



*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 (1) Newsletter 2024

What a super half term it has been!

We are all ready for a well-earned rest over the half-term break.

We finish on **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024** for the half term break and return to school on **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024**.

What have we been up to this half term?

The focus this half term has been on History.

In KS2, our pupils have focused on the Romans. They started by exploring how Rome was founded and then considered different Roman ruling systems and governance. They then researched what life was like for Roman soldiers and investigated various Roman artifacts.

In KS3, pupils have focused their studies on the First and Second World Wars. They began by considering Britain's place in the world at the turn of the twentieth century. They went on to identify the main areas of conflict within the wars and the short- and long-term causes of them. They concluded by considered the typical experiences of soldiers and how developments in modern warfare have affected them.



### Launch of the Hopedale 50:

As you will be aware, our school moto is 'we work best, when we work together', and we pride ourselves in making that happen for our wonderful young people.

At Hopedale, we place value and emphasis on learning through shared experiences and making memories. The 'Hopedale 50' are 50 experiences we pledge to provide our students with during their time with us.

Each of the 50 activities have been chosen to bring smiles and pleasure from everyday experiences that many take for granted, but often form our childhood memories.

You will find the 'Hopedale 50' attached, they are displayed in every classroom and throughout the school as of our School Improvement Plan to enhance and enrich our student's journey with us.

The students have their progress tracked in their own Record of Achievement. These are updated as experiences occur and are documented with photographs.

When students complete their first 20 experiences, they will be awarded a bronze medal, for 35 they receive a silver medal and for completion of the full 50, a gold. If you should engage in any of these activities as a family, we would be delighted if you could share this with us so we can celebrate the achievement. You can send a picture to

[khodon@hopedale.org.uk](mailto:khodon@hopedale.org.uk)



### Enrichment Days this half term:

**Aspirational Day** was a big success, with pupils dressing up in the job roles they aspire to have.

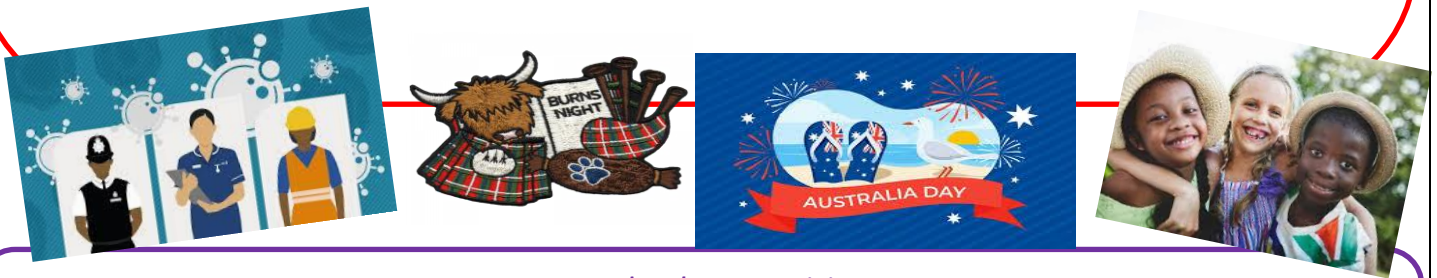
For **Burns Night**, some of our pupils got creative in the kitchen by cooking traditional haggis with 'neeps and tatties'. Across the school, the pupils conducted their own research about Burns Night and why we celebrate it.

Next, our pupils celebrated **Australia Day**. Pupils particularly enjoyed creating some ab-original paintings and sampling some traditional Australian snacks.

For **Diversity Day** we explored race and culture. Pupils explored differences through discussions, cooking and taste testing foods from around the world.

During **Internet Safety Day**, pupils explored how to be safe online and considered how important this is. They also signed their very own internet safety contracts.

Lastly this term, pupils celebrated **Number Day**. Our younger pupils created rulers using their own feet to measure items around school and tested their addition skills through darts. Our older pupils enjoyed games of maths Blockbusters.



### Inter-school Competitions

This half term we have focussed on an intra-school, multi-skills competition across our classes. Pupils completed balance and co-ordination activities in a circuit format, with each activity receiving a score.



### A message from our Head of School:

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your support with our 'Hopedale 50' pledge. It has been a joy to receive photos of your children exploring life outside of Hopedale. We are incredibly grateful for your time and continued support in all we do at school.

Wishing the very best to you all; enjoy your half term!

Hannah