



Hopelands Preparatory School

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

Newsletter 23rd September

September			
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	Bikeability		Y6
3 rd	1 – 4.30pm	Tag Rugby Festival at Hatherop Castle	Y3 and 4
4 th	4pm start	Cross Country at Newlands, Bishops Cleeve	Y3, 4, 5 and 6
5 th	1.30 – 4pm	Swimming at Westonbirt	Y1, 2 and 3
7 th	1.30 – 4.15pm	Tag Rugby at Berkhamstead School (After School Sports Club Cancelled)	Y3
12 th	1.30 – 4pm	Swimming at Westonbirt	Y1, 2 and 3
13 th	9 – 12pm	Forest School at Westonbirt	R, Y1 and Y2
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 (After School Sports Club Cancelled)	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:

Update
Class News
Dance
Gardening
Creative Club
European Day
Cup of Kindness
Congratulations

Please keep an eye out for the following lost Property:

Otto Rudd – school coat

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



[HopelandsPrepSchool](https://twitter.com/HopelandsPrepSchool)



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Joint-Head Teachers' Update

Dear Parents,

We are happy to share with you yet another busy week, full of learning, at our school.

Although this is just the end of week three into the academic year, we are very proud of all our pupils for how well they are adapting to the new routines and timetable, embracing whole-heartedly every opportunity that our dedicated staff team offer to them. Thank you, parents, for supporting your children; a credit to the great Hopelands community we all are part of.

Today is the autumnal equinox, a clear sign the autumn term is well underway. We have started to see the first signs of colds and bugs around the school, and we would like to make a plea to encourage your child/ren to continue to wash their hands frequently and maintain healthy lifestyles and eating habits. It is this time of year, with the changing weather, that we all need to give our immune systems a boost with plenty of rest, fresh air, and nutritious food.

This week we have completed our first learning walk through school, and what a joy it was to see all the engaging activities children of all ages were immersed in! We saw how the children were engrossed in a Goldilocks descriptive writing activity; lots of maths, from learning to compare animal-themed amounts in Class 1 to 'several chillies' challenges on fractions in Class 6, and a demanding task on co-ordination and clapping to the rhythm of Egyptian music. We thought this, together with the pictures shared with you in this newsletter, will give you a good insight into life at our school on any ordinary day.

All the individualised learning groups are well established now, and we have started to plan new additions to our curriculum. Earlier this week, we were pleased to announce our engagement with the Junior Duke Awards who provide an excellent framework for the development of those grit skills that we all want our young people to develop. Not to mention the sense of achievement and confidence on completion!

We ended the week with our exciting 'Jeans for Genes Day'. A fantastic way to contribute to such a worthy cause and for our children to learn about what life is like living with a genetic condition. Today the children did their little bit to support those organisations that make it their mission to improve the lives of those affected. Thank you once again for your generous contribution, we raised a total of £60.

We are really looking forward to sharing with the children some of our Spanish and German heritage next week when we celebrate the European Day of Languages. Hopefully, our success stories of living and loving our lives abroad, will inspire our pupils to embark on some adventures of their own in the future and who knows, become true global citizens themselves one day.

Last but not least, we are very pleased to announce that we will be welcoming back some of our former Year 6 pupils next Friday. They are very excited to visit us, help in lessons, share their personal school transition stories with all of us and no doubt make the day for their old buddies!

We hope you have a wonderful and relaxing weekend.

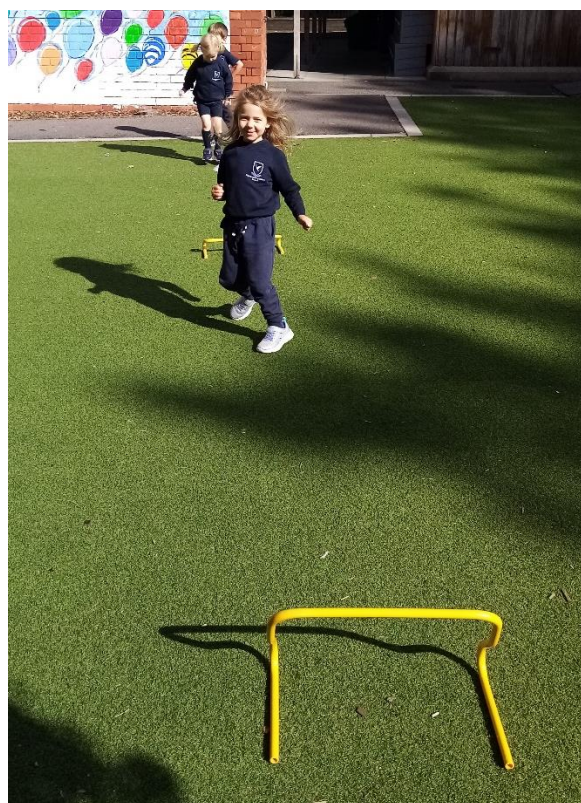
Sonja Jones & Maria Boix

Joint Headteachers

Reception by Mr Kirby

EYFS have all been frogs in PE this week! We practised our jumping before taking to the pond and, whilst in the pond, we jumped over Lilly flowers and on to Lilly pads! We needed some time to dry off and used this time wisely by jumping over logs on the side of the water before throwing them in. During our last adventure, we challenged ourselves depending on how confident we were feeling - I am pleased to say every froggy tried to jump the biggest log and many successfully completed this! EYFS froggies have all improved their jumping and it was great to see how adventurous they all were.

It was lucky we had lunch straight after as our tummies were rumbling from all of our jumping.



Reception by Mrs Powell

Reception children (with Oliver helping) have been learning to play the percussion instruments in their music lessons.

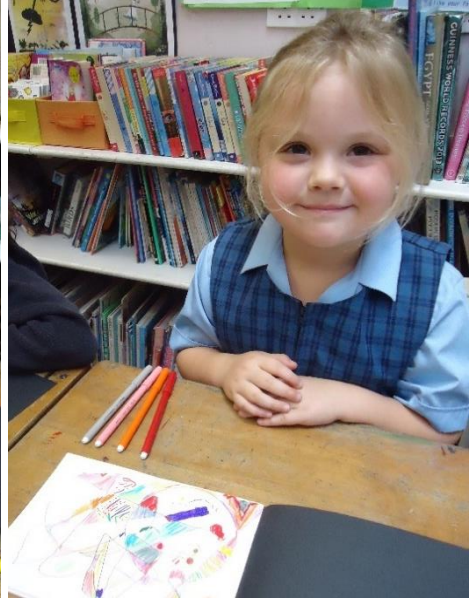
The children listened carefully to instructions and took turns on their own or in small groups, to play along with 'If you are happy and you know it'. It was fantastic to hear and see their knowledge on naming the different percussion instruments and recognise what they sound like. They can now shake and tap the instruments playing them loudly, quietly, slowly and quickly, which all help to further develop their physical skills.

Music helps build the children's self-esteem and self-discipline and leads to higher standards across the curriculum. Starting lessons at a young age helps them realise that music is fun, encourages creativity and that it is completely inclusive.



Year 1 by Miss White

Y1 are learning all about Abstract Art this term and are rising to the challenge of working in the style of Kandinsky, whilst listening to Wagner in the background! By working in the same way as the artist, our gorgeous Year 1's are responding to the music using vivid pencil strokes and amazing colour combinations. The golden rules of abstraction are easy and tricky at the same time, with the freedom to make shapes and layer multiple marks, but the challenge of making sure it doesn't look like anything in the real world! As you can see, Year 1 have made an impressive start.



Year 2 by Miss Cook

In History we have been considering what a historical source is and how Historians can use these to piece together the past. We were tasked with the question: 'How do we know if man has really been to the moon?'

The children considered a variety of sources, and which were the most reliable. We discussed the difference between a photograph and a drawing, and which one is more trustworthy. There was lots of great debate about which the best sources were, and I was so proud of our Year 2 Historians, well done guys!



Year 3 by Mrs Stevenson

Year 3 have been focusing on igneous rocks and learned about where different rocks are formed inside volcanoes - they linked prior knowledge from Minecraft (yes- it's pretty good at Science!) with our new learning to describe where pumice, granite and obsidian are formed. We also created some fabulous volcanoes and erupted them creating magma from sodium bicarbonate, orange paint and vinegar. Luckily the weather was nice so we could make use of our outdoor space to watch the eruptions. Another super week's Science from Year 3!



Year 4 & 5 by Madame Trebble

In French the children used teamwork and their thinking skills to do a translation task in a different way to usual by completing a tarsia puzzle. They had to check that all sides of the paper matched to the correct phrase or question. The children then used the questions on the puzzle to complete chilli challenges by answering as many questions as possible in a relevant way during the set time limit. This is a great way of doing revision and consolidating key phrases.



Year 4 & 5 by Miss White

The power of drawing is an amazing thing and seeing Y4 and Y5 pupils transform an empty sketchbook page into a stunning dragon drawing has been such a privilege. By following a 'step by step' approach to line, shape and form, pupils have started to understand and replicate the structure and fine detail of the dragon models in school. They have made superb progress in their new double lessons, well done!



Year 6 by Miss Porter

Year 6 have made their own poem based around our class reader 'Freedom' which explores the life of a boy enslaved during the Slave Trade era. The children learned about different types of poems such as free verse, narrative, acrostic, and limerick poems to show them how poetry isn't always based around being able to rhyme. They also looked at higher skills such as using an array of poetic devices (similes, sibilance, alliteration, metaphors, personification, internal rhyme etc) and then chose the style they wanted to write a poem about the book.

Nathaniel by Hannah

Nat was born into slavery and death,
He lives in a world of labour and regret,
Never known happiness, never known joy,
People he's forced to call masters snigger and sneer,
While he works in the scorching sun, wielding a life no human should hold.

His work is strenuous and he is rewarded with a morsel of basic human rights,
WHACK! No head is turned as a poor little child is abused for mild disobedience,
To Nat's masters, he is an object, an imperfection,
Evolved, they think not,
No education, no promise of a future,
Just a promise of torture, pain and strife.

People look the other way,
They don't care for children who should be at school,
A life? What life? How can you call something this disgusting and inhuman life?
Nat is punished for pain, pain inflicted by the people who punish,
His life is a treadmill, he never stops, he works daily and doesn't get further,

Why is it this way? How could it be?
That humans are so ignorant, that they think with their eyes,
They think they are better but how could that be?
They torture, they hurt and show no sympathy,
For little children like Nat, who work for free.

Acrostic poem by Imogen

For hundreds of years
Rites of slaves have been taken away
Environment of which is not fit for any living things
Every day they work they are rewarded with very little food
Detested by the people they call master
Oppressing them with the weight of their want and needs
Malice of which they give their commands to the people they have taken.

Nathaniel's life by Layla

Nat was sweeping all the petals,
While mama and baby Martha are unsettled,
He doesn't realize what will happen next,
Nat goes to say good-bye,
But is too late and just cries,
What he didn't know was the effects,
He found it unfair that he was alone,
His hearts becoming a stone,
His life was as bad as a prisoner in jail,
He drops the petals on the floor,
Then he's ordered to do more chores,
Now he's done,
He's had enough and won't stand down,
He just wants to run into town,
Will his life ever be fair,
All he wants is to be with mama and Martha,
He can hear the master's cruel laughter,
And they don't care,
BANG! It all fades to black...

Slavery by Lilly

The slithering stealth of violence and mist filled the sky,
Born into slavery, once a slave, always a slave,
His mother's touch taken away,
Never felt love,
But always fear,
He can't flee because master is near,

What type of life is this? Is it even a life?
People look through their brain and think through their eyes,
Punished through their race,
No education,
No family, just work,

Cruelty crawled into daily life,
Work for no reward,
You're confused and abused,
Life ruined,
Locked up in your own misery,
Ear to ear, breath to breath,
No escape, no way out.

Year 6

Mrs Jones was very impressed with all the poems. Hannah and Martha came to share their work with her which gained them a special headteacher's award.



Dance by Mrs Holloway

In dance this term we are planning, choreographing, filming, and editing, our own dance video based on the following well-known stories

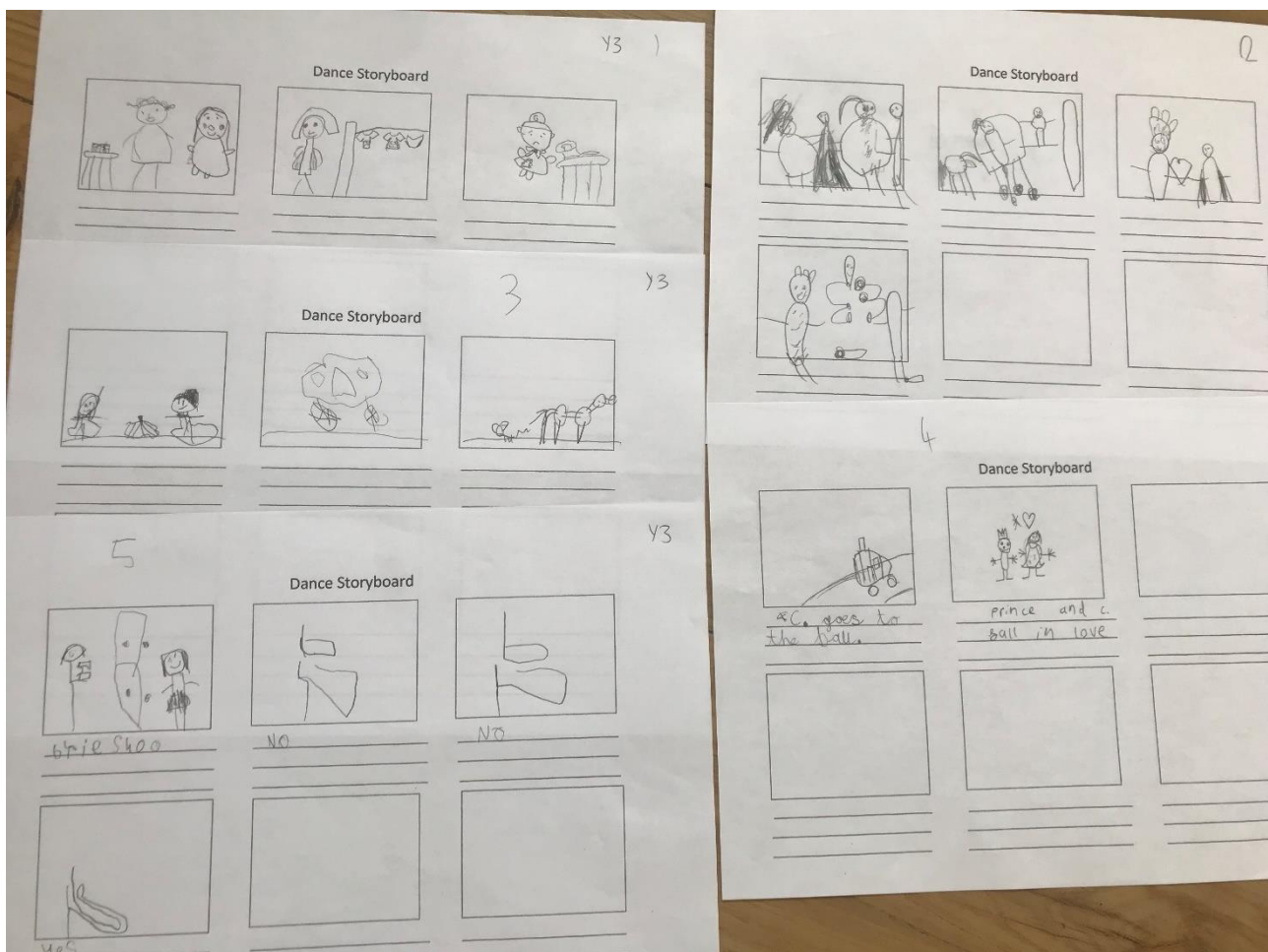
EYFS - The Three Billy Goats Gruff

Year 1 & 2 - Giraffes Can't Dance

Year 3 - Cinderella

Year 4 & 5 - Pied Piper

The children have started to draw key sections of the story on a storyboard which helps set out the sequence of the dance. Each picture will become the different scenes and video clips that will be pieced together to create the final dance video. By creating these storyboards, the children are understanding the mechanism behind a dance video. They are now realising that they need to plan and prepare a whole piece by identifying the smaller segments which make it, and that these need to be in a sequence. We will be choreographing this term and I am looking forward to seeing the children develop their creativity skills.



Gardening

At the start of the term we introduced daily individualised learning slots. This is where the children come together in small groups, across the years, to take part in an activity which offers enrichment, support and further learning opportunity.

Under the watchful eye of our very own Charlie Dimmock, aka Mrs Charles, the children are thoroughly enjoying exploring the garden, learning about plants and discovering ways to encourage nature. Last week they harvested the rhubarb and took some home where they made delicious deserts!



Creative Club by Miss Cook

In creative club we have been looking at recycling week and what that means. We had a go at redesigning the recycling logo and colouring in some recycling themed pictures. There was also a junk modelling station for children to reinvent the 'junk' into their own brand-new creations.



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

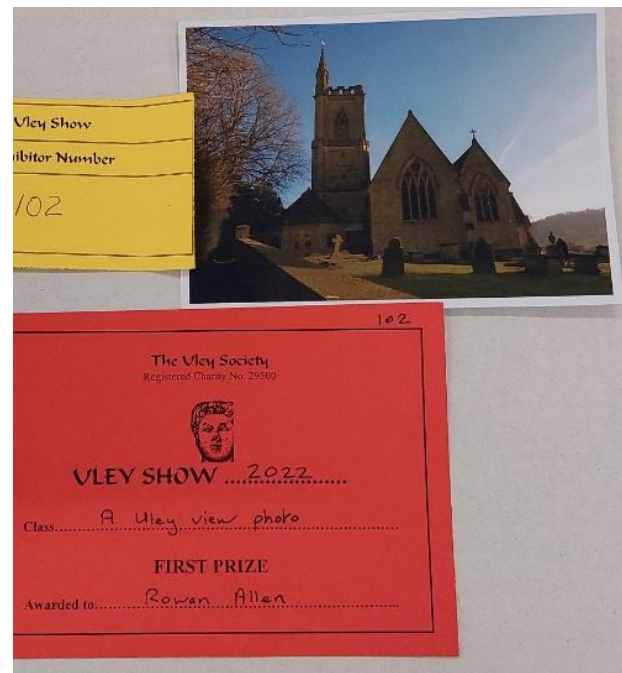
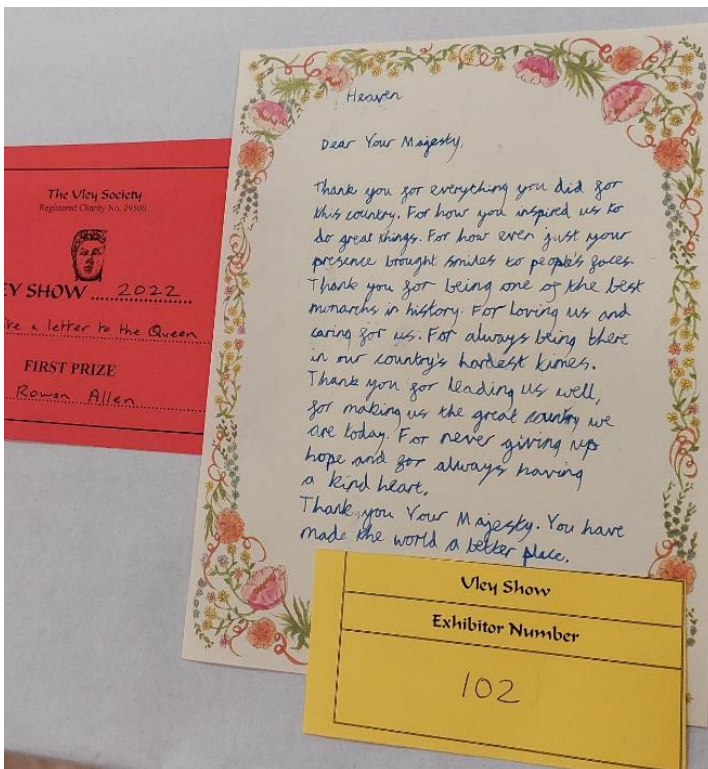
Please note that the bunting should be done on paper, 1 entry per child. It can be for any European country (not just EU members) and the bunting design does not have to link in with the child's outfit.

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.



Congratulations!

A huge well done to Rowan Allen who won the Children's Cup at the annual Uley show. Here are a couple of examples of your entries and we all think your letter to the Queen is magnificent, well done Rowan!



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



Jeans for Genes!

Thank you to everyone for supporting our Jeans for Genes Day – and a special thank you to Mrs Stevenson for arranging it! It was a lovely way to finish off the week and a fantastic £60 was raised. Well done everybody!

