



Hope Brook News

Week ending: May 24th 2019

Inside this issue:

Summer Term	1
Diary Dates	2
Spring Extravaganza	3
Spring term events	4
Sporting Events	6
Governors Corner	7
Pippins	8

Brooklets
starts on

Friday 7th
June

Is it that time
of year
already?!

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Dear Parents, Governors, Staff & Friends,

As we look forward to another Bank Holiday weekend, it feels appropriate to look back over another hectic half term. I truly can't believe we are just about to move into the last term of this academic year. This year seems to have flown by.

The end of KS2 assessments have now been completed. I am sure all the pupils in Year 6 are relieved. We were very impressed by their hard work and commitment to the assessments. We know they did the best they could. Well done Kestrels. They now have lots of exciting events to look forward to, including their end of year production — The X Factory. I am sure it will be very amusing.

As has become a tradition at Hope Brook, SATs Week is followed by our annual Arts Week. I am sure many of you will have viewed our amazing creations—using recycled materials.

We are also preparing for our 2nd Summer Music Concert which will be held on Thursday 20th June. All the children participating in this event are busy practising the pieces they will be playing or singing. If the weather is kind to us, we will try to hold the event outside as we did last year. Fingers crossed for a warm evening.



We have welcomed a new member to the Pippins team. Mrs Jo Carter joined Pippins at the beginning of this term. Jo has two daughters—Lily and Isla—who have both attended Pippins. She used to work in a pre-school before she had her children and has now returned to a job she loves.

Some of you will have noticed that Mary Croudace has not been at Pippins for the last couple of weeks. She is recovering from an operation on her foot. We are all wishing her a speedy recovery and look forward to her return. Keep smiling, Mary.

24th May 2019

Diary Dates

Monday 3rd June 2019	Term Starts	Date	Event
Tuesday 4th June 2019	Y6 Cathedral Leavers Service	w/c 24th June 2019	Dene Magna Induction Week
Tuesday 4th June 2019	Wagtails trip—Cheltenham Mandir	Friday 28th June 2019	Passport Day
Wednesday 5th June 2019	Brooklets Parents Evening 6.00pm	Friday 5th July 2019	Sports Day 9.30am
Friday 7th June 2019	Kingfishers Trip—Elan Valley	Tuesday 9th July 2019	Summer Production - KS2 2.00pm
w/c Monday 10th June 2019	Y1 Phonics Screening Week	Wednesday 10th July 2019	Summer Production - KS2 6.00pm
W/c Monday 10th June 2019	Y4 Multiplication Tables Check	Thursday 11th July 2019	Whole school walk—around Longhope
Thursday 13th June 2019	Country Dance Festival Speech House 6pm	Friday 12th July 2019	Y6 trip to West Midlands Safari Park
W/c Monday 17th June	Y3/4/5 Annual Assessments week	Wednesday 17th July	Y6 BBQ at Beechenhurst
Thursday 20th June 2019	Summer Music Concert 6.00pm	Tuesday 19th July 2019	Leavers Service 9.15am

Good Work Awards

Well done Skye Bingham, Sarah Ellis, Charlotte Elsmore, Toby Harding, Toby Hayward, Jasmine Jeavons, Amelia Johnson, Aiden Moore, Ben Pearce, Katie Pugh, Anabel Sprekelsen and Sam Venn who have received the Head Teacher's Award this term. A special mention to Rhys Davis who picked up the Head Teacher's Award for the 5th time so he gets to keep the cup. Well done.



24th May 2019

Spring Extravaganza

We have been extremely grateful to Mrs Acland and Ms Harrington who have stepped in to organise fundraising events in the absence of a PTA. So far they have arranged the Autumn Fayre, the Xmas cards and wrapping paper, the film night and their most recent event, the Spring Extravaganza.

It was a very successful evening, including the ever popular 'slime making'. We were very impressed by the creative talents on display—the art work, the photographs and the beautiful 'spring in a tea cup' displays. Listed below are the competition winners. Congratulations to everyone who took part.

KS1 Art

- 1st—Lydia Moverley
2nd—Harry Reed
3rd—Emily Morgan



KS2 Art

- 1st—Phoebe Goodfield
2nd—Livvy Reed
3rd—Kenzie Hall



Adult Art

- 1st—Owen Acland
2nd—Mrs Hollis
3rd—Mary Wales

KS1 Flower Display

- 1st—Gabi Tsipis
2nd—Harry Reed
3rd—Emily Morgan /
India Foran



KS2 Flower Display

- 1st—Phoebe Goodfield
2nd—Georgie Milsome-Tovey
3rd—Georgie Williams



Adult Flower Display

- 1st—Mrs Southwell
2nd—Mrs Goodfield
3rd—Mrs Acland

Spring in a teacup—Competition entries



Some amazing entries. Thank you to everyone who took the time and effort to contribute to the Spring Extravaganza.

24th May 2019

St George's Day

On Tuesday 23rd April, the school was filled with red and white as we celebrated St George's Day in style. It was great to see so many interesting costumes. All the children made an England flag to bring to the assembly, led by Mrs Blackman. The children were reminded about the story of St George and the Dragon and we were reminded of the many events that happen to recognise this day. It was a great way to start a new term.



Longhope (Scotland) Assembly

On Thursday 25th April, we had a visitor to our school assembly. Angela Carswell, who used to be a governor at Hope Brook, visited school to share some photos of the stunning village of Longhope on the Orkney Islands in Scotland. Angela had been to Longhope on 17th March to mark the 50th anniversary of the lifeboat disaster that occurred in 1969. Whilst the events of that day were very sad, it was heartwarming to hear how the members of the community in Longhope, Gloucestershire had rallied around to support the Scottish community all those years ago. It was also impressive to hear that the links between the two communities have continued to this day. We would like to thank Angela for her presentation and for the photos she has provided for a display in school. Thank you, Angela.



Lifeboat Memorial
Osmondwall Cemetery



Village of Longhope, Orkney

Waterways Museum

On Wednesday 15th May, Year 1 and 2 had a busy day as they visited the Waterways Museum at Gloucester Docks. They enjoyed a workshop explaining how the canals work and making models to help them understand the process. They then enjoyed looking around the fascinating museum. The most exciting part of the day was the travelling on a barge. One pupil said, "I was really excited but also a bit nervous." The final part of their day was to follow a trail, identifying important parts of the docks. The children and adults loved it!



Arts Week—Using recycled materials

This week has been our annual 'Arts Week' - a week where everybody gets the opportunity to show off their creative skills. What has everyone been up to?

Robins have been 'getting creative with plastic lids'.

Woodpeckers have been making flowers out of material and natural resources—we are looking forward to seeing flowers of all shapes and sizes.

Wagtails are making some exciting bunting to decorate the corridors.

Kingfishers are recreating a picture from a story they have been reading 'Duffy's Lucky Escape' - and of course they have been using recycled materials, particularly plastic to make the picture.

Kestrels look like they have been making a 'great big mess' in their classroom—but I am assured they are making 'outfits' for a fashion show on Friday. I am looking forward to that.

Finally, I have to mention the Bug Hotel that is being created in our garden area by the bike sheds. Every child has been involved in forming this structure which Mrs Hollis has named—Buggingham Palace.

It is getting there. Will we manage to finish it by Friday? Let's hope we do.



Sporting events



On Thursday 25th April, a group of Y6 pupils took part in the annual mountain biking competition at Newent School. As always, it was a very competitive event and our team managed to come 6th. Well done.



On Tuesday 12th March our gymnastics team faced their biggest challenge. Having won the Forest of Dean gymnastics competition, they had now qualified for the County Championships at Oxstalls Campus. Following their exceptional performance on the day, they achieved 4th position. An amazing achievement—and we loved the new outfits. Our thanks go to Mrs Powell who managed to find these striking leotards.



This was a very proud moment for Immy Harding. As the fastest qualifying runner from the Forest of Dean, which she achieved at the County Cross Country event, Immy qualified for the National Cross Country event. The event was held in Leicester. Her whole family had a very early start that day and Immy's performance was one to be very proud of. Those events can be completely overwhelming. We look forward to seeing what Immy can do in the future. She is one to watch. Keep on running, Immy.



An Apology

In the last newsletter, we mentioned the girls success in getting through to the county championships—but we didn't mention the boys who also qualified for the county event. So here are the boys—on the start line—on a sunny, Saturday morning in Cheltenham ready to 'give it their all' on a bit of a challenging track. You did a great job. Well done.

Governors Corner

Alan Beard

My name is Alan Beard and I am a long-standing Governor of Hope Brook. It is with great pleasure that I can introduce three new Governors to the school, Rev Lara Bloom, Mrs Amy Mason and Mrs Claire Jeavons who will all offer their introductions later in this message.

On the sporting front, which as a Governor is one of my focus areas, we have had a good start to the year. We have reached the School Games County Finals in Sports Hall Athletics, reached the County finals of the Key Steps Gymnastics and have runners qualifying for the Gloucestershire Finals of the Cross Country. We are performing well for a small village school which is due to the motivated pupils and our dedicated staff.

The main School plan reflects our desire to improve standards across all subjects & activities, developing our curriculum to raising the standards in our early years. Our school staff have accessed training to work on these areas of action as we improve our impact in these challenging areas.

We want all pupils to reach towards their full potential, make friends and gain confidence as they learn. The role of the Governor is varied, from reviewing the curriculum, assessing staff needs to the maintenance of the building and grounds. The Governors continue to review how we best keep you all informed about our school and the Governors roles but please note a copy of our minutes is always readily available from the school reception for all to read.

We have now re-established stronger links to the church and this leads nicely to introducing our new Governors

Rev Lara Bloom

Hello, my name is Rev'd Lara Bloom and I am the Priest-in-Charge of the Forest Edge Benefice covering Longhope, Huntley with May Hill, Churcham and Bulley. I am also a mum to Natasha who is 14 and Alexander who is soon to be 10. I love working with the children in our church schools and contributing to the governance. I'm passionate about our local communities and hope to make church accessible to all. I look forward to getting to know you over the coming weeks and months.

Claire Jeavons

My name is Claire Jeavons. I have lived with my family in Little London, Longhope since 2008. My daughter Jasmine is in Year 3 and my little boy Noah will hopefully be starting Hope Brook in September. I am a Year 1/2 teacher and Special Education Needs Coordinator at a local school. I love teaching and being part of a school community. Being involved from a Governor angle is a new role for me but one that I am thoroughly enjoying. As a parent, especially a working Mum, it's hard to keep on track of everything happening in your child's school but working a little behind the scenes has given me a new understanding. I hope that my experience in Education for over 20 years will be of use to the governing body at Hope Brook.

Amy Mason

Hi, my name is Amy and I currently have a boy in Year 1 and a girl in her last year at Pippins. It has been lovely to see them both settle into the school community and enjoy their time at school. I work in a local school and as I don't have the chance to help out/support the school during class time I thought I would join the Governors. I really enjoy taking an active part in the school community.

24th May 2019

Safety Notice

Sun Awareness

As always, the children have been reminded about how to keep themselves safe in the sun. We encourage children to take off their cardigans and jumpers in the hot weather. It is surprising how many children do not seem to realise they are getting too hot. We also encourage children to drink regularly and to sit in the shade if they feel too warm.

We encourage parents to apply suncream to their children before school, and know that many parents find the all day sunscreens effective. If children need more sun-cream during the school day, please ensure they bring in a labelled bottle of cream which children can apply when required.

E-Safety

Following some conversations between children at school, I thought it might be helpful to remind parents that children are not allowed to access Facebook, Instagram, Whatsapp, Snapchat or Twitter until they are 13 years old.

We have also been concerned about some of the games children are experiencing and recommend that parents are aware of the PEGI Rating of any games children are playing.

We respectfully request that no phones or smartwatches are brought into school.

Pippins



Pippins have been busy growing sunflowers, runner beans, strawberries and potatoes. They are very excited about watching their plants grow. They look healthy to me. Pippins are doing a good job looking after the plants.



Rising 5's have been looking at numbers this week. They played skittles, matching the amount they knocked down to the actual number. They look ready for school now.

24th May 2019

