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Stephanie Severn (Mrs.) – Head Teacher

30 April 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been another busy week at Hope Brook. I hope you have managed to have a look at the class web pages, where you will get a taster of all the exciting experiences our children enjoy. This week's contributions include Wagtails becoming an exploding volcano and Wrens recalling the life cycle of a frog. Wrens and Woodpeckers have been looking at the life cycle of a frog this term. Woodpeckers have been very excited, watching the tadpoles change in their outside area. They are keenly watching to see legs appearing at the moment.

Today, your children will have brought home a postcard from their class teachers. We thought you would appreciate a brief message about how your children have settled back into school. We will be sending full reports home at the end of this year – and we hope to hold a face-to-face Parents Evening – but realise this may be a little later than usual. It is likely that we will arrange Parents Evening after 21st June. As soon as a date is confirmed, we will let you know – and it will be listed on the diary dates section of the next newsletter.

In the meantime, if you do have any concerns about your child or the progress your child is making, please feel free to contact your child's class teacher. We are always happy to discuss any concerns you have about your children.

The Parent Group met last week. I will be setting up a Parent Group tab on the website – so all parents will be able to see the areas we have been discussing. I hope to set up that tab within the next week. If you have anything you would like discussed at the Parent Group meetings – please use the following email address – parentgroup@hopebrook.gloucs.sch.uk We thought it would be useful to have a specific email address that can be accessed by the members of the Parent Group. Our next meeting will be Thursday 20th May at 6pm.

I am sure you all share the same concerns that we have over internet safety and safe online behaviour. We have been made aware of several issues recently and thought you should be aware of some emerging concerns. Firstly, we are aware of some children using games that are not appropriate for their age group. (Fortnite continues to be a game that causes us concern). We become particularly concerned about this when children act out what they have been seeing in video games, on our school playground. Our second area of concern is communication that is happening between pupils via various online games. We have had

several examples where children have been feeling upset because they have been left out of games, not invited to games or have experienced unkind language. We spend a lot of time talking to the children about online safety and know this is an area that causes a great deal of anxiety for parents. If you would like advice / guidance on how to keep your child safe online, there are a number of links on the e-safety page of the website (found under the Our Parents tab).

I hope you all manage to enjoy a restful Bank Holiday and we will see the children back at school on Tuesday 4th May.

Stay safe,

Stephanie Severn