



We work best, when we work together!



Hopedale offers a holistic, family-oriented, therapeutic approach to bringing children inner-peace and contentment, enabling them to access education, and become positive, valued members of society.

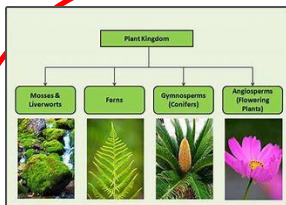


Spring (2) Newsletter 2025



The sun is out, and we are all ready for a well-deserved rest over the Easter break.

We finish on **Friday 11th of April 2025**, our **Family IEP Day is on Tuesday 29th April 2025 with students returning to class on Wednesday 30th April 2025.**



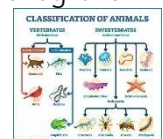
What have we been up to this half term?

The focus this half term has been on science.



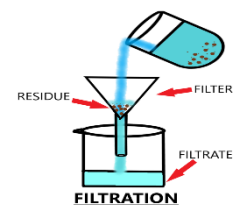
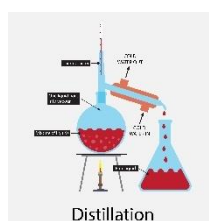
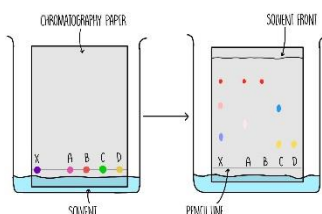
In KS1, our cognition and learning classes have been exploring the different senses humans and animals have. In KS2, our cognition and learning classes, have developed their knowledge and understanding of different habitats.

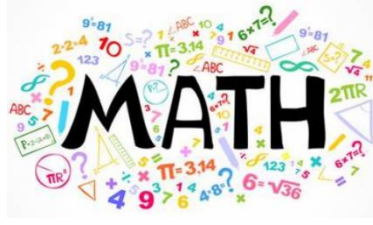
In KS2, our pupils have been classifying plants and animals, exploring how they are grouped according to their similarities and differences.



In KS3, students have been investigating the physical properties of metals and non-metals, corrosion and rusting. They are currently developing their knowledge and understanding of different types of rocks, the rock cycle and mining.

In KS4, students have been studying how we separate different mixtures and the uses of this in modern day life. This has involved exploring and conducting filtration, distillation, fractional distillation and chromatography.





We have recently seen some changes in our maths lessons at Hopedale with a move over to the 'White Rose' scheme of work to support the planning and teaching of our Key Stage 1, 2 and 3 pupils.

'White Rose' is a well-respected scheme which has been developed by a team of passionate maths teaching experts who are influenced, inspired and informed by the work of leading maths researchers and practitioners across the world. The White Rose Maths approach fosters a deep and sustainable understanding of maths through its emphasis on mastery. It's not just about rote learning; it's about truly understanding and applying mathematical concepts.

Our pupils are engaging brilliantly with the new scheme and are enjoying the new challenges that it presents. The main changes which have come as a result of moving over to the scheme are linked with the way on which units of work are taught, as these are now taught in blocks enabling us to develop a deeper understanding with pupils. There are also a wider range of models and images which are linked with the scheme, as shown below.

During the IEP day on the 29th April we will have a range of equipment and resources available for you to explore and discuss which will hopefully support in your understanding of how we teach maths.

Mathletics

www.mathletics.com/uk

In class we have also relaunched our use of the Mathletics online program by taking part in the live competitions with children across the world. The use of Mathletics enables staff to personalise tasks and activities for pupils to complete and in doing so earn points to spend on avatars as well as earning a range of different certificates.

Pupils are able to access Mathletics at home via the website or APP. We will be sending individual log ins home with the home learning packs at the start of next term but should you wish to engage with this sooner, please request a log in from your child's class teacher. Any points earned at home off course contribute to their scores in school.



www.ttrockstars.com

Times tables are one of the most important skills to learn in maths and are essential for supporting pupils in their learning throughout the curriculum, as our GCSE maths candidates are currently finding. To support with the development of this skill, as a school we have a subscription to TTRockstars. TTRockstars is an award-winning, internationally recognised maths programme that helps millions of children every week with their times tables recall. By taking part in the challenges online, pupils are able to earn virtual coins to accessorise rock avatars and progress up the leaderboard from a New Artist to a Rock Hero. As with Mathletics, we will send the pupils individual log in home so that they are able to engage with the platform at home. TTRockstars can be accessed via the website or APP.

Student Leadership Roles

We are very fortunate to have a number of students taking on active role in and around the school. These roles are applied for by the students, fulfilled on a voluntary basis and require dedication and commitment. The current student leaders and their responsibilities are detailed below, and we are incredibly proud of how well they have taken to their roles.

Breaktime assistants: Marshall, Ashton & David

Lunchtime assistants: Logan & Ben

Upcycling monitors: Louie, Atlanta, Jacob & Tom

Friendships club leaders: Ronny & Jaiden

Morning playground attendants: Jack & Malakai

IT monitors: Kam & Alfie

Garden supervisor: Franky

Absence reporters: Chester & Dillion

Reading buddy: Freddy

Office assistants: Jacob, Alex & Luca



Students will be able to reapply for the roles during the first week back after the Easter break by completing an application form and submitting it to Jodie.

We also have a number of students who work on our school council, meeting regularly to discuss all aspects of school life. On the school council, students work together to plan upcoming events and share ideas to contribute to our school community. Our school ambassadors Joshua and Ben, both take very active roles in this part of school life, helping to support the council members and work alongside our staff.

Our current school council members are: Tyler, Marshall, Jaiden, Toby, Dave, Josh, Ben

Luka, Louie, Riley & Jacob.



Contacting School

Please note the following email address should be used when contacting school:

office@hopedale.org.uk

We are currently in the process of arranging class emails.

Coffee Morning

Sharing a problem can be a great way to feel supported. We are proud to be able to offer another coffee morning for all our Hopedale families. Whether you are a parent, grandparent, or carer, you are all welcome to join us for a chat and have the opportunity to meet other families informally, along with our therapy team and members of the SLT. Our next one is **Tuesday 6th May** at school. Join us any time between **9:30am and 11:00am**.



Inter-school Competitions



This half term we have taken part in several sports events, allowing our students to engage in competitive sport in a fun environment. We kicked off the competitions with KS2 and KS3 football. During both tournaments our students performed incredibly well, representing the school with outstanding sportsmanship and resilience. The KS2 team played 3 matches and finished the tournament in a fantastic 3rd position. In KS3, our students worked well as a team, comfortably winning all matches and coming away with the trophy.

The second tournament was Rocketball. This is a game inspired by ultimate frisbee and American football and designed by our very own Deputy Headteacher, Dave. The aim of the game is to invade the oppositions area, passing the nerf to one another, with the ultimate target of receiving the nerf in the end zone to score. Our KS2 students performed incredibly well at the tournament, demonstrating fantastic communication skills. In the group stages they finished in 2nd position, to progress into the finals. The final was a highly contested game with both teams scoring quickly. Unfortunately, we just fell short of the win, but our students should be very proud of their second-place finish. Our KS3 students were triumphant again, winning all of their matches to come home as the overall tournament winners.



This term we have also held a GCSE PE moderation 11-a-side football match where pupils and staff from across the group of schools played together in 2 teams. Our students performed wonderfully well throughout, representing the school incredibly well and finishing off their final football assessment.

Message From Our Head of School

Reading through this newsletter has reminded me of what a jam-packed half term it has been at Hopedale and what amazing opportunities our staff provide for our fabulous pupils. We are so proud of every single one of them but a special mention must go to our sports teams this half term, who have blown us away with their resilience, team work and dedication and have been excellent role models for the school.

We return with our Family IEP Day on **Tuesday 29th April**. If they have not already done so, teacher's will be in touch to arrange an appointment for you to be able to come into school, chat about their targets, the progress they are making and for you to be able to have a look at their books and the great work being produced. During this day we will also have our Speech and Language Therapist, Laura, onsite to chat through any concerns or strategies and show some of the different approaches that we use. We will also have workshops on Athletics and Oxford Owl to support families with access to learning programs at home.

Lastly, I am also excited to say that we shall be having a visit from the Autism Dogs Charity, giving you all the opportunity to meet one of their very special support dogs.

I hope that you all have a peaceful Easter and the sun continues to shine.

Our first full day back is **Wednesday 30th April**.

