



## Newsletter – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023

*Educating 'for life in all its fullness.'*

Striving for 100%

### Attendance

Week Ending 1/12/23:

Reception	92.0%
Class 1	94.7%
Class 2	99.3%
Class 3	92.1%
Class 4	79.6%
Class 5	92.0%
Class 6	96.6%
Overall	95.3%

**Attendance Champions:**  
Class 2 - Congratulations

Our school attendance expectation is **97%**. Well done to everyone who achieved this.

Growth in **MIND, BODY, SPIRIT**  
**Values for Life**

This half term in collective worship we are focusing upon the value of: **FORGIVENESS**

This week's focus will be:  
**FREEDOM**

**2 Corinthians 3:17**

*"Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom."*

*This verse speaks to the spiritual freedom that comes from being in the presence of God, emphasising the liberating power of the Holy Spirit. It's often interpreted as a reminder that true freedom is found in spiritual connection and faith.*

**Global Citizenship Thread**

This half term our whole school Thread is **VALUES AND PERCEPTIONS**

Growth in **MIND, BODY, SPIRIT**

**\*\*\*Dinner Debate\*\*\***

*This week's question to debate with family and friends at home:*

*'Can kindness change the world?'*

Dear parents/carers,

*As the wintry weather sweeps in, bringing with it a sudden drop in temperature, we can't help but feel the excitement of the festive period drawing near. We have plenty to look forward to in school in the coming weeks including this evenings pantomime!*

*As a church school, we have now entered the period of Advent, a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas. This season holds a special place in our hearts as it symbolises hope, peace, joy, and love. In our school, the presence of an Advent wreath serves as a beautiful reminder of this period's significance. Each candle on the wreath represents one of these core values, and as we light them week by week, we are reminded of the journey towards Christmas Day.*

*One of the highlights last week was our 'Big Me Day', which reflected our ongoing theme, 'values and perceptions'. The children embraced the event with enthusiasm, donning an array of professional attires that displayed a diverse range of professions. The school was filled with miniature surgeons, farmers, builders, entrepreneurs, Formula 1 drivers, footballers, police officers, teachers, and zookeepers, bringing a vibrant and educational twist to the day.*

*Children transformed into experts of their chosen professions, exploring and understanding how these roles shape society and contribute positively to our community. Their dedication, creativity, and insightful interpretations were a testament to the depth of their learning and the fun they had in the process.*

*The day concluded with a celebration worship, where each class confidently showcased their newfound expertise. They shared valuable insights into how their selected professions impact positively on the community, enlightening us all with their thoughtful reflections.*

*Adding to the success of the day, we are thrilled to announce that we raised a fantastic £95.25 for Action Aid. This contribution will make a difference in the lives of children globally, emphasising our commitment to extending our school values beyond our local community and into the wider world.*

*Thank you to everyone who participated and contributed to this enlightening event which reminds us of the incredible potential our children possess.*



Growth in **MIND, BODY, SPIRIT**

### Diary Dates



**December**

**Mon 4<sup>th</sup> –**

Pantomime / Y6

Class Worship

**Tue 5<sup>th</sup> –** School

Communion

**Wed 6<sup>th</sup> –** Leeds

Playhouse (R-Y2)

**Thu 7<sup>th</sup> –**

Ackworth

Schools

Rehearsals at St.

Cuthbert's (Y5)

**Fri 8<sup>th</sup> –** Pre 5

Screening

(School Nurse)

**Mon 11<sup>th</sup> –** Year

3 Class Worship

(9:15am)

**Wed 13<sup>th</sup> –** KS1

Football Skills

Festival

**Fri 15<sup>th</sup> –**

Ackworth School

Christmas

Service (Y5) –

1:45pm Y5

Parents Invited

to St. Cuthbert's

**Key Dates 2023-**

**24**

### Eucharist

Our school's next Holy Communion service at Howard School will take place tomorrow at 2:30pm. A significant moment of reflection and celebration in our close-knit school and church community.





**Seasonal Issue**

Growth in **MIND, BODY, SPIRIT**

**Christmas Toy Safety**

Christmas is just around the corner and many parents/carers and family members will be starting to buy toys for the children in their lives. Remember not all toys meet British Safety Standards, therefore the Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) have published the following top tips to help you with your toy shopping this Christmas.

**Safety checks for toy shopping**

**Know who you are buying from**

Wherever you are shopping, remember reputation matters. Is the seller widely recognised for safe and reliable toys?

Get as much information on the seller as you can, especially if you're buying from an online marketplace.

Not everything sold on an online platform is supplied by them. If the actual supplier is not based in the UK, you may face heightened risks.

**Always read the warnings and instructions**

Toys must be clearly marked with age restrictions, which are based on risks such as choking hazards. Always follow the age recommendations.

**Consider special needs**

Children with special needs might be more vulnerable, so keep this in mind when shopping.

**Avoid toys with small parts**

They can be a choking hazard.

**Look out for strangulation hazards**

Loose ribbons on toys and costumes can pose risks to young children.

**Check the toys are for kids**

Magnets can look like toys. Keep them away from children.



**Compare the sellers**

Bargains may be too good to be true. Compare the toy's price with other sellers. If it's a fraction of the cost, it's likely to be counterfeit.

**Check for button batteries**

Ensure that any button batteries in a toy are safely behind a screwed down flap.

**Check for product recalls**

See if the toy you're buying has been recalled at [productrecallcampaign.gov.uk](http://productrecallcampaign.gov.uk)

**Check before you wrap**

Toys must be clearly marked with age restrictions, which are based on risks such as choking hazards. Always follow the age recommendations.



**School Improvement Partner Visit**

We recently had a productive visit from Sarah Wright, our School Improvement Partner, focusing on enhancing our writing provision. Key highlights include:

- The expertise of our writing subject leader in improving our curriculum.
- Effective teaching methods promoting independent writing skills.
- Strong emphasis on vocabulary and spelling enriching language exposure.
- Successful implementation of editing stations and handwriting programs.
- Creative writing foundations in EYFS, especially benefiting disadvantaged children.
- Improved peer editing techniques through collaborative learning in upper years.
- Pupils confidently sharing their writing, showcasing phonics skills.

We're committed to expanding independent writing opportunities and fine-tuning editing skills across specific year groups, continuing our journey towards writing excellence for every pupil.

**Follow the Star... Thank You**

Growth in **MIND, BODY, SPIRIT**

Thank you to the Saviour Trust for kindly giving our Reception children a 'Follow the Star' advent calendar and a selection box to mark the beginning of Advent.

**Messiah**

Growth in **MIND, SPIRIT**

In RE, Year 6 have discussed what a Messiah would try to save people from today. We discussed global issues such as conflict, poverty, globally warming and equality. The children debated their ideas with each other.

**Howard V Badsworth**



Growth in **MIND, BODY, SPIRIT**

A group of children competed in a mixed year 5/6 football match against Badsworth last week in very cold conditions! The result was 2-2 and showcased some brilliant teamwork and football skills.

**West Yorkshire Dodgeball Championships**

Continuing the sports theme, a number of children took part in the West Yorkshire Dodgeball Championships last week! They showed excellent resilience, perseverance and improved with every match they played!

**Forest School**

Growth in **MIND, BODY, SPIRIT**

In forest school, the children have enjoyed making dream catchers and reflecting on what they can be used for.

**Mondrian**

Growth in **MIND**

In computing, Year 2 enjoyed creating digital artwork in the style of Mondrian. They used the line and fill tools to help them. They also learnt how to save and retrieve their work!

**Rehema Café and Craft Shop**

During the Tanzania visit we visited the wonderful ladies of Rehema Café and Craft Shop in Musoma, where beautiful, handmade gifts support local women and children. Rehema's products are available online, with some lovely items. Check out their Etsy shop [\[link\]](#) and learn more on their Facebook page [\[link\]](#).

**Stay safe, well and keep the faith – your support is greatly appreciated.**

Mr Michael Walker – Headteacher

Proud of our partnership with Mshikamano (Solidarity) Primary School

Bega Kwa Bega (Shoulder to Shoulder)