



# Alexander Hosea Primary School

*'Roots to grow, wings to fly'*

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30<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Dear Parents / Carers

A belated happy new year to you all!

We have had a great start to 2017 in school, with new immersive learning environments, which support the children's project based learning and lots of different events which help to ensure the children gain from a wide range of experiences which will stay with them for ever!

## **BE HEALTHY**

### **Ready, steady, go!**

The final event of last term was the intra-school events, in which all year groups participated. The aim of these is to provide an opportunity for all children to succeed and win an award irrespective of their sporting ability – this supports our core 'inclusion' value.

Winners all received a certificate during a celebration assembly and this news was also tweeted and included on the monthly sporting newsletter produced by Miss Pursey.

These newsletters are posted on the website and can be found in the 'News and Events' button on the home page. They will keep you up to date with the range of additional sporting opportunities we are offering this year. Some of these are being subsidised or paid for using the school's Sports Premium. Further information about how we spend this funding is in the School Information part of the website.

### **Hula hoop day – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February**

This will hopefully help get the children in the mood for our circus visit later in the year!

Each class will enjoy a session learning about the 5 styles of Hula Hooping including;

- 1. Tricks**
- 2. Skills**
- 3. Exercises**
- 4. Games**
- 5. Performances**

This is being funded through the Sports Premium.

A group of KS1 pupils are going to Crossways School in Thornbury to play tag rugby on 8<sup>th</sup> February.

Our focus in Term 4 is inclusion sports. This will be launched with disabled basketball, which you will already have received a letter about.

We are also having a day of Ultimate Dodgeball and a visit from a Paralympian in March, so lots to look forward to.

### **Cross country**

Our KS2 children participated in the last cross country race of the season at KLB. Individual medals were awarded to Henry M (3<sup>rd</sup> place), Jamie H and Jasper M (9<sup>th</sup> places). Henry, Jamie and Leyton came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the lower KS2 team event and Jasper and Tommy came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the upper KS2 team

event. A special 'well done' to them and to all our team members who achieved great results across the board.

Thanks go to Mrs McAleese for preparing the children and supporting these events.

### **Swimming**

Our swimming sessions have finished and most of the children have been successful in achieving their distance badges. There will be a further blocked week towards the end of the year to allow any who have not yet done so, to swim their 25 metres.

### **Gifted and Talented sports**

A selected few of our upper KS2 children are involved in the gifted and talented sports sessions arranged and hosted by KLB School.

### **PE kit**

Please ensure your child has the appropriate PE kit in school every day.

### **Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)**

This forms part of the curriculum. Teachers will inform you before this is taught in school. Pearl class are currently learning about RSE in school, so be prepared for any questions.

### **STAY SAFE**

#### **Severe weather plan**

Just in case needed this winter, our severe weather plan can be found on our website in School Information, Our Documents.

#### **Safer Internet Day - 7th February 2017 – Be the change: Unite for a better internet.**

Next week we will be doing some learning in school relating to how the children can keep themselves safe on-line. It will also involve some learning on 'body image' for the older children. This will be a good time to go through the e-safety agreement that you and your child have signed, as a reminder to them.

#### **After school clubs**

For reference, the list of after school clubs can be found on the website under 'School Information, Curriculum' and 'News and Events'.

To help ensure your child's safety, please can you make sure that either you or your child tells the club leader if s/he is not going to be attending their club for any reason so they know they are not expected at the session. Thank you.

#### **Dogs**

For the children's safety and welfare, please remember to keep dogs on a lead and well away from the school gates.

### **ENJOY AND ACHIEVE**

A huge 'thank you' to the Friends for all their support with various events during the Christmas period in school. We certainly would not manage without you! They are also organising several new events this year, so please make sure you support them as much as possible!

#### **Project WOW launch days**

These have been amazing and children have looked the part in their immersive learning environment when dressed as Romans, Greeks, characters from Alice in Wonderland and in WW2 costumes. Please see the website and class newsletters to find out more.

## **O2 Arena**

Miss Edgar, Mrs Arrowsmith, Mrs Gee and I took members of the school choir to sing at the O2 Arena in London. This was an amazing event, which was greatly enjoyed by the children and their parents, who travelled to London to see it. Quotes from the children – “I’m going to be famous because I’m singing at the O2”, and after the afternoon rehearsal – “wow, that was even better than a football match”.

This is Charlie Noble’s account:

On Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2017, children from Y3, 4, 5 and 6 went to the O2 Arena in London. It started at 7:00pm but we were there from 1:00pm to 10:30pm. There were 120 schools including us! The children enjoyed singing with famous stars from around the country who danced their hearts out! Soon after, the dancing spread – children and teachers were up on their feet and grooving to the beat! Everyone (including the teachers) loved the experience. It was an experience of a lifetime!”

A big ‘thank you’ to staff who arrived back at school at about 1.30am and then were up bright and early to teach the next morning!

## **Life Skills**

Y6 children visited the newly refurbished ‘Life Skills Centre’ in Bristol, which we helped raise money for. This involved learning about dangers in the home and out and about and gave the children strategies for dealing with these, including making calls to the emergency services.

## **The circus is coming to Alexander Hosea! Save the date – the evening of Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July.**

The Friends have launched a competition for the children to enter, which involves designing a front and back cover for the programme for this exciting new event. Please encourage your child to take part. Prizes (free tickets) will be awarded at an assembly during the last week of this term.

## **Tom Robson**

If you have any examples of how your children have changed their behaviour at home and are becoming more independent e.g. making their own bed etc., please let us know, so we can know the extent of the impact Tom has had out of school as well as in school.

## **Educational visits**

Emerald class launched their project with a visit to the Armadillo in Yate to see Alice in Wonderland.

## **Bedtime stories**

Children in all year groups came back to school in their pyjamas to hear a bedtime story read by their teacher. The Friends kindly provided hot chocolate and biscuits. Thanks for supporting this.

## **Bug Club**

The Friends and the school have recently contributed funding towards a new reading scheme, which includes e-books and a focus on the development of comprehension skills. Teachers have all provided an opportunity to explain these to you, although this is work in progress. We will use these books to supplement the reading books we already have in school.

## **POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION**

**Poppy Appeal** - £265.43 was raised by the school. The district total was £8741.53.

**Children in Need** – donations from the children’s Christmas performances raised a total of £329.32 for Children in Need.

**Class Christmas stalls** – These were hugely successful once again and also help the children learn about enterprise and economic well-being, which are now part of the curriculum. A total of £900 was raised across the school. Children have been deciding how this money should be spent on resources to support their learning.

Thank you for your support with all of the above.

**‘Friends’ coffee and pastries**

The Friends have run another ‘breakfast’ this term and it proved successful once again. Thank you for supporting this – I hope it will inspire you to get more involved in other Friends events too. Please contact Katie, Cat or your class rep. if interested.

**Stamp collection**

We are still collecting stamps and the children receive regular updates during assemblies, about how these are being used to help those less fortunate. So far, your stamps have helped provide a school. Our next update will be next Friday so if you have any stamps still at home please bring in for the next collection.

**Ultimate Dodgeball – 27<sup>th</sup> February**

You will have received a letter about this event. If you feel able to, please try and get some sponsorship for your child, however little this is – every bit helps.

**Community Events**

Mr Hirons is running a **new girl’s football club** with the possibility of matches on Sundays. Details:-

- When:** Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January from 5pm-6pm
- Location:** KLB
- For:** girls in year groups 2, 3 and 4

**Kumon**

The Yate Kumon Maths and English Study Centre is now happy to accept childcare vouchers as payment for Kumon. The savings can be substantial. For more information about childcare vouchers visit: <http://www.moneysavingexpert.com/family/childcare-vouchers>

Kate Woodrow

Instructor

**DIARY DATES FOR TERMS 3 and 4 2016-17**

<b>February</b>	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	NSPCC Number Day – Dress up for Digits
	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Emerald Learning Journals – 3-3.25 pm
	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Safer Internet week
	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Jet class open afternoon (learning journals) 3.25 pm
	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Emerald Learning Journals – 3-3.25 pm
	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Kilve Court meeting for parents – 3.30pm
	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Jet class open afternoon (learning journals) 3.25 pm
	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Friends Valentine family disco
	<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>End of Term 3</b>

	<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Start of Term 4</b>
	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Wheelchair basketball – KS2
	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Clothes for a Cause collection 8.30 am – 9.30 am
	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Whole school dodgeball event
<b>March</b>	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	World Book Day
	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Topaz Redwood Trip
	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Friends of AHS Quiz Night – 7.00 pm - late
	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Science Week
	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Crystal and Diamond Clip and Climb - Bristol
	Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Jet Class – End of topic event 9.30 am (parents invited)
	Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Y5 residential trip Kilve Court
	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Staff run clubs finish
<b>April</b>	Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Parents’ Evening 4.00pm – 7.30pm
	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Parents’ Evening 4.00pm – 7.30pm
	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>End of Term 4 for pupils</b>

### **Retirement**

I know you have received a letter from our Chair of Governors, Steve Barry, informing you that I shall be retiring at the end of this academic year. It was a difficult decision to make, especially as I still really enjoy my job and I know I will miss all the children, staff, parents, governors and members of the community who are linked to the school, but I’ve got to that age! The school is in a great place and is ready for someone to lead it through the next stage of its journey to outstanding. I will of course remain dedicated to its continued success in the next few months and, of course, beyond that too.

The Governors have the recruitment process underway and will keep parents informed of outcomes.

Yours sincerely

Ms. V. Quest