



Hope Brook News

Week ending: September 27th 2019

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Secondary
school open
days

Dene Magna—
26/9/19

Newent Com-
munity
School—
11/10/19

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Dear Parents, Governors, Staff & Friends,

Welcome back to a new school year. It is hard to believe we have only been back at school for three weeks. The summer holidays seem like a distant memory. As always we have lots of exciting plans for this term—school trips, our Harvest Festival and an 'Environmental Week' when we will be asking the children what they would like to see in the school grounds. We will also be reviewing how we manage waste at school and hope to improve our current systems.

Many of you will have noticed that Mrs Southwell has not joined us at the start of this term. Unfortunately, she has damaged a ligament in her leg so is currently struggling to move around. The treatment seems to be progressing well and we wish her a speedy recovery.



We have been joined by a new member of the 'Superstars' team who provide sports coaching for the school. Our new coach is Tomos Robson who is really looking forward to working at the school. Tomos has experienced a season at Camp America and has coached at several football clubs in Wales, including Cardiff City FC. Mr Robson has promised to try and leave the rain at home. Many of you will have noticed it has rained every Monday afternoon since he started teaching PE to our pupils!



Another new face around school is Miss Paige Ridgers who has joined Woodpeckers this term. Paige is a mature student who has lots of experience working in pre-school settings. She has settled really well at Hope Brook and is quickly discovering the challenges of the world of teaching. We hope she enjoys her time with us. We know the children have enjoyed getting to know her.

27th September 2019

Diary Dates - Autumn Term

Date	Event	Date	Event
Friday 4th October 2019	Harvest Service	Friday 29th November 2019	Xmas making afternoon
Friday 11th October 2019	Cake Sale - organised by Woodpeckers	Wednesday 4th December 2019	Experience Christmas at All Saints Church
Friday 18th October 2019	Parents Meeting Reading at Home 2pm	Wednesday 11th December 2019	Nativity
Thursday 24th October 2019	Inset Day	Thursday 12th December 2019	Nativity
Friday 25th October 2019	HALF TERM	Friday 13th December 2019	Theatre Visit—Robins and Woodpeckers
Monday 4th November 2019	Children return to school	Thursday 19th December 2019	Xmas Lunch Xmas parties
Tuesday 5th November 2019	School photographs	Friday 20th December 2019	Flu Immunisations
Wednesday 6th November 2019	Parents Evening	Friday 20th December 2019	AM—School Council Event PM—Pippins Xmas party 3.15pm ASC Xmas party
Monday 11th November 2019	Remembrance Service 10.30am	Monday 6th January 2020	Children return to school
Thursday 14th November 2019	Parents Evening		

Good Work Awards

Well done to Oliver Cruickshank, Charlie Kay, Betsie Matthews, Jack Matthews, Iona Moore, Lauren Pearce, Sam Skelton, Sandy Stead, Robson Trigg and Zach White who have all received a 'Perseverance Award' this term.

Remember, if our pupils work really hard and are presented with the cup five times during their time at Hope Brook - they get to keep it!



27th September 2019

London Trip—Kestrels

On Tuesday 17th September, Kestrels and Kingfishers spent a long day exploring London. Kestrels ventured onto The London Eye, experienced an exciting boat trip down the Thames and then stood outside Buckingham Palace for a perfect photo opportunity. It was a beautiful day and lots of famous landmarks were seen by all. Here is part of Hattie's recollections of the journey on The Eye. 'It all started at roughly 11am ish. We got off our coach and grouped up with our adult. I was in Mrs Barnes group. I looked up and...there in front of me, was the magnificent London Eye. I thought it looked terrifying. Little did I know I would love it! The queue dwindled until it was our pod. I stepped onto the platform and then onto the gently moving pod. The other group (Mrs Hollis' group) were in the pod before ours and they all waved down at us. I waved back, bracing myself for the height. It was when the other pod was almost vertical (but still upright) that I noticed the incredible views. It was breath-taking. I was facing south, towards Tower Bridge, when I noticed some familiar places ...The Shard, Wembley...So much! Then I heard a lot of noise beside me. I wobbled over, still a little nervous, and saw many more familiar sights ...St Paul's Cathedral, Big Ben (hardly noticeable under the scaffolding), Parliament and Buckingham Palace.'

What an experience, Hattie.



London Trip—Kingfishers

On 17th September 2019 Kingfishers visited the Tower of London. After an early start on the coach, we arrived in London on a beautiful Autumnal morning.

"When we finally arrived, we hopped off the coach and strode boldly through the Traitor's Gate. We made our way to our workshop and we were met by an actor dressed up as King Henry VIII who greeted us with a smile. We learnt that King Henry was actually quite nice, which is not always the way he is presented in some historical accounts." (Lois). "After having lunch in a medieval room, which was quite dimly lit, we walked to see the Crown Jewels." (Toby) "We saw the beautiful, gemmed Crown Jewels and also a religious coronation of our very own Queen Elizabeth." (Zach) Later, "we crept down into the torture chamber. We saw where some prisoners were stretched and squeezed for information." (Ada) After having a quick photograph taken with the Tower Bridge in the background, we travelled by coach to Buckingham Palace. We stood outside the Queen's Palace and had a photo shoot.



27th September 2019

Dean Heritage Centre

On Wednesday 18th September, Wagtails visited the Dean Heritage Centre, near Soudley, to learn about animals, their habitats and their food chains. I learnt that squirrels shake the nut to find out if it's hollow. I discovered that a bumble bee lives on its own instead of a family. I found out that buzzards are a predator of lots of things. By Phoebe Morris

A lovely day was had by all—and great weather too.



Our trip to St Fagans — Woodpeckers

On a lovely sunny day all the year ones and twos went to visit the museum of Welsh life. First we went to see Betty Bwts wash day, we learnt how they did the washing in the olden days. They used a scrubbing board and it was very hard work. You then had to put it in a dolly tub to rinse it and then use a mangle to get the water out. We went to the blacksmith he got the metal hot and he banged the metal into different shapes he made a hook which we brought back to school. There is a row of old houses some of them were really, really old and didn't have electricity or water you had to go to the river to get water. They only had a fire to keep warm and had to go to a shed outside to go to the toilet. The school was very old and small, you had to check in the mirror before you went in to see if you were clean and tidy if you weren't the teacher would throw you out! If you were naughty you would be whacked with a stick. In the shops there were old fashioned sweets which did not come in plastic bags and lots of old tin baths. We had a picnic lunch by the stream and a play in the park then we went to the shop. It was a nice day but very long and tiring.

By Stirling, Charlie, Peter, Sandy and Lily



How can I help my child?

We are often asked this question—so here are some ways we try to keep you up to date with what is being taught at Hope Brook so you are able to be part of your children's learning experiences.

- 1) Use the school website—As well as the useful calendar page, you can find out what your child is being taught that term and what they need to bring to school each day. The staff try to keep up to date with the photos on the class pages so you can see what they have been up to. All this information should help you to have conversations with your children about their learning.
- 2) Use the information in the children's reading journals—These journals enable us to keep track of your children's reading experiences but also provide lots of information about what they have been taught about reading too. Of course we want you to be part of that reading experience too—listen to your children read, talk about books with the children and read to them. We know all these experiences make a huge difference to children.
- 3) Help your children to be organised about completing homework. We call it 'homework' but actually, it is the main way we keep you in touch with what your children are being taught. It should really be called - 'sharing my learning' rather than homework. Keeping in touch with your child's homework also helps parents to see the different methods of teaching we use in school—particularly in maths.

A Safety Message—bikes and scooters



We are happy to provide a space to store bikes and scooters for children who choose to travel to school on these vehicles.

However, in order to ensure everyone can leave and enter the site safely, we request that children walk the vehicles when they enter the school site. It is parents responsibility to ensure their children are wearing appropriate protective equipment when using their bikes or scooters.

Reply slips

Just a reminder for parents. All reply slips and letters should be handed in to the teaching staff in the classroom, rather than at the school office. All correspondence handed in through the classroom is collated and managed before correspondence that is handed in at the office. This is to ensure our systems are fair for all parents.

Pippins



This term we are looking at 'our pets'.

We have been looking at patterns on our pets and all around us.

The children have enjoyed looking at silhouettes of animals and finding the fur/skin/feathers that match the animals.



In the role-play area we have had a vets and the children have loved making the animals better, giving them injections and putting bandages on them. We have taken phone calls and booked clients in on the computer. The vet has had to write out prescriptions for the animals that are poorly. We have been very busy.



Breakfast Club / After School Club

Please be aware that we are currently reviewing our charges for this service as we do need to ensure we are providing a viable service that does not impact school funding.



PARENT & CHILD COOKERY

@ The Forest Showcase Food Festival

Sunday 6th October 2019

Speech House Hotel Grounds GL16 7EL

Free Parent & Child Cookery Classes

(small charge of £3 towards ingredients)

Cook a healthy dinner, using simple cooking skills which can then be replicated at home and can involve the children as much as possible. Learn how to make the dishes & take home your food at the end of the workshop along with the recipe.

with Healthy eating advisor and cookery teacher
Glyn Owen from KIDS and FOOD

We will be cooking a bean burger flavoured with Sage, rosemary and spring onion. It will be served with a beetroot and rocket salad.

12pm & 3pm (places limited)

To Book:

www.forestshowcase.org

contactus@forestshowcase.org

Tel: 07980 357747



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