



Hope Brook Church of England Primary School
Church Road
Longhope
Gloucester
GL17 0LL
Tel: 01452 830558
Fax: 01452 831139
E-mail: admin@hopebrook.gloucs.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs S Severn

Dear Parents/ Carers

It's been another fun-packed week at Hope Brook. The Life Education team visits were well received by the children, even if Anita brought Geoffrey's cousin, Harold with her this time. Wagtails enjoyed their woodland venture. One child told me it was 'awesome' so that made my day - and we received a lovely letter from the Gloucestershire LA complimenting us on our successful Ofsted. I should also say thank you to those parents that have passed on their positive comments about the school trips. It is always nice to be appreciated - so thank you for your kind words.

Woodpeckers

Some parents will have noticed that Mrs Blackman has not been in school this week. Unfortunately, she is currently unwell and will not be back in school until after the half term break. We have been lucky enough to welcome back one of our regular supply teachers (Mrs Bland) to cover Mrs Blackman's teaching time for the next few weeks. Mrs Bland will be taking Woodpeckers on Mondays and Tuesdays and Mrs Christie will be taking the class on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. (Having explained that pattern, there will be a slight change for the coming week (w/b 4th Oct). Mrs Christie will be taking the class Monday - Wednesday, and Mrs Bland will be taking the class on Thursday and Friday.)

On Tuesday afternoon, all the Y1 and Y2 children will be visiting All Saints Church, where Revd Lara Bloom will talk to them about a Christening service. The trip is happening within school hours. No additional adults are required - but it might be a good idea to ensure children have a waterproof coat with them. At the moment the weather forecast looks good - but it has been rather changeable this week.

Covid-19

I thought I should clarify an emerging situation - just to keep you in the picture of a pattern that is emerging in some schools in the Forest of Dean. There seems to be a pattern of children and adults receiving positive results on their Lateral Flow Tests and then receiving negative results on their PCR tests. This is very confusing for everyone. At the moment Public Health England are advising that children can return to school if they are not showing symptoms, and they have received a negative PCR.

The Schools Covid-19 Guidance (updated 27th September 2021) states

Confirmatory PCR tests

Staff and pupils with a positive LFD test result should self-isolate in line with the [stay at home guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#). They will also need to [get a free PCR test to check if they have COVID-19](#).

Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the individual should continue to self-isolate.

If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the pupil can return to school, as long as the individual doesn't have COVID-19 symptoms.

Again, can I thank everyone for the sensible choices that are being made at the moment. We thank those parents who have taken a cautious approach and have let us know if they are taking their children for a PCR test. At this time, I think it is sensible to continue to take a cautious approach if your children are feeling unwell.

Named clothing

Could we ask parents to ensure all their children's clothes are named. We are having difficulty ensuring the right cardigans and jumpers are being returned to the right children, particularly after lunch and PE sessions.

Harvest Service

Our Harvest Service will take place at All Saints Church on Friday 8th October - at 9.30am(ish).

If you are providing a contribution for the Harvest Service, please remember to send your contribution into school next week. The children can bring in their contributions on Friday morning, but we are happy for the children to bring in the contribution any day next week. The contributions will be going to the Forest Food bank who are always grateful for all contributions, but ask for non-perishable goods, such as pasta, biscuits, tinned fruit and vegetables etc.

Please don't be alarmed if you see the children walking up to the church on Thursday. This will be our rehearsal day.

Some advice regarding attendance at the service:

- Members of the congregation at All Saints Church are encouraged to wear masks while they attend services at the church. We feel we should support that advice.
- All visitors are encouraged to sanitise their hands on arrival.
- We ask that anybody with suspected symptoms or who has been in close contact with somebody with suspected symptoms does not attend
- Please be aware of the limited space that will be available in the church
- We intend to increase ventilation of the church and will try to ensure the service lasts only 30 minutes.

Have a restful weekend.

Stephanie Severn