



Hopelands Preparatory School

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

Newsletter 20th January

January	
25 th	Hopelands V. Wycliffe Sports Match – Year 3 & 4
27 th	Hopelands V. Berkhamstead Sports Match – Year 3 & 4 Sports clubs after school - CANCELLED
31 st	Forest School – Reception, Year 1 & Year 2
February	
1 st	Wycliffe V. Hopelands – Year 5 & 6 Girls
3 rd	Hopelands V. Rendcomb – Year 3 & 4 Sports clubs after school - CANCELLED
6 th	Hopelands V. Berkhamstead – Year 5 Boys
7 th	Safer Internet Day – PC Perry visiting Nursery, Reception, Year 1 & Year 2
8 th	Magistrate visiting Year 6
10 th	Learning with the Lords – Years 3, 4, 5 & 6
14 th	PC Perry visiting Years 3, 4, 5 and 6
15 th	Hopelands V. St Edwards – Year 5 & 6 Girls
16 th	Heads' Tea Party
17 th	Heart for Heroes – Wear red for the day!
20th – 24th Half Term	

In this week's newsletter:

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Miss Allen
Mount Everest Lunch
Class Updates
IL – News/Journalism
Heads' Tea Party
Lucky Mascot
Notices

Please keep an eye out for the following lost property:

School Coat & school jumper – Joshua Wratten
School Blazer - Nicky Burtonwood
Scarf – Grace Suchenek-Sucheka
Two School Coats – One labelled Ava McDougall and the other labelled Orla Scott

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



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



[HopelandsPrepSchool](https://www.facebook.com/HopelandsPrepSchool)



[HopelandsPrepSchool](https://www.instagram.com/HopelandsPrepSchool)

Message from the Headteachers

Dear Parents,

We have had a wonderful week filled with so many academic and 'beyond the classroom' highlights. Year 1 celebrated (and reduced to tears) our caretaker in a special assembly for him and his wife on Monday. Rowan in Y6 joined us to become headmistress for a few hours on Tuesday morning, followed by a lively heads' tea party in the afternoon. On Wednesday we congratulated a group of fundraising winners by taking them out for lunch, and we ended the week with an exciting upper school trip to Cardiff Museum. Thank you Miss White for organising this for us.

All this topped off with the announcement of impressive results achieved at the recent Maths Challenge held at Bristol Grammar School, which some of our Y5 pupils took part in. This interschool competition sees pupils from 20 schools complete a series of puzzles designed to test their arithmetic and problem-solving skills. A great opportunity for keen young mathematicians to stretch their brains and think differently about a myriad of ways to solve complex mathematical problems. Super well done Year 5! Please read more about this further on in this newsletter.

It was a pleasure having Rowan in Year 6 with us on Tuesday when she became Miss Allen, headteacher, for the morning. Having won this experience as part of the Mount Everest fundraising competition has allowed her to gain valuable insights into life behind the scenes at the headteachers' office. We certainly put her to work - watch out for Rowan's own account of her morning in this newsletter and please rest assured, the chicken wire has been fixed! 😊

We are confident that academic excellence combined with enriching experiences is immensely valuable for our pupils' personal development. Pupil leadership opportunities, for example, are vital for the development of future leadership skills, experiencing working on a team, learning about yourself, growing in confidence, and developing communication skills. And most of all an experience that is different, fun and memorable!

This week showcases how much we value our 'beyond the classroom' opportunities because through these we ensure we enhance our pupils' personal development and growth wherever we can. These experiences are fundamental to our pupils' journey to develop into responsible, respectful and active citizens. Promoting equality of opportunity and developing pupils' character, giving them the education and personal qualities they need to flourish in society are the building blocks of our Hopelands' education.

We look forward to a sporty week ahead and to welcoming Mrs Natasha Dangerfield, Head at Westonbirt Senior School who will lead a whole school assembly for us on Thursday.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Warmest wishes,

Mrs Jones & Mrs Boix

Joint Headteachers

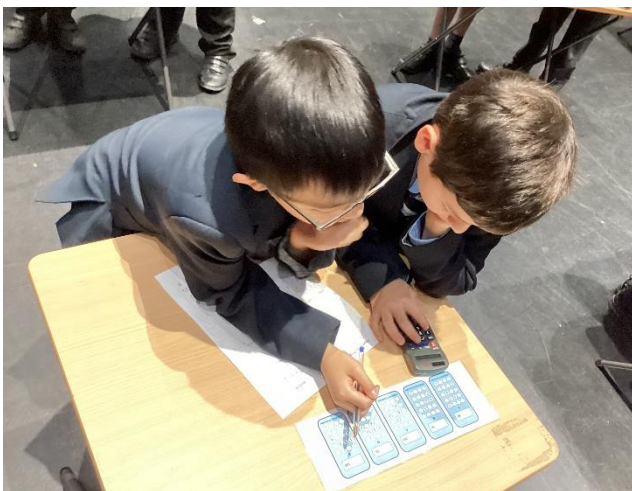
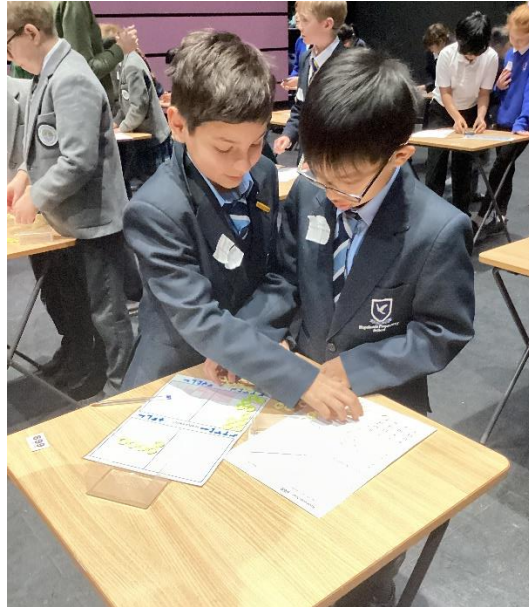


Maths Challenge by Mrs Boix

What a fantastic afternoon (full of brain exercise!), our team of young mathematicians had last Monday. Four of our year 5 children travelled to Bristol Grammar School to represent our school at a team maths challenge. It was an intense session where the participants worked in pairs to solve a carousel of maths problems, each individually timed, moving from one to the next with hardly any time in between.

Very well done to our team, Daniel, Florence, Guy, and Jayden, who worked relentlessly and efficiently together. They scored to be placed in the top third of the list, which is a fantastic result considering there were over 100 children taking part. We are very proud of our team, and we hope they feel excited to take part in future opportunities and inspire other children to enjoy the beauty of mathematics.

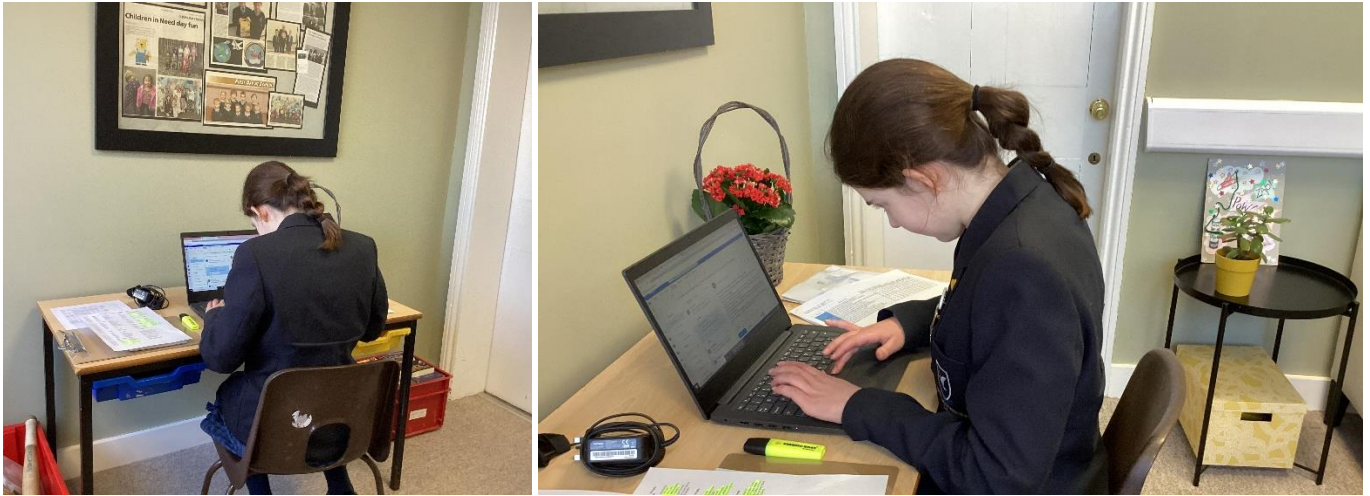
Thank you to the parents - we are very grateful to you for supporting this event and helping with the transport and logistics.



Miss Allen

Hello Everyone,

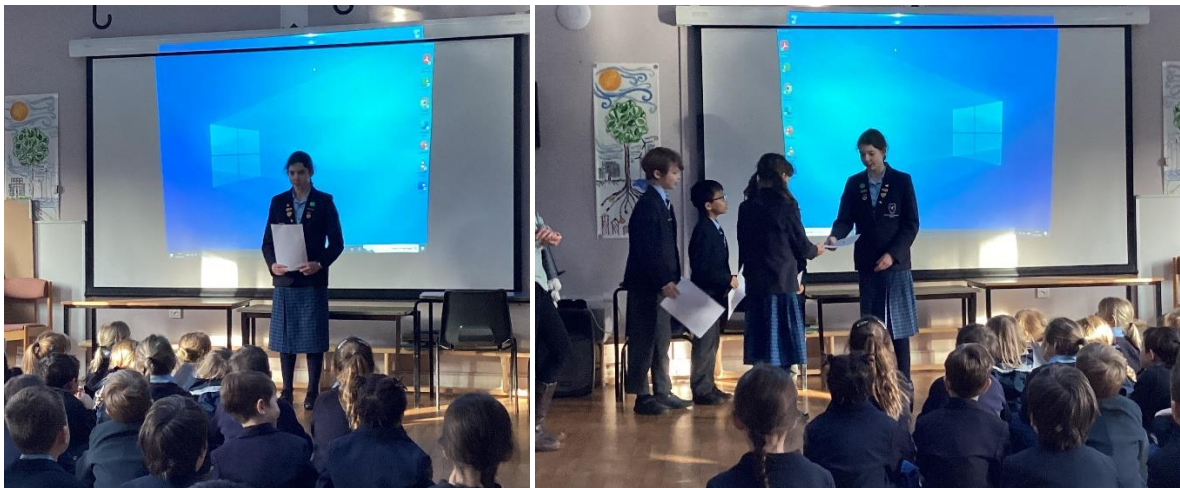
On the 17th January, I shadowed the headteachers Mrs Boix and Mrs Jones for the morning. I found the experience useful and exciting, and I would like to tell you about the things I did.



Firstly, I went around to check the school with the health and safety inspector, Mr Timmins. I found it a fun and valuable experience as I learned some things about hazards that I had not thought of before - like the fact that the chicken wire by the fence had a hole in the bottom which meant that a child could trap their foot and then fall over. Also, I was allowed into places I had never been to before, such as the attic.

Secondly, I took photos of the students for marketing. I had a great time going around the classrooms and, as I like photography, I also enjoyed taking the photos.

Thirdly, I started assembly by handing some certificates out to the Year fives who took part in the Maths challenge. Those students were Daniel and Jayden. The other team were Florence and Guy. After assembly I assisted Mrs Stick on playground duty.



We then experienced a fire drill where I handed out the appropriate registers to the teachers and told the whole school how long it had taken us to walk outside and get into our year groups.



I then went on a 'learning walk' around the classrooms focusing on engagement and independence and ticked off on my sheet what I thought the classes and teachers did especially well. I found it interesting to see all the classes working on a normal school day.

Later, I met Mr James (the Chairman of Governors) before the interview with the admin candidate. He was very kind and understanding. At the end of the interview I asked the candidate a few questions about why she wanted to do the job and why she thought she would be essential in this position.



That was what I did on the morning I shadowed the headteachers. I found it very enjoyable and a beneficial experience. I would like to thank the headmistresses for allowing me to see what happens behind the scenes at Hopelands.

Yours Sincerely,

Rowan Allen.

Mount Everest - Lunch

We were thrilled to go out for lunch with some of our pupils earlier this week. This was a treat to acknowledge their hard work persuading family and relatives to take part in the Mount Everest fundraising challenge. Our pupils were a delight to walk and eat lunch with. They were impeccably behaved and offered us the most entertaining time ranging from carefully eating grapes with a fork, to an interesting conversation where we all discussed the importance of different things and values to have a happy life. Thank you, Lexie, Darcy, Ella, Nicholas, Isla, Daniel, Florence and Ava, for such an enjoyable experience!



Nursery School by Mrs Prout

This week Nursery have been discovering the Aurora Borealis. They listened to the story 'The Magic Sky' by Lucy Richards, which is a story about Rory the Polar Bear who wanted to see the Northern Lights. Nursery then created their own Aurora Borealis using different types of rollers, finishing with a sprinkle of glitter!

During maths, the children have been discovering the properties of 2D shapes. They really enjoyed finding the large shapes in the playground and describing them. Mrs Prout noticed that a squirrel was quite intrigued with the shapes too!

'Show and Tell' is a lovely part of the week where they talk about their favourite book or toy from home. We all look forward to seeing what they bring in. Well done Nursery!



Reception by Mrs L Jones

The children in reception class have been learning about Chinese New Year. They were fascinated to discover how people celebrate Chinese New Year and what they do to prepare for this special time. The children listened to the Chinese New Year story 'The Great Race' and found out why each year is named after an animal. They also made Chinese New Year lanterns to decorate the classroom and have had a go at painting Chinese numbers to 10.



Year 1 Art by Miss White

Matisse Cut Outs project. Y1 are enjoying the challenge of 'drawing' with scissors! Following the inspirational style and methods of Matisse, Y1 are exploring shape and colour in a brand-new way, whilst learning to create layers of colour to capture a sense of life and movement. Although still very much in the early stages, the Y1's have made a flying start - well done!



Year 1 by Mrs Jobanputra

In science the children have been set the following learning objective:

- To know what a habitat is
- To explore different habitats
- To create my own 'under the sea' habitat box

They showed a particular interest in exploring 'under the sea' and created their own amazing aquariums. I am so pleased with their creativity, they look fantastic, and they should all be super proud.



Year 1 & 2 PE by Mr Kirby

Year 1 and Year 2 have continued their football scheme of work during PE lessons. We focussed on dribbling and how we must keep the ball close to us and in control. The children experimented using all parts of their feet (left and right) to dribble, and some even wanted to use their heel! This guided exploration was encouraged as they began to feel comfortable with the ball and happy to try new skills. After experimenting, they were given a problem-solving challenge before a competitive game all based on dribbling. Very well done, Year 1 and Year 2.



Year 2 Science by Mrs Trebble

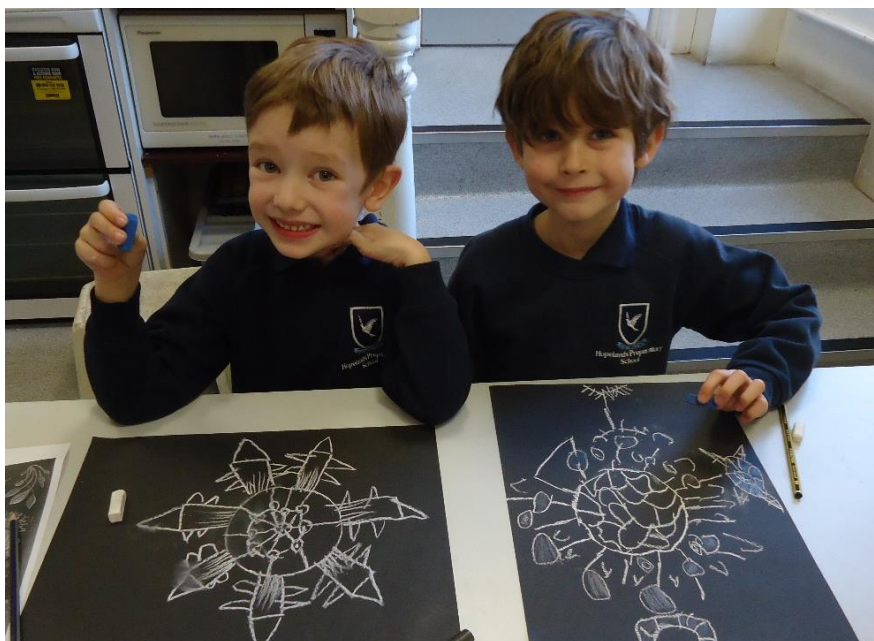
Year 2 have been comparing a range of different materials and thinking about their different properties. They have discussed possible uses for the materials and have explained the qualities that make certain materials suitable for particular items.

They have worked in pairs to set up an investigation on the absorbency of materials and were shocked at how quickly some of the materials soaked up the water! We went on to discuss why it is useful for some materials to be absorbent and also why we need non-absorbent materials.



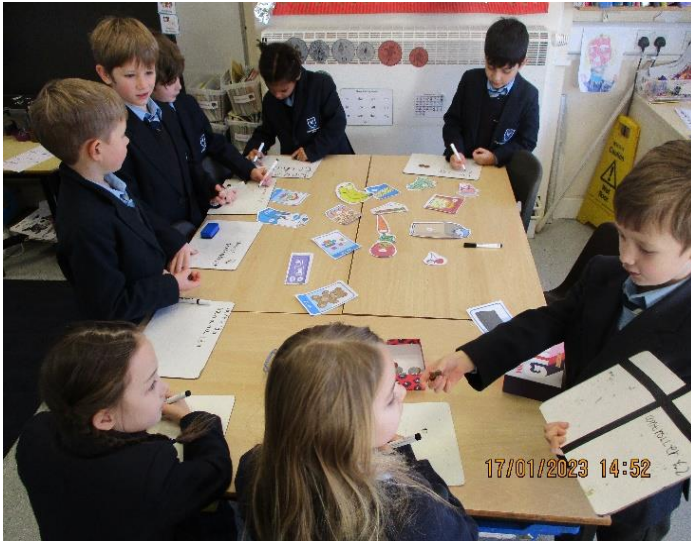
Year 2 Art by Miss White

Pupils are developing their ideas for their new 'Science in Art' project by exploring the illustrations of Ernst Haeckel and developing their own responses using chalk and soft pastel. The stunning compositions reflect specific scientific drawings combined with individual flair and imagination, and the pupils loved getting mucky with the materials at the same time!



Year 2 by Mrs Carstens

Understanding money at a young age is a key skill and we have been developing this by opening a Year 2 pop-up shop. Each child had a budget and they had great fun spending it! They focused on comparing amounts of money, calculating with money and then how to find the correct change.



Year 3 Science by Mrs Stevenson

Year 3 have started a new topic all about skeletons. They learned about three types of skeleton - endoskeletons, exoskeletons and hydrostatic skeletons and thought about the advantages and disadvantages of each one. After that, we moved on to look at the human skeleton in more detail and have started to learn the scientific names of the principal bones. We also created some super complex mini-skeletons to help us remember the names and how all the bones join together. Mrs Stevenson was impressed with the children's cutting skills and fine motor skills - putting all the split pins into the models without tearing the card was not an easy task. Just look at those looks of concentration in the photos!

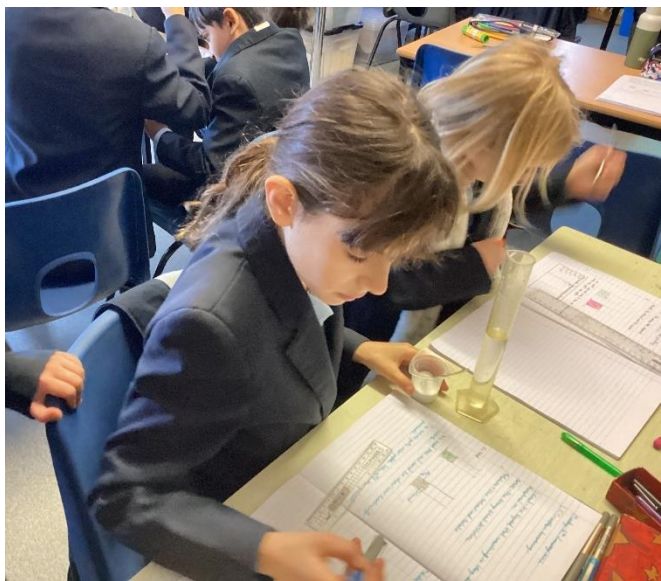
A super lesson - Well done.



Year 4 and 5 by Mrs Stevenson

Year 4 and 5 have started a new topic all about Chemistry. They started by learning about elements, compounds and mixtures and revisiting their knowledge of the states of matter from last year. Investigating a collection of around twenty different substances, they used their Periodic Tables to help decide whether chemicals were elements, compounds or mixtures (and hone their scientific descriptive skills). On Monday, they continued their learning about particles, and we considered what happens when something dissolves. Where does it go? They learned three new words - solute, solvent, and solution - and used them correctly to explain where the solute goes when it dissolves.

Super group work and practical skills. Well done Year 4 and 5



Year 6 by Mrs Best

Year Six have been practising their persuasive writing skills this week by writing a speech about why they should run the school. They have explored using skills such as emotive language, repetition, statistics, rhetorical questions, anecdotes and more. Have they convinced us enough to let them be Headteachers!?

Why I should be Headmistress by Hannah Safizadeh

A school in the dictionary is described as 'an institution for educating children.' Educating does not just refer to exams and subjects although these are important. It also means teaching students kindness, respect, sympathy, resilience and much more. Schools shape lives. Teachers shape lives. Hopelands has shaped lives. If it were not for Hopelands so many children would be mindless beings, never knowing what they were meant to be, lost forever in a pit of confusion and despair. I do not want to change Hopelands. I want to improve something that is already exceedingly exceptional. I believe I am perfect for this position, and I know I have continuously proven this. Let me improve your lives.

Vote for Me by Rowan Allen

I believe I would be the most suitable headmistress for Hopelands Preparatory School because my priority is the students wellbeing and health. If a child is feeling miserable or having a bad day we will help them. Also, if a child is feeling they are falling behind in a subject we can offer as much support as necessary. Although it is not just the children who need to be cared for, the staff will sometimes need some extra support too.

Vote for Me by Lilly Ransley Hayes

Being a Headteacher is a very hard role to play, and I understand and respect that, that is why I would like to be one! The students' opinions on what I would like to do with the school is important because I do not want to change something they do not agree with because they must learn it. Their school must be fun as long as it's not silly. If I am the headmistress, I would like to have some days that is for one subject, for example: Art day, Drama day, English day, Math's day, Sports day etc.

Throughout the day I would look at what the children are learning, and I would look at how they are taught, afterwards I would ask the students: do you like the way you are being taught?

Because I want to know the students very well, so I know what they like, don't like, what they love and what they hate I want to build relationships with my students that are strong so they will last their whole journey at Hopeland's or longer. Being a child is a small chunk of your life, but you will remember it forever and I mean forever. So that is why I think I will be a good Headmistress.

Individualised Learning by Mrs Best

Pupils Voices

In my News/Journalist IL session, each week the children debate topical issues and document their thoughts. Last week we had a fascinating debate about Rishi Sunak's proposed plans for maths to be compulsory until the age of 18. It was great to see everyone engage and the respect they showed each other when they had differing opinions

Pro maths until 18

- I think that Maths up to the age of 18 is important because many jobs require maths skills. We use maths daily without realising it, especially later in life. We use it when we go shopping, pay the bills, calculate distances and budget. Even if you do not enjoy Maths, it's important, even crucial, to learn it from a young age. **Hannah Year 6**
- I think Rishi Sunak's rule of doing maths until 18 is good because hundreds of jobs use maths and the majority of actions done by people (such as calculating shopping bills) use maths. **Jayden Year 5**
- I think that maths up to the age of 18 is good because if you get bills with percentages and pounds, you may pay the wrong amount if you do not have a good understanding of maths. **Daniel Year 5**
- I think that learning maths up to the age of 18 is good because maths is a big part of our everyday lives. People could scam you out of money if you do not understand basic maths. **Anonymous**

Against maths until 18

- I think that doing maths until you're 18 is a bad idea because most jobs don't require maths to be a choice in you're A-levels, apart from jobs such as an accountant, teacher, doctor or vet. If we needed to take maths as an A-level subject, many students would have to drop subjects that would have helped them in the jobs they wanted to pursue. It would restrict students from subjects they would have taken instead of maths. **Eva Y6**
- I strongly believe that Rishi Sunak's new rule is actually quite annoying to people who don't enjoy maths or would prefer to work on different subjects such as dance, music, art and P.E. In primary school you already learn how to tell the time, work out fractions, subtractions, addition and division. Surely you can manage to live with those skills without needing to continue maths until the age of 18. Rishi Sunak's plans to continue it into A-levels is pointless to 50% of the population who want to pursue more creative jobs such as English. Do not get me wrong, maths is fun to learn but surely there are other ideas for you to pursue. **Emi Y5**
- I think that doing maths until you are 18 is bad because people should be able to decide what they want to do at that age. **Dylan Y5**
- I do not think that learning to the age of 18 is needed because not all jobs are to do with maths so if we were not allowed to drop maths at A-level, lots of students will be harmed by a subject they cannot do. Lots of people will have to think much harder about which A-level subject to drop if they must keep maths. **Anonymous**
- I think that doing maths until you are 18 is a bad decision made by Rishi Sunak. Not all people like maths. **Beatrix Y4**
- You should be able to choose what to do at 18 and make your own choices. **Anonymous**

Heads' Tea Party

Full of laughter, excited chatter, fruit and cake – these tea parties are always fun and the children treat it as a privilege when they receive their invitation. Once you are invited you are asked to send an RSVP and it was lovely to see all the replies come back in. A well loved Hopelands tradition of bringing children across the year groups all together, share party food with the Heads and most importantly, have fun.



Well done to our lucky mascot!



We were very proud to hear that Oliver in Year 1 walked out with the Bristol City players last Saturday in front of 21,500 spectators - amazing!

Last Saturday Oliver had a at Ashton Gate , the home of the mighty Bristol City. He had a guided tour learned all about the stadium, the history, the current players and how the club has supported local charities and causes over the years.

He got to meet the players, warm up on the pitch and accompany the players out to the match. He must have been their lucky mascot as they won 4-2!

Well done Oliver, sounds like it was a fantastic day.



Notices

Message from St Cyr's



We are pleased to invite you to our annual Christingle Service at St Cyr's Church Stonehouse on Sunday 29 January 2023 at 4pm.

Lasting for about 45 minutes, the service raises money for the Children's Society, a national charity who uses the money to help disadvantaged children.

The Christingle Service is suitable for all ages, and everyone who says they will be coming along, will be given a Christingle - an orange decorated with sweets and a lighted candle.

If you would like to attend, please complete the slip below and return it to the School Office by Friday 27 January 2022. Alternatively please feel free to contact Sister Gill Martin on 0770 806 2772 or at sistergill@gmail.com.

If you are not able to attend in person, the Christingle Service is also being live-streamed on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/stcyrstonehouse.

Best wishes
St Cyr's Church Stonehouse

I would like to have Christingle(s)

There will be people coming to the Christingle service.

Name:

