



NEWSLETTER

September/October 2009

Welcome Back

A warm welcome back to the staff, children and parents from the summer break.

We welcome our newcomers:

Alex Gould – Year 5
Molly Wells – Year 4
Ella Fleming – Year 4
Olivia Cunliffe – Year 4
Emily O'Brien – Year 1
Natasha Muskett – Year 1
Carmen Garrido-Boix – Nursery
Francesca Coles – Nursery

A warm welcome to our new teacher, Mrs Greta Naish, who joins the school as classroom teacher of Year 1/2. Mrs Naish comes to us from St Catherine's Preparatory school in Guildford, which is a highly selective school with an outstanding reputation nationally.

Also, welcome back to Mrs Silverthorne who rejoins the school as our extra mathematics teacher. Mrs Silverthorne has a wealth of teaching experience including teaching at The High School, Denmark Road, Marling School and here at Hopelands as Head of Year 6 back in 2007.

Mrs Silverthorne is a familiar face, who is well respected by the children and knows the school very well.

Mrs Naish

As I am sure you are all aware by now, Mrs Naish has not been able to start the term with us. This was due to an accident in her classroom whilst preparing for the new term. Mrs Naish is very upset at not being able to be here but has to act on her doctor's advice which I hope will lead to a speedy recovery.

As the time of her absence is as yet uncertain, an experienced and well qualified Key Stage 1 has been employed teacher to cover. Mrs Joanne Preece has come to us highly recommended and I know some parents are already acquainted with her.

Year 1/2 trip to Stroud Museum

Friday 18th September dawned a sunny and warm day for the Year 1/2 class visit to the Stroud Museum in the Park. The children looked fantastic in their Victorian costumes and they made for a head turning group as they walked through Stratford Park. The children were immersed in the world of Victoriana from the moment they arrived at the Museum. They were met by the Butler, Housekeeper and head Maid and propelled back in time as they were all treated as potential staff for the 'big house'. The housekeeper was indeed impressed by the quality of the cleaning of clothes, shoes, rugs and work surfaces, to name a few.



A day filled with role play, Victorian toys and games, a visit to the Victorian school room and exploring the house that was filled with artefacts of the era left the children buzzing with excitement.



Mrs Preece's magic moment was after the picnic lunch when all of the children were playing, laughing and running in the park, complete in costumes, their

innocence crossed the time barrier and it could have easily been 1870!

Young Writers

Congratulations to the following year 6 children for their entry in this year's Young Writer's competition.

The Three Little Pigs – Ellie Jones
Little Red Riding Wolf – Theadora Barden
Little Red Riding Wolf – Hannah Smith
The Sound Collector – Jade Ellis
The Three Little Pigs – Tom Jacks
The Little Red Riding Hoodie – Ellie Holmes

The children are eagerly waiting to see if their poems will be selected to appear in the primary school poetry series, which showcases the best children's poetry from across the U.K.

PGL

This year's PGL trip has been confirmed for Friday 28th May 2010 – Monday 31st May 2010. All 29 children from years 5 and 6 have the opportunity to go on the trip with Mrs Bradburn and the staff. Letters have been sent out to parents with more details.



Dropping off in the mornings

With the small size of the school, we have noticed that the corridors and hallways have become extremely busy and congested in the mornings. Therefore, the school is asking all year 1 – 6 parents to please drop their children off at the front door and avoid coming into the school buildings in the morning. We believe this will not only help the congestion but also aid the children's independence in school.

Fox Cubs parents may continue to use the rear door to drop off/pick up and help the children put bags and coats on their pegs.

Shokk Youth Gym, Dursley Pool

This term the school will be offering gym lessons to our year 6 children on Tuesday mornings at Dursley Pool. The sessions in the gym will be instead of swimming and will include lessons on the running machine, cross trainer, rower and free weights.



The children's trainer will be a qualified fitness coach who will teach the children about the importance of keeping fit and active and leading a healthy lifestyle. We hope the children enjoy their time sweating it out!

Cross Country, Tewkesbury

This term's cross country events in Tewkesbury will be on the following:

- Thursday 1st October 2009, 4.00pm
- Thursday 15th October 2009, 4.00pm
- Thursday 22nd October 2009, 4.00pm (reserve)

Uniform

Could all parents please ensure that their children have their uniform clearly named. A number of unnamed uniform items are currently being stored in the lost property bucket. If any children are missing uniform items could they please see Mrs Lord who will assist with the lost property.

Parking

As parents are aware, the parking in Regent Street is a particular problem at pick up and drop off times. Unfortunately, there is very little that the school can do about this problem other than offer parents the opportunity to park at Stonehouse Community Centre car park and walk down to school. The school would ask that parents use this facility as much as possible as the traffic outside school is becoming a problem for our neighbours.

Art aprons

Could all parents of children between years 1 and 6 please ensure that the children have an apron in school for art to avoid getting paint, glue and clay on their school uniform. Although a navy blue apron is the most suitable (pictured below), an old, large t-shirt will also suffice.



Wellies and Coats

As the wet weather will no doubt close in, children in Fox Cubs and IN will need to bring their wellies and coats into school. Children in years 3 - 6 may bring wellies or trainers. School coats should be navy blue.

Lateness and absence

Classroom registers are taken by form teachers at 8.45am. Any children entering the school after this time will need to report to the office to be marked late in the register. Late marks will now be counted up and recorded on the End of Year Report.

If a child is absent from school due to illness, parents are asked to telephone the school before 10.00am on the first morning of the absence. It is important to inform the school as all unauthorised absences have to be recorded on the End of Year Report.

Absence from school for a medical appointment should be put in writing to Mrs Bradburn.

Dates for the Diary

- ▶ 1st October - Cross country, 4.00pm
- ▶ 2nd October – Jeans for Genes (**non school uniform**)
- ▶ 5th October - CATS testing week
- ▶ 7th October - Rowling cake stall
- ▶ 15th October - Cross country, 4.00pm

- ▶ 16th October - Lacrosse at Westonbirt School
- ▶ 2nd November - Fox Cubs and IC Parents' Evening
- ▶ 4th November – Fine cake stall
- ▶ 9th November - IIB, IIIC and IVB Parents' Evening
- ▶ 11th November - IIB, IIIC and IVB Parents' Evening
- ▶ 24th November - IIIC and IVB trip to Olympus Theatre
- ▶ 3rd December – Christmas concert at Community Centre
- ▶ 8th December – School Panto in Sophie Hall, 5.00pm
- ▶ 9th December – School Panto in Sophie Hall, 5.00pm
- ▶ 11th Christmas Panto at Everyman Theatre

More dates are available from the school website at <http://www.hopelands.org.uk/Calendar.html>

Swimming dates

September 2009	22, 29
October 2009	6, 13, 20
November 2009	17, 24
December 2009	1
January 2010	19, 26
February 2010	2, 9, 23
March 2010	2, 9, 16
April 2010	27
May 2010	4, 11, 18
June 2010	8, 15, 22, 29