

# Newsletter

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023



Dear Families,

The festive season is truly upon us and while our halls may not yet be decked with holly; they are ringing out with the sounds of children practicing Christmas carols and getting firmly into the Christmas spirit. Indeed, our Christmas nativity rehearsals are also well under way and our wonderful PTA, Seeds of Hope, are gearing up to bring a range of exciting events to the school for the children. While for lots of us, the Christmas season is something to rejoice, we must remember too that for many this is a difficult time of year - the nights are colder and darker, finances are squeezed and many of us find ourselves with never ending to do lists. Whatever the circumstances are for you and your family - please know that your Hope family is here for you and should you need any support a list of available support services are included further in this newsletter.

With warmest Christmas tidings,

Mrs Donnelly

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. [Romans 15:13](#)*





## 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](http://www.hopecommunityschool.org)



167 Rectory Lane, Sidcup, Kent, DA14 5BU

Principal: Mrs Sara Donnelly

T: 020 3223 2000

E: [enquiries@hopecommunityschool.org](mailto:enquiries@hopecommunityschool.org)

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**MEET FATHER  
CHRISTMAS**

**15th Decemember 3.30-5.00pm**

**Reserve your time now!**

***If you would like to visit Father Christmas at the Hope Christmas Fair  
please sign up in the school office.***

***£2.50 per child.***

***Please put payment in a named envelope and post in the PTA box or pay  
using the PTA QR code which you will find at the school office. Remember  
to use your child's name as the reference.***

***You must reserve your slot before  
Friday 8th of December  
to guarantee a visit to Father Christmas.***

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**ZAMBEZI**  
SPORTS SCHOOL

Whether your child is new to swimming or you want to improve their swimming skills, our experienced instructors will guide them step by step.

**PROGRAM FEATURES:**

- ✓ Experienced instructors
- ✓ Progressive curriculum
- ✓ Block booking or direct debit payments
- ✓ Small groups
- ✓ Afterschool and weekend classes available in Sidcup

**ONLINE BOOKING**

**SWIMMING LESSONS**






**ZAMBEZI**  
SPORTS SCHOOL

Parent & Child and Pre-school lessons available at Royal Park Academy, Sidcup.

Start your child's swimming journey with Zambezi and give them a skill that will last a lifetime!

**PROGRAM FEATURES:**

- ✓ Experienced instructors
- ✓ Progressive curriculum
- ✓ Morning and afternoon sessions
- ✓ Warm teaching pool in sidcup
- ✓ MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

**ZAMBEZISPORTSSCHOOL.CO.UK**

**SWIMMING LESSONS**




## Hope values

Over the last few weeks we have been thinking about the school values of '**Reliability**' and '**Curiosity**'. Paul shared with us about how his brother started off as being curious about the world and now works as a scientist. He has been to the Antarctic, living in a base camp and researching life there. Check out some of the amazing pictures of where he lived and what he saw.



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Creators Mason, working at the Dream Toys event up on London on 7<sup>th</sup> November. He was demonstrating the 'Beast Lab' toy for journalists and influencers.



## Spring Term

For Boys & Girls

# After School Football Club

- ✓ Fun and safe environment
- ✓ Practice and develop technical skills
- ✓ Coaches deliver enjoyable sessions
- ✓ Match time included in the sessions



**THURSDAYS 18 JAN - 21 MAR**

- 9 Sessions - 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
- Excluding 15th February  
(use of indoor hall on darker evenings)

**PRICING: £7.50 PER SESSION**  
Booked termly in advance

**FREE TASTER SESSION ON 11 JAN**  
ALSO AVAILABLE TO BOOK ONLINE!



**For Boys & Girls**  
**In School Years 1 - 6**

**Hope Community School**

167 Rectory Lane, Sidcup, DA14 5BU

**For bookings**



01689 828385



SKILLSACADEMYLTD.COM

**AVAILABLE  
TO BOOK  
ONLINE FROM  
11 DECEMBER**

## Support Groups and Forum in Sidcup and Bexley

While Christmas is a joyous occasion for many, it can also bring additional financial and emotional pressures. Here at Hope our Family Liaison Officer, Jacqueline Anglin, is here to talk to if you need any support and she can signpost you to a range of helpful services and forums. These may include:

Bexley Food Bank

<https://www.trusselltrust.org/get-help/find-a-foodbank/bexley/>

Blackfen Library Community Fridge

<https://blackfencommunitylibrary.org/community-fridge/>

Bexley Local Council – Cost of Living Support

<https://www.bexley.gov.uk/services/cost-living/help-cost-living>

Mind

<https://www.mind.org.uk/for-young-people/>

The Samaritans

<https://www.samaritans.org/>

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Pathfinders' Trip to the Imperial War Museum



We had a great day learning about the first and second World Wars. We looked at primary sources and different artifacts. We sought to answer the questions, "What is the artifact, why was it important at that time in history and why is it important to us today?" The children made documentaries on the day and we shared them with the class when we returned to school. Thank you to our lovely volunteers who made it possible for us to go!



Our Sparkles Toddler group is up and running at Hope Community School  
Every Wednesday morning, this fun filled baby and toddler session is 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



The Borough of Bexley have asked us to send out the following link (or use the QR code in the adjacent poster).

They are seeking responses from all those who live, work, visit, or study in Bexley about their feeling of safety. The survey is a chance to highlight local crime and disorder issues which concerns people the most, alongside other data, which will help the Bexley Community Safety Partnership set its priorities for 2024/25.

The survey is open until Friday 27 October. You can scan the attached QR code or visit [www.bexley.gov.uk/communitysafetysurvey](http://www.bexley.gov.uk/communitysafetysurvey)

Free internet access is available from all our Council run libraries. Paper copies can be requested from the Community Safety Team on 020 8303 7777 or by writing to the Community Safety Team, Civic Offices, 2 Watling Street, Bexleyheath DA6 7AT.

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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



## Reporting Absences

**If your child is too unwell to attend school - It is parents/carers responsibility to contact the school by 9.00am via our enquiries email account or by leaving a message on the school's answering machine if the phone is not answered.**

**When the school office staff have to chase parents/carers to find out why children are not in, this take up a huge amount of time as we are having to make several calls, each to be followed up by an email.**

## Punctuality

Please bear in mind, that when your child arrives at school late and they join the class whilst registration has been completed, lunch orders have been taken up to the hall, and the class teacher is mid flow with the first lesson, can you see how disruptive this could be?





## Dates for your diary

### November:

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> Waymakers & Creators – Science Museum Trip  
Anxiety Workshop: 9.00am-10.00am – how to help and anxious child.  
(Sign-up sheet in the office)

### December:

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> 'Own clothes day' – for tombola (Christmas Fayre) donations  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> New Intake 23/24 Tours – 4.00pm-5.30pm  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> Children's Christmas Panto presented by the Rainbow Theatre Company  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> Art Showcase – After school event  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Children's Christmas Lunch  
'Santa Dash'  
Christmas Jumper Day – 'Save the Children'  
Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> New Generation Church Candlelit Carols  
5.30pm-6.30pm @ Hope Community School  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> KS1 Nativity – am  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> KS2 Concert – am  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Christmas Fayre 3.30pm – presented by Seeds of Hope (PTA)  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> New Generation Church Christmas Gathering @ Blackfen Community Library  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> LAST DAY – FINISH AT 1.30PM

### January:

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS – Inset day  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> First day back for pupils  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Deadline for Reception applications

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## Candlelit Carols

10th December  
5.30 - 6.30pm

Carols, Hot Drinks  
and Mince Pies.  
A great evening for  
all the family.

Hope Community School,  
167 Rectory Lane,  
Sidcup DA14 5BU



## New Generation Church

### Join us for a Special Christmas Gathering

17th December

Join us for carols, games, treats,  
refreshments, the Christmas story  
and a visit from Father Christmas.

Free Event, 10am - 11.30am  
Doors open at 9.30am  
Christmas Cafe afterwards.

At Blackfen Community Library,  
7-9 Blackfen Road, Sidcup, DA15 9LU



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