

# 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@sgmail.org.uk](mailto:AlexanderHoseaPrimary@sgmail.org.uk)  
[www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk](http://www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk)  
Headteacher: Mrs D Williams



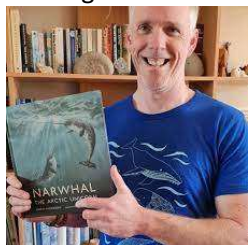
### Newsletter 2, 22 September 2023

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

Dear Parents/Carers

We would like to say a huge thank you to Rev David Russell for his service to our school and the village over the past 25 years. He has supported us with Harvest, Christmas service at the church for Y5/6, Christingle and Remembrance. We wish him all the very best for his retirement.

On Monday, we had two visitors: Justin Anderson for Y1-3 and Jonathon's Jungle for Y4. Justin Anderson is a wildlife photographer and children's author, who hosted a session about narwhals and his book 'Narwhal: The Arctic Unicorn'. Jonathon's Jungle brought along some animals to share with the Y4 children (see Y4 Class Newsletter), which was very exciting for them and will support their project learning.



**House Captains** – In assembly this week, many of the Y6 children put themselves forward for House Captains for houses Archers (blue), Weavers (yellow), Potters (red) and Brewers (green). We are proud of them for putting themselves forward for the roles. The children in their houses voted for the captains. Mrs Brooks will announce the new House Captains very soon.

Kind regards, Mrs Deb Williams - Headteacher

#### Dates for your diary:

Weekly tours for prospective Reception parents continue until 12<sup>th</sup> January.

#### **Term 1 Week 4 -**

Reception Baseline continues  
28<sup>th</sup> Sept cake sale after school (Y6 donations)

#### **Week 5 –**

2<sup>nd</sup> Oct Rags to Riches  
2<sup>nd</sup> Oct Harvest service in school  
3<sup>rd</sup> Oct – Pearl Class to KLB  
5<sup>th</sup> Oct – Topaz parents' session - reading  
6<sup>th</sup> Oct – Olympic gymnast (Claudia Fragapane) here

#### **Week 6 –**

11<sup>th</sup> – Individual photos  
13<sup>th</sup> Oct Y6 Road Safety session  
13<sup>th</sup> Oct Friends of AHS Halloween quiz

#### **Week 7 –**

17<sup>th</sup>&19<sup>th</sup> Oct Parents eve 4-7pm  
17<sup>th</sup> Oct – Opal Class at KLB  
18<sup>th</sup> Oct – Y6 height & weight NHS visit  
19<sup>th</sup>&20<sup>th</sup> Black History Month workshops

**Autumn half term 23<sup>rd</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> October**

#### **Term 2 Week 1 -**

30<sup>th</sup> Oct – INSET day – school closed to children  
31<sup>st</sup> Oct – Deadline for Y6 secondary school applications

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

#### **Library Reading Challenge**

Congratulations to all the children who took part in the South Glos Library Reading Challenge this summer. We are very impressed by the huge amount of children, who engaged with the programme. In celebration assembly, the children shared their certificates and medals.



Some of the Year 4 children with their certificates.

We have a strong reading culture at Alexander Hosea and we hope that the children are enjoying using their new Reading Records to record their 5 times a week reading. We are always looking for parent helpers to hear children read. If you can spare any time to do this, please contact [Taralou.Price@sgmail.org.uk](mailto:Taralou.Price@sgmail.org.uk)



## Friends of AHS

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

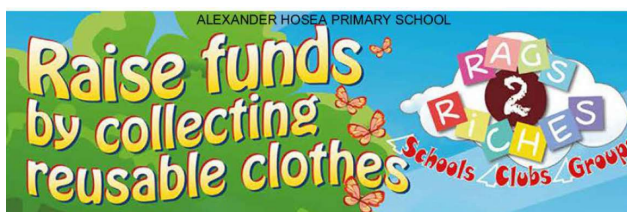
Coming soon...

### Harvest Service

On Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> October we will have our annual harvest service. This year, we have a visitor from Charfield Christian Centre joining us and the service will take place during the school day.

We invite all children to make a donation of canned or packaged food. They will deliver this to the collection table during the assembly. These items will then be offered to families who need it.

When the new vicar is appointed for Holy Trinity, we hope to be able to visit the church again for this event next year.



2023/24 DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

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

### Wickwar Games

Thank you so much to the Friends of Alexander Hosea for organising and running the 1k and 5k race at Wickwar Games last Saturday.

The children had a fantastic time and there was super participation by our pupils and their families. The Friends were also very grateful for the amount of helpers who came along to be marshalls.

All the children who joined in with the 1k and 5k races were awarded 5 house points for representing the school.

Congratulations to everyone who took part and to Tayson and Harry in Y4, who won the 1k and 5k (junior age category) respectively.



### 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>

**Nasal Flu Immunisations-** Children in Reception to Year 11 are being offered flu vaccinations this winter to help protect them from flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia. Vaccinating your child will also help protect you, your family and friends. The flu vaccine is administered using a nasal spray, this vaccine is free and painless, please ensure you complete your consent form at

<https://imms.sirona-cic.org.uk/flu/2023/consent?v=1.23>



### Considerate parking

Thank you for parking considerately around the school. The car park is for staff and parents with blue badges only. Cars should not be parked in the drop off zone – this is for swift drop off and pick up only. Do not park on the keep clear lines.

When parking around the village, please be respectful and keep residents' driveways clear and leave visibility space at junctions for the safety of other drivers and pedestrians.

### Who should I contact about....?

Information	Who to contact	Contact details
Absence	School Office	<a href="mailto:Alexanderhoseaprimary@sgmail.org.uk">Alexanderhoseaprimary@sgmail.org.uk</a> or 01454 294239
Attendance	Attendance Lead	<a href="mailto:Heidi.Brooks@sgmail.org.uk">Heidi.Brooks@sgmail.org.uk</a>
Finance and Pupil Premium finance matters	School Business Manager	<a href="mailto:Taralou.Price@sgmail.org.uk">Taralou.Price@sgmail.org.uk</a>
Friends of AHS	School Link for FoAHS	<a href="mailto:Sally.Windmill@sgmail.org.uk">Sally.Windmill@sgmail.org.uk</a>
Learning (including homelearning)	Class teacher(s)	Topaz (Reception) <a href="mailto:James.Keeping@sgmail.org.uk">James.Keeping@sgmail.org.uk</a> Ruby (Year 1) <a href="mailto:Alice.Dent2@sgmail.org.uk">Alice.Dent2@sgmail.org.uk</a> Jet (Year 2) <a href="mailto:Laura.Cleverley@sgmail.org.uk">Laura.Cleverley@sgmail.org.uk</a> (Wed-Fri) and <a href="mailto:Rebecca.Dimery1@sgmail.org.uk">Rebecca.Dimery1@sgmail.org.uk</a> (Mon-Weds) Crystal (Year 3) <a href="mailto:Abi.Hurford@sgmail.org.uk">Abi.Hurford@sgmail.org.uk</a> <a href="mailto:Nicola.Grainger1@sgmail.org.uk">Nicola.Grainger1@sgmail.org.uk</a> (later in the year) Diamond (Year 4) <a href="mailto:Kimberley.Edgar@sgmail.org.uk">Kimberley.Edgar@sgmail.org.uk</a> Pearl (Year 5) <a href="mailto:Chloe.Williams10@sgmail.org.uk">Chloe.Williams10@sgmail.org.uk</a> Opal (Year 5) <a href="mailto:Amy.Clark@sgmail.org.uk">Amy.Clark@sgmail.org.uk</a> (Weds-Fri) and <a href="mailto:Katy.Hillier@sgmail.org.uk">Katy.Hillier@sgmail.org.uk</a> (Mon & Tues) Amethyst (Year 6) <a href="mailto:Heidi.Brooks@sgmail.org.uk">Heidi.Brooks@sgmail.org.uk</a>
Parent Council	Headteacher	<a href="mailto:Debbie.Williams@sgmail.org.uk">Debbie.Williams@sgmail.org.uk</a>
Pupil Premium	Pupil Premium Lead	<a href="mailto:Debbie.Williams@sgmail.org.uk">Debbie.Williams@sgmail.org.uk</a>
Safeguarding	Designated Safeguarding Lead	<a href="mailto:Debbie.Williams@sgmail.org.uk">Debbie.Williams@sgmail.org.uk</a> Or in her absence, Deputy DSLs <a href="mailto:Sally.Windmill@sgmail.org.uk">Sally.Windmill@sgmail.org.uk</a> <a href="mailto:Kimberley.Edgar@sgmail.org.uk">Kimberley.Edgar@sgmail.org.uk</a>
Scopay	Admin Team	<a href="mailto:Taralou.price@sgmail.org.uk">Taralou.price@sgmail.org.uk</a> <a href="mailto:AlexanderHoseaPrimary@sgmail.org.uk">AlexanderHoseaPrimary@sgmail.org.uk</a>
Special Educational Needs	SENCO	<a href="mailto:Kimberley.Edgar@sgmail.org.uk">Kimberley.Edgar@sgmail.org.uk</a>
Times Tables Rock Stars (Y2-6) and Mathletics (Y1-6)	Maths Leader	<a href="mailto:Kimberley.Edgar@sgmail.org.uk">Kimberley.Edgar@sgmail.org.uk</a>



## A GRAND AFTERNOON OUT WITH WOTTON SILVER BAND



A FUN CONCERT FOR ALL THE FAMILY  
PACKED WITH YOUR FAVOURITE TV & FILM TUNES  
YOU CAN EVEN HAVE A GO AT PLAYING A BRASS INSTRUMENT!

SATURDAY  
14<sup>TH</sup> OCT  
3PM

TICKETS  
ADULT £5  
CHILD FREE

RENISHAW  
INNOVATION  
CENTRE



TICKETS AVAILABLE USING THE QR CODE  
OR FROM WOTTONSILVERBAND.CO.UK



### Parent Council

Parent Council Representatives from three classes met with Mrs Williams this week.

We discussed:

- Timings of events
- Communication
- Lunchtimes
- Music
- Clubs

Please see the minutes of the meeting on the school website (see QR code at the top of this newsletter), under Parent tab.

There are some classes that have not yet got a representative. If you think you can help, please contact the school office. The system works best when all classes are represented.

The next meeting is 14<sup>th</sup> November. Please feedback to your representative by 7<sup>th</sup> November.

### Online Safety

This week, we were visited by a member of Avon & Somerset Police to talk to our Y5 children about how to keep themselves safe online.

### Health reminder

Please keep your child at home if they have been sick or had a bout of diarrhoea (for 48 hours since the last episode). Also if children have a temperature they should stay at home until it passes and they feel well enough again.

### Secondary school admissions

If your child is in year 6 and was born between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013 (inclusive), they must attend a secondary school in September 2024 unless you decide to educate your child at home. This is a very important decision and you are strongly advised to read the [South Gloucestershire Secondary school admissions guide](https://find-information-for-adults-children-families.southglos.gov.uk/kb5/southglos/directory/advice.page?id=12VIUCdFLs&familychannel=2-2&channel=family) before making any decisions and completing your application. Applications for secondary school admission must be submitted by the **31 October 2023**.

<https://find-information-for-adults-children-families.southglos.gov.uk/kb5/southglos/directory/advice.page?id=12VIUCdFLs&familychannel=2-2&channel=family>



### Times Tables Rock Stars

All children in Years 2-6 have a log in for TTRS to help them to practice their times tables. The national expectation is that all Year 4 children have rapid recall (about 6 seconds) of all the tables to 12x12. Like many schools that use TTRS, we find that children who use the programme and practice their tables regularly secure this understanding rapidly. This knowledge really helps them with their fluency and arithmetic as well as reasoning and problem-solving as they progress through Y2 and KS2 (and beyond).

In celebration assembly, we congratulate children who have made great progress in TTRS (eg quickest times, most improved etc).

When the children access TTRS, there are five levels to increase challenge for the pupils as they develop their knowledge and recall.

**Jamming** – children can practise their choice of times table without being timed.

**Gig** – a Gig can be completed once a month to assess progress over time.

**Garage** – questions in this mode are targeted based on previous accuracy and will help children to secure specific facts.

**Studio** – children will be asked questions from all times tables up to 12 x 12 including division facts. This is timed and generates a Studio Speed and Rock Status.

**Soundcheck** – this is similar to the official multiplication check where children are asked 25 questions with 6-seconds given to answer each one.

If you have any questions about TTRS, please contact your child's teacher. For log in details, please contact Miss Edgar – Maths Leader [Kimberley.Edgar@sgmail.org.uk](mailto:Kimberley.Edgar@sgmail.org.uk)

Miss Kim Edgar – Maths Leader

# Online relationship support for parents



Parents in this area can now access **THREE ONLINE COURSES** from the relationship experts at OnePlusOne. Learn to cope with stress and communicate better, wherever you are in your parenting journey.



## Arguing better

Disagreements are a normal part of life. How you approach them can make all the difference to you, your partner, and your children. You will learn:

- How to recognise stress and how it can affect you.
- How to support each other through difficult times.
- What causes arguments and how to stop them.



## Me, You and Baby Too

Learn how to navigate the changes that happen in a relationship when a baby arrives, including:

- How you and your partner can support each other.
- How to talk to bring up difficult topics.
- How arguments start, and how to stop them.



## Getting it right for children

When parents are separating or separated, children can often get caught in the middle. Learn how to manage conflict to minimise the impact it has on your children, as well as:

- How to stop a discussion from turning into an argument.
- How to stay calm and listen as well as talk.
- Skills for finding solutions and making compromises.

To access the courses, you will need a smartphone, tablet, or computer, and a good internet connection. They are all **FREE** to use, so you'll just need to select your local authority area and create an account with a username and password.

You can get started by scanning the QR code or visiting:

[www.oneplusone.org.uk/parents](http://www.oneplusone.org.uk/parents)



## KLB Taster days for Y5

All Y5 children have been invited to visit KLB to experience a day in a secondary school.

Pearl – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct

Opal – Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> Oct

During the day, the children will be having taster sessions of Science, Languages, Art and PE.

Parents will need to drop children off in the main car park at 8:30am, where they will be met by their class teacher. They will need to be collected from the same place at 2:30pm.

Please arrive promptly as the car parks do get busy.

Please can parents consent to the trip on Scopay by Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September.

We hope that the children will enjoy the experience and have a window into life in a day at secondary school.

Children need to wear their school uniform.