



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.



Merry Christmas! Autumn (2) Newsletter 2019

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas, and we are all looking forward to some fun filled activities over the last couple of weeks as we enjoy the festive period. We break up on **Friday 20th December** for a well-earned rest and come back to school on **Wednesday 8th January**.

There will be a significant change to our return this term as there ***will not*** be any IEP visits taking place. The staff inset days have been booked for important staff training, which every staff member must attend.

With this slight change, teachers will be telephoning to discuss our new IEPs and review the previous targets we have been working towards. Paper copies will also be sent home for your information on our return to school.

This will also mean that any new uniform orders will not be brought out by teachers, but again will be waiting for us on our return. If you prefer, you can contact the school office ahead of the holidays, so our new uniform comes home with us before January.

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 Becky at: rboden@hopedale.org.uk



Hopedale Children have become journalists!

Our fantastic Facebook page has undergone a slight change this week and we are very excited to be part of it in more ways than one!

The page is a great place to see what we are up to across school as well as find out about events that might be coming up on our school calendar.

Now it is established and has an impressive following, staff have reviewed it and thought it was something that the Hopedale children could have more involvement in... after all it is all their news that is being shared!

This week children across school have been interviewing peers and teachers, taking photographs and emailing updates over to Nicky for publishing on the page. The idea being that the children own what is being shared and the updates are coming through more regularly... It is also a huge tick for ICT due to the range of technology and skills being employed.

We hope you enjoy it and welcome any feedback.



Winter Weather!

In the event of heavy snow and the school being closed, a text message will be sent to parents/carers. We aim to have made this decision by no later than 6.30am and will notify your child's taxi driver/company of the school's closure.

We always aim to make the decision of closing school as quickly as possible and intend to reopen promptly to cause minimal disruption. Please don't hesitate to contact the school office if you have any queries.



Helping Others

We are always keen to raise our awareness across school of those less fortunate than ourselves, and enjoy raising money to support different charities, and this half term is no exception.

We started the half term collecting tinned goods for the Leek and District Food Bank as we learnt about Harvest and the importance of food over the winter months. We collected a whopping 59.9kg of donations, much to the delight and gratitude of the food bank.

We then wore poppies for Armistice Day and raised money and awareness for the British Legion and their work. We collected an impressive **£75.41** through sales of poppies and merchandise along with charitable donations. The day itself was marked with a minute's silence held at 11am and every child in school did themselves proud, showing their respect.

We wore odd socks to recognise anti-bullying day and engaged in a variety of activities exploring what bullying 'is' and how behaviours are very much something we can control and need to make fair choices about.

We have also dressed down for **Children in Need**. This is always a fun event and this year was no exception as we enjoyed fun sessions in class and spent our pennies on the cake and sweets stall... Delicious! We raised an impressive **£120.60!**

There have been two enrichment days since we came back from half term – one looking at healthy minds where we got to try our hands... or bodies ... at yoga! The second was healthy lifestyle. Upper school had two guest speakers visit who came to talk to them about alcohol and substance misuse, both as previous addicts. In lower school the focus was more on health through hygiene and care – from brushing teeth and washing hands, to exercising and sleeping!



As you will be aware from our posts over the last few months, we do enjoy visiting local cafes and tea shops to help develop our social skills and money handling.

One of our favourite places to visit is The Little Vintage Tearoom at Grace and Favours, and this morning we received a wonderful letter from them.

We thought it important to share, as it recognises how beautiful your children are... something which is always nice to hear! You can see the letter on the photo page.



The last couple of weeks have some fun events in store. We have Christmas Lunch, Outdoor reward days for all classes, Christmas Jumper day and lots of lovely festive activities.

Watch the Facebook Page for updates.

We will keep in touch, with the next Newsletter coming out in the Spring half term, but until then have a fabulous Christmas and very best wishes for a super New Year.

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



The Little Vintage Tearoom

160 Werrington Road, Bucknall, Stoke on Trent. ST2 9AW.
01782 499086

Dear Head Teacher,

We have recently been visited by a number of your students with their teachers as part of their Social Skills studies.

We feel that we need to share with you how impressed we have been with the student's engagement, attitude and overall behaviour whilst visiting our shop. They are polite, respectful, easy to speak to, funny and often keen to help with tidying up at the end of their visit.

The young people we have met are a credit to themselves and to you as a school.

We thoroughly enjoy their visits.

We hope you will pass on our comments to all concerned and we look forward to seeing them again soon.

Kind Regards

Jenny & Gaynor

Proprietors TLVTR

