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Stephanie Severn (Mrs.) – Head Teacher

Hope Brook Update – Friday 4th March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

We started the week by welcoming Mr Jackson as a new member of the Hope Brook teaching team. He really enjoyed his first week with Woodpeckers, as we knew he would. The World Book Day was a great success. We raised £143 which will be used to support the WBD charity in its aim to 'bring the magic of books to children and young people everywhere'. It was lovely to see so many children dressing up for the day - and being able to talk about the character they had chosen. This was very impressive. There are plenty of pictures on the website. The book swap was an enormous success. Everyone who wanted a book got one. The children were very excited about being able to take a book home. This is definitely something we will do again.

Coronavirus – Where are we now?

It certainly feels as if the covid-19 restrictions are relaxing - but we are very aware that coronavirus is still evident in our local community. The following summary has been provided by GCC to clarify the current situation:

- From 24 February, the Government removed the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. In addition, the Government will no longer ask fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 to test daily for 7 days and routine contact tracing will end.
- Adults and children who test positive on a PCR, or LFD test, will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days.
- For staff or children who have any of the main symptoms, the public health advice remains unchanged and is to stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They should order a PCR test and are advised to stay at home while waiting for the result.

At school, we are continuing with some of our routines - the one-way system remains in place, the children continue to wash / sanitise their hands regularly and the additional cleaning protocols remain in place. We have started to hold collective worship in the hall again - which has been lovely.

Parents Evening

This term's Parents Evenings are being held on Tuesday 15th March and Wednesday 23rd March. These will be 10 minute face-to-face meetings with your child's classteacher. If you have not booked already, please remember to book your time slot via eschools. In preparation for the parents evening, you will receive a report card about your child's current performance in school. Report cards will be sent to parents on Friday 11th March.

STEM Workshop

On Thursday 10th March, Kingfishers will be taking part in a lego technic workshop, making moon buggies. There is no charge for this activity. It will take place in school, within the school day.

Red Nose Day

We will be celebrating Red Nose Day on Friday 18th March. This will be a non-uniform day for the children. A donation of £1.50 per child is requested please. Donations can be paid via this link <https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=6759> (as these donations go straight to Comic Relief, it cannot be set-up to be accessed through your usual Parentpay account) or as cash on the day.

We are also selling Red Noses from Monday 14th March, which are £1.50 each. Payments for red noses should be made in cash at the time of purchase. Mrs McGinley will be selling the red noses at the front of the school each morning. Sales will be on a first come, first served basis. During the following week (21st - 25th March) a box will be available for the recycling of red noses. The box will be in the wet area.

School Uniform

We are very proud of our school uniform and for years, visitors have commented positively on the smartness of our pupils. However, we have seen some slippage in our uniform recently, particularly with footwear. Please can we remind parents that we ask children to wear shoes in school - rather than boots or trainers.

Current vacancies

At Easter, we will have two vacant positions - a midday supervisor role (12 - 1.15pm daily) and a position at our After School Club (3.15 - 5/6pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday). These posts are term time only. If you like the idea of working with children and are interested in these positions, more information can be provided by the school office. Application information and application forms can be found on the website - under the 'Vacancies' tab.

We are ending the week with brighter weather than we had at the start of the week. Let's hope this continues. Spring is on its way.

Enjoy the weekend

Stephanie Severn