



Hopelands Preparatory School

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

Newsletter 16th September

| September | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 19 th | Closed – Bank Holiday | | |
| 21 st | 1.30 – 4pm | Swimming at Westonbirt | Y1, 2 and 3 |
| 23 rd | Jeans for Genes Day | | |
| 27 th | European Day of Languages | | |
| 28 th | 1.30 – 4pm | Swimming at Westonbirt | Y1, 2 and 3 |
| 28 th | 1 – 4.30pm | Hockey at Rendcomb | Y5 & 6 Girls |
| October | | | |
| 3 rd – 6 th | Various | Bikeability | Y6 |
| 3 rd | TBC | Tag Rugby Festival at Hatherop Castle | Y3 and 4 |
| 5 th | 1.30 – 4pm | Swimming at Westonbirt | Y1, 2 and 3 |
| 6 th | 4pm start | Cross Country at Newlands, Bishops Cleeve | Y3, 4, 5 and 6 |
| 7 th | 1.30 – 4.15pm | Tag Rugby at Berkhamstead School | Y3 |
| 12 th | 1.30 – 4pm | Swimming at Westonbirt | Y1, 2 and 3 |
| 13 th | 4.15pm start | Cross Country at St Edwards | Y3, 4, 5 and 6 boys |
| 14 th | 4.15pm start | Cross Country at St Edwards | Y3, 4, 5 and 6 girls |
| 17 th | 8.30-11.30 | Flu Immunisation | |
| 19 th | 1.30 – 4pm | Swimming at Westonbirt | Y1, 2 and 3 |
| 19 th | TBC | STEM Day at Wycliffe | Y4, 5 and 6 |
| Half Term | | | |

In this week's newsletter:

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Coding Club
House Captains
European Day
Match Report
Notices

For all the latest pictures and weekly activities please follow us on social media:



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Welcome

Dear Parents,

Another week has flown by. And what a week it has been! The pictures in this newsletter will tell their own story. However, to name but a few events, this week we have celebrated her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, National Coding Week, Roald Dahl Story Day, played (and won!) our first hockey fixture at Hatherop Castle School, started swimming again at Westonbirt School and launched the use of our brand-new iPads.

Each day this week, every class started the morning with a few images of her late Majesty. Together with their form teacher the children spent a few minutes talking about the Queen, discovering all sorts of small but fascinating facts about her life, her upbringing, and her reign. These small class-based celebrations of her life then culminated in a whole school assembly today led by Mr Kirby and Paddington Bear who even brought along some marmalade sandwiches to sweeten up our breaktime.

As it was national coding week it was the perfect time to launch our brand-new iPads. We are so excited to tell you that we now have a set of 16 iPads which we use across the curriculum to support the learning. Through apps such as Times Table Rockstars, Scratch, Lego Boost, Fish, Number Blocks, Alpha Blocks, a Bleep Test app and many more all children from Reception to Year 6 can access the curriculum in an engaging and quick way. The teachers are thrilled with this investment as they know how many benefits the devices offer.

We have been incredibly fortunate as our very own FOH Team have been able to make a substantial contribution to the funding required for the devices. A big thank you therefore goes to FOH for the continuous fundraising efforts to support our school. We are so lucky to have parents who are supportive and give time above and beyond. We know how busy everyone's lives are.

Another enormous thank you goes to Mr and Mrs Cook, Juniper's parents who recently moved schools following a relocation. The Cook Family made a very generous donation indeed towards the purchase of the iPads in recognition for the happy times Junie had at Hopelands. We would like to express our gratitude to the Cooks for their generosity and kindness. It is an absolute pleasure to share this quote with you from Mr Cook as we feel it very much sums up our Hopelands' ethos:

'What you have done for Junie as a school and as a group of teachers means the world to us, and her. She came to you as a very nervous and shy person, traits which she still has elements of, but you have managed to instil more confidence and belief in her, and she is a very happy child. This is a result of the lovely caring teachers and the culture which you have built there, as well as the great activities and lessons you run (including the mindfulness work).'

We would also like to tell you about our pupil leadership team as we welcome on board our new House Captains who, for the first time ever, were asked to apply for the roles via written applications. I am sure you will love reading more about the contributions they have pledged to make to the school which you can find later in the newsletter. We are lucky to have such a dedicated pupil leadership team this term. The professional and engaging manner in which our Head Pupils showed around prospective families this week has already been recognised by our visitors. Well done girls!

Last, but by no means least, we would like to wish our Year 6 the very very best of luck and success for the 11+ exam this Saturday. It takes a lot of hard work, patience, perseverance and a good dose of self-belief. It's all in our motto: I can, I will, I do. At the same time, it is worth remembering that exams only measure a little bit of every person.

Have a wonderful, relaxing bank holiday weekend.

Sonja Jones & Maria Boix

Joint Headteachers

Remembering the Queen

This week we have been both remembering and celebrating the life of the Queen with the children. At the start of every day the children have been discovering different facts about her life. This has prompted many interesting discussions, with the focus being in a positive way, rather than drawing too much attention to her death.



At the end of the week we held a special assembly where we all watched Paddington Bear have tea with the Queen, followed by everyone having marmalade sandwiches!



Reception by Miss White

Huge love was given to fruit and veggies this week! After quick cuddles and happy smiles, our gorgeous Reception class drew their favourite fruit or vegetable toy, adding wonderful character elements. It is always such a joy to teach this creative group, they love having a whole lesson of Art to themselves!

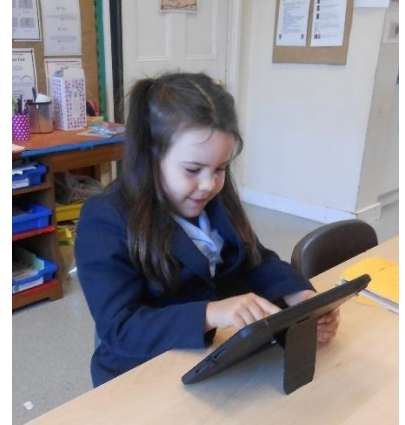


Year 1 by Mrs Jobanputra

As part of our science lessons, we have been learning about how we change as we get older. We held a fascinating lesson where all the children brought in pictures of themselves as a baby. Everyone tried to guess which baby picture belonged to who and they were amazed at they have all changed.



iPads by Mrs Jobanputra



Everyone has enjoyed using the iPads this week with Times Table Rock Stars being a big hit! We have invested in different applications which will complement the classroom teaching – ranging from learning multiplication in a fun and competitive way to apps focusing on wellbeing and mindfulness.

Year 2 by Mrs Trebble

Year 2 explored the Hopelands' surroundings more closely during their science lesson, as they went on a hunt for items that are alive, dead and never been alive.

They showed fantastic independent learning in their choice of areas to explore. The children demonstrated super thinking skills during discussions and the hunt with comments such as 'I'm looking for something that has never been alive. I can't use the paper because that once belonged to a tree.'

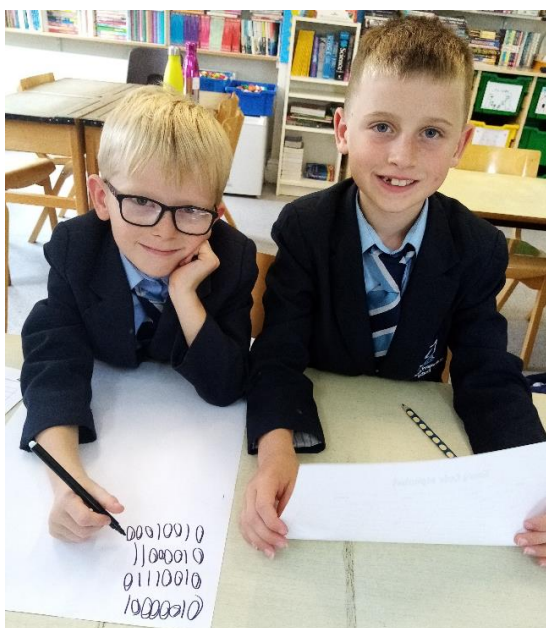
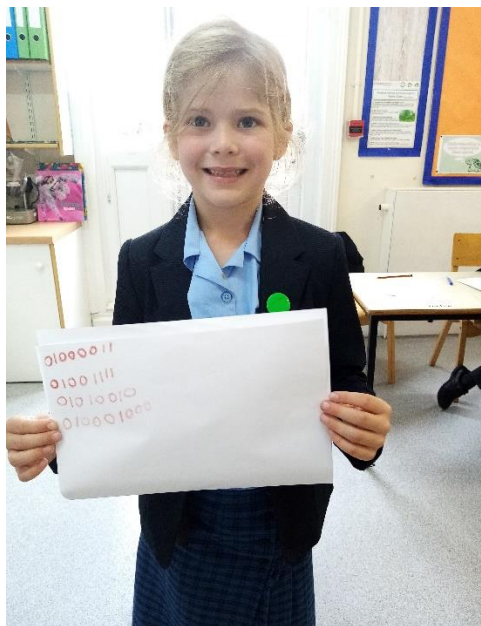
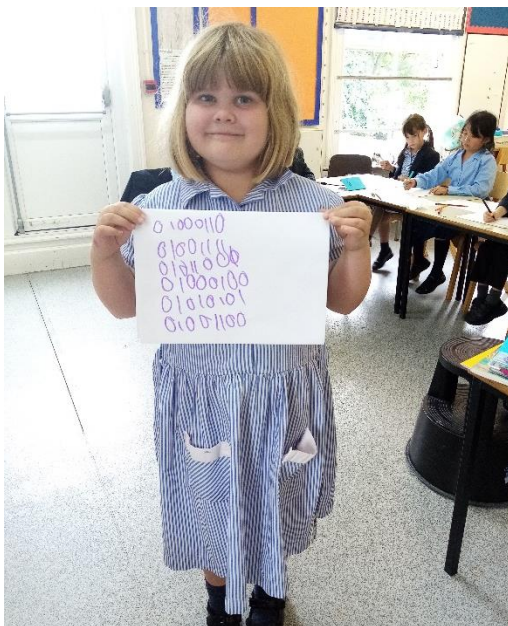


Year 3 by Mrs Jobanputra

This week is national coding week. National Coding Week is a brilliant event to inspire our child to learn more about coding. Coding is how we tell computers what they are supposed to do for us. Computers follow a set of instructions (code) written by a programmer. There are lots of different programming languages. You may have heard of Java, HTML or CSS. Each of these languages has a unique set of keywords and syntax for organising programming instructions. Ada Lovelace was one of the first computer programmers. She worked with Charles Babbage, who invented the early mechanical computer called Analytical Engine. In 1843 Ada Lovelace wrote the first computer program. In other words, an algorithm designed to be carried out by the machine.

As part of Year 3's computing lesson this week they explored the Binary Alphabet. Instead of writing the letter "A", computers would write 01000001. Binary numbers are always eight digits long and are only made up of zeros or ones.

The children in Year 3 described how they were feeling using the Binary alphabet for their friends to guess. The task was so much fun with a little debugging involved! Can you write words or messages using the binary alphabet?

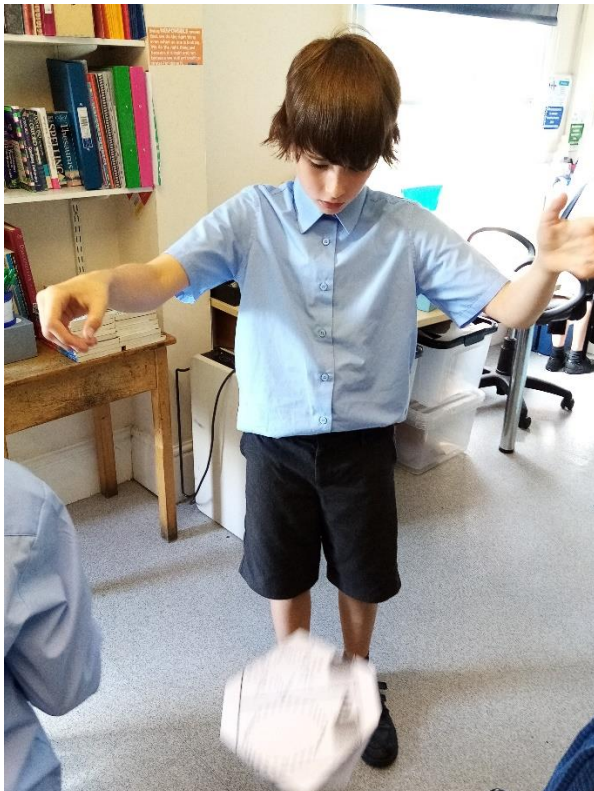
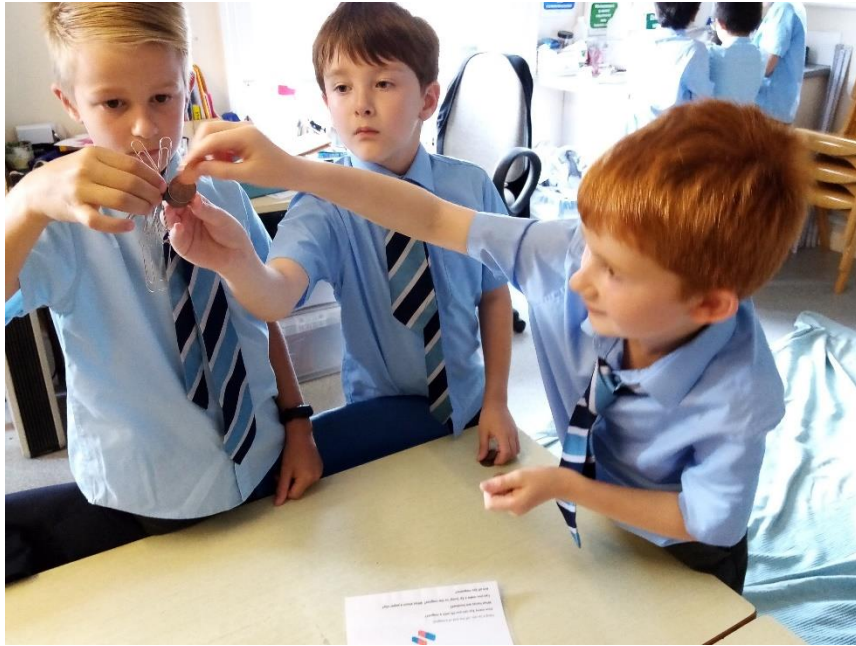


| | | | |
|---|----------|---|----------|
| A | 01000001 | N | 01001110 |
| B | 01000010 | O | 01001111 |
| C | 01000011 | P | 01010000 |
| D | 01000100 | Q | 01010001 |
| E | 01000101 | R | 01010010 |
| F | 01000110 | S | 01010011 |
| G | 01000111 | T | 01010100 |
| H | 01001000 | U | 01010101 |
| I | 01001001 | V | 01010110 |
| J | 01001010 | W | 01010111 |
| K | 01001011 | X | 01011000 |
| L | 01001100 | Y | 01011001 |
| M | 01001101 | Z | 01011010 |

Year 4 & 5

Year 4 & 5 started their Forces topic by carrying out a series of six mini-experiments and considering which forces were involved in each activity.

They worked independently to set up and carry out each activity and then they fed back their findings to the class. We discussed the idea of how we know forces are acting on an object, what forces make an object move and also which forces oppose such movement. Over the coming weeks, we will investigate each of the counter-forces in more detail and work scientifically to plan and carry out investigations in small groups.



Year 6 by Mrs Stevenson

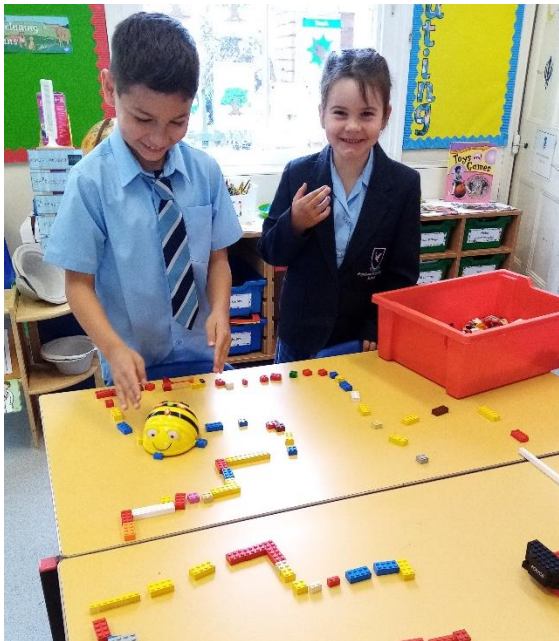
In Year 6, we have started a topic on respiration and the circulatory system which will build on the human biology that they have already learned in previous years concerning the digestive and Musculo-skeletal systems. The children started with an activity to look at how exercise affects the heart rate. The girls measured their resting pulse rates and then did some 'vigorous exercise' before monitoring their pulse throughout recovery. The girls then proposed reasons why the heart rate needs to increase and thought about the role of the blood in the body. Unlike most primary schools, we are very lucky to have access to dissection equipment in school so the children are already looking forward to getting stuck into a heart dissection in a couple of weeks. Thanks to Imogen (couldn't find a pulse!) for the photographs!



Coding Club by Mrs Jobanputra

This term we have introduced a coding club as one of our extracurricular activities. The aim is to focus on developing and enhancing the children's computing skills, computational thinking and problem solving. During the first week the children were tasked with creating a maze using Lego and had programme the 'beebot' robot to avoid touching the Lego. Through this the children were able to learn how to code a basic algorithm and use sequencing to help the 'beebot' get through the Lego maze. There was a lot of teamwork and problem solving involved as we had to go back and 'debug' our original programme by identifying any errors along the way. So much fun!

This week the children have been using the programme Scratch to animate their names. We started by choosing a background and then selected each letter to code, by giving it a set of instructions. The children got so creative they were able to add or change colour, make their letter dance and glide, change size and play sounds. Coding club takes place every Tuesday after school, if you would like to join please let the office know.



House Captains by Miss Porter

This term, Year 6 have had to apply for the position of House Captain by filling out an application form to state why they think they are suitable for the job, what they will aim to achieve as house captain and previous 'work experience at home' that made them an ideal and responsible candidate.

All applications were well written but only 3 positions are available every half term. We are proud to announce the following candidates have been chosen:

Dahl House: Layla Griffiths. Layla has promised to work with Mr Kirby to run some house sports competitions and she comes well prepared with much experience at helping parents with the dishwasher, taking out the bins and 'once in while' doing the filing in her parent's office - welcome aboard Layla!

Fine House: Rowan Allen. Rowan has vowed to arrange some charity work by raising money through activities such as sponsored silence and a sponsored run. She aims to create fun competitions to suit the personalities of a wide range of people. Her previous charity work includes making blankets for the homeless out of crisp packets. Good luck in your new role, Rowan!

Rowling House: Imogen Hunter. Imogen is keen to launch a story competition this term and showcase the work of her fellow peers. She shows off mature responsibility skills through washing, feeding and grooming her dog and helping out at home with washing up and unloading the dishwasher. We look forward to having you on the house captain team!



European Day of Languages by Mrs Trebble

On Tuesday 27th September we are having a whole school celebration for the European Day of Languages.

On this day we would like your child to come to school dressed in a way that represents a country in Europe. This could link to the flag, a famous person, or a famous monument. We would like the children to keep the identity of their country a surprise and to come to school ready to present a fact about this country or to teach their class a word or phrase from their chosen country on the day. Their classmates will then have the task to decide which country is represented.

We are also running a bunting competition. The criteria is as follows:

1. design a piece of bunting using the provided template (Please cut out the bunting)
2. include the words 'hello' or 'welcome' in one European language
3. decorate the bunting to represent the country

Please note that the bunting should be done on paper, 1 entry per child. It can be for any European country (not just EU members) and the bunting design does not have to link in with the child's outfit.

Entries can be handed in to the office or class teacher and the final deadline is the morning of Tuesday 27th September. We are really looking forward to seeing the designs and we will celebrate the children's creativity by displaying all entries in the school playground for the end of the day.



Match Report by Mr Kirby

U11 Hockey vs Hatherop Castle - Played 2, Won 1, Lost 1

Our U11 girls made a fantastic start to the hockey season when we travelled to Hatherop Castle for two training games. The matches were split into sections and the girls had an opportunity to try various positions whilst playing competitive hockey against another school.

We start extremely well with Hannah putting us one up before not being able to withstand the pressure from the opposition as they equalised. However, we then found our top gear and scored three quick goals through Lilly and Eva (2). I don't think the girls could believe it and they were pleasantly surprised with the score line. We did concede one more before the end of the first game as we ran out 4-2 winners. We then faced a stronger, fresher team in the second match and tiredness set in as we couldn't maintain the high tempo in the glorious September sun. The aim of the afternoon was to help girls from both schools and coach throughout the fixture to aid their progress in the sport and this definitely happened.

Ava M and Lilly stepped up to the task with ease as they were determined no one was going past them, keeping their sticks low and looking to distribute the ball to the wide areas whenever in possession. Layla and Hannah also tackled well and held their positions effectively, allowing others the freedom to attack. Emi, Ava P and Florence benefitted from the fixture as they spent much of their time out wide, working the channels and supporting the defence when required. In addition, they needed to break quickly to help our forwards and found the playing time useful. I was pleased to see Martha and Harriet improve on performances from last season, listening to advice and enjoying the afternoon. Rowan and Imogen looked dangerous when in possession as they made some lovely runs off the ball and caused confusion and panic in our opponents' defence; well done girls. Eva, apart from slotting two goals, played in all positions throughout the game and took this in her stride.

Thank you to Hatherop for a wonderful afternoon and well done to the girls on a great performance! Next up is Rendcomb on September 28th.



Harvest Cup of Kindness

We are trying a new initiative this year. As well as asking for your donations for the Food Bank, we will also be asking for hot chocolate sachets, small bags of treats (for example chocolate buttons, mini marshmallows, individually wrapped biscuits or individually wrapped sweets/small chocolate bars) as donations to go into a 'Cup of Kindness'.

These treats will be placed into an individual cup and saucer, wrapped up to look inviting and sent to the food bank alongside the larger harvest food donations. We hope that those who need it can give themselves a little treat at this Autumnal time of year.

We already have the cups and saucers, so we have made a good start! Please pass any 'treat' donations to Mrs Compton and the school office. The children in the IL Friday team and myself will start putting these together as soon as we have enough treats to put in them!

With huge thanks from us all,

Miss White



Notices

Jeans for Genes Day

Next Friday, 23rd September, we are supporting 'Jeans for Genes Day', this is an annual fundraising event for the genetic condition community. The children can wear jeans for this day and bring in a suggested donation of £1. Thank you for your support.

Flu Vaccine

Thank you to everyone who has given in their flu vaccine consent form, there are a few spare in the office if anyone needs one. Please note the date of the flu vaccination has been bought forward by the NHS team, this will now take place on October 17th.

Hopelands Rucksacks

Friends of Hopelands have some school rucksacks available to purchase at a cost of £15. If you would like one, please contact Mrs LeMasurier, Ethan and Norahs' mum, at kamilyab@gmail.com

Christmas Cards

Friends of Hopelands are taking part in designing your own Christmas cards. The forms have been given out to the children so that they can complete their designs at home. (I have some spare in the office if anyone needs another one). Please avoid heavy felt tips and glitter! FoH have asked for all forms and payments to be completed by the 7th October. Once the form is finished please hand it to one of FoH representatives; Hattie Jeffries, Jess Middlemiss, Lee-Anne Etherington, Eve How, Liz Jennings, Jenni Bingham, Maryann Wood or Daisy Bamford. If you have any queries regarding this, please email: friendsofhopelands@yahoo.com.

Families Magazine

Please see the link to the latest issue of [Families Gloucestershire Magazine](#) This 'Back to School' issue is loaded with useful information and articles for parents including:

- Road safety for children
- Chapter books that encourage kindness
- New term teething problems
- Screen free rainy-day activities
- Enjoying Autumn outside
- Family friendly walks for Autumn
- DIY Halloween costumes

Constabulary and OPCC Open Day postponed

The Constabulary and Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Open Day, which was due to take place on Saturday 17 September, has been postponed. As a mark of respect, and while the country is in a period of mourning, it has been decided that the event will not go ahead as scheduled. The Open Day was due to take place at Police Headquarters in Gloucester, and a new date in 2023 is in the process of being arranged.

Message from Friends of Hopelands

Last call for the Pantomime at The Everyman Theatre! The show is Dick Whittington on Thursday 15th at 2pm. We have reserved great seats and tickets are £17. Please pay by BACS: Friends of Hopelands, Account no: 01459545, Sort code: 30-98-29, Ref: Child name and class

Once you have made payment, please email friendsofhopelands@yahoo.com to confirm that the payment has gone through, the number of tickets and the child's name, thank you. **Last day for payments is this Sunday.**