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Newsletter 7, 1st December 2023

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

Dear Parents/Carers

Primary schools' admissions

If your child was born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020, you must apply for them to start primary school in September 2024. This is a very important decision and it is important that you read the [South Gloucestershire Primary school admission guide](#) before you apply. Applications for primary school admission must be submitted no later than **15 January 2024**. <https://find-information-for-adults-children-families.southglos.gov.uk/kb5/southglos/directory/advice.page?id=GLu6GUIMkpw&fa>

Values – We are in the process of refreshing our values. Please see item below. We have sent out a Parent questionnaire with a deadline of today. We will collate the pupil, parent and staff views to prioritise a new set of values for 2024 and beyond. Thank you for your contribution.

Kind regards, Mrs Deb Williams - Headteacher

Dates for your diary:

Weekly tours for prospective Reception parents continue until 12th January.

Week 6

- 4th Dec – PCSO visit – review of safety at drop off am
- 5th Dec – Infant Christmas performance to parents - am
- 5th Dec – Y3/4 Christmas performance to parents - pm
- 7th Dec - Y3/4 Christmas performance to parents – am
- 7th Dec – Infant Christmas performance to parents – pm

Week 7

- 11th Dec – PCSO visit – review of safety at drop off am
- 11th Dec – Topaz Christmas performance for parents -am
- 11th Dec – Cup assembly
- 11th Dec – Y5/6 Christmas service at Holy Trinity – eve
- 12th Dec - Y5/6 Christmas service at Holy Trinity – pm
- 13th Dec – Children's Christmas lunch
- 13th Dec – Children can wear Christmas jumpers
- 14th Dec – Class parties with Party Peeps DJ
- 15th Dec – FoAHS coffee am and carols
- 15th Dec – Children can wear Christmas jumpers
- 15th Jan – last day of term

Merry Christmas!

Term 3 2024 – week 1

- 2nd Jan – INSET – school closed to children
- 5th Jan – Newsletter
- 5th Jan – Prospective Reception 2024 tour (penultimate)

Please see teachers' weekly newsletters for more information about class-specific events and activities.

Diary Dates for Parents will be emailed on a Friday for the coming week (in the weeks when there is no school newsletter).

Sporting events

Football at St Johns Mead



On Friday 17th November, some KS2 children went to St John's Mead to compete in a football tournament against other schools. They worked incredibly well together, especially considering they had only had two football sessions together as a team! Teachers from other schools complimented the children on their team work and fair play and admitted they were a tough team to play against. Despite not making it to the final, the children still ended the day with smiles on their faces and should be very proud of themselves. Miss Williams – PE Lead

Netball tournaments – Bluecoat and KLB



Congratulations to our super netball team who competed against Bluecoat, winning 9-4.

Thank you to Mrs Carter and Mrs Smith (Y5 & 6 parents) for running our netball club and preparing them for local tournaments. The children have been thoroughly enjoying the experiences.



Friends of AHS

Oooh, it's busy time of year! THANK YOU for supporting our Christmas fundraising events! Keep up to date via our [Facebook page](#) or by emailing FriendsOfAHS@hotmail.com if you would like to help.

Funding update: At our most recent meeting we approved funding for the **purchase of digital cameras** for school to use with the iPads we bought, we also approved funding to **refurbish the former Learning Lab space** to make a more welcoming environment for pupils and **new costumes for the Christmas plays**. The Friends have also funded a **party day** in school time for the whole school (instead of running a Christmas Disco) and are **supplying the festive tablecloths and crackers** for the children's Christmas lunch – thank you for making this all possible!

Christmas Carols & Coffee Morning - 15 December – Opal class to donate cakes if possible! Join us for carols, coffee and cake at our traditional end of term Coffee Morning! We will be holding a raffle at the event, so we are asking **anyone from the rest of the school** (ie not Opal) to please donate a bottle of wine, box of chocolates or a gift item like scented candles – please put any raffle donations in the donations box under the tree in the school office by Thursday 14 December.

Our AGM and term 3 committee meeting will be on **Wednesday 24 January** so please come along – we WILL need a new secretary and chairperson to replace Year 6 parents who are stepping down!

Don't forget to check our [Facebook page](#) and [webpage](#) for the latest news!

Wed 13th December



The Holiday activities and Food (HAF)

programme is running again during the winter holidays for children and young people in South Glos. Dates are generally between Monday 18 December and Friday 22 December but will vary by provider.

The HAF programme is for **children and young people aged 5 to 16 who receive benefits-related free school meals**. Before booking funded HAF places, you need to have successfully applied for free school meals at www.southglos.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

Visit www.southglos.gov.uk/HAF for full information on the HAF programme and further support available to families.

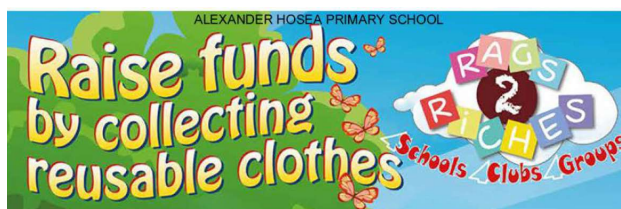
Football at Bluecoat 28th Nov

We were very proud of our football team who competed at Bluecoat recently. The team all tried really hard and showed great sportsmanship attitudes. There were a lot of new players from Y3/4, who got to practice their skills in a real match for the first time. Congratulations team for being great ambassadors for the school.

Shaun's Garden

We are looking for a working party to help us to clear and tidy Shaun's Garden (school allotment area). If you would like to get involved, please contact the school office.

We would like to clear the weeds and tidy around the beds, so that we can start planting for the spring.



2023/24 DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

MONDAY 2nd October
THURSDAY 8th February
THURSDAY 13th June



School Values – Review and refresh

We are in the process of reviewing our school ASPIRE values, which have been in place for more than a decade, to refresh them for this generation. So far we have consulted with children, parents/carers, staff and governors. Once we have collated the feedback from all of the groups, we will draft our new set of values to launch in the spring term.

The aim of the re-visioning is to review the values we share with the children and update to include new ideas into a streamlined values system. At the moment, we talk to children about:

1. **British Values** – schools are required to teach children about democracy; the rule of law; individual liberty; mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.
2. **ASPIRE values** – Adaptability, Self-belief, Perseverance, Inclusion, Respect and Enquiry (our values for more than 10 years)
3. **3 Bees** – Be Kind, Be Respectful and Be Responsible (our school rules)
4. **ELLI** (Effective Life Long Learning Inventory – from Bristol University) – Curiosity, making links, resilience, learning relationships, creativity, strategic awareness, changing & progressing.

We know that the children have a better understanding of some aspects (eg 3 Bees and some parts of ASPIRE and ELLI) more than others and there are some overlaps between some areas too. With this in mind, we intend to draw out our new 6 most important values and then consider the skills the children will need in each part of their development to bring these values alive.

Thanking a member of staff

We are very proud to have a talented and committed team of staff. If you would like to thank a member of staff, please do contact the member of staff directly and/or contact Mrs Williams.

Parents and Carers can also use the 'Thank a Teacher' website to send a card to any member of staff.



<https://thankateacher.co.uk/>



Cake Donations

OPAL class - Friday 15 Dec for Coffee & Carols

Homemade or shop-bought both very welcome but no nuts or alcohol please!

Thank you!



Raffle Donations



For the Carols & Coffee Morning (on Friday 15 Dec)



- > Things like: bottles of wine/spirits
- > Boxes of chocs or biscuits
- > Gift sets eg candles, skincare etc

Bring donations to the school office by Thursday 14 Dec please!



Thank you!



THE FRIENDS OF ALEXANDER HOSEA INVITE YOU TO JOIN US AT THE

CHRISTMAS CAROLS & COFFEE MORNING



FRIDAY 15 DECEMBER

FROM 9.15AM



If you can, please bring a **REUSABLE CUP!**

Registered charity no 1025562