



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

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Newsletter 15, 24th April 2020

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

From Mrs Williams:

We hope that you have all had a good Easter and that the Easter Bunny still managed to come to your house, despite the travel restrictions. The weather has been lovely and I hope that you have been able to access green spaces to do your daily exercise in the sunshine. We are really missing you all.

As we enter Term 5, we move away from our previous projects and the teachers will be sending home learning around a fortnightly theme instead. As you will have seen from the learning on Google Classroom, the first of these themes is linked to science and growing in particular. Whilst you are out for your daily family exercise (or in your garden), look out for the signs of spring and talk with your children about how the plants are changing and growing at this time of year.

Whilst our staff are protecting themselves and their loved ones by staying home, they are still keen to keep in touch and can offer any support and guidance you may need. Please contact them via Google Classroom or via their email address. A member of the Senior Leadership Team (Mrs Moncrieff, Mrs Windmill or myself) will continue to send fortnightly newsletters.

*******Please stay safe and stay at home!*******

Some key dates for your diary:

INSET days – Friday 3rd July. (We will be plan our dates for the next academic year soon).

We do not yet know when we return to school, but are anticipating not for many weeks. We look forward to the time when we can safely reunite as a community.

Domestic Abuse

Unfortunately national statistics are showing a rise in domestic abuse during the lockdown period as families are under increasing pressure for a variety of reasons. If you know someone affected by this, Next Link and Access and Response may be able to help (see next page). In an emergency, call 999.

Types of domestic violence

Domestic violence and abuse can be psychological, physical, financial or emotional. It can include:

- emotional – being called names, being made to feel bad about yourself, being stopped from going out, being told what you can or can't wear
- financial or economic – being kept short of money or not being allowed to make decisions about money
- physical – being hit, punched, kicked, slapped or pushed
- psychological – being told you are a bad parent, or that children will be taken away from you or being deliberately isolated from friends and family
- sexual – being forced to have sex when you do not want to
- control – not being allowed to go where you want, when you want
- coercion – for example, being forced to do things you don't want to do.

Call 999 if a crime is happening now or you're in immediate danger. Domestic violence and abuse can be perpetrated by a partner, ex-partner, family member or carer. It's really important to remember that whatever your circumstances, what is happening to you isn't your fault and help is available. Domestic violence and abuse isn't acceptable and the victim is never to blame.

Get support for victims of domestic abuse

[Next Link](#) provides support services for women, men and children in South Gloucestershire who are, or have been victims of domestic abuse. Their services include telephone help and advice, safe house accommodation, community outreach services and group programmes.

Referrals can be made by telephone, email or through the [Next Link](#) website. At the first point of contact there is a triage advice service where all victims asking for support will be offered a relevant service that meets their needs and responds to their immediate safety risks. Callers wanting advice and guidance can access our accredited advice service which is available on request. An initial advice form is also completed which contains further information about the organisations and accreditations.

You will receive a response within 24 hours of your enquiry.

You can also talk anonymously with our support workers through our live chat helpline on our website.

To find out more about these services please call [0800 4700 280](tel:08004700280) or email enquiries.southglos@nextlinkhousing.co.uk
Website: www.nextlinkhousing.co.uk/southglos/

Safeguarding

If you are concerned about the safety of a child, please alert the school's Designated Safeguarding Leads: Mrs Deb Williams, Mrs Angela Moncrieff or Mrs Sally Windmill.

You can also contact Access and Response to make a referral to social care on 01454 866000
Accessandresponse@southglos.gov.uk

Exams and assessment

The Department for Education has now formally cancelled all exams and assessments for 2020, this includes all assessments for primary aged children.

We do not yet know what information we will need to pass onto secondary schools for our current Year 6 children, but please do not worry. We will be able to call on the performance in past SATS papers, ongoing performance in class and teacher judgement to be able to make an accurate assessment of how well each child was performing up to the end of Term 4. These indicative judgements can be shared with the child's new secondary school (KLB, Yate Academy and Brimsham) when the transition discussions take place.

All teachers carried out teacher assessment for the period up to when schools closed (March 2020) and the teachers have a clear idea about which children were on track for expected and greater depth at the end of the school year. This information will be passed on to the next teacher, to take into account when planning for starting points for learning in the new school year.

Handwashing

Please continue to reinforce good hand hygiene at home so that children can keep safe. This is especially important before eating and when returning to the home (eg after daily exercise).



Transition arrangements for new Reception children

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new Reception families for September 2020. Whilst we are not able to offer the usual parents' meeting and stay and play in the summer term, we are looking into ways that we can connect with you before the summer holidays. We are planning for home visits and the phased induction to run as normal in September.

We will send out a new starters pack to the next Topaz Class in the coming weeks. Please send the forms and information back to us in the post for us to process in preparation for your child joining us.

We are really looking forward to getting to know you and your child.

Free Homelearning Resources

Audible are offering FREE access to audio books for children during lockdown.

<https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>

You may also wish to have a look at:

<https://www.literacyshedplus.com/en-gb/browse/free-resources/key-stage-2-activity-packs>

<https://www.pobble365.com>

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

<https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning/>

<https://nrich.maths.org>

There are also weekly National Theatre Live (Thurs eve) and 'The Shows Must Go On' (Friday eve) and a multitude of free utube reources. Facebook can be a good way of finding out what is available, so do share good ones with each other on your class pages.

NHS Coronavirus Status Checker

<https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus-status-checker>

Tell the NHS about your current experience of coronavirus.

This survey will help the NHS understand more about how and where coronavirus (COVID-19) is affecting people now.

By answering some quick questions, you can help the NHS plan its response to coronavirus.

The NHS especially wants to hear from you if you have symptoms, no matter how mild. But it also helps if you let us know if you're feeling OK.

Child-friendly presentation about Coronavirus

If you are looking for a child-friendly way to talk to your child about Coronavirus, you may wish to use the presentation below:

https://adcs.org.uk/assets/documentation/Child_Friendly_Explanation_of_Coronavirus.pdf

FAQ for parents/carers from South Glos LA:

Do I have to follow a strict timetable with my child?

Some children find structure helpful and if this works for your child then setting up a daily or weekly timetable might be useful. If sticking to a timetable is causing problems then you may need to move away from it to a more flexible way of working. Some children respond well to having a choice of activities. You should think about giving choices based on their interests and your knowledge of your child. Choices could be from a list you create together as a family or from resources online.

My child and I are worried about what will happen if we don't do the work school has set.

These are exceptional times and your child's wellbeing is most important. If you judge that trying to do the work is making your child anxious then feel free to make changes and do activities that will calm your child. Try to choose a variety of activities so that there is a balance between active, creative, learning and things that will support their wellbeing. There will be no repercussions if your child has not been able to do the work school has set. As a parent you could also decide when is best for your child to do school activities and when your child needs a break or social time to support their wellbeing.

My children are really missing their friends what can we do?

One way to address this is through using social media. If your children are primary age you will need to supervise this and set up family communications using something like Zoom or Facetime. Children can catch up with their friends and you could have a time set aside each day when this happens. We have some advice for parents on our website about online safety and safe use of technology which you can access at our website on the [Stay Safe](#) section.

If you do not have access to a computer you could encourage your child to write letters to their friends or to keep a diary that they could share later.

Stay Safe section can be found here: <https://www.integra.co.uk/home-learning/stay-safe/>

Information for parents

Guidance

Coronavirus (COVID-19): Closure of educational settings: information for parents and carers

Updated 16 April 2020

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>



Have you seen the local bluebells? They are glorious.

Online safety

There is support available to keep your child safe online. Below are some useful links to help parents and carers:

- [Thinkuknow](#) (advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online)
- [Internet matters](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- [Parent info](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- [LGfL](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- [Net-aware](#) (support for parents and carers from the NSPCC)
- [Let's Talk About It](#) (support for parents and carers to keep children safe from online radicalisation)
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) (tips, advice, guides)

Future Bright

In these uncertain times where the Covid-19 virus is causing so much anxiety and disruption to people's lives, especially in relation to jobs and training, the Future Bright team would like to reassure parents that the project will continue to run and offer support throughout this crisis.

Future Bright career progression coaches are able to support people who are currently in paid work but on top-up benefits, to progress their career and help remove barriers to progression. This support can be provided remotely by **telephone contact, Skype, email and text messaging**.

Future Bright is open to local residents who are:-

- **Aged 19 or over and living in the West of England** - Bristol, South Gloucestershire or Bath and North East Somerset
- **Currently in paid work** (part-time, full-time, temp, self-employed or zero hours)
- **Receiving any of the following in-work benefits or tax credits** –Universal Credit, Working Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, Job Seeker's Allowance, Income Support, Employment Support Allowance, Housing Benefit, or Means-Tested Council tax Reduction

What can Future Bright offer?

A dedicated Career Progression Coach who can:

- Help you form an Action Plan and support you through each step and
- Signpost and advise you on training and career pathways

Plus we can offer some financial support towards training or other work related costs

All conversations are confidential, can be accessed remotely and focus on what you want to achieve – your coach will help you take your next step. Participation is always FREE, and fits around your current commitments.

Contact us today for an informal chat on 01454 866008 or email us at future.bright@southglos.gov.uk. Alternatively complete the online referral form at www.futurebright.org.uk.

VE Day Stay at Home Street Party

As you may have seen, the celebrations to mark 75 years since VE Day have been cancelled. Some communities are encouraging families to do a stay at home street party, where families have picnics in their front garden whilst maintaining safe social distancing.

As a family you can decide whether or not this is for you. Some families might like to stay indoors but put up red, white and blue posters or bunting.

Royal British Legion resources

The Royal British Legion have posted some helpful resources to help families to find out more about VE day. There are powerpoints and activities for children to use.

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/remembrance/teaching-remembrance/remembrance-lesson-plans/ks2-lesson-plans>



BBC Bitesize Daily lessons coming soon

Beginning Monday 20 April, BBC Bitesize will publish daily online lessons for all ages. They will also have a new dedicated TV channel full of learning content, podcasts on BBC Sounds and loads of educational video on iPlayer.



Art and Design



Computing



Design and Technology



English



French



Geography



German



History



Mandarin



Maths



Modern Foreign Languages



Music



Physical Education



PSHE and Citizenship



Religious Education



Science



Spanish

There are also further PHSE (personal, health & social education) resources (including stories and activities) on families.jigsawpshe.com



Coming soon: The Alexander Hosea Primary School 2.6 challenge for children, staff and parents!

Sadly Sports Day won't be able to happen this year, but don't worry we are still going to have a fantastic family event where we can all get involved and have lots of fun and do some exercise! Mrs Rehman will send home further information about this free event soon.

Event runs from Monday 4th – 31st May 2020 !



We face a potentially difficult summer with delays or interruptions to normal deliveries of uniform. To give us the best chance of supplying all your uniform requirements can we please ask:

1. Order early
2. Order online
3. Make any exchanges/returns when our shops re-open

We don't yet know how or when the current restrictions will be lifted but until then we will operate our normal full online service

Visit www.initiallyyours.co.uk

Choose your school from the dropdown menu
Please order as soon as possible

 **Initially Yours**
GREAT CLOTHING PRINTED OR EMBROIDERED

Head Office: Waverley Units, Old Gloucester Ro
Hambrook, Bristol BS16 1RP
Call: 0117 9560909 Email: info@initiallyyours.co.uk



The Children's University have sent around some interesting ideas that all families might wish to look into – see attached document.



Thank you to all key workers in our community, including parents, staff and Wickwar residents.