achieved 6th place out of 110 schools (top 5%) in South Gloucestershire for overall performance in 2018. We are also particularly pleased with our reading and writing progress, which places us 4th and 5th respectively in these areas.

https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=default&table=schools®ion=803&geographic=la&for=primary&orderby=ks2.0.PTRWM_E

I am very proud of our achievements in 2018 and these reflect the excellent teaching and learning that our staff provide on a day to day basis, as well as the motivation and hard work of our pupils and their families.

We will continue to aim high this year and provide the support and challenge your children need to help them to reach their potential. We are particularly focusing on accelerating progress in arithmetic this year (especially number bonds and times tables) and the children are responding well to the raised expectations in these areas. We are seeing really good progress as a result of the new system for daily mental maths sessions in years 1-6 in particular. It is very helpful when the children (Y1-6) engage fully with Mathletics at home as there are some great learning opportunities on this programme. Please speak to your child's teacher if you need a copy of their log in. Many of the children value the bronze, silver and gold Mathletics certificates they can achieve on the system.

Mrs Deb Williams

Artsmark – going for gold!

We are pleased that over the next 18 months Alexander Hosea will be working towards the Artsmark award (hopefully Gold). We have submitted our Statement of commitment, which highlights the main areas of improvement. These focus on three main areas:

- supporting professional development for all staff in the arts;
- building partnership with outside agencies to enhance arts and cultural learning throughout the school;
- developing the use of sketchbooks to display children's skills and artwork clearly.

We are looking forward to starting our Artsmark journey and will keep you updated with our achievements.

Mrs Laura Cleverley (Art Leader)

Little Stoke - Beginner Strings Class

Have fun playing a string instrument for the first time and choose between the violin or cello. Sessions will teach general musicianship, singing, theory and string instrument technique.

Lessons are delivered by a professional string player who is also a qualified primary school teacher

The class is open to all children age 4+ and no previous musical experience is required

Fee: £31 per double term (which includes the loan of an instrument*)

*As long as stocks last

Sign up online for this exciting opportunity at <https://live.paritor.com/p/1748> where you can create an account and enrol for activities.

The 'Little Stoke Beginner Strings Class' is available under 'Music Centres'

Lessons start 12th January 2019 on Saturdays at 11:00 - 11:30





Yate Library
What's On in December

Vision West of England – Information, Advice and Support for visually impaired people
Thursday 6th December 2 – 4pm
First Thursday of the month

 **LEGO CLUB**
Saturday 8th 10.30 – 11.30pm
Free drop in fun for 4 – 11 year olds

Wriggle and Rhyme


Thursday 6th	10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 13th	10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 20th	10.30 – 11.00am

Christmas Stories & songs round the Christmas Tree
With the members of Yate Teen Focus Group
Thursday 20th 5.30 – 6.30pm
Bookings for young children and their families

Teen Focus Group - Year 7 upwards
Thursday 20th 6.30 – 7.30pm
Every third Thursday of the month - £1.00 per session per child

 **Just Chillin' – Holiday Drop-In**
Saturday 22nd 10.30 – 11.30am *Access for ages 4 – 11 years*

Poetry Group
Tuesday 11th 1.00 – 2.00pm
Every other Tuesday of the month 

Craft Group Drop-In
Saturday 1st, 15th & 29th 10.00 – 12 noon



Friends of AHS

Thank You!

We would like to thank YOU, all the parents, grandparents and carers, for supporting our events this year. Our aim has always been to host fun events for all the family whilst raising important funds for our school, so we truly appreciate your support!

Thank you to everyone who has helped on a stall, bought a ticket, played a game, bought refreshments, donated prizes, cakes, clothes or chocolate, help to set-up or clear-up, or help promote our events. Every little bit of support is much appreciated and helps us to purchase much needed resources for our school.

With ever diminishing school budgets the money raised is valued more now than ever before. With your help, this year we have been able to purchase: an oven for the pupil kitchen, various pieces of IT equipment, set of Atlases, benches for Tom's Garden, friction-type pens for the Juniors, book bags for the reception children, and also refurbish the school Library and Shaun's Garden, plus provide money for the fantastic learning environments created by the teachers. We have also agreed to purchase new books for the library and KS1, and more IT equipment next year.

Thank you again and...

Happy Christmas from all the Friends of AHS

friendsofahs@hotmail.com www.facebook.com/FriendsOfAHS



Reach is a free and fun programme for families with children and young people aged 4-16 years who are above a healthy weight

Reach group programmes:

Reach offers two types of family group programmes: 4-11 years and 11+ years. The sessions are free and usually run for 10 weeks at a leisure centre or other community settings. Here are the details for programmes starting January 2019:



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre	Tuesday 22 nd January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks
Kingswood Leisure Centre	Thursday 31 st January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks

Extra family physical activity sessions will also be running alongside these programmes, speak to the Reach team to find out more.



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Yate Fire Station (Delivered in partnership with Avon Fire & Rescue)	Thursday 24 th January 2019	4:15pm-5:45pm	10 weeks

Referral criteria:

Any child referred needs to:

- Live in South Glos. or registered at a GP surgery in South Glos.
- and
- Have a BMI above the 91st centile (a parent/carer is concerned about their child's weight or the young person themselves)

Referrals:

- Parents/carers can self-refer
- Practitioners and health professionals can also refer

You can make a referral by sending a referral form (www.southglos.gov.uk/reach) or contact us by calling: 01454 864005 or email: healthylifestyles@southglos.gov.uk



Just Chillin'

Drop in craft session



Saturday
22 December
Yate Library
10.30—11.30am
Suitable for ages 4-11yrs



Thank you for all the cards and gifts given to our staff this Christmas. They are much appreciated.

Alexander Hosea Primary School

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

Honeyborne Way, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire, GL12 8PF
Tel: 01454 294239 or 01454 294638
Email: AlexanderHoseaPrimary@gmail.org.uk
www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs D Williams



Newsletter 8 20th December 2018

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

From the Headteacher...



What a wonderful end to the term! The children really brought the Christmas spirit alive with their beautiful singing and acting in their performances over the past fortnight. We are really proud of them all. We wish you all a very merry Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday 7th January.

Celebrations and latest news

- **Enchanted Christmas Fair** – What a special evening! Thank you very much to the Friends of AHS for all their hard work to make the event a success. There was a lovely atmosphere and it was great to see so many families there.
- **Christmas performances** – the children across the school put on amazing performances over the last fortnight. Their singing was beautiful and we were so proud of all the children for believing in themselves and being brave to perform in front of such big audiences. We hope that you enjoyed it as much as they (and we) did!
- **League Tables** – The national league tables were published last week. We were really delighted to be ranked 6th highest performing in South Gloucestershire for 2018. This is a great achievement and we are thrilled.
- **Christmas school dinner** – Thank you to the catering team for a delicious lunch last week.
- **Disco** – as usual the children threw themselves into the disco experience and danced their socks off! Thank you to the Friends for organising.
- **Carols and coffee morning** – There was an amazing turn out this morning, with every seat taken and standing room only. Thank you for coming along and we hope it added to your festive feelings. Thank you to Friends for organising.

INSET dates: INSET 3 - **Friday 21st December 2018**; INSET 4 – **Tuesday 23rd April 2019** and INSET 5 – **Monday 8th July 2019**.

Applications for Reception for September 2019

The deadline for applications for Reception 2019 is Tuesday 15th January 2019. South Gloucestershire Council manage all our admissions and all the information you may need is on <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-school-admissions/>

Admission to primary school booklet

For more information on Primary admissions please see our Primary Admissions Guidance below:



It is very important that you read the appropriate admissions booklet before making an application, including considering how your child will travel to their preferred school (s).

Start reading

Christmas Jumper Swap!



Thank you for your generosity with donating Christmas jumpers to other members of the school community. We rehomed 19 jumpers this year.

Wickwar Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

Looking for fun, friendship and an opportunity to put something back into your community? Then volunteer with Girl Guiding in Wickwar. We need more adults to join our team to provide the best opportunities for our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. There are many ways in which you can help. We also welcome Young Leaders, aged 14-18 - a great way to gain the service element of D of E Awards. Contact me NOW for more information - Rosalind Abbott, South Cotswold Division Commissioner (a posh title for local adult recruitment and support!) [email: rosabbott@hotmail.com](mailto:rosabbott@hotmail.com) or 07709 739846.



Girlguiding

Sink on offer!

As a result of some changes in the ladies' toilet, we have a good quality top mounted sink on offer.

If anyone would like it for a bathroom, please pop in to the office. We would rather that someone could make use of it than put it in the skip!



MATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

Mathletics

Mathletics is a great resource that we pay for as a school (£5 per pupil) to help children to practice their maths skills at home. We know that having fluent number skills (number bonds and times tables) really helps children with their learning across the maths curriculum. Mathletics is a helpful way to build speed and stamina and the children can earn bronze, silver and gold certificates as rewards.

All children have their own login to access the activities for their year group. Please speak to the teacher if you need a copy of this.

There are other good online resources available that you might also like to try at home. At the moment the children seem to like 'Hit the Button'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> and 'Daily 10'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10>

Year 4 Times Tables Assessment

Our Year 4 children will be taking part in the national times tables test for the first time in summer 2019.

The national expectation is that all children should have quick recall for all their tables up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4. Whilst we do not know the exact format for this new online test, we do know that the children will have 6 seconds to answer each question, so rapid recall is essential.

The staff are sampling Times Tables Rock Stars at the moment to see whether they think their classes will enjoy this. If you would like to have a look, follow the link below:



<https://ttrockstars.com/home>



'Bank' lunchtime staff required

We are currently looking to expand the number of people we have on our books as 'bank' lunchtime staff (i.e. lunchtime supervisors who are available to come in and cover on an ad hoc basis when our permanent lunchtime supervisors are absent for any reason).

If you would be interested in applying to be a member of 'bank' lunchtime staff, please contact the School Business Manager Allie Hall on (01454) 294239 or allison.hall@sgmail.org.uk



JIGSAW THORNBURY is a small welcoming group set up by parents to support families with children and young people with any additional needs. This may be learning problems such as dyslexia to complex disabilities or health problems and may be without diagnosis.

<http://www.jigsawthornbury.org.uk/>

Parent Council

The Parent Council meet 3 times a year to talk about various aspects of the day-to-day running of the school. A representative from each class bring ideas about **what is going well and talking points for consideration**. This is complimented by the contribution of a member of the senior leadership team (usually Mrs Williams), who bring reflections/actions from previous meeting and possible ideas for future school development. The next meeting is **8th January 2:45-3:30pm**. Our current representatives are:

Infants: Mrs Hall (Ruby), Mrs Mason (Topaz), Mrs Heffernan (Emerald), Mrs Leighton (Jet).

Juniors: Mrs Zlobec-Short (Crystal), Mrs Hathaway (Diamond), Mrs Carter (Pearl) and Ms Days (Amethyst).

League Tables 2018

The national league tables have been published and we are delighted that we have achieved 6th place out of 110 schools (top 5%) in South Gloucestershire for overall performance in 2018. We are also particularly pleased with our reading and writing progress, which places us 4th and 5th respectively in these areas.

https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=default&table=schools®ion=803&geographic=la&for=primary&orderby=ks2.0.PTRWM_E

I am very proud of our achievements in 2018 and these reflect the excellent teaching and learning that our staff provide on a day to day basis, as well as the motivation and hard work of our pupils and their families.

We will continue to aim high this year and provide the support and challenge your children need to help them to reach their potential. We are particularly focusing on accelerating progress in arithmetic this year (especially number bonds and times tables) and the children are responding well to the raised expectations in these areas. We are seeing really good progress as a result of the new system for daily mental maths sessions in years 1-6 in particular. It is very helpful when the children (Y1-6) engage fully with Mathletics at home as there are some great learning opportunities on this programme. Please speak to your child's teacher if you need a copy of their log in. Many of the children value the bronze, silver and gold Mathletics certificates they can achieve on the system.

Mrs Deb Williams

Artsmark – going for gold!

We are pleased that over the next 18 months Alexander Hosea will be working towards the Artsmark award (hopefully Gold). We have submitted our Statement of commitment, which highlights the main areas of improvement. These focus on three main areas:

- supporting professional development for all staff in the arts;
- building partnership with outside agencies to enhance arts and cultural learning throughout the school;
- developing the use of sketchbooks to display children's skills and artwork clearly.

We are looking forward to starting our Artsmark journey and will keep you updated with our achievements.

Mrs Laura Cleverley (Art Leader)

Little Stoke - Beginner Strings Class

Have fun playing a string instrument for the first time and choose between the violin or cello. Sessions will teach general musicianship, singing, theory and string instrument technique.

Lessons are delivered by a professional string player who is also a qualified primary school teacher

The class is open to all children age 4+ and no previous musical experience is required

Fee: £31 per double term (which includes the loan of an instrument*)

*As long as stocks last

Sign up online for this exciting opportunity at <https://live.paritor.com/p/1748> where you can create an account and enrol for activities.

The 'Little Stoke Beginner Strings Class' is available under 'Music Centres'

Lessons start 12th January 2019 on Saturdays at 11:00 - 11:30





Yate Library
What's On in December

Vision West of England – Information, Advice and Support for visually impaired people
Thursday 6th December 2 – 4pm
First Thursday of the month

 **LEGO CLUB**
Saturday 8th 10.30 – 11.30pm
Free drop in fun for 4 – 11 year olds

Wriggle and Rhyme


Thursday 6th	10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 13th	10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 20th	10.30 – 11.00am

Christmas Stories & songs round the Christmas Tree
With the members of Yate Teen Focus Group
Thursday 20th 5.30 – 6.30pm
Bookings for young children and their families

Teen Focus Group - Year 7 upwards
Thursday 20th 6.30 – 7.30pm
Every third Thursday of the month - £1.00 per session per child

 **Just Chillin' – Holiday Drop-In**
Saturday 22nd 10.30 – 11.30am *Access for ages 4 – 11 years*

Poetry Group
Tuesday 11th 1.00 – 2.00pm
Every other Tuesday of the month 

Craft Group Drop-In
Saturday 1st, 15th & 29th 10.00 – 12 noon



Friends of AHS

Thank You!

We would like to thank YOU, all the parents, grandparents and carers, for supporting our events this year. Our aim has always been to host fun events for all the family whilst raising important funds for our school, so we truly appreciate your support!

Thank you to everyone who has helped on a stall, bought a ticket, played a game, bought refreshments, donated prizes, cakes, clothes or chocolate, help to set-up or clear-up, or help promote our events. Every little bit of support is much appreciated and helps us to purchase much needed resources for our school.

With ever diminishing school budgets the money raised is valued more now than ever before. With your help, this year we have been able to purchase: an oven for the pupil kitchen, various pieces of IT equipment, set of Atlases, benches for Tom's Garden, friction-type pens for the Juniors, book bags for the reception children, and also refurbish the school Library and Shaun's Garden, plus provide money for the fantastic learning environments created by the teachers. We have also agreed to purchase new books for the library and KS1, and more IT equipment next year.

Thank you again and...

Happy Christmas from all the Friends of AHS

friendsofahs@hotmail.com www.facebook.com/FriendsOfAHS



Reach is a free and fun programme for families with children and young people aged 4-16 years who are above a healthy weight

Reach group programmes:

Reach offers two types of family group programmes: 4-11 years and 11+ years. The sessions are free and usually run for 10 weeks at a leisure centre or other community settings. Here are the details for programmes starting January 2019:



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre	Tuesday 22 nd January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks
Kingswood Leisure Centre	Thursday 31 st January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks

Extra family physical activity sessions will also be running alongside these programmes, speak to the Reach team to find out more.



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Yate Fire Station (Delivered in partnership with Avon Fire & Rescue)	Thursday 24 th January 2019	4:15pm-5:45pm	10 weeks

Referral criteria:

Any child referred needs to:

- Live in South Glos. or registered at a GP surgery in South Glos.
- and
- Have a BMI above the 91st centile (a parent/carer is concerned about their child's weight or the young person themselves)

Referrals:

- Parents/carers can self-refer
- Practitioners and health professionals can also refer

You can make a referral by sending a referral form (www.southglos.gov.uk/reach) or contact us by calling: 01454 864005 or email: healthylifestyles@southglos.gov.uk



Just Chillin'

Drop in craft session



Saturday
22 December
Yate Library
10.30—11.30am
Suitable for ages 4-11yrs



Thank you for all the cards and gifts given to our staff this Christmas. They are much appreciated.

Alexander Hosea Primary School

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

Honeyborne Way, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire, GL12 8PF
Tel: 01454 294239 or 01454 294638
Email: AlexanderHoseaPrimary@gmail.org.uk
www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs D Williams



Newsletter 8 20th December 2018

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

From the Headteacher...



What a wonderful end to the term! The children really brought the Christmas spirit alive with their beautiful singing and acting in their performances over the past fortnight. We are really proud of them all. We wish you all a very merry Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday 7th January.

Celebrations and latest news

- **Enchanted Christmas Fair** – What a special evening! Thank you very much to the Friends of AHS for all their hard work to make the event a success. There was a lovely atmosphere and it was great to see so many families there.
- **Christmas performances** – the children across the school put on amazing performances over the last fortnight. Their singing was beautiful and we were so proud of all the children for believing in themselves and being brave to perform in front of such big audiences. We hope that you enjoyed it as much as they (and we) did!
- **League Tables** – The national league tables were published last week. We were really delighted to be ranked 6th highest performing in South Gloucestershire for 2018. This is a great achievement and we are thrilled.
- **Christmas school dinner** – Thank you to the catering team for a delicious lunch last week.
- **Disco** – as usual the children threw themselves into the disco experience and danced their socks off! Thank you to the Friends for organising.
- **Carols and coffee morning** – There was an amazing turn out this morning, with every seat taken and standing room only. Thank you for coming along and we hope it added to your festive feelings. Thank you to Friends for organising.

INSET dates: INSET 3 - **Friday 21st December 2018**; INSET 4 – **Tuesday 23rd April 2019** and INSET 5 – **Monday 8th July 2019**.

Applications for Reception for September 2019

The deadline for applications for Reception 2019 is Tuesday 15th January 2019. South Gloucestershire Council manage all our admissions and all the information you may need is on <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-school-admissions/>

Admission to primary school booklet

For more information on Primary admissions please see our Primary Admissions Guidance below:



It is very important that you read the appropriate admissions booklet before making an application, including considering how your child will travel to their preferred school (s).

Start reading

Christmas Jumper Swap!



Thank you for your generosity with donating Christmas jumpers to other members of the school community. We rehomed 19 jumpers this year.

Wickwar Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

Looking for fun, friendship and an opportunity to put something back into your community? Then volunteer with Girl Guiding in Wickwar. We need more adults to join our team to provide the best opportunities for our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. There are many ways in which you can help. We also welcome Young Leaders, aged 14-18 - a great way to gain the service element of D of E Awards. Contact me NOW for more information - Rosalind Abbott, South Cotswold Division Commissioner (a posh title for local adult recruitment and support!) [email: rosabbott@hotmail.com](mailto:rosabbott@hotmail.com) or 07709 739846.



Sink on offer!

As a result of some changes in the ladies' toilet, we have a good quality top mounted sink on offer.

If anyone would like it for a bathroom, please pop in to the office. We would rather that someone could make use of it than put it in the skip!



Mathletics

Mathletics is a great resource that we pay for as a school (£5 per pupil) to help children to practice their maths skills at home. We know that having fluent number skills (number bonds and times tables) really helps children with their learning across the maths curriculum. Mathletics is a helpful way to build speed and stamina and the children can earn bronze, silver and gold certificates as rewards.

All children have their own login to access the activities for their year group. Please speak to the teacher if you need a copy of this.

There are other good online resources available that you might also like to try at home. At the moment the children seem to like 'Hit the Button'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> and 'Daily 10'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10>

Year 4 Times Tables Assessment

Our Year 4 children will be taking part in the national times tables test for the first time in summer 2019.

The national expectation is that all children should have quick recall for all their tables up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4. Whilst we do not know the exact format for this new online test, we do know that the children will have 6 seconds to answer each question, so rapid recall is essential.

The staff are sampling Times Tables Rock Stars at the moment to see whether they think their classes will enjoy this. If you would like to have a look, follow the link below:



<https://ttrockstars.com/home>



'Bank' lunchtime staff required

We are currently looking to expand the number of people we have on our books as 'bank' lunchtime staff (i.e. lunchtime supervisors who are available to come in and cover on an ad hoc basis when our permanent lunchtime supervisors are absent for any reason).

If you would be interested in applying to be a member of 'bank' lunchtime staff, please contact the School Business Manager Allie Hall on (01454) 294239 or allison.hall@gmail.org.uk



JIGSAW THORNBURY is a small welcoming group set up by parents to support families with children and young people with any additional needs. This may be learning problems such as dyslexia to complex disabilities or health problems and may be without diagnosis.

<http://www.jigsawthornbury.org.uk/>

Parent Council

The Parent Council meet 3 times a year to talk about various aspects of the day-to-day running of the school. A representative from each class bring ideas about **what is going well and talking points for consideration**. This is complimented by the contribution of a member of the senior leadership team (usually Mrs Williams), who bring reflections/actions from previous meeting and possible ideas for future school development. The next meeting is **8th January 2:45-3:30pm**. Our current representatives are:

Infants: Mrs Hall (Ruby), Mrs Mason (Topaz), Mrs Heffernan (Emerald), Mrs Leighton (Jet).

Juniors: Mrs Zlobec-Short (Crystal), Mrs Hathaway (Diamond), Mrs Carter (Pearl) and Ms Days (Amethyst).

League Tables 2018

The national league tables have been published and we are delighted that we have achieved 6th place out of 110 schools (top 5%) in South Gloucestershire for overall performance in 2018. We are also particularly pleased with our reading and writing progress, which places us 4th and 5th respectively in these areas.

https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=default&table=schools®ion=803&geographic=la&for=primary&orderby=ks2.0.PTRWM_E

I am very proud of our achievements in 2018 and these reflect the excellent teaching and learning that our staff provide on a day to day basis, as well as the motivation and hard work of our pupils and their families.

We will continue to aim high this year and provide the support and challenge your children need to help them to reach their potential. We are particularly focusing on accelerating progress in arithmetic this year (especially number bonds and times tables) and the children are responding well to the raised expectations in these areas. We are seeing really good progress as a result of the new system for daily mental maths sessions in years 1-6 in particular. It is very helpful when the children (Y1-6) engage fully with Mathletics at home as there are some great learning opportunities on this programme. Please speak to your child's teacher if you need a copy of their log in. Many of the children value the bronze, silver and gold Mathletics certificates they can achieve on the system.

Mrs Deb Williams

Artsmark – going for gold!

We are pleased that over the next 18 months Alexander Hosea will be working towards the Artsmark award (hopefully Gold). We have submitted our Statement of commitment, which highlights the main areas of improvement. These focus on three main areas:

- supporting professional development for all staff in the arts;
- building partnership with outside agencies to enhance arts and cultural learning throughout the school;
- developing the use of sketchbooks to display children's skills and artwork clearly.

We are looking forward to starting our Artsmark journey and will keep you updated with our achievements.

Mrs Laura Cleverley (Art Leader)

Little Stoke - Beginner Strings Class

Have fun playing a string instrument for the first time and choose between the violin or cello. Sessions will teach general musicianship, singing, theory and string instrument technique.

Lessons are delivered by a professional string player who is also a qualified primary school teacher

The class is open to all children age 4+ and no previous musical experience is required

Fee: £31 per double term (which includes the loan of an instrument*)

*As long as stocks last

Sign up online for this exciting opportunity at <https://live.paritor.com/p/1748> where you can create an account and enrol for activities.

The 'Little Stoke Beginner Strings Class' is available under 'Music Centres'

Lessons start 12th January 2019 on Saturdays at 11:00 - 11:30





Yate Library
What's On in December

Vision West of England – Information, Advice and Support for visually impaired people
Thursday 6th December 2 – 4pm
First Thursday of the month

 **LEGO CLUB**
Saturday 8th 10.30 – 11.30pm
Free drop in fun for 4 – 11 year olds

Wriggle and Rhyme

Thursday 6th	10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 13th	10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 20th	10.30 – 11.00am

Christmas Stories & songs round the Christmas Tree
with the members of Yate Teen Focus Group
Thursday 20th 5.30 – 6.30pm
Booked for young children and their families

Teen Focus Group - Year 7 upwards
Thursday 20th 6.30 – 7.30pm
Every third Thursday of the month - £1.00 per session per child

 **Just Chillin' – Holiday Drop-In**
Saturday 22nd 10.30 – 11.30am *Access for ages 4 – 11 years*

Poetry Group
Tuesday 11th 1.00 – 2.00pm
Every other Tuesday of the month

Craft Group Drop-In
Saturday 1st, 15th & 29th 10.00 – 12 noon

Active Libraries



Friends of AHS

Thank You!

We would like to thank YOU, all the parents, grandparents and carers, for supporting our events this year. Our aim has always been to host fun events for all the family whilst raising important funds for our school, so we truly appreciate your support!

Thank you to everyone who has helped on a stall, bought a ticket, played a game, bought refreshments, donated prizes, cakes, clothes or chocolate, help to set-up or clear-up, or help promote our events. Every little bit of support is much appreciated and helps us to purchase much needed resources for our school.

With ever diminishing school budgets the money raised is valued more now than ever before. With your help, this year we have been able to purchase: an oven for the pupil kitchen, various pieces of IT equipment, set of Atlases, benches for Tom's Garden, friction-type pens for the Juniors, book bags for the reception children, and also refurbish the school Library and Shaun's Garden, plus provide money for the fantastic learning environments created by the teachers. We have also agreed to purchase new books for the library and KS1, and more IT equipment next year.

Thank you again and...

Happy Christmas from all the Friends of AHS

friendsofahs@hotmail.com www.facebook.com/FriendsOfAHS



Reach is a free and fun programme for families with children and young people aged 4-16 years who are above a healthy weight

Reach group programmes:

Reach offers two types of family group programmes: 4-11 years and 11+ years. The sessions are free and usually run for 10 weeks at a leisure centre or other community settings. Here are the details for programmes starting January 2019:



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre	Tuesday 22 nd January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks
Kingswood Leisure Centre	Thursday 31 st January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks

Extra family physical activity sessions will also be running alongside these programmes, speak to the Reach team to find out more.



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Yate Fire Station (Delivered in partnership with Avon Fire & Rescue)	Thursday 24 th January 2019	4:15pm-5:45pm	10 weeks

Referral criteria:

Any child referred needs to:

- Live in South Glos. or registered at a GP surgery in South Glos.
- and
- Have a BMI above the 91st centile (a parent/carer is concerned about their child's weight or the young person themselves)

Referrals:

- Parents/carers can self-refer
- Practitioners and health professionals can also refer

You can make a referral by sending a referral form (www.southglos.gov.uk/reach) or contact us by calling: 01454 864005 or email: healthylifestyles@southglos.gov.uk



Just Chillin'

Drop in craft session



Saturday
22 December
Yate Library
10.30—11.30am
Suitable for ages 4-11yrs



Thank you for all the cards and gifts given to our staff this Christmas. They are much appreciated.

Alexander Hosea Primary School

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

Honeyborne Way, Wickwar, South Gloucestershire, GL12 8PF
Tel: 01454 294239 or 01454 294638
Email: AlexanderHoseaPrimary@gmail.org.uk
www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs D Williams



Newsletter 8 20th December 2018

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

From the Headteacher...



What a wonderful end to the term! The children really brought the Christmas spirit alive with their beautiful singing and acting in their performances over the past fortnight. We are really proud of them all. We wish you all a very merry Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday 7th January.

Celebrations and latest news

- **Enchanted Christmas Fair** – What a special evening! Thank you very much to the Friends of AHS for all their hard work to make the event a success. There was a lovely atmosphere and it was great to see so many families there.
- **Christmas performances** – the children across the school put on amazing performances over the last fortnight. Their singing was beautiful and we were so proud of all the children for believing in themselves and being brave to perform in front of such big audiences. We hope that you enjoyed it as much as they (and we) did!
- **League Tables** – The national league tables were published last week. We were really delighted to be ranked 6th highest performing in South Gloucestershire for 2018. This is a great achievement and we are thrilled.
- **Christmas school dinner** – Thank you to the catering team for a delicious lunch last week.
- **Disco** – as usual the children threw themselves into the disco experience and danced their socks off! Thank you to the Friends for organising.
- **Carols and coffee morning** – There was an amazing turn out this morning, with every seat taken and standing room only. Thank you for coming along and we hope it added to your festive feelings. Thank you to Friends for organising.

INSET dates: INSET 3 - **Friday 21st December 2018**; INSET 4 – **Tuesday 23rd April 2019** and INSET 5 – **Monday 8th July 2019**.

Applications for Reception for September 2019

The deadline for applications for Reception 2019 is Tuesday 15th January 2019. South Gloucestershire Council manage all our admissions and all the information you may need is on <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-school-admissions/>

Admission to primary school booklet

For more information on Primary admissions please see our Primary Admissions Guidance below:



It is very important that you read the appropriate admissions booklet before making an application, including considering how your child will travel to their preferred school (s).

Start reading

Christmas Jumper Swap!



Thank you for your generosity with donating Christmas jumpers to other members of the school community. We rehomed 19 jumpers this year.

Wickwar Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

Looking for fun, friendship and an opportunity to put something back into your community? Then volunteer with Girl Guiding in Wickwar. We need more adults to join our team to provide the best opportunities for our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. There are many ways in which you can help. We also welcome Young Leaders, aged 14-18 - a great way to gain the service element of D of E Awards. Contact me NOW for more information - Rosalind Abbott, South Cotswold Division Commissioner (a posh title for local adult recruitment and support!) [email: rosabbott@hotmail.com](mailto:rosabbott@hotmail.com) or 07709 739846.



Sink on offer!

As a result of some changes in the ladies' toilet, we have a good quality top mounted sink on offer.

If anyone would like it for a bathroom, please pop in to the office. We would rather that someone could make use of it than put it in the skip!



Mathletics

Mathletics is a great resource that we pay for as a school (£5 per pupil) to help children to practice their maths skills at home. We know that having fluent number skills (number bonds and times tables) really helps children with their learning across the maths curriculum. Mathletics is a helpful way to build speed and stamina and the children can earn bronze, silver and gold certificates as rewards.

All children have their own login to access the activities for their year group. Please speak to the teacher if you need a copy of this.

There are other good online resources available that you might also like to try at home. At the moment the children seem to like 'Hit the Button'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> and 'Daily 10'

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/daily10>

Year 4 Times Tables Assessment

Our Year 4 children will be taking part in the national times tables test for the first time in summer 2019.

The national expectation is that all children should have quick recall for all their tables up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4. Whilst we do not know the exact format for this new online test, we do know that the children will have 6 seconds to answer each question, so rapid recall is essential.

The staff are sampling Times Tables Rock Stars at the moment to see whether they think their classes will enjoy this. If you would like to have a look, follow the link below:



<https://ttrockstars.com/home>



'Bank' lunchtime staff required

We are currently looking to expand the number of people we have on our books as 'bank' lunchtime staff (i.e. lunchtime supervisors who are available to come in and cover on an ad hoc basis when our permanent lunchtime supervisors are absent for any reason).

If you would be interested in applying to be a member of 'bank' lunchtime staff, please contact the School Business Manager Allie Hall on (01454) 294239 or allison.hall@sgmail.org.uk



JIGSAW THORNBURY is a small welcoming group set up by parents to support families with children and young people with any additional needs. This may be learning problems such as dyslexia to complex disabilities or health problems and may be without diagnosis.

<http://www.jigsawthornbury.org.uk/>

Parent Council

The Parent Council meet 3 times a year to talk about various aspects of the day-to-day running of the school. A representative from each class bring ideas about **what is going well and talking points for consideration**. This is complimented by the contribution of a member of the senior leadership team (usually Mrs Williams), who bring reflections/actions from previous meeting and possible ideas for future school development. The next meeting is **8th January 2:45-3:30pm**. Our current representatives are:

Infants: Mrs Hall (Ruby), Mrs Mason (Topaz), Mrs Heffernan (Emerald), Mrs Leighton (Jet).

Juniors: Mrs Zlobec-Short (Crystal), Mrs Hathaway (Diamond), Mrs Carter (Pearl) and Ms Days (Amethyst).

League Tables 2018

The national league tables have been published and we are delighted that we have achieved 6th place out of 110 schools (top 5%) in South Gloucestershire for overall performance in 2018. We are also particularly pleased with our reading and writing progress, which places us 4th and 5th respectively in these areas.

https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=default&table=schools®ion=803&geographic=la&for=primary&orderby=ks2.0.PTRWM_E

I am very proud of our achievements in 2018 and these reflect the excellent teaching and learning that our staff provide on a day to day basis, as well as the motivation and hard work of our pupils and their families.

We will continue to aim high this year and provide the support and challenge your children need to help them to reach their potential. We are particularly focusing on accelerating progress in arithmetic this year (especially number bonds and times tables) and the children are responding well to the raised expectations in these areas. We are seeing really good progress as a result of the new system for daily mental maths sessions in years 1-6 in particular. It is very helpful when the children (Y1-6) engage fully with Mathletics at home as there are some great learning opportunities on this programme. Please speak to your child's teacher if you need a copy of their log in. Many of the children value the bronze, silver and gold Mathletics certificates they can achieve on the system.

Mrs Deb Williams

Artsmark – going for gold!

We are pleased that over the next 18 months Alexander Hosea will be working towards the Artsmark award (hopefully Gold). We have submitted our Statement of commitment, which highlights the main areas of improvement. These focus on three main areas:

- supporting professional development for all staff in the arts;
- building partnership with outside agencies to enhance arts and cultural learning throughout the school;
- developing the use of sketchbooks to display children's skills and artwork clearly.

We are looking forward to starting our Artsmark journey and will keep you updated with our achievements.

Mrs Laura Cleverley (Art Leader)

Little Stoke - Beginner Strings Class

Have fun playing a string instrument for the first time and choose between the violin or cello. Sessions will teach general musicianship, singing, theory and string instrument technique.

Lessons are delivered by a professional string player who is also a qualified primary school teacher

The class is open to all children age 4+ and no previous musical experience is required

Fee: £31 per double term (which includes the loan of an instrument*)

*As long as stocks last

Sign up online for this exciting opportunity at <https://live.paritor.com/p/1748> where you can create an account and enrol for activities.

The 'Little Stoke Beginner Strings Class' is available under 'Music Centres'

Lessons start 12th January 2019 on Saturdays at 11:00 - 11:30





Yate Library
What's On in December

Vision West of England – Information, Advice and Support for visually impaired people
Thursday 6th December 2 – 4pm
First Thursday of the month

 **LEGO CLUB**
Saturday 8th 10.30 – 11.30pm
Free drop in fun for 4 – 11 year olds

Wriggle and Rhyme


Thursday 6th	10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 13th	10.30 – 11.00am
Thursday 20th	10.30 – 11.00am

Christmas Stories & songs round the Christmas Tree
With the members of Yate Teen Focus Group
Thursday 20th 5.30 – 6.30pm
Bookings for young children and their families

Teen Focus Group - Year 7 upwards
Thursday 20th 6.30 – 7.30pm
Every third Thursday of the month - £1.00 per session per child

 **Just Chillin' – Holiday Drop-In**
Saturday 22nd 10.30 – 11.30am *Access for ages 4 – 11 years*

Poetry Group
Tuesday 11th 1.00 – 2.00pm
Every other Tuesday of the month 

Craft Group Drop-In
Saturday 1st, 15th & 29th 10.00 – 12 noon



Friends of AHS

Thank You!

We would like to thank YOU, all the parents, grandparents and carers, for supporting our events this year. Our aim has always been to host fun events for all the family whilst raising important funds for our school, so we truly appreciate your support!

Thank you to everyone who has helped on a stall, bought a ticket, played a game, bought refreshments, donated prizes, cakes, clothes or chocolate, help to set-up or clear-up, or help promote our events. Every little bit of support is much appreciated and helps us to purchase much needed resources for our school.

With ever diminishing school budgets the money raised is valued more now than ever before. With your help, this year we have been able to purchase: an oven for the pupil kitchen, various pieces of IT equipment, set of Atlases, benches for Tom's Garden, friction-type pens for the Juniors, book bags for the reception children, and also refurbish the school Library and Shaun's Garden, plus provide money for the fantastic learning environments created by the teachers. We have also agreed to purchase new books for the library and KS1, and more IT equipment next year.

Thank you again and...

Happy Christmas from all the Friends of AHS

friendsofahs@hotmail.com www.facebook.com/FriendsOfAHS



Reach is a free and fun programme for families with children and young people aged 4-16 years who are above a healthy weight

Reach group programmes:

Reach offers two types of family group programmes: 4-11 years and 11+ years. The sessions are free and usually run for 10 weeks at a leisure centre or other community settings. Here are the details for programmes starting January 2019:



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Bradley Stoke Leisure Centre	Tuesday 22 nd January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks
Kingswood Leisure Centre	Thursday 31 st January 2019	4:00pm-5:15pm	10 weeks

Extra family physical activity sessions will also be running alongside these programmes, speak to the Reach team to find out more.



Programme location	Start date	Time	Programme length
Yate Fire Station (Delivered in partnership with Avon Fire & Rescue)	Thursday 24 th January 2019	4:15pm-5:45pm	10 weeks

Referral criteria:

Any child referred needs to:

- Live in South Glos. or registered at a GP surgery in South Glos.
- and
- Have a BMI above the 91st centile (a parent/carer is concerned about their child's weight or the young person themselves)

Referrals:

- Parents/carers can self-refer
- Practitioners and health professionals can also refer

You can make a referral by sending a referral form (www.southglos.gov.uk/reach) or contact us by calling: 01454 864005 or email: healthylifestyles@southglos.gov.uk



Just Chillin'

Drop in craft session



Saturday
22 December
Yate Library
10.30—11.30am
Suitable for ages 4-11yrs



Thank you for all the cards and gifts given to our staff this Christmas. They are much appreciated.