



Hopelands Preparatory School

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

Newsletter 8th October

Dates for your Diary

- October 11th** Mental Health Morning – Whole School
- October 13th** Fun Run – Whole School
- October 14th** Harvest Festival 2.15-3pm
- October 18th** Head's Tea Party
- October 19th** Halloween Day
- October 21st to October 29th** Half Term
- November 12th** Friends of Hopelands Disco
- November 16th** School Photographs – Individual & Siblings
- November 17th** We The Curious Trip – R/Y1/Y2
- November 26th** Friends of Hopelands Quiz
- December 8th** Nativity – R/Y1/Y2, 4-5pm
- December 10th** Christmas Service, St Cyr's 2-3pm
- December 13th** Christmas Show – Y3/4/5/6 Times TBC

In this week:

- Black History Month
- Space Day
- Superhero Day
- Science
- Enrichment
- Harvest Festival
- Meet the Teacher
- Willow Party
- Stroud Neurodiversity

Lost Property

Please look out for the following lost property items, thank you.

- Pink/purple glasses - Florence
- PE Polo Top – Anthony Tiptaft
- School Coat – Arthur Crane
- School Jumper – Arthur Lloyd
- PE Coat – Juniper Cook
- Metal water bottle – Alex Keith



For all the latest pictures and weekly activities please follow our Facebook page
[@HopelandsPreparatorySchool](#)

Black History Month by Mrs Bradburn

Embedding diversity into our everyday at Hopelands has been one of our key areas of focus for the last year and will continue to be for this year. Our community is made up of a diverse range of ethnic, cultural, and family backgrounds and at Hopelands we enjoy and embrace the opportunities this brings.

This month we will be celebrating Black History Month at Hopelands.

Black History Month is observed every October in Britain. It is an opportunity to celebrate the outstanding contributions that black people have made to British society, whether that be today or historically.

The theme of Black History Month 2021 is 'Proud to Be...' – Lynda-Louise Burrell from Black History Month UK explained:

"Proud To Be... is our new campaign for Black History Month 2021 focusing on Black Lives Matter. We are encouraging all Black and Brown people, especially young people, to be proud of their heritage and who they are, and to choose who and what they share about what they are proud to be. For example, Proud to Be Black, Proud To Be Brown, Proud To Be Black and LGBTQ+, Proud To Be Me.

The children will be learning about African and Caribbean culture throughout the curriculum including assemblies investigating famous black people in history, maths, science, music, literature, and art. We have increased our reading resources in KS1 to reflect our diversity objective and we will be joining professional storyteller and educator Usifu Jalloh on an imaginative journey around Africa to celebrate Black History Month.

As we only have two and a half weeks in October, we will extend our Black History Month into November. This will allow us to celebrate 'Proud to be...' even more by embedding our diversity focus through including Indian, Chinese, and European cultures after half term.

If there are any parents, grandparents or relatives who would like to come into school and talk to the children about their family, their culture, dress in traditional costume or cook some traditional food for a class, we would very much welcome it as it would add another exciting dimension to the children's learning.

Please contact your form teacher in the first instance to arrange this.



Space Day by Miss Cook

This term Year 2 have been finding out about space and they recently held a topic day to celebrate and enhance their learning. They were thrilled to discover that their classroom had been transformed into outer space and after exploring, they had a day filled with fun activities. They learned about how the astronauts survived on board the International Space Station, designed astronaut suits, created rockets and even filled out application forms to become astronauts themselves. The icing on the cake was when space legend Tim Peake replied to one of the school tweets!



Superhero Day by Mrs Jobanputra

Last week Year 1 had a Superhero Day to celebrate all of our learning throughout the curriculum on Superheroes. We continued with our learning at school (because even Superheroes must go to school!) but through the day we celebrated all our favourite superheroes through stories and roleplay. We have also been discussing the real superheroes we have day to day.

Thank you to all the children and parents for making such a fantastic effort, we've really enjoyed ourselves.



Science by Mrs Stevenson

Year 6 had a fun but gory afternoon dissecting hearts. We used our prior knowledge to identify the aorta, pulmonary artery, valves, heartstrings and the atria and ventricles. It was fascinating to see so clearly the thickness of the ventricle and artery walls and explain this in terms of blood pressure and the roles of the different chambers and vessels.

For homework, the children tried to apply what they had learned so far about hearts to make predictions about a giraffe's heart - it was a thought-provoking homework and they really rose to the challenge.



Science by Mrs Stevenson

Year 5 have been planning and carrying out an investigation into water resistance as part of our topic on counter forces. The girls designed shapes that they thought would have maximum and minimum water resistance and then timed how long they took to fall to the bottom of a tank of water. We wrote up the experiments formally, considering whether the experiment was accurate and reliable and what improvements could be made to improve the quality of the results.



Year 5 Enrichment- First Aid Champions by Madame Trebble

Forming part of the introductory work to learning about asthma, Year 5 thought about how the respiratory system works and built their own labelled, model paper lungs. We discussed what happens to the muscles of the air passages during an asthma attack, how it might feel and the triggers that could cause this to happen.

Some of the pupils were so pleased with their finished product that it took their breath away!



Harvest Festival by Miss White

We would like to invite you to celebrate this special time of year with us at the Hopelands Harvest Festival, held in St Josephs in Stonehouse on Thursday the 14th of October from 2.15pm to 3pm. We will be singing happy harvest songs together (songs you will know too, so be prepared to join in!) and sharing the children's class performances. We hope to see as many parents as possible there.

Following tradition, we are also collecting food items to donate to the Stonehouse Food Bank. We would be very grateful if you could send your child into school with whatever items you can spare. Although these will not be on display in church, they will be collected by the school office and delivered to the food bank on the same day.

One, two, three, altogether now: We plough the fields and scatter.....



Meet the Teacher – Miss Hurley

Hello everyone,

Thank you so much for making me all feel so welcome here at Hopelands. Everybody from children, staff and parents have welcomed me with open arms, this has made starting at a new school so much easier. I am so happy have joined the Hopelands team as the EYFS teacher. The EYFS really is such a magical place to be, it is amazing seeing how much the children progress in such a short space of time. The amount children can learn through play is astonishing. The youngest ones really do remind you of all the wonder and good in the world with their infectious smiles and endless curiosity.

Before teaching at Hopelands I taught at a primary school in Gloucester, however I am from the land of the roundabouts, Milton Keynes. We settled in Gloucestershire 6 years ago and haven't looked back since, it really is a beautiful place to live.

I always knew I wanted to be a teacher and my Mum still has many a book of fake registers that I used to make up when I was little to teach my teddies. In 2012 I moved to Lincoln for University where I studied Theology, Ethics and Education. I love learning about all the differences in the world and trying to look at the world from somebody else's point of view. I then moved back home to work as a higher-level teaching assistant for a year, a role that really made me realise just how incredible valuable our support staff are and confirmed that teaching was the perfect career path for me.

When I'm not teaching, I will usually be on a country walk, in a coffee shop with a big hot chocolate or chasing my two-year-old daughter around the park. I absolutely love my job and for me there really is no better job out there.



Willow Party

Last Sunday there was a party to celebrate the 100th birthday of the Willow Tree. The tree is outside the Globe on Stonehouse High Street. Ethan and Norah had great fun at the party, they each received a Willow branch cutting from the willow tree's 'haircut' which they then put in a pot of soil and have planted in compost at home. Fingers crossed it will take root! They said it was a fun 100th party with lots of activities, cake and party bags!



Mental Health by Miss Cook

On Monday 4th October, Mrs Boix and myself attended ADHD training in the Subscription Rooms as part of the umbrella project. 1:5 people are considered neurodiverse, whether that be autism, ADHD, dyslexia, dyspraxia, dyscalculia and/or Tourette's syndrome. We found the training extremely informative, and our heads were left buzzing with ideas for our own classroom practise.

This coming Monday 11th October is mental health morning to celebrate world mental health day which is on 10th October. At Hopelands, each year group is going to explore what mental health is and how we can look after our own mental health. I hope that it is a useful experience for all of the children and I hope that they come home and be eager to share their day.

STROUD NEURODIVERSITY PROJECT by Mrs Boix

The ADHD Foundation Neurodiversity Charity is the largest patient-led charity in Europe, whose mission is to advocate for the needs of people who are neurodiverse across their lifespan. It has been granted funds by a resident of Stroud to deliver the Stroud Neurodiversity Project in 2021.

The aim of the project is to raise awareness of the needs of children and young people who are neurodiverse through the delivery of high quality, evidence-based training opportunities and, to provide practical strategies for home and school. You would have probably seen a canopy of vibrant and uplifting umbrellas installed across Stroud town centre, as well as in our Sophie Hall!

At last week's conference, there was a big emphasis on raising awareness and early diagnosis to recognise and acknowledge neurodiversity and implement supporting strategies at the earliest opportunity. As they recognise that parents have a big, big role here, they have set up a series of free informative/training sessions tailored specifically to parents and carers.

If you are a parent or carer and would like to find out more about the available webinars, please contact the Family Services Coordinator: lisa.rudge@adhdfoundation.org.uk

