

Hope Brook News

**Week ending: 11
June 2021**

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**Hope Brook C of E
Primary School**

Church Road
Longhope
Gloucestershire
GL17 0LL

Phone: 01452 830558
Fax: 01452 831139

E-mail:
admin@hopebrook.
gloucs.sch.uk

Dear Parents, Governors, Staff & Friends,

As this term draws to a close, we reflect on another unusual year. It has been a year full of surprising twists and turns. The lockdowns have been hard on everyone and have changed people's view of working life. Social distancing, masks, sanitizer—have all become part of our day to day. We are all hopeful that we will not have to return to the restrictions of the past sixteen months. We are looking forward to a more normal school day—no talk of 'bubbles' and no one way systems. We have our fingers crossed that this will happen in September. During the last week of the summer holidays, I will send a communication confirming any arrangements for the start of the new school year.

Following a request from the Parent Group, I will also be sending out a communication as a reminder of all the things a parent needs to remember at the start of a new school year - uniform, PE kit, lunches etc. This communication will be sent out to you by the end of next week.

Despite all the ups and downs, our amazing children have shown the resilience and determination to bounce back. If you could see the children in school, hear their laughter and see their smiles, you would know how much they have enjoyed being back together—even if they haven't been able to mix in the usual way.

We hope that we have managed to give our 2021 Leavers an ending to their primary years that they will remember for years to come. As you will see later in this newsletter, they had a fab time at PGL and they all had fun at Beechenhurst yesterday—enjoying a picnic and den building. It was a very hot day but fun was had by all. This morning we watched the Leavers Service which we hope you enjoyed too. It was great to hear their hopes and dreams—and to see their talents too. This year's Y6 cohort are probably the most talented singers we have had for a while. We wish they could have had more opportunities to show their talents this year.

We hope that all the children have enjoyed being back at school and are looking forward to the next year. Have a fantastic summer holiday—meeting up with family and friends, enjoying the sunshine and exploring the British Isles. Take care and stay safe.

20 July 2021

Diary Dates

Date	Event	Date	Event
Thursday 2 September	INSET Day	Friday 8 October	Harvest Celebration (tbc)
Friday 3 September	INSET Day	Thursday 21 October	INSET Day
Monday 6 September	Children return to school Year 3 and Year 4 Swimming lessons start (pm) Robins finish at 12 noon all week	Friday 22 October	INSET Day
Wednesday 8 September	Meet the Teacher Event	Thursday 11 November	Remembrance Day
Monday 13 September	Robins finish at 1.30pm all week	Wednesday 17 November	School Photos
Monday 20 September	SEND Parents Evening	Thursday 18 November	Parents Evening
Friday 24 September	Kingfishers and Kestrels trip to Windsor Castle	Wednesday 24 November	Parents Evening
Tues 28 & Weds 29 September	CORAM Life Bus	Weds 8 & Thurs 9 December	Nativity
		Thursday 16 December	Christmas Dinner

We hope you find the diary dates helpful. We always aim to plan events well in advance—but please be aware that sometimes date changes are unavoidable.

School Website Calendar <https://www.hopebrook.co.uk/website/calendar/309901>

Leavers Service

The whole school has watched the leavers service today. If you would like to view the service, it has been uploaded to the school website. It can be found under the 'Services' tab.

Swimming Lessons

Year 3 and Year 4 children will start swimming lessons on Monday 6 September 2021 at Freedom Leisure in Cinderford. Please see ParentPay for more details.

School Dinners

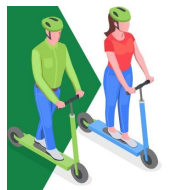
The menu for the autumn term is available on the school website https://www.hopebrook.co.uk/website/school_lunches_/311726

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.



Safety Notice

The local Police School Beat Officer has asked schools to share a safety notice regarding electric scooters which we have sent as an attachment to this newsletter. This notice serves as a reminder for parents that it is illegal to ride an escooter on a public highway.



Parent Governor Update

Following the Parent Governor election process held earlier this year, we are pleased to inform you that Mrs Aimee Wallis—Ellis will be joining the governing body of Hope Brook from September. Mrs Wallis-Ellis is a parent to children in Y5 and Y3, and her youngest daughter will be joining Robins next year.

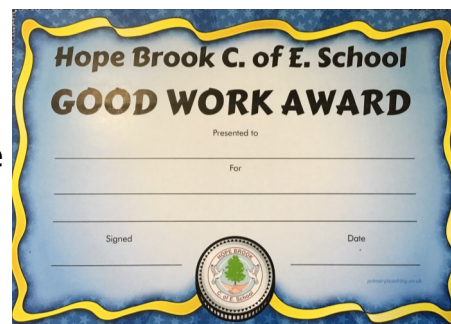
Other members of the Governing body are:

Justin Cook—Chair of Governors	Alan Beard—Vice Chair
Lara Bloom—Foundation Governor	Matthew Gacek—Foundation Governor
Amy Mason—Parent Governor	Claire Jeavons—Parent Governor

Good Work Awards

Each week a couple of children from each class may be given a 'Good Work Award' in our online Friday celebration assembly. If your child gains five good work awards, please ask them to post them into the school letterbox on Mondays so we can award them with a Head Teacher's Award certificate and cup to bring home at the end of each week.

Well done to Abigail Holland, Holly-Mai Harris Lauren Pearce, Frejya Royal-Meekel, Nancy Savidge, James McConnell, Toby Hayward, Elsie Roughan-Woodthorpe and Zachary James who have achieved a Headteacher'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!



Year 5 and Year 6 Residential Trip - by Mollie Wooding

On Monday 14 June, when we arrived at school the bus driver took our suitcases and sleeping bags to put underneath the coach. We all met together in the hall ready to leave at 9.15am. We had a quick stop at a motorway service station for a snack and a drink. Later, we stopped at a park to have our packed lunch and played cricket before getting to the ferry. We were on the ferry for an hour, and then back on the bus for 5 or 10 minutes before arriving at PGL's Little Canada. Our first activity was a campfire that evening which was really fun—we sang some really funny songs before going back to our cabins to sleep.



On Tuesday, we went to Osborne House (Queen Victoria's holiday home). This was beautiful. There were so many paintings—we were told that Queen Victoria loved painting and art. We sat under a tree and ate our snack near a beautiful fountain. We then walked down to Swiss Cottage and the beach where we had our lunch. We got back on the bus to go to The Needles. The view was beautiful. We saw a glass blowing demonstration which was very interesting but very hot! After that we went to the sweet making demonstration. This was one of the most satisfying things I had ever seen and we got to try a watermelon flavour sweet. We went to the shop and were allowed to buy anything.



On Wednesday, we stayed on site to do the outdoor activities. First we did the zip wire. This was so much fun. I was nervous at first but after I had done it once I wasn't nervous! We had three goes each—this never happens normally. Next we went to the climbing wall. I almost got to the top, I was scared I was going to fall. After that we did Jacobs Ladder. This was very high and the rungs got further apart.



On Thursday, we went to Blackgang Chine Theme Park. First of all we went on the water rides—the Plughole, the Overflow 1 and the Overflow 2. Next we went into the mirror hall which was really funny. Afterwards we went to see a giant whale bone over our heads and learned some facts about the bones of the whale. We were then allowed to go within our groups anywhere on the park. We rode on the teacups and the people in mine spun it super fast—we got told to stop it but couldn't! We bought a slushy and went to the valley before going back to the meeting spot. We went to the Underwater Kingdom and walked through a tunnel. After that we went to the Rumpus Mansion which was a giant bungalow that had been spoilt by goblins—there were lots of different goblins behind glass.



On Friday we had a very long journey home.

20 July 2021