



Hopedale

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 2022



It has been wonderful to welcome the sunshine over the last couple of weeks even if it can't decide between needing sun cream or snow boots! We have had another busy half term with some excellent learning and events taking place across school.

We break up on **Friday 8th April** for our Easter break and return to school on **Wednesday 27th April**.

Your child's class teacher will call on either **Monday 25th or Tuesday 26th April**. They will be ringing to chat through the Spring Term and review the IEP. They will then share new targets for the Summer Term. It is also an opportunity to share anything that school need to be aware of from the Easter break.

If you have any uniform requirements, you can order this in the usual way (contact the office). It will be sent home with your child on their return to school in April.

Our office team are more than happy to help with any queries you may have around this and can be contacted on 01538 361 886, alternatively you can email Kayleigh at: kjohnson@hopedale.org.uk



Getting Artly!

We were privileged to welcome Zoe Saunders author and illustrator to school on Thursday 10th March. She spent the day working with every class and a chosen book.

Students loved the sessions and enjoyed being shown 'tricks' to creating super pieces of artwork. Zoe shared stories and techniques and then encouraged everyone to have a go.... with brilliant results!

All students represented Hopedale brilliantly, and we had super feedback from Zoe. We are really proud, as this supports our third school improvement plan target of maintaining excellent standards of behaviour around school.

See Zoe's comments below –

"All the kids engaged so well, I hardly needed any time at all getting them set up and focused because they all gave me their attention right from the get-go. Everyone had a really good try at the artwork too, and all with enthusiasm and good humour (which was lovely to see!)."

Do let the children know how impressed I was with their focus and determination today - they did great!"





Fantastic Fundraising!

We are passionate about helping good causes and raising awareness across school of those in need. This half term has been no exception as we have raised donations with some excellent work across school.



Comic Relief took place on Friday 18th March, and we raised a record amount in Hopedale's history - a fantastic **£312** as a school!

Not only did our fabulous students dress in red and bring in donations for the cause, but they all got involved in the Hopedale Comic Relief Cake Sale which was open to the public.

Posters were made and delivered in the community, delicious cakes were decorated by every class, some classes made dog biscuits having identified that a lot of our local community pass the school walking their furry friends, and then the stall was managed by the Robins class on the day.

We had local residents, businesses, parents, colleagues and students all bringing money to purchase our treats, which saw us raise that fantastic total. We have even received a letter of thanks from one local resident praising our efforts!

We have also held a day marking our support for the struggles taking place in the Ukraine at the moment. These are challenging times and we wanted to show care and concern in a respectful way. Our students were all given a yellow and blue ribbon on



Thursday 11th March and chose somewhere around the school grounds to hang it. Lessons and activities were planned with care to help students understand and reflect on events that are taking place in the news.

Every one of our students showed compassion and maturity and made us super proud. Some classes even wanted to go further and are working on ideas to try and do more to support the Ukraine. We have also had feedback from two dog walkers that it is wonderful to see the ribbons around the grounds and is a 'special thing' that we have done. We **thank you all** for your support and are very proud to say we raised a fantastic total of **£143.95**. This will go directly to the **UNICEF Ukraine** appeal. Children, helping children.

Finally, our Butterflies class have been working on a fundraising project as part of their RE lessons over the half term in order to understand 'charity'.

They have investigated local charities and the work that they carry out, voted on one they would like to support, then worked to plan a fundraising event.

This has included working out 'what' they could sell, agreeing recipes and ideas, creating posters to advertise the event, making the goods and then selling them.

As a class they raised **£65**, and the charity agreed on was **Pebbles Legacy Dog Rescue**.

The class went and presented their donation last week and had a wonderful time meeting some of the dogs and learning more about the work Pebbles do.

Events like this support our fourth school improvement plan target to understand 'local heritage' and feel part of the local community.

It is important to say an ENORMOUS thank you for all your support with this in a busy month. We can only achieve success like this with your kindness and support – so a heartfelt thank you.





What else have we been up to?



As always, we have been working hard and maximising learning opportunities across school this half term. We have seen visits to churches, a Buddhist centre, local farms, understood water by paddling in streams, and seen the Harry Potter Wands... We have learnt about Fairtrade as part of Fairtrade fortnight, marked World Books Day dressing up as our favourite characters and understood the importance of Saint Davids and Saint Patricks Day.

We have re-introduced lunch time clubs for the first time in two years, which has been fantastic. With our students enjoying the chance to craft, play games, practice photography, build Lego, play music, work on the school radio and garden!

Take Note

Leadership Update

As we start the new term, we would like to inform you that Hannah Holford has started her maternity leave and the Leadership Team has therefore been restructured.

The Acting Head of School is Richard Lech. Nicky Hadfield and Dave Edwards are the Deputy Head Teachers, with Nicky continuing in the SENCo role. Dave has worked with us for several years and we are delighted with his appointment.

We look forward to the final term and all the learning and opportunities it presents.



A small selection of pictures from this half term...

