



ALEXANDER HOSEA PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Roots to grow, Wings to Fly'

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NEWSLETTER- 21ST JANUARY 2016

Dear Parents / Carers

A belated Happy New Year to you all!

BE HEALTHY

Please ensure your child brings a coat to school every day for play times and lunch times now that winter is truly here!

Absence Reporting

Please remember to notify the school of your child's absence before 9.00am on the first day and on every subsequent day of their absence. If your child is ill please advise the school what illness they are suffering with.

STAY SAFE

Severe weather procedures

Should we get some really severe weather we will always make every effort to keep the school open, however there are times when this is not possible, particularly in the case of snow. Sometimes the Local Authority will make a decision to close all schools in South Gloucestershire. At other times, this decision is left to individual schools. If a decision is made to close the school, you will receive a text and the closure will also be posted on our school website and on the South Gloucestershire website. Local media (radio stations, TV) also report school closures.

On-line safety

Last term children from Y1-Y6 completed a unit of learning about how to keep themselves safe on-line. This is of course on-going in school, but with many children probably having technological devices for Christmas it is important for you to help your child/ren to stay safe on the internet at home too.

Vodafone produce some useful checklists for parents of different aged children to support them with addressing on-line safety issues and Vodafone also offers free digital parenting magazines.

Below are some useful websites:

www.vodafone.com/content/parents/digital-parenting

www.parentport.org.uk

www.saferinternet.org.uk

Our Safer Internet week will be the last week of Term 3.

Keep Clear Road Markings

You will have noticed that the Local Authority has painted some white lines at the top of Honeybourne Way to increase the safety of your children. Please do not park on these to ensure good vision by drivers.

Life Skills Centre, Bristol

Every year our Year 6 children benefit hugely from visiting the Life Skills Centre and learning about how to keep themselves and others safe and how to respond to an emergency. Due to the numbers of children visiting, the Centre needs to develop and improve the 'real life' scenes constructed for the children to experience potential emergencies, and have therefore asked schools to support their fundraising. We plan to have a non-uniform day on Thursday 4th February (the last day of Term 3 for pupils) in aid of the Life Skills Centre. The Year 6 children will be organising this.

ENJOY AND ACHIEVE

South Gloucestershire League Tables

I am pleased to be able to report to you that our school is in the top 20 schools in the South Gloucestershire League Tables for KS2 for 2014-2015. This is an excellent achievement and a result to be celebrated.

Year of Science

RSPB Bird Watch

We are taking part in the national RSPB bird watch throughout this week.

Each class will be spending an hour bird watching comparing different birds and identifying them. If you want to join in at home, please log in to the RSPB website, where you will also find ideas for making bird feeders.

Science Theatre

We have also arranged for the Kinetic Theatre to visit the school next Wednesday afternoon (27th January) to perform 'Danger at St Magnets' – a performance which teaches the whole school about forces through drama. We are asking for a voluntary contribution of £1.50 per child towards the cost of this. Please send into school by Monday 25th January. Thank you for your support which makes these additional activities possible.

Mathletics

This is an important aspect of our Maths homework for children in KS2. As a result of their aspirations and perseverance, two of our school values, the junior children are achieving great things on the Mathletics. We already have our first two Gold Mathletes this academic year - **James Temple, Year 4 and Jamie Winton, Year 6** – a very special well done to them!! Lots of children have told Mrs Brooks that they are aiming to get on her gold board soon! I am sure you will be supporting your child/ren to achieve this too!

In addition, most of **Crystal class** must be focusing on their Mathletics as their class was 44th in the UK last night, for their cumulative scores. Fantastic news – keep it up!!

Educational visits

Bristol Zoo

Sapphire class had a wonderful time at Bristol Zoo at the end of Term 2, which completed their Science theme on living things and the Rainforest.

Local Visit

This term, Emerald class has walked round the village looking at various buildings as part of their learning about local history and geography.

Cross country

Our KS2 cross country runners continue to excel in the races hosted by KLB, with one more race to go until we get the final results.

Football

Our boys' football team will be playing their quarter finals match this week. We wish them luck and hope they get through to the semi-finals.

Swimming

Selected children from years 4-6 are currently swimming to improve their confidence and swimming skills.

Tim Peake's mission to the International Space Station

We have continued to follow Tim Peake's mission. Mrs Brooks has led two more assemblies with all the children since the start of Term 3. During the first one, the children watched his Christmas/New Year message and during the second, we showed clips of other astronauts playing music doing space walks and children were told to watch the news on Friday 15th to watch him take his first space walk. Topaz class has also followed Tim in class.

Year 2 and Year 6 SAT's meetings – change of dates

Year 2

The Year 2 SATs meeting for parents will now be held on Friday 19th February at 9.15am.

Year 6

Mrs Brooks and Mrs Moncrieff have decided to bring the Year 6 meeting forward. The meeting will now be on Monday 25th January at 9.15am.

It is really important for you to attend these meetings if you have a child in Year 2 or Year 6, as the teachers will be sharing some crucial information about the new expectations and how you can support your child.

Advance notice – Wednesday 20th April

Please keep the evening of 20th April free, as we are running a curriculum and assessment information sharing event at school. This will outline many of the recent government changes to primary education and how we have changed, and are continuing to change our practice to meet the greatly raised national expectations for your children.

POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

Peer Groups

These are held termly and involve children being put into mixed aged groups across the school. The Year 6 children plan a session to run with their group, based on a specific theme. A member of staff is also present! This week's peer groups will be considering our WITS behaviour strategy to help children develop the skills of dealing with any issues that might arise at play times more independently.

W= Walk away

I = Ignore

T = Talk to them

S = Seek help

Using this strategy supports their social development and ensures that they get help to solve issues when they need it.

Reminder to keep collecting your stamps!

Please remember we are collecting used postage stamps for the CRY charity, so please remove these from envelopes and send into school. They can be handed in at the office or children can post them in the box in the 'crossroads' by the library.

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Class proceeds from the Christmas Fair

Topaz class has spent money on resources for their space theme; astronaut suits, astronaut food, space books etc. to help them follow Tim Peake! That must be a good link!! Mrs Windmill is now looking at prices for a large sand pit and more aesthetically pleasing water tray!

Pearl class are about to order some new books, spelling dictionaries and comfy cushions to improve their book corner. They are in the process of ensuring they get best value for money.

Diamond class has purchased a subscription for 'First News', which is a weekly children's newspaper.

Amethyst class has researched items for the Christmas fair, compared prices and have now chosen 8 items-a selection of board/card games to play during wet play times and some non-fiction resources and a new bean bag for the book corner. They will be ordered this week.

Website / Class newsletters

Please make sure you access the weekly class newsletters on the new website so you are up to date with what is happening. They are accessible on the class pages.

Parent Governor

The Governing Body currently has Parent Governor positions available. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Steve Barry, our current Chair of Governors via the school office.

Advert for cleaner

Glen Cleaning, our cleaning contractor, has asked me to mention that they have a vacancy for a cleaner at our school. If you, or someone you know, would be interested, please contact Sue Taylor on 07900260791.

Cricket

Chipping Sodbury Cricket Club has asked us to let you know about a free cricket taster session for children in year 2 to year 6 on Sunday 7th February – Session 1: Yr 2 to 4 (U9) – 2 pm – 3.30 pm, Session 2: Yr 5 and 6 (U11) – 3.30 pm to 5 pm. The venue is Chipping Sodbury School (Indoor Sports Hall). To book a session please contact Lisa Graham before the deadline of 5pm on Wednesday 3rd February on lisagraham-cscc@tiscali.co.uk or 01454 324962.

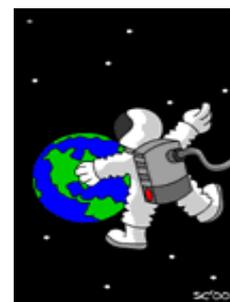
INSET

Our next INSET day is on 5th February. For those parents with children at KLB, we unfortunately had no choice regarding the date, as the staff are all attending regional training at the University of the West of England.

Diary dates for the remainder of the academic year can be found on the school website at www.alexanderhoseprimary.co.uk

Yours sincerely

Ms V. Quest
Headteacher



DIARY DATES – TERMS 3 AND 4		
January	Monday 4th	Start of Term 3
	Monday 11 th	Staff run clubs start
	Thursday 14 th	Crystal parent/pupil lunch
	Monday 25 th	KS2 SATS Meeting 9.15am
	Wednesday 27 th	Kinetic Theatre visiting school
February	Monday 1 st – Friday 5 th	Safer Internet week
	Thursday 4 th	Amethyst parent /pupil lunch
	Thursday 4 th	Non-Uniform day in aid of 'Life Skills Centre'
	Thursday 4 th	End of Term 3

	Friday 5th	Staff INSET school closed to pupils
	Monday 15th	Start of Term 4
	Friday 19 th	9.15am -9.40am KS1 SATS Meeting (Y2)
	Tuesday 23 rd	Topaz parent/pupil lunch – 1-(see Topaz newsletter)
	Thursday 25 th	Topaz parent/pupil lunch - 2
	Friday 26 th	Topaz Redwood Outdoor Learning Centre
March	Tuesday 1 st	Kilve Court meeting for parents – 3.30pm
	Thursday 10 th	Pearl parent/pupil lunch
	Friday 18 th	Staff run clubs finish
	Monday 21 st	Parents' Evening 4.00pm – 7.30pm
	Tuesday 22 nd	Parents' Evening 4.00pm – 7.30pm
	Wednesday 23 rd	End of Term 4 for pupils
	Thursday 24 th	Staff INSET school closed to pupils
April	Monday 11 th	Staff INSET school closed to pupils
	Wednesday 20 th	Curriculum and Assessment information sharing evening for parents