



Hope Brook News

Week ending: December 20th 2019

Inside this issue:

Autumn Term	1
Diary Dates	2
Christmas Plays	3
School Dinners	3
Christmas Experience—All Saints	4
Sportshall Challenge	4

Friday 20th
December

9.30am

Flu

Immunisation
session for the
whole school.

**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,

We have reached the end of another term—and it has certainly been a hectic one. Along the way, we have adopted a sheep (a model sheep not a real one!). Many of you will have heard about the sheep we were asked to decorate by Gloucester Diocese. This event happened last summer. All the church schools were asked to decorate part of a sheep with something that represented their school. We painted our logo on one of the back legs of the sheep (a great idea from Mrs Acland). The sheep were then returned to the Cathedral for the Leavers Service in June. This was our first opportunity to see the completed sheep. In September, we were contacted by the Diocese to say we had been chosen to 'adopt' the sheep for The Severn Deanery. We have an adoption certificate and the sheep stands proudly in our entrance hall. We have promised to look after it.

The Christmas term is always busy and now we have reached the point where the festivities are almost at an end and we are all preparing for that special day. The Christmas plays have been completed, Christmas parties have happened and the auditions for the annual Talent Show have taken place. We have 12 amazing acts who will perform this Friday. This is a favourite event for the pupils and something our School Council love to organise. Who will be this year's winner? We will find out on Friday. What a great way to end the term.

Merry Xmas Everyone.

After School Club—Price increases

We are currently reviewing our pricing of Breakfast Club and After School Club. As you will be aware the charge for this service has not changed for five years. Unfortunately, we find ourselves in a position that means this is unsustainable. The charges for this service will need to increase. Initially, we are making two price increases. ASC charge for 3.15pm—4pm will increase to £3.50. The charge for Breakfast Club will also increase to £3.50. Further increases are likely to be necessary from the start of the next financial year—April 2020.

20th December 2019

Diary Dates - Spring Term

Date	Event	Date	Event
Monday 6th January 2020	Return to school	Friday 7th February 2020	'Books for Bugs' Bookfair
Thursday 9th January 2020	New Age Kurling @Newent	w/b Monday 10th February 2020	Readathon Week
Thursday 16th January 2020	Kestrels + Kingfishers We The Curious trip	w/b 17th February 2020	Half Term
Tuesday 21st January 2020	PTA Meeting 7.30pm	Tuesday 25th February 2020	Y3/4 Gymnastics event@ Dene Magna
Wednesday 22nd January 2020	Cross Country @ Newent School	Thursday 27th February 2020	GPJ High 5's Netball Tournament
Thursday 23rd January 2020	Sportshall Challenge Finals in Cheltenham	Tuesday 17th March 2020	Woodpeckers Gloucester Quays
Friday 24th January 2020	Reading Event for parents 2.30pm	Friday 3rd April	Last Day of Term 9.30am Easter Service

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.

Good Work Awards

Well done to Keelan Coleman, Chloe Moverley, Lydia Moverley, Livvy Reed and Lily Webb, 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!



Penguin Pete

On Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th December, Woodpeckers produced a wonderful performance of 'Penguin Pete'. The costumes looked great and Penguin Pete waddled proudly around the hall, meeting animal friends from across the world, as he made his way to the North Pole to tell Father Christmas he was fed up of 'fish'. Why didn't he just send a letter?! The children sang fantastically and made their families and the teaching staff very proud. Well done all of you.



Whoops—A—Daisy Angel



Our Woodpeckers performance was followed by a performance of 'Whoops-a-Daisy Angel'. We were all relieved when the angel was given a special job to do. Of course, her special job was to show the main characters of the Christmas story the way to Bethlehem. This meant we could end our play with a traditional nativity scene. For the first time Pippins joined Robins Class for a Christmas production. I think everyone agreed they did an amazing job. There was some beautiful singing—and some definite 'Aah' moments.

School Dinners

From Monday 6 January, we would like to introduce a new system for booking lunches. We will be utilising the booking system on Parentpay for meal choices. This should mean that not only can you pay for your children's meals on line, you will also be able to select the meals for them (or with them). We hope that you will find this a much more convenient system as you will be able to check you have ordered meals for your children from your phone and you won't have to remember to fill in the paper slips any longer. The days of searching book bags for lunch menus will go— and it should save some trees in the process!

Parentpay have produced the following guidance for parents on using the bookings system: <https://www.parentpay.com/DOCH/school-support/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/How-to-make-meal-or-event-bookings.pdf>

As always with new systems, we may face a few hiccups, but hopefully it will be better in the long run. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you have any queries about the new system. Payments may still be made via barcodes as before, but Parentpay does require payment at the time of booking.

Thank you for your support with this.

Experience Christmas



On Wednesday 4th December, the whole school visited All Saints Church, where Lara and a team from the church provided an event called 'Experience Christmas'. The classes and Pippins took it in turns to visit the church and find out more about The Christmas Story. Our younger children had the opportunity to re-enact parts of the story while our older children were encouraged to 'think' more deeply about some aspects of Christmas. All the children seemed to enjoy the experience and were buzzing with things they had heard.

We would like to say a huge thank you to Lara and the rest of her team, who gave up their time to work with the children. I think they know we will be back to visit again. It was a wonderful way to start the Christmas season.



Sportshall Challenge



On Thursday 12th December, a team of children in Year 5 and 6 visited The Forest High to take part in the Sportshall Challenge. As many of you know, we have a great reputation in this event, and the children are always keen to maintain our record. I am pleased to say we won the event and are now looking forward to the next stage—the County Championship which takes place in Cheltenham on 23rd January 2020. What a fantastic start to the year. Well done team.

Illness

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities>

Following a number of incidents of sickness at school, we felt it might be helpful to provide a reminder about the Government's guidance for schools.

Children and adults with diarrhoea or vomiting should be excluded until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped and they are well enough to return. If medication is prescribed, ensure that the full course is completed and there is no further diarrhoea or vomiting for 48 hours after the course is completed.

Please note the guidance states children should not return until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped—so 48 hours after the last episode of sickness. Further information can be found at the link above or on the NHS website.

20th December 2019