



We work best, when we work together!



Hopedale

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.



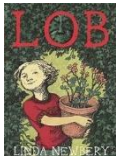
Spring (1) Newsletter 2025



What a super half term it has been!

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

We finish on **Friday 14th February 2025** and return to school on **Monday 24th February 2025**.



What have we been up to this half term?

The focus this half term has been on English.

In KS1, cognition and learning classes, our pupils have been exploring fables, they have really enjoyed reading the fables as a class and discussing the key messages within them. They have looked at The Fox and the Stork and The Hare and the Tortoise.

In KS2, our pupils have been exploring The Butterfly Lion, comparing this to a story called Lob. Students explored descriptive writing and wrote a beautiful letter to one of the characters in The Butterfly Lion.

In KS3, students have been exploring how TV news production occurs. Students enjoyed looking at images and identifying direct and indirect information given. They are preparing to write their own news story script.

In KS4, students have been studying Lord of the Flies, discussing characters, events, civilisation and savagery! Our Y11 pupils have also been preparing for their GCSE's by completing their mock examinations. They should be really proud of how hard they have worked throughout these.



Uniform Policy

You will shortly receive a uniform letter to remind everyone of our uniform expectations. At Hopedale, we believe uniform is an important part of a school's identity. It reinforces who we are as a community and helps allow students to feel pride in their school.

As we move into the warmer months, please pay particular attention to our hair policy:

Hair of natural colour with no patterns, lines or Mohican styles; long hair should be tied up.

We appreciate your support with this!



Enrichment Days this half term:

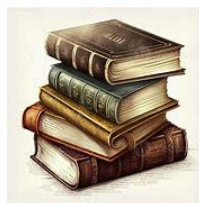
Aspirational Day was a big success, with pupils dressing up as who they aspire to be. We had astronauts, chefs, train drivers, footballers, farmers, doctors and nurses to name just a few.

For **Burns Night**, our students were able to try some traditional Scottish dishes, including haggis, Scottish porridge, and shortbread. Across the school, students learnt about Burns Night and why we celebrate it.

For **Chinese New Year**, our students were offered a taste sensation for both break and lunch. Some of the dishes available were spring rolls, rice cakes and Chinese curry. Students enjoyed the opportunity to eat using chopsticks.

For **International Lego day** – our students were able to use Lego as part of their timetabled lessons. In science, different elements were made using Lego blocks, in math, Lego towers were designed, built and the weight that their towers could withstand was explored.

Lastly, pupils celebrated **National Storytelling Week**. During the week, we celebrated the occasion with a variety of different activities. Staff visited different classes to read a favourite book. Students visited our local library and staff and students alike tried to read in random places. The climax to the week was Friday when staff and students were able to attend school in their pyjamas, bringing along their favourite book. Each class was also tasked with the challenge of decorating their classroom door. The winners of the decorate your door competition was Badgers, well done to everyone for your amazing efforts!



Inter-school Competitions

This half term we have taken part in an inter-school handball competition. Seven students were fortunate enough to represent Hopedale school demonstrating resilience and great sportsmanship. All teams played one another in the opening round. During this stage, our team played fantastically, convincingly winning all matches to make it through to the final. In the final, despite playing amazing handball, we narrowly lost, finishing the tournament in second place. We are so proud of them all, well done!



A message from our Head of School:

What a busy start to 2025 we have had! There have been a large number of enrichment and diversity days this half term which have given our pupils a wide range of additional experiences and skills and support in understanding the world around them. National Storytelling Week has been a particular hit and it was lovely to see a number of staff, who wouldn't usually, read to our classes. I particularly enjoyed going to read to the Ladybirds class. 😊 Wishing you all a lovely half term break, we look forward to seeing all of our fabulous pupils back with us on Monday 24th February.