



Newsletter
13 January 2017
Issue 8

News and events from
Alexandra Primary



GOOGLE VISIT ALEXANDRA PRIMARY



We were delighted to welcome the Google team to Alexandra primary this week.

The teachers were trained to lead workshops for their classes and through the day, the children in each class enjoyed an expedition using the technology and software from Google. They explored coral reefs with their teachers in an immersive, virtual journey. The children told us how much they loved the experience and this will lead to further learning in Literacy and Science.



PURPLE MASH

We have recently subscribed to Purple Mash, which is a creative educational website for children. Purple Mash is an award-winning website for nursery and primary school children. It enables pupils to explore and enhance their knowledge in a fun and creative way.

Your child can access Purple Mash from home on a laptop, desktop or a tablet. Their login is on the inside of their homework book for them to use straight away. Attached is a leaflet telling you more about the resource and with instructions to support your child logging in to the website.



TAPESTRY

Reception teachers have set up accounts for all our pupils in Paraguay and Panama classes to share their learning journey with parents at home. Thank you to the parents who came to the workshop this week to learn more about how to use the resource and thank you to all the families who are already using it and uploading photos from home to share with the teaching team. Feedback is already very positive in terms of how this online journal is recording all the learning and fun of their children's early years education.



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UNIFORM

It is wonderful to see so many children in their smart uniform this term. Please see the table to confirm the school's expectations for uniform and PE kit. Just to confirm that we allow dark blue jogging bottoms in PE in winter months.

It has been surprisingly warm so far this winter, now that the temperature has dropped, please ensure that your children have their warm winter coats with them in school. We would also ask that you label all the children's clothes with their names as that makes returning lost items really easy for our office team.

While writing, please note that :

- Earrings, if worn, should be small plain studs – no other jewellery is permitted
- An analogue watch is encouraged to support children in learning to tell the time
- Hair styles should be presentable with long hair tied back. Extreme hairstyles to be avoided, e.g. shaved heads
- Water bottles should be brought in to ensure your child is hydrated at all times
- Nail varnish is not to be worn and children will be asked to remove it
- **Hooded tops should not be worn**

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Congratulations to Mrs Conway on her appointment as the school's new Literacy Subject Leader. This follows on from her excellent work in implementing Destination Reader in Key Stage 2 last term.

We are also delighted to welcome Ms Ohemeng in Nursery, Ms Chivers in

Costa Rica, Ms Tucker in Mexico. The phase leaders for each phase has changed this term. Please see the table above.

Ms Dulay	Ms Ginty	Ms Foster
Early Years Classes Peru, Panama, Paraguay	KS1 Classes Cuba, Costa Rica, Chile, Colombia	KS2 Classes Argentina, Bolivia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Espana

ASSEMBLIES

The Class Assembly schedule for next term is on the website and the school APP. Also, the school will text reminders for families each week. The assemblies for the first half term are in the table opposite.

Thank you to Puerto Rico who shared a wonderful assembly today about their learning in Year 5. We were

all very impressed with their learning and enjoyed the challenging questions and confident performances. We join them in looking forward to 2017!



Best wishes,
Manjit Dulay and Michelle Ginty
Leadership Team

UNIFORM	PE KIT
Royal blue sweatshirt / cardigan embroidered with school logo	White T-Shirt with school badge Blue shorts PE bag
Grey trousers (tailored shorts in the summer) Grey pinafore dress / grey skirt (Blue checked summer dress)	Other Items Water bottles bought from home School Bookbags
Socks / tights must be plain white or grey	
Headscarves: plain dark blue, black or white	
White polo shirt / blouse	
Black, smart, closed toe shoes (no heels or sports trainers) (Boots must be changed on arrival to school)	
Warm coat (during cold weather)	

KEY DATES

Spring Term 2017

6th-10th February 2017
Y6 Trip to Pendarren

Half term:

13th -17th February

Return to school:

20th February 2017

End of term finish date:

31st March 2017 at 2pm

Summer Term 2017

School closed for teacher training

Tuesday 18th April 2017

Return to school

Wednesday 19th April 2017

Half Term:

Monday 29th May
2017—Friday 3rd June
2017

Return to school

Monday 5th June 2017

School closed for teacher training

Monday, 3rd July 2017

End of term Finish date

Friday, 21st July 2017

