

## Newsletter 5, 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024

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

Dear Parents/Carers

**Citizenship Awards** – At the end of each term, we award a child from each class for exemplifying the school values in action, particularly the 3 Bees: Be kind, be respectful and be responsible (which are also our school rules). These children receive a certificate and enamel badge to wear at school. In addition, 1 child in the infants and 1 in the juniors are awarded the Citizenship Cup for excellence in attitudes and behaviour. We are very proud of all the children, who are awarded the citizenship award.

**Other awards** – At the end of each term, we also award:

**Haydon Music award** for excellent attitude and efforts in music;

**Sports shield** for excellent attitude and efforts in PE and sports;

**Creativity award** for showing creative thinking and aptitude in creative subjects.

These awards are valued by the children and they get to keep to trophies at home for a term to celebrate with their families.

**Anti-bullying week** - Anti-bullying workshops went well for all classes. The provider was very impressed by the engagement of all children. We finished the week with odd socks day for Children in Need. Thank you for your donations, 100% of which will go to the charity.

**Reception applications for Sept 2025** – The deadline for applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025. See information below.

Kind regards - Mrs Deb Williams - Headteacher

### Dates for your diary

#### **Week 3**

18<sup>th</sup> Nov – Y6 height and weight – NHS

19<sup>th</sup> Nov – Parent Council

19<sup>th</sup> Nov - Prospective parent tour (for Reception 25)

20<sup>th</sup> – Y12 KLB students visiting Y6 - science

22<sup>nd</sup> Nov – Y6 at Lifeskills Centre

#### **Week 4**

25<sup>th</sup> Nov – Deadline for applications for Parent Governor

27<sup>th</sup> Nov – Y6 online training – My Journey

28<sup>th</sup> Nov – Friends of AHS Christmas Shop

29<sup>th</sup> Nov – Non-uniform day for chocolate tombola

29<sup>th</sup> Nov – Y1 at the aquarium

#### **Week 5**

3<sup>rd</sup> Dec – Y5 visiting KLB

3<sup>rd</sup> Dec – Y4 ukulele concert to parents

5<sup>th</sup> Dec – Y5 at Techniquest

6<sup>th</sup> Dec – Class stalls in playground after school

*Please see teachers' weekly newsletters for more information about specific class activities.*

**Prospective Parent tours for Reception 2025** – We invite prospective parents to visit the school for a tour with the headteacher. Visit dates are in the diary and tours have already started.

Please call to book a place and spread the word.

We do have a few places in our current Reception class - if you know of anyone who may be interested, please ask them to contact the school office.

### **Friends of AHS Disco**

Thank you to the Friends of AHS for hosting another successful disco. The children had an amazing time and loved dancing the night away in all their finery.

Positive feedback from parents included: like having the shop outside for the children to put disco props/glasses etc for the party; like the offer of a quiet space in the library for children to use if they need a few minutes of quieter time and the children really enjoy the discos.

## This terms' Value



## Primary school admissions

If your child was born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021, you must apply for them to start primary school in September 2025. This is a very important decision and it is important that you read the [South Gloucestershire Primary school admission guide](https://find-information-for-adults-children-families.southglos.gov.uk/kb5/southglos/directory/advice.page?id=GLu6GUIMkpw&familychannel=2-2&channel=family) before you apply. Applications for primary school admission must be submitted no later than **15 January 2025**.

<https://find-information-for-adults-children-families.southglos.gov.uk/kb5/southglos/directory/advice.page?id=GLu6GUIMkpw&familychannel=2-2&channel=family>

## Attendance

As you will be aware, consistent attendance is key to pupils' success. We thought you might like the following reminders to help your child(ren) stay on track:

1. **Be on time every day.** The gates are open from 8:50-8:59am. Children are expected to enter the school at this time. Arriving on time sets a positive tone for the day and helps children to build good routines and settle in to the day quickly with the rest of their class.
2. **Report Absences Promptly:** If your child is unwell or needs to be absent, please inform the school office by 8:50am via phone or email, including the reason for their absence – [AlexanderHoseaPrimary@sgmail.org.uk](mailto:AlexanderHoseaPrimary@sgmail.org.uk)
3. **Avoid Unnecessary Absences:** Every lesson counts. Whenever possible, schedule appointments outside of school hours, and plan family holidays during official school breaks. Holidays in term time will not be authorised.
4. **Support Available:** If your child is struggling with attendance for any reason, reach out to their teacher for support.
5. **Monitoring** – Our attendance champion (Mrs Heidi Brooks) monitors attendance across the school and will work together to help parents to improve attendance as needed.

**Attendance Goal:** We aim for at least **97% attendance** across the school. Every day of learning is valuable. Thank you for supporting your child's education through consistent attendance.

18/12/24



**Pupil premium** – If you are in receipt of benefits, your child may benefit from additional funding through the school. Please complete a short application online <https://find-information-for-adults-children-families.southglos.gov.uk/kb5/southglos/directory/advice.page?id=yp4evwg7Duw#apply> or call Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019.

## Christmas events

I know it is very early to be thinking about Christmas, but Parent Council suggested that it would be helpful to have the dates for events as soon as possible to help working parents. Parents are invited to all the events below (except parties and Christmas lunch).

	<b>Performances to parents</b>	<b>Project outcomes/ journal shares</b>	<b>Other dates for diaries</b>
Topaz - Reception	Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec 9:30am	Journal share at performance on 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	
Ruby – Y1	Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec 9:30am Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2:30pm	Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2:45pm Pirate event and journal share	Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec pm KS1 parties in hall – children bring small plate of food for themselves
Jet – Y2		Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2:45pm – fruit salad and journal share	
Crystal – Y3	Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2pm Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec 9:30pm		
Diamond – Y4			Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec 9:30am Ukulele concert to parents
Opal – Y5	At Trinity Church: Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec 6pm		
Pearl & Amethyst – Y6	Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2pm		
Whole school		Many classes will be selling items they have made in class in the playground after school on 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec Christmas class sales 3.30-4.00pm Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec 9:15am Coffee morning with songs from all classes  Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec Christmas lunch

## **UKHSA South West issues health advice for parents and carers following the half-term break**

As children across the country return to their classrooms after the half term break, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) South West is reminding parents of the simple steps they can take to reduce the spread of stomach bugs and winter illnesses to ensure they stay healthy this term and keep strong this winter.

We are now beginning to see cases of flu and norovirus increasing as we head into the winter months, with norovirus activity in the past two weeks more than double the 5-season average for the same two-week period and flu steadily increasing over the past few weeks.

Dr Alasdair Wood, Consultant in Health Protection at UKHSA South West, said:

“As children return to school after the half term holidays, it’s important that they get off to the best start possible ahead of winter. Staying healthy and taking simple steps to reduce the spread of illness will ensure children and their families experience less disruption at this important time of year.”

“Each winter, we see an increase in acute respiratory and gastro-intestinal illnesses, however it only takes simple steps to reduce the spread of most of these infections. By following advice on good hygiene habits, knowing when to keep your child off school and taking up the opportunity to get vaccinated, parents are protecting their children and the wider school community.”

### **Teaching good hygiene habits**

Parents are urged to encourage good hygiene habits in their families, such as handwashing and using a tissue to catch coughs and sneezes. Regularly washing your hands with soap and warm water for 20 seconds or using hand sanitiser when convenient, is one of the most effective ways to stop the spread of germs.

### **Knowing when to keep your child at home and when to send them to school**

Children are encouraged to stay in school or nursery with symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat or slight cough (if otherwise well and do not have a high temperature), but should stay home if they’re displaying symptoms such as having a fever (they should stay home until the fever has passed and they are well enough to attend) or diarrhoea and vomiting (children should stay home for at least 48 hours after these symptoms clear up).

### **Stopping the spread of stomach bugs**

Stomach bugs spread easily in schools and nurseries. If you or your child have diarrhoea and vomiting, washing your hands with soap and warm water and using bleach-based products to clean surfaces will help stop infections from spreading. Don’t prepare food for others if you have such symptoms or for 48 hours after symptoms stop. If you are unwell, you should also avoid visiting people in hospitals and care homes to avoid passing on the infection to those more vulnerable. It’s important that all children are given the opportunity to start the year in good health, which is why it’s important not to return to school, nursery or work until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.

### **Getting vaccinated**

Infections such as flu, which see a seasonal increase in winter, are easily protected against with vaccination. All primary school age children, those aged 2 years (who have turned 2 years old before 1 September 2024) and all 3 year olds (and secondary school children from Year 7 to Year 11) are eligible for the flu vaccine, which beyond protecting the children themselves and the school community, will also protect elderly relatives. It’s also important to ensure your children are up-to-date with their routine vaccinations, which protect against diseases such as measles, mumps, rubella, diphtheria and polio. UKHSA is continuing to see cases of measles, which is easily prevented with vaccination. If parents are unsure of their child’s vaccination status, they can check their child’s red book or contact their local GP.



## Friends of Alexander Hosea School

committee@friendsofahs.org

### ELFRIDGE'S

The Christmas Shop is back for the children to buy gifts for their loved ones! Don't forget to send a bag in with your child/ren on the day to bring the presents home in.

<http://pta-events.co.uk/friendsofahs>



### HOW IT WORKS

\*Parents purchase ticket(s) for their child at £3 per ticket. (Please note children in receipt of pupil premium will automatically be allocated one ticket each).

\*A gift credit will be allocated to the child for each voucher purchased.

\*The children will choose a wrapped item from our selection- they will know what they have chosen.

\*The item(s) will be put aside and given to your child to bring home to put under the tree!

### BUY ONLINE:

[HTTP://PTA-EVENTS.CO.UK/FRIENDSOF AHS](http://pta-events.co.uk/friendsofahs)

**Order by  
19th November**

Registered charity number- 1025562

### RAFFLE PRIZES

If you're having a pre-Christmas clear out, please consider donating any good-quality, unwanted items to our raffle collection for the Christmas Coffee Morning. A collection box is available in the school Reception area.

## Why does the FoAHS money matter?

Here's how your contributions made a difference last term:

New book bags for Reception - £134

Anti Bullying Workshops - £900

Nessy Number Sense - £222

**Total spend  
£1,256**



A huge thank you to Alice and her team for the recent Halloween Quiz, which brought in a wonderful £139 profit, and to Shelley for coordinating the Christmas Cards.

Another massive thank you must go to Sarah, all the volunteers, and the school team for making this week's disco a great success! We're thrilled to announce it raised a fantastic profit of £405.55.

### ASDA - CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

15 days to go! £110.25 raised so far!

Simply signing up donates £1 each to the school.

