

Hopelands Preparatory School

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

Newsletter 18th November

November			
20 th	11am	Choir singing at the Teckles Show at Stonehouse Community Centre – all welcome	
23 rd	9am	PC Jordan visiting school	Y5 & 6
23 rd	1.30 – 4pm	Swimming at Westonbirt	Y1, Y2 and Y3
23 rd	1.45 – 3pm	Singing at the Community Centre	Y4, 5 & 6
25 th	Masterclass wit	Masterclass with Olympic athlete All Years	
28 th	9.30 - 10.10	Learning with the Lords	Key Stage 2
30 th	1.30 – 4pm	Swimming at Westonbirt	Y1, Y2 and Y3
30 th	7.00 – 9pm	Wreath Making with Friends of Hopelands	
December			
7 th	1.30 – 4pm	Swimming at Westonbirt	Y1, Y2 and Y3
12 th	2pm	Key Stage 2 Christmas Show – Grandparents Welcome	
12 th	4.15pm	Key Stage 2 Christmas Show – Parents Welcome	
13 th	4pm	Nativity – Parents Welcome	
14 th	Christmas Activity Day & Christmas Lunch!		

In this week's newsletter:

Message from Headteachers **Class Updates** Match Report Individualised Learning **Times Table Rockstars** Remembrance After School Care Congratulations

Please keep an eye out for the following lost **Property:**

Book Bag – Anthony Tiptaft School Coat, school jumper, water bottle -Joshua Wratten

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







Mopelands Prep School

Message from the Headteachers

Dear Parents,

It is with immense pleasure that we write to you today about how proud we are of our Hopelands' pupils at the end of Antibullying Week. The theme this year is 'Reach Out'. This week form teachers dedicated some of the form time in the mornings discussing the theme and drawing attention to the 'Reach Out' displays scattered around the school. This culminated in everyone coming together for a whole school anti-bullying assembly run by our PSHE lead, Miss White. Our pupils have responded with great ideas and reasons for how they can reach out with kindness - our school value this term - and how kindness can really make a difference to everybody's lives. Witnessing our pupils actively promoting kindness in the playground this week has truly shown us how much they have all listened, understood and are able to live up to this term's value.

Some children in Years 5 and 6 took the Primary Mathematics Challenge this week, an international competition where keen young mathematicians enjoy the opportunity to stretch their grey cells and think about a myriad of ways to solve problems. We are incredibly proud of the children who, for 45 minutes, worked with grit and determination, becoming stuck and unstuck at the problems, using 'all the tools in their bags' to find their way through the questions. This is a fundamental skill we actively promote in all our pupils throughout the curriculum, so they are prepared for the challenges they will encounter along the way. We will be celebrating their readiness to get stuck in and their ambition in assembly next week when they will have an opportunity to share their experience with younger peers.

These kinds of grit skills were not only visible in the maths challenge, but it was also a privilege to see first-hand the same level of determination and resilience being applied on the rugby field at Rendcomb College by our Year 5s this week. There can always only be one winner and this week, it was our opponents. However, the way the children approached the challenge, bounced back from a low score and never gave up is yet another testament to their resilience and determination. And all this in cold and soggy conditions. Hats off to you, Year 5 – what a bunch of great sportspeople you are!

We ended the week with fundraising for Children in Need by holding a dress down day and we are pleased to have raised £52.10 which will go towards improving the lives of disadvantaged children. Please take a minute to admire the Pudsey Display at the front of the school created by the children in our after school care. A wonderful additional and fun contribution to this very worthy cause. There is more news about the different activities which the children enjoy in our after school provision in this newsletter, please do have a read.

We look forward to next week when we will certainly be putting our resilience and determination to the test once more as we embark on our Mount Everest climb together. Wish us luck – summit here we come!

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Sonja Jones & Mrs Maria Boix Joint Headteachers

Reception by Mrs Jones

Over the past couple of weeks, the reception children have been learning the story of 'The Gingerbread man'. They have learned to retell the story off by heart using a story map and story actions. They have also acted out the story using a variety of puppets and props. The children have written speech bubbles for what each character says in the story as well as a shopping list of ingredients needed to bake Gingerbread men. On Thursday, the children enjoyed baking and decorating their own Gingerbread men and luckily none of them ran away!















Year 1

Year 1 are learning about the artistic style of Wassily Kandinsky who was one of the pioneers of abstract art. They have been practising with felt tips and will move on to using paints to make their own masterpiece. The children are really enjoying drawing with the different colours and their pictures are full of vibrancy. It was said that Kandinsky could hear colours – red as a violin; yellow, as a trumpet; and blue, the sound of an organ!









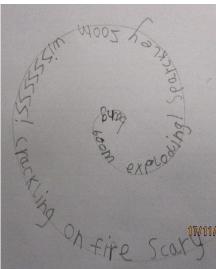


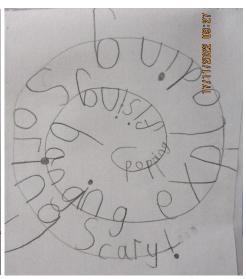


Year 2 by Mrs Carstens

This week in Writing, we have been creating our own shape poems using amazing adjectives. A shape poem is an arrangement of words on a page into shapes or patterns that reveal an image. Our poems are about fireworks. This is a great way to help boost their creativity as they think of different ways to arrange their words, and it creates an artistic blend of the literary and the visual arts.







Year 2 Science by Mrs Trebble

We have been looking at habitats and the children have been investigating the types of micro-habitat that woodlice prefer. The children gathered materials that they thought would make an appealing home for the woodlice. It is fair to say that there was great excitement and curiosity as they watched the woodlice around the boxes!





Year 3 Science by Mrs Stevenson

Year 3 had a fun science lesson on Tuesday making some rather cool multi-coloured glasses as part of their work on light and colour. The children carefully cut out the frames, chose their colour of lenses and then observed how the colour of an object could change when viewed through a coloured filter. They also spent a lesson creating rainbows using a torch and a variety of everyday objects.







Year 4 & 5 by Mrs Stevenson

We continued our journey into space and went outside to recreate the solar system using various fruit and sports balls to give an idea of the relative sizes of the planets. We used a basketball, a football, a grapefruit, an orange, two cherry tomatoes, a blueberry and two peppercorns. Ask your child if they can tell you which was which planet or moon!

Remembering what we had learned on our Space trip last week we also considered the relative distances involved. The children had fun guessing which sphere would represent each planet and trying to get themselves into the right positions.



Year 4 & 5 Enrichment by Mrs Trebble

We have been learning about some of the causes, the symptoms and the treatment of head injuries. The children really enjoyed practising how to apply a head bandage to each other.







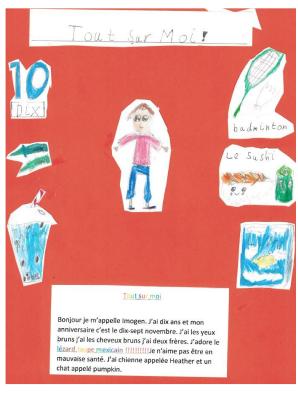
Year 6 by Madame Trebble

Year 6 have used their ICT skills and improved their dictionary skills to manipulate French language to produce a piece of written work giving personal information. They sought ways to improve their work, added creative touches and have rightly taken pride in the end result.









Match Report by Mr Kirby

Y3 and Y4 (U8 and U9) Tag Rugby vs Rendcomb - Drew 4-4

We finished our tag rugby season with a pulsating 4-4 drew against Rendcomb with tries scored by Oliver, Josh and Arthur. It was end to end with great passing, catching and direct running. The opposition were strong, and we found it challenging to swerve and weave through their defence but with quick feet and a range of passing, we managed to achieve it with most of the tries being scored in the corners. Our defensive line was strong and well-organised, but our attacking shape will need tweaking next year as we couldn't quite spread out like we have done during lessons - I think the excitement of the match got to the players! Very well done to the girls (Norah, Megan, Bea, Isla, and Daisy) who were not put off by facing a team of boys and wasted no time in trying to tag them and not allow them through. Rupert captained the team well, helping organise them when required and Cillian and Beau used the ball effectively when in possession.

It was great for Y3 and Y4 to have another match and it was even better to have parental support on the side-line - thank you! Thank you to Rita for encouraging her classmates throughout too. There are some football and netball fixtures arranged for next term and details for these will be out in due course.







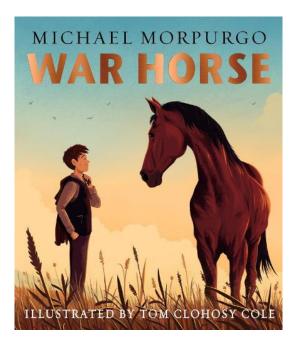




Individualised Learning by Mrs Best

Book Club

In the Book Club IL slot, the group are all reading War Horse by Michael Morpurgo together in honour of Remembrance. From this book, we will hold rich discussions about the story, themes, author's style and create our own writing surrounding the book. A fantastic yet emotive book that will appeal to adults as well as children, the story is told from the perspective of a horse and his experiences before and during World War I.



Individualised Learning by Mr Kirby

Sport & Fitness

On a Monday pupils compete against themselves in the Bleep Test. This is a short distance, (15m) of shuttle runs, where the pupils must reach the line before the bleep. The time gets progressively quicker the further they go, and it is great for fitness! What is also beneficial is pupils can track their progress week by week as they aim to improve on the level they achieved previously. They are only competing against themselves to achieve a 'PB' (personal best) and they are aware of what level they are currently at, so they know what to beat!

On Fridays, pupils benefit from watching and analysing top level sport. In the last half-term we have looked at the defensive line in rugby; marking in football; the gold medal performance of a gymnast performing at The Olympics (to help pupils with their own gymnastics display); short corners in hockey and a professional game of dodgeball to help with House Dodgeball. The time is incredibly useful to help show children how professionals perform and what they can aspire to. It was lovely to hear a Y6 pupil recently who commented on a short corner during a match: "Short corners. Ah, yes I remember these as we were shown them in IL." Showing and listening to short clips of matches really helps the pupils understand the coaching points we are aiming to get across.

Individualised Learning by Mrs Trebble - Young Leaders Award

We have been working towards the Young Leaders Award, which is helping pupils to explore leadership skills, grow in character and gain key life skills, as well as learning about the importance of helping others.

So far, we have focused on kindness; pupils have embarked on top secret kindness missions around school. We have discussed what being kind means and how our actions and words can show kindness. The children are currently working on completing a kindness challenge to gain their achievement sticker for this section.





Individualised Learning by Mrs Trebble - Reading Focus Group

Pupils have been literacy detectives as they have hunted for mistakes in sentences, encouraging careful reading of each word and have offered suggestions of how to change the sentences to make sense. Our text has been 'We're going on a Bear Hunt'. We have worked on sequencing activities, creating story maps and working in small groups to perform the story using our maps. These were done with great enthusiasm and the children thoroughly enjoyed watching each other's performances.





Individualised Learning by Mrs Charles

Gardening

This week our work on the bug hotel has commenced. Mrs Charles' husband has done an amazing job at building the main structure and now the children are fulfilling their exciting role of putting it all together by following the drawn plans. A huge thank you to the parents who have donated items, everything will be used, and we are very grateful for your support.





Individualised Learning by Mrs Trebble

Foreign Language

In our foreign language IL session, Dorsa joined us and kindly shared some differences in Iranian culture with us. She showed us some of the alphabet and helped the children write their names in Farsi. It proved a bit tricky to remember to write from right to left!







Individualised Learning by Mrs Powell - Ukulele

The children have been learning to play some new chords - F and G7 major. These are tricky as they involve using 2-3 fingers all in the correct places on the frets, using the left hand. We have practised these chords in a chord drill but also played along to favourite songs such as Roar by Katie Perry and I'm Yours by Jason Mraz. Learning any instrument can be hard. It takes a lot of concentration, practise, perseverance and above all - patience! The children are learning to work in a group and listen carefully to each other as it is important that we all play the chords at the right time together with each other. I am so proud of all of them for all the effort they are putting in to improve their skills.



Individualised Learning by Mrs Trebble

Fine Motor Skills

The children have been building on their fine motor skills through a variety of activities, such as threading cards and beads, creating with play-doh, colour/shape and size sorting with tweezers, attaching links, cutting activities and using spinning tops, just to name a few!









Times Table Rock Stars by Mrs Stevenson

Times Tables Rock Star blazer badges have arrived!

Our proud winners are shown below. If you didn't quite get there this time, don't worry we will be checking for winners again in the New Year. The effect on the children's times tables recall has been phenomenal - One of our Rock Stars has gone from an average speed of over 10 seconds to less than 3 seconds per answer which includes reading the question!



Remembrance Service by Miss White

Remembrance Sunday is always a poignant and special event. As the sun shone in Stonehouse, I escorted our Head Pupils, Eva and Hannah as they participated in the parade, and I was delighted that Beau in Y3 also joined us. As we gathered at the Stonehouse Memorial and bowed our heads, we reflected on the significance of the words of the service, the power and purpose of remembrance and I was very proud of our pupils as they conducted themselves with quiet grace.





After School Care by Mrs Coles and Miss Brown

We have been very busy in After School Care this term! When the children came back in September, we were able to use the outdoor space for all sorts of sports in the sunshine - football, basketball, skipping, hula hooping and table tennis to name just a few. The younger children (and some of the older ones too!) enjoyed creative play using the large train track, toy village and figures, as well as constructing wonderful things with the Duplo and giant Jenga blocks. Many of our activities are child-led and it's fantastic to see where their imaginations take them.

As the weather became colder and wetter, we moved indoors and the board games, toys and colouring sheets came out. We often have six or seven different things going on simultaneously in the same room. Increasingly competitive games of Connect 4, Snap and Snakes and Ladders fit surprisingly well alongside quieter colouring and arts and crafts, so there's always something for everyone!

The children have worked hard and had great fun creating artwork for our two beautiful displays this term. The Halloween one on the gate with its bats, pumpkins and ghosts, and the brightly-coloured Children in Need one which is currently up in the windows outside the office - do have a look if you haven't already done so. With Christmas and the end of term fast approaching, we will soon be working on a festive display for everyone to enjoy. Watch this space!

















Everest Challenge

Well done to Beatrix & Otto who climbed Pen y Fan last weekend – a total of 26,000 steps. Here they are at the top in the clouds! Amazing work and a huge well done to the Middlemiss family.

Please remember to keep a record of your steps/distance this weekend and let Mr Kirby know how many – everything will help us reach the summit of Mount Everest!

