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Dear Parents / Carers

### **Hope Brook Update – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

It's been another busy week at school. The children have been working really well and have been enjoying some September sunshine.

It feels as if next week is likely to be another busy and exciting week. Our new children in reception start full time and several of our classes have their first school trips of the year. I think all the children except the Reception children will be on a coach at some point next week.

#### Pauline

We have been delighted to welcome Pauline back to Pippins this term. She has been recovering really well following some aggressive treatment in the summer holidays. She is not yet ready to return to work full time but is gradually increasing her working hours. We are trying to encourage her to take it easy.

#### School trips

There are two exciting trips this week.

On Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> September - Y1 and Y2 will be going to St Fagan's National Museum of History. Children should arrive at school by 8am as the coach is leaving at 8.10am. They should be back at school by 5.15pm. (We will let you know by text if there is likely to be any change to timings.) The children will need to wear school uniform. They will need a packed lunch, a snack, a drink in a non-breakable container and a waterproof coat. We suggest they put all these items in a backpack for ease. The children will have the chance to visit the souvenir shop. If you wish your child to purchase a gift/souvenir we suggest they bring no more than £5 in a labelled purse/wallet.

On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September - Kingfishers and Kestrels will be going to Windsor Castle. This will be a long day! Children will need to arrive at school by 6.50am(!) as the coach is leaving at 7.00am. They will return to school at approximately 8.30pm. (We will let you know by text if there is likely to be any change to timings.) The children will need to wear school uniform. They will need a packed lunch, a snack, a drink in a non-breakable container and a waterproof coat. We suggest they put all these items in a backpack for ease. No electronic devices, sweets or fizzy drinks please. The children will have the opportunity to purchase souvenirs. They will also enjoy the opportunity of selecting and purchasing an evening meal of their choice at Reading Services. This is always an interesting budgeting experience for the children. We suggest they bring no more than £20 spending money, £10 of which they should keep back for the evening meal.

#### Outdoor Learning

Just to confirm the children's outdoor learning days:

Wednesday - Woodpeckers

Thursday - Wagtails

Friday - Robins

The children should wear outdoor learning clothes to school on the day they have outdoor learning. Please remember that the children should wear appropriate clothing for outdoor learning ie clothing that they do not mind getting messy and clothing that protects them from the surroundings. Kingfishers and Kestrels do not have weekly opportunities for outdoor learning - but will experience learning outdoors when the activities link to their curriculum topics.

#### Morrisons

We have registered Hope Brook on the Morrison's 'It's good to Grow' scheme so if you happen to be shopping in Morrisons and you are using their app, you will be able to assign your vouchers to our school.

#### Extra Bank Holiday

Due to this year's additional Bank Holiday for the Queen's Jubilee, all schools have been allocated an additional non-schooling day. Gloucestershire LA have allotted Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July as Gloucestershire's non-schooling day. Therefore, this year's Summer Term will end on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022.

#### End of school arrangements

We would like to make two suggestions that might help ease the smooth exit of children at the end of the school day.

Firstly, could parents of children in Woodpeckers try to stand on the right hand side of the lower playground so they can be seen more easily by the teaching staff.

Secondly, could we ask that all parents collect their children from the playground, rather than gathering by the classroom doors. Currently, there appears to be an uncomfortable amount of congestion around the gates while people are trying to leave.

Hopefully, these two measures will help ensure everybody can leave school safely and sensibly. As always, we do recommend that children stay with their adults while they are on the school site.

Have a lovely weekend

Stephanie Severn