



Welcome to the Friends of Alexander Hosea Newsletter!

Welcome to our first newsletter of the academic year! We all hope you had a great summer and have enjoyed the first few weeks back at school. We would also like to say a big "Welcome" to all the new children, parents and carers joining the school this year.

We'd like to start by saying a huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who supported us and attended our events over the last year. With ever diminishing

school budgets this money is valued by the school more now than ever before.

During the last academic year, we have raised over £3,800 and donated over £6,000 back to school.

Please see the "How is the Money Used?" section to find out how your money has most recently helped your children at school.



What's been happening...

The start of the term saw our first event, the **Wickwar Village Fair**. We hope you all enjoyed everything that was on offer. We are pleased to announce that we raised a fantastic **£1600** for our school. Thank you to everyone involved and also to everyone who came and enjoyed the fair.

Before the Summer holidays we hosted the **AHS Summer Discos**. These are always popular with the children and raised **£260** for our school. Some of this money has now been used to purchase a new oven for the small

pupil's kitchen, enabling the children to learn more cookery skills.

Also back in July, we organised the Fun Run for the **Wickwar Games**. It was a very hot day but the runners did fantastically well. The Friends also hosted the bouncy castle and bar, and together raised **£210** for our school.

Sports Day seems like a long time ago now but we'd like to thank everyone for coming and to let you know that **£140** was raised from the refreshments sale.

Events

- **Clothes-for-a-Cause**
Thursday 8th November
- **Christmas Shopping Evening**
7:30 – 10:00pm
Friday 23rd November
- **100 Club Draw**
Monday 1st December
- **Wickwar's Enchanted Christmas Fair**
4:00 - 7:00pm
Friday 7th December
- **Christmas Discos**
Infants 4:45-5:45pm
Juniors 6:00-7:00pm
Tues 18th December
- **Christmas Coffee & Carols Morning**
9:00 – 10:30am
Friday 20th December



Christmas Shopping Evening
7:30 – 10:00pm
Friday 23rd November

Upcoming Events...



We host a number of events before Christmas. A new one for this year is our **Christmas Shopping Evening on Friday 23rd November**. With lots of stalls selling a variety of items it should be a great way to start your Christmas shopping. The doors open at 7:30pm and the first 25 people through the door will be given a special gift bag. Tickets are £5 each, include a drink and a sweet treat, and are available online from pta-events.co.uk/friendsofahs.

We also have our **Wickwar's Enchanted Christmas Fair on Friday 7th December** from 4pm to 7pm. With live performances, Christmas Tree Auction, fun games and crafts for the children, plus an all new Santa Experience, it should be a fun evening for all! Look out for the posters for more details.

On **8th November**, at drop off time, we

will be collecting your bags of good quality used clothing, paired shoes, and bags for our **Clothes for a Cause** event. We earn 40p for every kilogram we collect so please donate as much as possible to raise money for our school.

Our ever-popular **AHS Christmas Discos** will be held on **Tuesday 18th December**. The Infants Disco will be 4:45-5:45pm, and the Juniors 6:00-7:00pm. As usual, entry is just £1, plus £1 for a sweet cup and glow stick.

The Friends are also hosting the **Christmas Coffee & Carols Morning on 20th December, starting at 9am**. This is a lovely event where the children sing songs to the parents, carers and grandparents. Refreshments and cake will be on sale, and there will be a raffle to win a wonderful Christmas Hamper.

Wickwar's Enchanted Christmas Fair
4pm – 7pm
Friday 7th December



The new oven in the Pupil's Kitchen



New Learning Environments

How is the money used?

Over the years the Friends have raised funds to purchase a wide variety of resources and equipment for the school.

Our most recent purchase is a brand **new oven** for the pupil's kitchen. This will enable the children to learn more cookery skills. If any School Helpers would like to do some cooking with the children, please contact one of the teachers.

At the start of each academic year, we supply new **friction-type pens** to all the new Year 3 children and we provide **refills** for all the Juniors.

Also in September we purchased **book bags** for all our new reception children.

We also enabled the teachers to update the **learning environments** in each of the classrooms. It is a fantastic way to immerse the children in their current topic and are always loved by the children.

The Friends have agreed to purchase a wide range of **new books** for the school library. We will update you more once these have been purchased. Watch this space!



New Learning Environments

How YOU can help...

As well as supporting the events we run throughout the year, there are a number of other ways in which you can help.

EasyFundraising

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/alexanderhosea/

You can help raise funds for Friends of Alexander Hosea School whenever you shop online! Use easyfundraising to shop with over 3,300 big name retailers including Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, and Booking.com – and when you shop, you'll raise a free donation for us every time. It's that easy! Over £500 has already been raised for the school through EasyFundraising so your support really does make a difference!

100 Club

For just £12 a year you could potentially win £75 a quarter (if 100 members). Email friendsofahs100Club@gmail.com or see our school website page for more details.

My Nametags

For every order of personalised labels for children's clothing and equipment, My Nametags will contribute 20% to the school. To order, please go to www.mynametags.com and make sure you quote our school reference number **29328** when you get to the checkout to ensure we benefit from your order.



The Committee:

Chair: Jane Daniel
Vice-Chair: Hannah Murray
Secretary: Sarah Gregory
Treasurer: Gabrielle Hill

Class Point of Contacts:

Ruby & Topaz: Cat Lock
Emerald: Sarah Gregory & Jane Daniel
Jet: Nicola Wood & Sarah Spencer
Crystal: Emma Days
Diamond: Cat Lock & Sarah Gregory
Pearl: Nicola Wood
Amethyst: Vicky Dummer & Emma Days

How to Contact us:

Email: friendsofAHS@hotmail.com

Facebook:
facebook.com/FriendsOfAHS

Website:
www.alexanderhoseaprimary.co.uk
Click on the "Parents" tab

Who are "The Friends"?

Apologies to those who already know who we are and what we do, but for those who don't, please read on!

The Friends are typically a group of parents (though grandparents, carers and anyone else who has an interest in the school is welcome), who work with teachers to raise extra funds for our children and the school. Over the years the money we have raised has helped to purchase a variety of resources and experiences for the children of our school.

We arrange a variety of events throughout the year so there should be something for everyone. We also provide small fun things for the children such as crackers for their Christmas meal and hot chocolate and biscuits for the

school's Bedtime Stories event.

As well as our own section on the school website, we have a Facebook page which is kept updated with details of events and meetings, so please take a look!

We hold meetings at school, with the teachers every term. We also hold a number of "sub-meetings" which are usually to plan a specific event, and are often held in The Buthay. Once a year, normally in September, we have an AGM where we vote for Committee Members. We also elect Class Point of Contacts. We do try to keep the meetings informal and there's usually a drink and biscuits for everyone!

Final Thank You!

Finally, we, the Friends of Alexander Hosea School, would like to thank YOU for supporting us and our events!

Without such a supportive school community, our school and therefore our children would miss out on so many wonderful opportunities and experiences. Thank you!