

Hope Brook News



**Week ending:
December 22nd**

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Dear Parents, Governors, Staff & Friends,

What a wonderful term we have had at Hope Brook! It has been a delight to see all the children continuing to grow in all aspects of their learning as well as in their personal and spiritual development. I extend a huge thank you to all the staff who have worked so hard to enable every child to flourish at our school.

I particular, I have been very moved to see so many of the children really embracing our vision of 'Growing together in God's love to bring hope to the world. This term we have focused on how the value perseverance can help us in living out our vision and we have seen so many examples of children trying to persevere through challenges in their learning, dealing with friendship issues and working hard to help others in our community. For example, children have been inspired to do litter picks, help out more at home, make bird boxes and even adopt an orangutan. Josh Leach and his family took up the challenge on the Home-School Values sheet I sent home and made a beautiful mosaic that reflects our vision symbol. Look out for the challenge for next term and do have a go at home too!



It has been wonderful to see the PTA revived in its new form as The Friends of Hope Brook School. Thank you to those who have really spear-headed this and have worked so hard to give the children some very special Christmas experiences, including the beautiful grotto, where every child received a book from the Friends, and the hugely enjoyable disco. There are many exciting plans afoot for next year—if you are interested in joining in and giving a helping hand at future events, please let myself or Chelsea Kay (Chair) know.



I wish all of you a peaceful and happy Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year!

December 2023

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Diary Dates

Date	Event	Date	Event
Monday 8 January	Back to School	Monday 18 March	GPJ Netball Competition
Monday 8 January	Swimming starts for year 3 children	Friday 22 March	Easter Service at All Saints Church Girls' Indoor Football Final Term Ends
Tuesday 9 January	Primary Quest Maths Challenge	Monday 8 April	Back to School
Wednesday 10 January	New Age Kurling Event	Wednesday 17 & Thursday 25 April	Parents' Evenings
Friday 12 January	Road to RIAT STEM challenge for year 5 and 6	W/c 13 May	SATS week - Year 6
Thursday 18 January	NHS Measurement Checks for Reception and Year 6	Friday 24 May	Term Ends
Wednesday 24 January	Individual Cross Country Event	Monday 3 June	Back to School
Tuesday 6 February	Book Fayre by Books for Bugs	W/C 3 June	Bikeability Training for Y6
Friday 9 February	Last Day of Term	Friday 5 July	Sports Day
Monday 17 February	Back to School	Tuesday 9 July	Year 6 Production (pm)
Thursday 22 February	Young Voices	Wednesday 10 July	Year 6 Production (evening)
Thursday 7 March	World Book Day	Friday 19 July	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly Last Day of Term

We hope an overview of events in the year is helpful and will try to stick to these dates as closely as possible. However, there will inevitably have to be some changes made for reasons we have not yet anticipated. Please check future newsletters for any changes or the calendar on our school website <https://www.hopebrook.co.uk/website/calendar/309901>

School Dinners

If you believe that you may be eligible for free school meals, please visit <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/> to apply online.



Children in receipt of free school meals (not the universal infant free schools meals for children in Reception, Year 1 & 2) also receive holiday food vouchers from Gloucestershire's Holiday Activity Fund

Safety Notice

Please could we remind parents to be good role models by using paths and not walking on the driveway or cutting across the car park at school. The bend on our driveway is a blind spot for drivers and can be particularly risky for children and adults leaving Pippins.

We would also like to remind parents that there should be no parents' cars on site between 8.30am and 4.30pm.

Thank you for helping us keep your children safe.



Goodbye Mrs Hill

We are sad to say "Goodbye" to Mrs Hill, one of our lunchtime supervisors who is moving on to be a Teaching Assistant at another school.

Congratulations to Mrs Dangerfield who will be joining our lunchtime supervising team in January 2024.

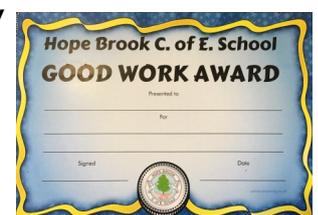


Good Work Awards

Each week a couple of children from each class may be given a 'Good Work Award' in our Friday celebration assembly. If your child gains five good work awards, please ask them to post them into the school letterbox (in the porch) before Wednesday so that we can award them with a Head Teacher's Award certificate and cup in the celebration assembly.

Well done to Mary-ann Badham, Olly Daughtrey, Francesca Harris, Braxton James, Noah Jeavons, Annabella Jones, Theo Lawrance, Lola Mason, Daniel Millis, Gwen Stephens and Quinn Lewis who have achieved a Head Teacher's Award this term.

If they work really hard and are presented with the cup five times in their time at Hope Brook - they get to keep it!



Remembrance

On Friday 10 November we held our annual service of remembrance with members of the local branch of the British Legion in attendance.

The service was led by pupils in Kestrels class.

Thank you for your continued support - your donations totalled £80.57 for the Royal British Legion.



Christmas Postbox

Year 1 and 2 pupils have collected £43.85 for the World Wildlife Fund from the sale of 5p Christmas stamps for the Christmas Post Office which they ran so efficiently—with the help of Mrs Carter.



Piano Recital

On Tuesday 5 December, we welcomed internationally recognised pianist, Clare Hammond from Gloucestershire Music for a piano recital. The children were captivated by the performance, especially when the front of the piano was removed and everyone could see the moving parts inside.

If your child is interested in starting music lessons, please contact <http://www.gloucestershiremusic.co.uk>



Children in Need

On Friday 17th November we received a surprise visit from Pudsey bear and BBC Radio Gloucestershire.

The children had a great time creating a wonderful Pudsey Bear Art attack from items they found around school. Thank you to Mr Rich Leach from the village who captured it on his drone. Your donations raised a total of £190 - thank you.



Sporting Success

GPJ Girls' Indoor Football: Years 5 and 6

We are very proud of our Year 5 and 6 girls who put in a sterling performance at the local GPJ Girls' Indoor Football Tournament. They came 1st overall having won 5 games out of 5, scored 8 goals and conceded none. What a fantastic achievement! Well done to Betsie Matthews, India Foran, Sandy Stead, Isabelle Hysom, Gracie Morris, Daisy Jones, Gwen Stephens and Evelyn Beard. We wish them all the very best for the final on 20th March. Many thanks to Mr Mark Yearley for supervising the children at the event.



Sports Hall Challenge

On 9th November 2023, some Year 5 and 6 children took part in the Sports Hall Athletics tournament. This is an indoor multi-event competition helping budding athletes to develop athletic-based skills. It includes both track and field events. After a tough afternoon of competition, the Hope Brook children achieved SILVER, which is a fantastic result. Well done to Lily, Sandy, Betsie, Gwen, Evelyn, Gracie, Isabelle, Jess, Max, Charlie, Stirling, Peter, Oliver and William. Thank you to Mrs Southwell and Mr Yearley who supervised the children at the event.



Nativity - Hey Ewe!

This year's nativity performance was Hey Ewe! I think everyone agreed they did an amazing job. There was some beautiful singing—and some definite 'Aah' moments.

Thank you to Mrs Stanton, Miss Clemett, Mrs Davis, Mrs Carter, and Pauline, Mary and Kelly from Pippins for their work with the children, and thank you for the help with the costumes.



Visiting The Manor and The Old Rectory

On Tuesday 19 December, a group of children from Year 1 to Year 6 visited the local care homes to sing carols and Christmas songs.

Afterwards, they spent time chatting with the residents, and enjoyed the sweet treats they were presented with.



Christmas Celebrations



Our children have enjoyed a lovely few weeks starting with Christmas Jumper day and Christmas making afternoon on 1 December.



Kestrels' class used their recent £500 donation from the Friends of Hope Brook towards the cost of a trip to the pantomime on Wednesday 13 December. They had a fabulous time at The Roses Theatre in Tewkesbury watching *Beauty and the Beast*.



The Friends of Hope Brook (FoHB) welcomed Father Christmas to their magical grotto on school on Monday 18 December. Each child received a present from Father Christmas and a cake/biscuit and also had the opportunity to buy a gift for a loved one. A special 'Thank you' to Mrs Kerryann Harris for decorating the grotto and tidying up again afterwards.



On Tuesday 19 December, the FoHB organised a school disco for the children. It was lovely to see all the children (nearly the whole school!) enjoying the fun and games.

Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 20 December was followed class parties and party games.

Thursday afternoon was biscuit decorating afternoon and for the final afternoon on Friday, the school council organised a karaoke style sing along in the hall.