

ALEXANDRA JUNIOR NEWS

Alexandra Junior School, Meir Road, Normacot, Stoke-on-Trent, ST3 7JG

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A special welcome to all of our new pupils and their families. It is a pleasure to welcome you all to Alexandra Junior School. We hope that you all thoroughly enjoy your time with us and we are looking forward to an exciting year ahead. The start to the term has been very positive with the children returning back to school very enthusiastically, energised and ready to learn. It has been wonderful to see our children looking so smart in our assemblies on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in the school hall. The children remain very settled in school and continue to produce super work which shows the progress we wish to see!

School Uniform

All children are expected to wear school uniform to school every day including black school shoes. Jewellery should not be worn with the exception of small studded earrings which must be removed by parents or carers on the days of PE and swimming lessons. Thank you for your help and support in reinforcing these regulations with your children. If your child attends an after school sports club, please can they bring their PE kit in a spare bag to school with them.

Attendance

Please do help us to improve our school attendance this year and remember that we do not allow any holidays in term time at all. If your child is unwell but still able to come to school, please send them as we will always call you at home to collect them if they are unwell. We do need your support and most importantly, children who miss school, miss out on learning and miss out on opportunities to nurture their friendships and explore the world (see the recent educational visits below).

We understand that emergencies arise. We also understand that traffic can be challenging or hectic, but expect all children to be collected on time. If a parent or authorized adult will be late, it is their responsibility to notify the school before 1.00 pm to make it possible to communicate with teacher before the end of the school day.

Breakfast Club Opens at 8.15am at Alexandra Junior School

Year Group	Start Time	End Time
YEAR 3	8:50am	3:20pm
YEAR 4	8:40am	3:10pm
YEAR 5	8:50am	3:20pm
YEAR 6	8:40am	3:10pm



Future School Visits

Year 3 Manchester Lowry Museum November 2023

Year 4 Birmingham Think Tank Museum
20th October 2023

Chocolate Bingo






Thank you to everyone who came to support the school at our chocolate bingo event on Wednesday, 20th September 2023. With your help we raised an incredible £123.

Year 5 Visit to Cadbury's World

On Thursday, 21st September 2023, Year 5 children visited Cadbury's World where they enjoyed many activities; learning about the history of chocolate and the history of Cadburys. They listened to how chocolate is made today, taking a ride through chocolate land, enjoying a 4D chocolate cinema experience which proved to be the highlight of the visit and a talk about the Mayan Culture. Not to mention the chocolate sampling!. It was a fabulous trip with lots of excitable children!

Year 6 Visit To Stoke Ski Centre

On Friday, 22nd September 2023 Year 6 visited Stoke Ski Centre to enjoy a ski lesson and tubing activities. Some children were hitting the slopes for the first time and were unnerved. They all overcame their fears of trying out something new which helped them grow in confidence, develop problem solving skills and have lots of fun whilst learning!

Week Ending 08/09/23	Week Ending 15/09/23	Week Ending 22/09/23	Week Ending 29/09/23	Week Ending 06/10/23
				
Ariya	Emily	Hafeez	Thariny	Affan
Mustafa	Abdul Malik	Yawar	Memoona	Mania
David	Aiza	Abdulhaqq	William	Haaris
Lijana	Fajr	Musab	Michaela	Thomas
Faizan	Aisha	Umayyah	Tanatsiwa	Zainab
Ayaan	Manahal	Micheala	Abdul -Waase	Alyssa
Maham	Tahseen	Scarlet	Vedha	Eliza
Payton	Nihaal		Aminah	Mehr



Patrick, Luca, Logan, Amna and Ismaeel. Well Done!

Spelling Tests

Year 3 Monday
Year 4 Monday
Year 5 Friday
Year 6 Friday

Homework

Reading and TT Rockstars
Set on Tuesday and in by Monday
Set on Friday and in by Wednesday
Set on Friday and in by Tuesday

PE Day

Wednesday
Monday = 4CF
Thursday = 4DO
Tuesday
Friday

Thank you to everyone who came to 'Meet the teacher sessions in the school hall. This was a chance to find out about expectations in the class, the learning children will be doing, timetables and homework.

Year 5 Space Camp Evening



We are delighted to announce that we will be holding a space camp at school on Friday, 24th November 2023 from 3.20pm until 6.00pm. This will be an exciting experience where the children will get to use telescopes to look for stars and constellations, as well as completing other activities about space.

Year 5 Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons have begun. It takes place Wednesday for all Year 5 pupils. Please do not forget to send in their swimming kits and towels. All children will be expected to take part as this is a life saving skill and part of the national curriculum for PE.

TT Rockstars Update

- Exciting news. The city-wide Year 5 and 6 TT Rock Stars will begin soon.
- The competition runs from 9am on Monday 16th October to 3pm on Friday 20th October
- Children can score points in any game on the site through their own login between 7am and 7pm only.
- There are prizes to be won so make sure your child is spending some time on TT Rock Stars daily to be in with a chance of winning some goodies!
- Don't worry, there will be a Year 3 and 4 battle later in the year. We will keep you updated



Headlice

As many of you are aware, headlice can cause problems both at home or in school. Please try to check your child's hair regularly and if you see any headlice then treat both them and the whole family. To find out more about this then please follow the link <http://www.onceaweektakeapeek.com>



**REMEMBER
ONCE A WEEK,
TAKE A PEEK**

Reading with your child

Please can you read regularly with your child (at least **3 times** each week) and sign their reading diary. Please can we suggest that this routine is kept up as well as practising times tables on TT Rockstars.

Flu Immunisation Wednesday, 18th October 2023

The school nurses will be visiting Alexandra Junior on Wednesday, 18th October to deliver their Nasal Flu spray programme.

School Lunches

Please pay all school lunches in advance of the following week on your child's Parentpay account. At this time too many children are swapping between a school lunch and a packed lunch brought from home. Can we ask that a choice is made between a packed lunch and a school dinner for the whole of the week. Please see our new lunch menus on the school website.

It is our school policy that dinner money has to be paid up front on your Parentpay account.

Please be advised that should your Parentpay account go in arrears by £10.00, we will not continue to provide hot dinners. In that case please send your child into school with a packed lunch from home.

Info for Parents • You have recently received a paper Data Collection Forms requesting renewal of contact information. Many thanks to all that have already returned the form. If your forms are still in your child's bag or sitting at home, we would very much appreciate it completing and returning back to the School Office as soon as possible. Thank you

Music

The City Music Service offer fun and lively group singing and instrumental sessions FREE of charge. These are at the Bridge Centre, Birches Head Road, Birches Head, Stoke-on-Trent, ST2 8DD. Contact the City Music Service for more details. 01782 233796. citymusic@stoke.gov.uk

Harvest Festival Food Donations

Our local Foodbank would be pleased to receive any donations of non-perishable foods, long-life items such as tins or any of the following items:- Biscuits, Pasta Sauce, Curry Sauce, Long Life Milk, Long life Fruit Juice Coffee (small jar) 500g Sugar, Custard, Cereal, Instant Mashed Potato, Shampoo or Toilet Rolls. Please send in items from Friday, 20th October 2023 if you wish to.

Medical Appointments

Please avoid making routine medical appointments during the school day (doctors, dentists and opticians.)



Winter Coats As the colder weather is now settling in, please can all children come to school wearing a warm coat.

IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE, PLEASE CAN ALL PARENTS AND VISITORS CLOSE ALL SCHOOL GATES BEHIND THEM WHEN LEAVING SCHOOL PREMISES.

Please see lots of marvellous pictures on all school events on our school facebook site.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Alexandra-Junior-School/529483397177151>

Excel Embrace Explore Express Engage

Can we ask that parents or carers only come to the school office to collect their children if this has been pre-arranged.

School Diary Dates

Half Term	Monday, 30th to Monday, 6 th November 2023
School opens for pupils	Tuesday, 7 th November 2023
Non Uniform day	Friday, 24 th November 2023
Non working day	Friday, 1 st December 2023
Christmas Fayre	Friday 15 th December 2023
Christmas Party Day	Wednesday, 20 th December 2023
Christmas Jumper Day	Thursday, 21 st December 2023
Schools Close	Thursday, 21 st December 2023
School opens for pupils	Monday, 8 th January 2024
School opens for pupils	Monday, 8 th January 2024
Schools Close	Friday, 9 th February 2024
Half Term	Monday, 20 th to Friday, 24 th February 2023
Schools Close	Friday, 22 nd March 2024