



# Hopelands Preparatory School

38/40 Regent Street, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, GL10 2AD

## IN THIS ISSUE:

Dates for the Diary  
 Calendar  
 Lost Property  
 Staff Profile of the Week  
 Sporting Heroes  
 The MP, The Mayor and the Poets  
 Friends of Hopelands Newsletter

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER – November 17th 2017

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

**BOOK FAIR** – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December, Hopelands

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT** – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December, 1.30pm, Stonehouse Court Hotel

**CHRISTMAS FAIR** – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2pm, Hopelands

**CHRISTINGLE SERVICE** – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2pm St Cyr's Church

**WHOLE SCHOOL TRIP – Bristol Hippodrome to see 'Awful Auntie' – Thursday 3rd May 2018**

**Friends of Hopelands**

**PANTOMINE** – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December, Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham

## LOST PROPERTY

We have been made aware of the following items of lost property

Alice Stevenson – school cardigan

items of lost property are kept in the plastic box on the verandah of the outside classroom behind the Sophie Hall.

## BOOK FAIR

In school for three days – 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> December.  
Be Santa's Little Helper and take the opportunity to buy books for him to give out at Christmas.

## NOVEMBER

Tuesday 21st	Swimming Years 3,5 and 6 Recep:/year 1 and 2 to the Forest School Football at Tewkesbury
Tuesday 28th	Swimming Years 3,5 and 6
Wednesday 29th	School to sing carols at the Community Centre
Thursday 30th	Book Fair in school

## DECEMBER

Saturday 2nd	Goodwill Concert in Stonehouse
Monday 4th	Head's Tea Party
Tuesday 5th	Swimming Years 3, 5 and 6
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Concert – 1.30pm, Stonehouse Hotel
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Fair – 3pm – 6pm
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Christingle Service – 2pm, St Cyr's <b>LAST DAY OF TERM</b>

## JANUARY

Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>SCHOOL STARTS</b> Please note: There will be no hot lunches available this week.
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Head's Tea Party
Tuesday 9th	Swimming Years 3, 5 and 6 - GALA
Thursday 11th	Young Voices in Birmingham
Tuesday 16th	Swimming Years Reception, 1, 2 and 4
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Swimming Years Reception, 1, 2 and 4
Tuesday 30th	Swimming Years Reception, 1, 2 and 4



**MR STEVE EVANS  
DRAMATIC TENNIS SUPREMO  
HEAD OF DRAMA**

Mr Evans plays tennis. To be specific he plays very good tennis and, in 2013, was ranked 71 in the World Over-55s ranking. He still plays at national level and, when not at Hopelands declaiming Santa Claus epics, he coaches at the East Gloucestershire Tennis Club in Cheltenham.

Steve is very fond of sports, theatre and cooking – his speciality dish is Mary Berry’s Christmas Genoa Cake (orders can be taken he says).

Steve has been acting on the amateur stage since the age of 12. He once auditioned for the part of Hamlet in a local production but, despite being the only person to audition, he still didn’t get the part! Steve now aspires to be Lily Savage’s understudy as The Fairy Godmother in his next Bristol panto – swapping Dane for Dame presumably. He has no previous convictions (he tells us).

**Hopelands Sporting Heroes Gain Gold**

Two of Hopelands Preparatory School’s young sporting starts excelled themselves last weekend when they both won Gold Medals in their own sports.

Alice Stevenson (age 10) won a gold medal – red Belt - in the 30-35kg category at a judo tournament in Kidderminster last weekend. Alice is a member of the Stroud Judo Club run by Richard Neale and was competing with a number of other Stroud Players. She was described as typically cool, calm and collected and showed great determination to overthrow her opponents.



Meanwhile, over at Horfields Pool, Amy Jones (age 8) was proving her prowess in the pool by winning a quite startling SEVEN gold medals and TWO Bronze medals (with two more competitions still to swim for) in the under 9s and under 8s groups. Her club, the Severnside Tritons’, is one of the largest and most successful swimming clubs in the South West. The club provides a competitive swimming development programme for swimmers to County, Regional and in some cases, National Level so Amy is in good hands for her future Olympic career!

Mrs Jacky McQuillan, Head of PE at Hopelands – and herself a National High Jump athlete - said “ I am so very proud of Alice and Amy. Our facilities at Hopelands may be small but the talent, drive and ambition of our pupils, both at school and outside, is most certainly not. We have grown used to winning school team events at Netball, Cross-country and Football but to see our young athletes shine in their own right is a special feeling”.

**STROUD’S MP VISITS  
HOPELANDS**

Hopelands welcomed David Drew MP to address Monday’s whole school assembly on the topic of My Life as an MP, as part of UK Parliament Week. UK Parliament Week is ‘an annual festival that engages people from across the UK with Parliament, explores what it means to them and empowers them to get involved’. Some of the children were brave enough to ask questions, which ranged from the impact of Brexit on the UK and what tempted Mr Drew into a career in politics to whether he had met the Queen and Mrs May. As part of their Citizenship curriculum, the pupils in Key Stage 2 will also be participating in Parliament Outreach workshops in February 2018.

Mrs Barbara Sands, Head of PHSE, was delighted with the level of participation that the children showed. “It is never too early to get children involved in citizenship studies. It is part of the school’s ethos to produce well-rounded young people who care about the world they live in and want to get involved and make things better”.

Head Boy Oliver Preece, asked Mr Drew if any other members of his family were interested in politics too. Oliver said later “I also asked about the difference between a MP and a Minister. I think it’s important we know things about politics”



In the night-time darkness  
In the night-time cold  
Did you see a bonfire  
With fiery flames of gold? (Year 2)

Did you see a rocket  
Zoom into space  
And hear a loud bang  
With a surprised WOW on your face? (Lucia)

Did you hear a firework  
Making bangs so loud  
When it zoomed into the sky  
And amazed the watching crowd? (Daniel)

In the night-time darkness  
In the night-time cold  
Did you see a rocket whizz into the sky  
Crackle, crackle, say goodbye. (Harry)

Did you watch a rocket  
Shoot up into space?  
Did you hold a sparkler  
Which rained stars across your face? (Eoghan)

Did you hold a sparkler  
As it crackled in your hand?  
And watch the rocket zoom  
Raining colours down to land? (Holly)

Did you watch a magic rocket  
Zooming in the sky?  
With a crackle, crackle  
As it goes by? (Vandamai)

In the night-time darkness  
In the night-time cold  
Did you watch a rocket flying into space  
And hear loud bangs with  
Excitement on your face? (Toby)



## Stonehouse's Mayor Comes to Hopelands



The children of Hopelands Preparatory School welcomed the Mayor of Stonehouse, Mrs Theresa Watt, to judge their annual Spiritual Arts competition, which this year was a photographic competition on the theme of Our Wonderful World.

Entries included photographs of the children's pets, landscapes and autumn scenes as well as still life compilations that summed up the children's idea of what makes their world 'wonderful'.  
The Winners in each Year Group were:

Year 6 - Gold Lucy McDowell Silver Lucy McDowell

Year 5 - Gold Phoebe Smart Silver Neve Field

Year 4 - Gold Max Safizadeh Silver Lexi Coles and Natalie Pearse

Year 3 - Gold Francesca Pearse Silver Nadia Peet

Year 2 – Gold Lily Williams Silver Lucia Edwards

Year 1 – Rowan Allen

Reception – Gabriel Geliamaasi

## PARK LIFE GETS BETTER

Year 6 went to The Park Junior School for another shared lesson on Wednesday, this time the sport played was football. A quote from one of The Park pupils was, 'It was the best PE lesson ever'!

The lesson consisted of three different groups playing in a rotation system which included match play, passing skills and routines, with dribbling skills.

The teacher from The Park stated she was so impressed, she wondered if we could book in more shared lessons!

Well done Hopelands for also demonstrating your wonderful social skills which complimented those football skills.

Congratulations especially to Jacob Richards for winning one of the three certificates awarded.



Mrs McQuillan

## Friends of Hopelands

### Spooktacular

Last Friday, 56 children dressed up for our late FOH Halloween extravaganza - Spooktacular! Apple bobbing, face painting, disco dancing and hotdogs cooked on the barbecue were just some of the delights on offer, and those who were brave enough put their hands into the truly revolting yucky dips to fish for prizes.



A fabulous time was had by all! Thank you to everyone who supported this event.



Thanks

Charlie Coles

Chair, Friends of Hopelands

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