



Hopelands Preparatory School

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

Newsletter 10th September

Dates for your Diary

September 17th EYFS Parents meeting at 3.45pm

September 23rd Competition Deadline

September 28th Space Day for Year 2, Superhero Day for Year 1 & EYFS Parents meeting at 6pm

October 4th Bikeability – Year 6

October 11th Mental Health Morning – Whole School

October 21st to October 29th - Half Term

November 16th – School Photographs (Individuals & Siblings)

In this week:

- Welcome
- Science
- Reception
- Competition
- Head Pupils
- Sunflower
- School Clubs
- Stonehouse Litter Pick

Lost Property

Please look out for the following lost property items, thank you.

Pink/purple glasses - Florence

PE Polo Top – Anthony Tiptaft

School Coat – Arthur Crane

School Jumper – Arthur Lloyd

School Care

In line with the easing of the Government's Covid restriction please note that you no longer need to pre book morning or after school care with the office.

Morning school care is available every day from 7.45am, please bring your child to the school hall.

If any children are not collected at 3.30pm after school they will go into after school care - Year 3 and upwards will go to Homework Club. Please remember to sign your child out with either Mrs Coles or Miss Brown when you collect your child from school care. The latest collection time is 5.30pm.



For all the latest pictures and weekly activities please follow our Facebook page
@HopelandsPreparatorySchool

Welcome by Mrs Bradburn

Welcome parents to the new academic year 2021/22

I would like to start by welcoming our new families in Reception but also those in a couple of other classes to the Hopelands' community. I sincerely hope everyone has had the best possible start to the new term. Please join me also in welcoming our new teachers, Miss Hurley, Mrs Jobanputra, Mr Kirby and Mrs Stevenson to the Hopelands' team of staff. They have joined us full of ideas and enthusiasm, and it has been a great start for all. I hope you have had the chance this week to meet some of the new teachers personally but if not yet, please do seek them out in the playground over the coming days if you wish.

In my first newsletter contribution I would like to focus on four main areas:

Core Aims, Core Values, Safeguarding & Antbullying and Mental Wellbeing.

Core Aims

Our staff began the new term with two days of INSET training on the Monday and Tuesday. This was a good way to ensure all of us are reminded of our core Hopelands' values and aims so we all thrive to achieve the best for your children. At Hopelands we thrive:

1. To be a non-selective small school with small class sizes
2. To provide a caring, family environment with a 'whole school' ethos where children from all age groups integrate
3. To achieve academic excellence and academic potential of each pupil
4. To ensure respect and courtesy to others
5. To instil confidence in all pupils to become self-confident independent learners

Our core Hopelands' values are:

Teamwork, Resilience, Respect, Ambition, Creativity, Kindness, Honesty, Responsibility, Tolerance & Understanding, Friendship, Trust and Happiness.

We start the Autumn Term with a focus on **Ambition**. This will be put into practice through a variety of methods such as assemblies, PHSE lessons and displays across school.

Safeguarding & Anti-bullying

Safeguarding and Anti-bullying are two of the most important issues in any school. I firmly believe that children need to feel safe and happy to be able to learn and that it is our responsibility to create this safe environment. I would therefore like to reassure you that we have a zero-tolerance policy when it comes to bullying and that all cases of potential bullying and also safeguarding are thoroughly investigated. We regularly train all our staff to ensure we do not miss anything, and our policies reflect this and are on the website for you to read if you wish. We also endeavour to create a culture at Hopelands where all children can be and are heard. This is done through assemblies, head's teas, worry boxes, school council, celebrating anti-bullying week, Governor surgeries, and many more initiatives throughout the school year.

Welcome by Mrs Bradburn

Mental Wellbeing

Mental wellbeing is naturally at the forefront of our minds. Please join me in congratulating Miss Cook, our wellbeing lead, who successfully completed a Level 2 Certificate in *Awareness of Mental Health Problems*. She will also be attending a neuro diversity course in October followed by a whole school mental health morning. And I, myself, have recently trained as a *Psychological First Aider* (specifically supporting children and young people). As you can see, to follow our core values, we know mental wellbeing is ever so important and we take this very seriously at Hopelands where we endeavour to offer the best possible support for each child. I know we are well equipped to deal with any wellbeing issues in school.

What a heart-warming start we have had!

It was our first whole school assembly in over 18 months. I asked the children what they enjoyed most during the day and they were unanimous in their response - they could now all play together without bubbles. It was fantastic after such a long time to have a whole school assembly again and I thoroughly enjoyed seeing all the children together after such a long time. Badges such as heads of school and house captains were awarded as is our tradition but what triggered the most excitement by far was the Year 6 children meeting their buddies in Reception for the first time. Another Hopelands' tradition that we have missed for so long. To see the buddy system in action again and for the children to be playing together is a truly heart-warming sight and has made my week.

This is a slightly longer contribution to the newsletter than I had planned but I feel it is important for all parents, in particular the new families, to feel welcome and to rest assured that at Hopelands your children are cared for in the best possible way.

I will try and write less next time!

Please also be reminded that my door is always open, come and see me if you wish to discuss anything or send me an email.

Warmest regards,

Mrs Bradburn

Science by Madame Trebble

The atmosphere in the Class 4 science lesson was electric! The children enjoyed exploring a range of electrical devices and games. In pairs and small groups, they were set the challenge of figuring out how and why the devices work and to think about the way in which the electrical energy changes when the electrical current passes through the item. Parents, you may wish to ask your children to think about some of the same questions with the electrical items in your own home!



Reception by Miss Hurley

The children in Reception have settled into the new school year beautifully. They have been learning all about the book 'The Rainbow Fish' as part of their topic 'It's good to be me'. They have learnt this week about being kind, sharing and how they are each special in their own way.



Reception by Miss Hurley



Reception by Miss Hurley



Competition Time!

European Day of Languages

The European Day of Languages is celebrated across Europe on 26th September every year. It aims to promote the rich linguistic diversity of Europe and raise the importance of lifelong language learning for everyone.



At Hopelands, we are running a competition to paint a pebble, stone or rock to celebrate the European Day of Languages.

Competition Criteria

Your pebble, stone or rock must...

- be **painted**
- represent a country in **Europe**
- include the **name of the country** (on the front or back)
- include your **name**



Your pebble, stone or rock could show...

- a flag
- a famous monument
- a famous scientist, artist, musician etc.

We are looking forward to seeing lots of creativity and colour!

The deadline is Thursday 23rd September. Will you be a winner?

Head Pupils

Congratulations to Vandamai Steger and Eoghan Jones who are the Head Pupils for this half term. Each half term pupils are selected by the teaching staff, and Vandamai and Eoghan were chosen for their kindness, respect and teamwork. Well done to both of you, you already are and continue to be fantastic ambassadors for the school!



Sunflower

From a tiny seed which Alex planted when she was in reception with Miss O'Neill and Mrs Stick, to a beautiful sunflower which is now over 6 feet tall! Well done Alex it looks fantastic!



After School Clubs

Yoga and Mindfulness Club



There will be a free taster session of the Yoga & Mindfulness club next Tuesday after school. This is open to Year 1 to Year 6 and will finish at 4.30pm. If you would like to attend please let the office know.

Origami Club



Madame Trebble will be running an origami club after school on Thursdays. This will be for Years 3-6. If you would like to attend please let the office know.

Stonehouse Community Litter Pick

There is a Community Litter pick taking place on **Sunday 19th September** at 2.00pm.

If anyone would like to go, they are meeting at the Pod, which is the youth building in Oldends Lane. There will also be tea and cake afterwards!

