



Hopelands Preparatory School

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

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER – December 13th 2017

IN THIS ISSUE:

Dates for the Diary
Calendar
Lost Property
Staff Profile of the Week
Next Term's News
Friends of Hopelands Newsletter

DATES FOR THE DIARY

WHOLE SCHOOL TRIP – Bristol Hippodrome to see 'Awful Auntie' – Thursday 3rd May 2018

Friends of Hopelands

PANTOMINE – Thursday 14th December, Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham

LOST PROPERTY

We have been made aware of the following items of lost property

Red snap- band with a picture of a Minion in the centre – Daniel How
2 x school jumpers – Agnes Morley - labelled

items of lost property are kept in the plastic box on the verandah of the outside classroom behind the Sophie Hall.

JANUARY

Wednesday 3 rd	SCHOOL STARTS Please note: There will be no hot lunches available this week.
Monday 8 th	Head's Tea Party
Tuesday 9 th	Swimming Years 3, 5 and 6 - GALA
Thursday 11 th	Young Voices in Birmingham
Tuesday 16 th	Swimming Years Reception, 1, 2 and 4
Tuesday 23 rd	Swimming Years Reception, 1, 2 and 4
Tuesday 30 th	Swimming Years Reception, 1, 2 and 4

FEBRUARY

Monday 5 th	Head's Tea Party
Tuesday 6 th	Swimming Years Reception, 1, 2 and 4 Reception, Years 1 and 2 to Forest School Football at Tewkesbury – pm:
Thursday 8 th	Cross-Country, Tewkesbury, 3pm
Friday 9 th	Netball at Cheltenham College
Monday 12 th February to Friday 16 th February Half-Term	
Tuesday 20 th	Swimming Years Reception, 1, 2 and 4
Thursday 22 nd	Cross-Country, Tewkesbury, 3pm
Tuesday 27 th	Swimming Years Reception, 1, 2 and 4
Wednesday 28 th	Outreach visit from the Houses of Parliament to years 5 and 6



FATHER CHRISTMAS PERIPATETIC CHILDRENS' ENTERTAINER

Although now known as a Christmas gift-bringer, he was originally part of an unrelated and much older English folkloric tradition. The recognisably modern figure of the English Father Christmas developed in the late Victorian period, but Christmas had been personified for centuries before then (thanks Wiki).

English personifications of Christmas were first recorded in the 15th century, with Father Christmas himself first appearing in the mid 17th century in the aftermath of the English Civil War. The first time he visited Hopelands Preparatory School is unrecorded however, a close neighbour (Mrs Lord) recalls seeing him flying over the school as early as 1984.

Until Victorian times, Father Christmas was concerned with adult feasting and merry-making, several members of the Hopelands staff intend to carry on this tradition as soon as school finishes tonight. But as later Victorian Christmases developed into child-centric family festivals, Father Christmas became a bringer of gifts. The popular American myth of Santa Claus arrived in England in the 1850s - and via Amazon shortly afterwards. He is now often illustrated wearing a long red hooded gown trimmed with white fur – unless in Newcastle where the dress tends to be a little shorter.



SCHOOL LUNCHES

Please Note: - There will be no hot lunches available the first week we are back – Wednesday 3rd – Friday 5th January. The hot lunch service will start on Monday 8th January and will be WEEK 1. Orders will be carried over from last term, please let Mrs Eccles know if you wish to discontinue receiving the meals or change the days. An order form and menu-sheet is attached.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT DVDS

The dvds arrived this morning and were handed out to the children to bring home.

CLUBS

The form is attached. I'm afraid Cookery Club is now full.

SWIMMING

Years 3, 5 and 6 will be having their Swimming Gala on Tuesday 9th January. Thereafter (from Tuesday 16th January) the normal Tuesday swimming lessons will be running for Years Reception, 1, 2 and 4

Friends of Hopelands

Pantomime

Thursday 14 December, 2pm, Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham

Our seats are in the Circle. We have the **whole of the centre section**, plus **rows A-D** and the three outer seats in row **E (E21-23)** on the **right-hand side** as you face the stage. I will have a highlighted seating plan with me on the day, which will serve as tickets for everyone in our party. Please be aware that we don't have any seats booked on the left-hand side, as in previous years.

For those who have ordered ice creams, these will be delivered to me in boxes at the beginning of the interval. We will have a FOH team putting the ice creams into pre-labelled plastic bags for each family, and another FOH team distributing them. In order for us to get everyone's ice creams to them as quickly as possible, could I ask you to please remain in your seats and wait for the ice creams to be brought to you.

We need to leave the theatre clean and tidy, so please put all empty ice cream tubs and other rubbish into the plastic bags and we will collect these in bin bags at the end of the interval.

If you have any queries on any of the above, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Thanks

Charlie Coles

Chair, Friends of Hopelands

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