

Newsletter

Friday 22nd September 2023

Dear Families,

May I begin by saying how wonderful it has been welcoming everyone back to school this term. When I look back at the first few weeks of last year, where I had a sea of faces to get to know, it seems hardly possible that I now know everyone so well!

There has been a lovely atmosphere here as everyone has been settling in; finding their feet in their new classes, with their new teachers and friends and generally getting back into the swing of learning. This week alone I have shown 3 new families around our school and all have commented on how calm and happy our children are. That said, it may be calm, but it's certainly been busy!

I must take this opportunity to congratulate our newly appointed pupil leadership team; made up of our year 6 head boy/girl, deputy head/boy girl and new sports captains, I was a very proud Principal listening to their speeches and I am delighted that they had the confidence to put themselves forward. They all truly deserved their new roles!

I hope you all have a peaceful weekend,

Mrs Donnelly

Psalm 20:4 (NIV)

"May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed."

Sara Donnelly - Principal





Morning Larks Breakfast Club & Evening Owls Afterschool Club

Just a reminder that our lovely Breakfast and Afterschool clubs run every day. Opening at 7.45am, the breakfast club will offer children a healthy selection of breakfast options and a nurturing environment to play, read and prepare for their day ahead. We are proud to say that having researched the costs of breakfast clubs locally we are able to provide this service at an extremely competitive rate of £4 per hour, with a 50% discount for siblings.

Afterschool club starts straight from school at 3.30pm and finishes at 5.30pm at a cost of £9/session. Again with a 50% discount for siblings. We have recently added a 'Short stay' option for £5 which finishes at 4.15pm

Please see all three options on your Parentpay list. Bookable via Parentpay or by emailing: enquiries@hopecommuntyschool.org



Head Girl – Rosie
Deputy Head Girl – Lily May
Head Boy – Thomas
Deputy Head Boy – Lorenzo

Sports Captains: Rocco and Cameron





Proud to be a 'GOOD' school

Apply now for Hope Community School

When you
Enter this
Loving school
Consider yourself
One of the special
Members of an
Extraordinary family

If your child was born between:
1st Sept 2019 – 31st August 2020
You will need to apply for their Reception
school place by 15th January 2024.
All families will be offered 1:1 or small
group tours of our wonderful school with
the Principal, Mrs Donnelly.

2023 open days are as follows:

- 10.30am -12.00pm - Tue 3rd Oct
- 1.30pm - 3.00pm - Tue 7th Nov
- 4.00pm - 5.30pm - Tue 5th Dec

Call 0203 223 2000

www.hopecommunityschool.org



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Save the Date- Parent Consultations

Parent consultations are a key opportunity for us to work with you, the families, in ensuring you are aware of your child's progress and needs. We encourage all parents and carers to come in during parent consultations so we can discuss how the beginning of your child's year is going and keep you informed on next steps. Sign-up sheets for this will be available from Tuesday 26th September. If you are unable to come in and sign up, please call the school office or dojo your class teacher to select a slot.



Tuesday 17th – Waymakers, Pathfinders, Discoverers

Wednesday 18th - Creators



Meet the new Pupil Parliament ...

Last Friday we had the pleasure of welcoming local MP Louie French to our school. He talked about the process of voting and we explored the British Value of democracy with him. Louie spent some time talking to individual pupils and was very impressed with the how articulate our children were when asking questions.

Then, as a school we voted for the next Head Boy and Head Girl as well as the class representatives for our Pupil Parliament. Well done to all children who prepared a speech and so eloquently explained their vision for the school and how they would be a good asset to the team.



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*“Many thanks for visiting
our lovely school Mr French”*



Louie French MP
For Old Bexley & Sidcup



Pupil Parliament



UK Parliament



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'Hope Choir' is up and running!



A reminder that our lovely Choir has started, but it is not too late to join for years 2 to 6. Miss Matthews runs the school choir on Wednesday after school until 4.15pm. The choir will have the opportunity to perform at schools events but also for different audiences within our community, such as a local elderly people's home, Morrisons and possibly Bluewater. Please let the office know if you would like a place for your child/ren.



We are delighted to announce that Sparkles Toddler group is coming to Hope Community School! Starting on Wednesday 27th September this fun filled baby and toddler session will be run by our wonderful chaplain Rhiannon.

Games, singing, stories and fun - we hope to see you there!

Place: Hope Community School

Day: Every Wednesday

Time: 9.30-10.30am

Values

As a school we celebrate 40 different values over a two-year period. If you look closely around our school, you may find them written on walls and as part of different displays.

The values we have been exploring in our daily collectives over the last two weeks are **listening** and **thoughtfulness**.

Maybe speak to your child about what they have learnt about these two different values and what the values mean to them in their everyday life.



Thoughtfulness is the beginning of great sanctity. If you learn this art of being thoughtful, you will become more and more Christ-like, for his heart was meek and he always thought of others. Our vocation, to be beautiful, must be full of thought for others.

— Mother Teresa —

AZ QUOTES



A 'thoughtful' gesture from our friendly local convenience store ...

'Cray's Food Centre'

Cray's Food Centre have very kindly offered a 10% discount to every member of the Hope Community ie families and staff ☺

To be able to get this discount, children need to accompany you in their **Hope** uniform

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We would like to remind everyone of our expectations of behaviour for learning:

1 Ready, Respectful, Safe

These three words summarise of behaviour policy, the school's core Christian values and our approach to how we treat each other and our environment. Children are taught and encouraged to apply this approach across their school day to ensure that they may gain the most out of the learning and social opportunities they encounter whilst allowing others to do the same.

Ready

Ready to learn by being punctual to school, arriving in their class so they are ready to start work at 8.50 am at the very latest.

Ready for school; pupils are wearing the correct school uniform.

Ready for PE: pupils have their PE kits in school every day of the week.

Pupils complete their homework and reading, regularly and on time.

Ready to do as the adults ask and follow their instructions.

Ready to listen to adults or others, without interrupting.

Ready to sit calmly and quietly, without fidgeting or distracting others.

Respectful

Pupils are polite, they do not use rude or unkind words; joking is not an excuse for rudeness.

Pupils respect everyone's body and feelings, they don't hurt anyone's body or feelings.

Pupils are kind when others make mistakes, they don't laugh or tease others.

Pupils are truthful and don't tell lies.

Pupils talk and don't shout.

Pupils sit quietly in Collectives or during prayer times.

■ Pupils take care of property and their environment.

Safe

Pupils walk around the school and only run when in a safe place at play or in PE.

Pupils hold on when using stairs giving others space and time to move.

Pupils play safely, they do not play rough games, or play fight.

Pupils line up one behind the other without touching, pushing or talking.

2 Celebrating good choices

On a daily basis across the school staff model and prompt children in making good choices. In addition to instant praise and feedback, children's positive attitudes to learning, good choices related to behaviours for learning, showing that they are ready for learning.

Children are rewarded through

- Achieving 'Lovely Hat' recognition in weekly celebration Collective for effort in learning, success in learning.
- Weekly in class celebration of children achieving or making progress in key learning areas, such as reading, writing and maths.

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- Principal certificates issued for outstanding contributions to whole class learning, personal achievement or behaviour for learning.
- Dojo Points issued for when an individual or whole class works well and accumulated points go towards scale class / individual rewards
- Hope Community Cup awarded for outstanding community
- Attendance certificates issued to children with 100% attendance each term and over the year.
- Principal Awards – Annual awarded for outstanding contributions to Hope School.

3 Home School Communication

The school will use a range of communications to contact you.

Email is used for general letters from staff; for updates to schedules, for the newsletter,

Class dojo messages: are used by class teachers. Staff will use this to send parents messages, e.g. bring in a cardboard box, recognise pupil achievements (children are awarded dojo points) and alert families to any changes in schedules . Parents can also use this to send staff quick messages. Please be aware that staff are in their classrooms between 8.30- 4pm each day, during this time, they are focused on teaching and may not be able to reply to any message.

Attendance message and others need to be sent to the general office email:

enquires@hopecommunityschool.org use this to send messages to staff or to arrange a meeting.

If you send a message to a member of staff we will aim to reply within 24 hours during the working week, however please be aware that teacher staff are in class between 8.30am – 4pm each day.

4 Using social media

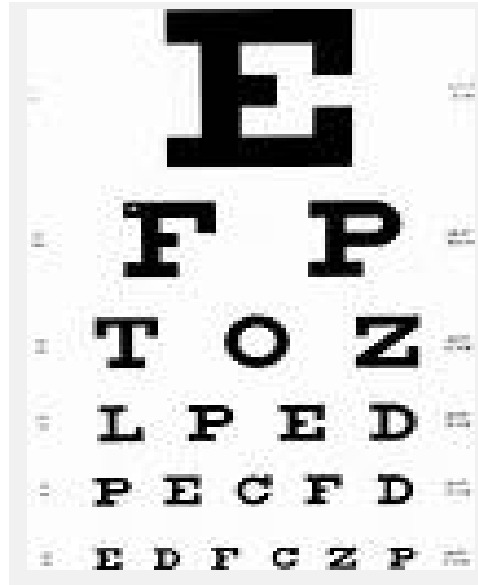
It is inevitable, given the nature of schools and what we do, that there will be occasions when parents are concerned, worried, or in some cases annoyed about things that have, or may have happened. When such circumstances occur, the school wants to know about it and to look into the situation in order to resolve things speedily as is possible and appropriate. In most cases the first person you need to contact is your child's teacher, this can be done, either by class dojo, by phoning the school, or by emailing the main office. The aim of such an approach is to achieve a mutually agreed outcome.

In all situations we request that you contact the school first. We request that your first port of call is not a WhatsApp group or other forms of social media. Social media is not a suitable place for individuals to resolve an issue. We are aware that comments can sometimes be offensive and may not reflect what might be said in an actual discussion. Furthermore, sometimes offensive comments are made about other parents or children and this is most inappropriate.

Has your child had their eyesight checked recently?

Eye tests for primary aged children are free – if your child's eye sight has never been checked or has not been checked for more than 1 year, we would urge all parents/carers to book an appointment with their local optometrist soon.

As always with medical appointments, please arrange these as early or as late in the day (preferably after school) as possible. Thank you



Dear Hope Community School Parents and Carers!

Please remember to use easyfundraising every time you shop online. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us, including all the big names like eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Argos, ASOS, Expedia, M&S, Just Eat, Uswitch and many more! This means you can raise FREE donations for us no matter what you're buying. If you haven't signed up to support us yet, it's easy and completely FREE. These donations really help us, so it would be great if you could take a moment to get started! You can find our easyfundraising page here: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/hopecommunityschoolsidcup?>

Donations that are raised will be put to good use enhance your child's experience at Hope Community School

Thank you

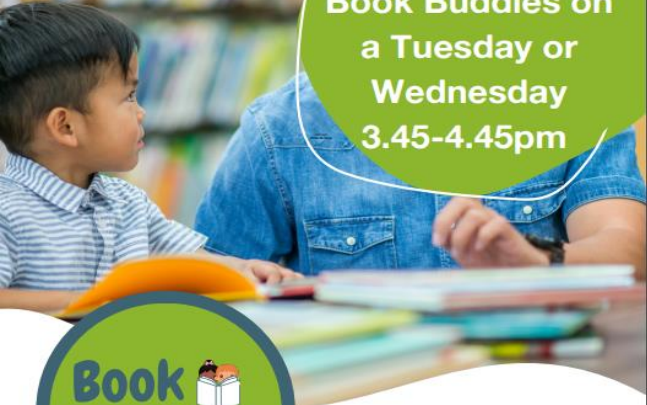
Mr Ryan Alexander
Year 5/6 Teacher

Interested in
1:1 reading
support for your
child?

Join our
Book Buddies on
a Tuesday or
Wednesday
3.45-4.45pm

Book Buddies

Blackfen
Community Library



Blackfen
Community Library

Children's Groups - no need to
book except where shown

Tuesdays

Toddler Craft 1.30-2.30pm (Term Time)
Kids Craft 3.45-4.45pm (Term Time - Book on EB - limited spaces)
Book Buddies 3.45-4.45pm (Term Time)

Wednesdays

Stay n Play For Pre-Schoolers 9.30-11am (Term Time)
Sparkles Babies 11am-12pm
(for babies up to 1 year & their parents)
Creative Kids drop in 3-4.45pm (Term Time)
Book Buddies 3.45-4.45pm (Term Time)

Thursdays

What's Next Linda? Song and Story Time
For Pre-Schoolers
10-10.30am (Term Time)
Lego Club
3.30-4.30pm (Term Time)

Fridays

Lucy Library Song & Story Time
For Pre-Schoolers
10-10.30am (Term Time)

Saturdays

Lego Club
10-11am

Eventbrite

Blackfen Library 7-9 Blackfen Parade, Blackfen Road, Sidcup DA15 9LU
www.blackfencommunitylibrary.org Tel: 020 3001 1433 hello@blackfencommunitylibrary.org

hello_blackfen @thelobblackfen



We also have Explore Learning coming in (at Blackfen Library) to do a couple of 11+ activity sessions for Year 5 children and their parents – if you are interest please email: hello@blackfenlibrary.org



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For children Years 1 to 6 – please contact C4F directly to sign your child up for this fabulous club!

**LAST FEW SPACES
REMAINING !!**



**Hope Community School
Multi Sports Club**

Wednesday 21st September – Wednesday 19th October
3.30 – 4.30pm

Open to children from Years 1–6
£32.50 for the full course

Name..... School Year.....

Contact Name / Number.....

Email.....

Medical Info.....

Parent Signature.....

To register interest please email
info@concept4football.co.uk

For more information please contact
BILL@CONCEPT4FOOTBALL.CO.UK

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Safeguarding Contacts

Are you worried about a child? Speak to the Principal or another member of staff.

Everybody is responsible for Safeguarding

Call: 0208 303 7777 – Bexley Safeguarding

You can call at any time if you are worried there is a risk of significant harm to a child or young person. Out of hours you will be connected to the Bexley Emergency Duty Service.

In an Emergency call 999

Safeguarding Officers:

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Sara Donnelly



Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads:
Ms Jaquelin Anglin (Family Liaison Officer) & Mrs Emma Carvosso (Deputy Principal)

Email: enquiries@hopecommunityschool.org
School telephone number: 0203 223 2000

Road Safety



Following our campaign to improve road safety for our children the Local Authority have now redone the red triangles, which we are very pleased about. We do not feel this is enough however and as a school are urging the Local Authority to do more. We would like to see improved signage and yellow zig zags lines. Please do continue to share your own concerns with the Local Authority by emailing them here:

Bexley Local Authority: Traffic@bexley.gov.uk.

Our local councillors are:

Richard Diment councillor.richard.diment@bexley.gov.uk

June Slaughter councillor.june.slaughter@bexley.gov.uk

Cheryl Bacon councillor.cheryl.bacon@bexley.gov.uk

Please do also log any minor or major traffic related incidents, including near misses and speeding, as they currently feel it is not a high risk area and this may be because incidents have not been logged.

You can do that here: <https://www.met.police.uk/ro/report/rti/rti-beta-2.1/report-a-road-traffic-incident/>

Dates for your diary

September:

Tuesday 26 th	Phonics Sessions in EYFS & Yr 1- 9.00am
Thursday 28 th	Phonics Session in EYFS & Yr 1 – 9.45am Meet the Leadership Team – 9.00 - 10.00am All parents/carers welcome to join us for refreshments
Friday 29 th	Waymakers – Reading Breakfast @ 9.30am – Parents/carers welcome

October:

Monday 2 nd	Dyslexia Awareness Day & Guide Dog Visit
Tuesday 3 rd	New Intake 23/24 Tours – Mrs Donnelly 10.30am – 12.00pm
Thursday 5 th	EYFS Reading Breakfast – parents/carers welcome – 9.00am
Friday 6 th	Harvest Collective
Monday 9 th	School Nurses – Flu Vaccines – whole school
Tuesday 10 th	Waymakers trip to London Zoo
Friday 13 th	Black History Collective
Monday 16 th	Reception: Health Checks
Tuesday 17 th	Music Collective
Wednesday 18 th	Parent Consultations Yrs R,1,2,5 & 6 – 1.30pm – 6.30pm
Tuesday 31 st	Parent Consultations Yrs 3 & 4 - 1.30pm – 6.30 pm Applications for secondary school deadline

Monday 23rd to 3rd November – HALF TERM BREAK (2 weeks)

November:

Monday 6 th to 10 th	Road Safety week
Thursday 9 th	Pathfinders visit to Erith Fire Station
Friday 10 th	Remembrance Collective
Monday 13 th to 17 th	Anti-bullying week
Monday 13 th	Odd Socks Day
Monday 13 th	Pathfinders trip to Imperial War Museum
Tuesday 14 th	New Intake 23/24 Tours – Mrs Donnelly 10.30am – 12.00pm
Tuesday 14 th	Diwali Collective
Thursday 23 rd	School Nurse – catch up clinic for Flu Vaccination
Thursday 30 th	Waymakers & Creators – Science Museum Trip



Public Health information for Parents/Carers from the ...

EARLY YEARS TEAM

London Borough of Bexley
Children's Services
Education Improvement Services
Civic Offices
2 Watling Street
Bexleyheath
Kent DA6 7AT

<http://bexleyearlyyears.co.uk/>
www.bexleyservicesnetwork.co.uk

More than 102,000 children in England are starting primary school this term (aged 4-5 years old) at risk of catching measles and becoming seriously unwell. The MMR vaccine, which protects against Measles, Mumps, and Rubella, is safe and has been in use since the 1980s. The NHS provides this vaccination for free, with the initial dose given at the age of one, followed by a second dose when the child is 3 years and 4 months old. These vaccinations offer prolonged protection against measles, mumps and rubella. Exhaustive research has affirmed that there is no connection between the MMR vaccine and autism.

Call to action:

- If your child has missed their first or second dose of MMR vaccine, contact your GP practice to book an appointment.
- If you are unsure if your child is due a vaccination or has missed a vaccination, check their red book or contact your GP practice.
- For adults, it is never too late to catch up on any missed MMR vaccinations, contact your GP practice to book an appointment

For more information visit the **NHS website**.

Harvest Festival



Please join us to celebrate Harvest on **Friday 6th**
October at 9am in the hall.

Donations of the following greatly appreciated - they will
go to the Bexley Foodbank:

*Tinned fish, tinned fruit and veg, rice, noodles,
custard, coffee, biscuits, sweets, crisps, soup, pasta
sauce, deodorant, shower gel, toothpaste, nappies
size 6/7.*





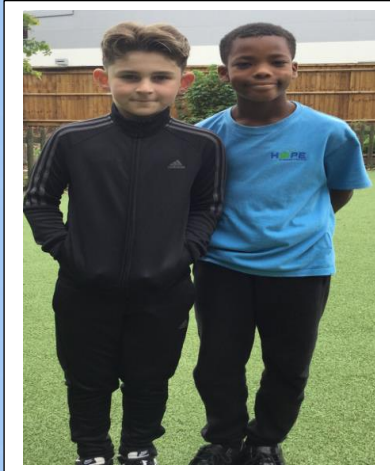
American Diner Day

On Thursday 5th October we will be transforming the hall into an all-American diner! The lunch options will include hotdogs, pizza and ice-cream.



If your child usually has a packed lunch please do encourage them to give our fabulous school dinners a try. School dinners are free for all children in years R-6 this year and we want to ensure all the children and families benefit from this.





**Our new Sports Captains
Rocco & Cameron**



**TIMETABLES ROCKSTAR DAY
22nd September 2023**

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