



Newsletter – Monday 11th January 2021

Educating 'for life in all its fullness.'

Remote Education Attendance

Week Ending 8th January:

- Reception - 73%
- Class 1 - 89%
- Class 2 - 100%
- Class 3 - 97%
- Class 4 - 97%
- Class 5 - 97%
- Class 6 - 97%
- Overall - 93%

Remote Learning Champions:

Class 2 - Congratulations.

93% remote learning attendance – Wow!

190/205 children accessed our remote education delivered by our phenomenal teachers and teaching assistants last week.

(Figures include pupils accessing learning in school and at home)

Growth in SPIRIT

Values for Life

This half term in collective worship the children will be focusing upon the value of:

COMPASSION

Psalm 145: 8-9

The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.

What are we learning this half term?

<https://www.ackworthhowardschool.co.uk/curriculum/what-are-we-learning-term>

Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT

Dinner Debate

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

'What makes something beautiful?'

Dear parents/carers

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BODY, SPIRIT

I hope that you are all well despite the current situation we find ourselves in.

On Friday I sent you a copy of our new school guidance which sets out our systems of protective measures and explains our current position as well as answering some key questions that you may find useful. A copy of this can be found on our website:

<https://www.ackworthhowardschool.co.uk/news/2020/september/covid-19-school-reopening-guidance>

If your child does not have the required stationary, resources or technology to support remote learning or have problems accessing the Google Classroom, please contact school as we can help.

Schools can also request mobile data increases for people who:

- do not have fixed broadband at home
- cannot afford additional data for their devices
- are experiencing disruption to their face-to-face education

This scheme temporarily increases data allowances for mobile phone users on certain networks. This is so that children and young people can access remote education if their face-to-face education is disrupted.

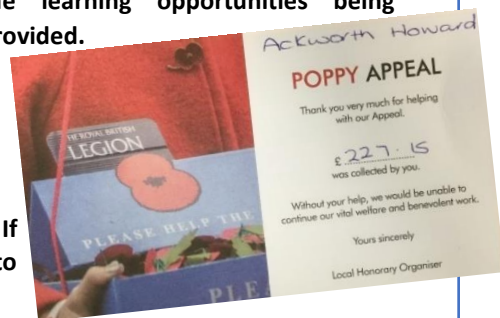


It has been lovely to read the positive comments coming in about the children's remote education. Thank you for sharing these. It is fantastic to hear that the children are enjoying the learning opportunities being provided.

Please contact us if you need support. If we can't help we will do our best to signpost you to someone who can.

You can also find some useful signposting to agencies and support resources and guidance on our website:

- Covid-19 – School Support Page: <https://www.ackworthhowardschool.co.uk/news/2020/september/covid-19-school-reopening-guidance>
- Wellbeing section of the school website: <https://www.ackworthhowardschool.co.uk/welbeing>



We recognise that this is a difficult and challenging situation for us all and we are doing our best as a school in the circumstances.

Please keep your children at home if you can so that we can protect our staff and wider community as much as possible by limiting the contacts for individuals – thank you.

Thank You!

We've had lots of messages saying how much staff in school are appreciated and that is wonderful and greatly received but I would also make clear that what every parent and family is doing right now is inspiring and deeply appreciated also. Thank you! We are here if you need any advice or support so please do not hesitate in getting in touch.

Compassion
Forgiveness
Friendship
Trust

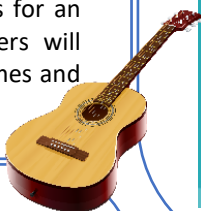
Growth in MIND,
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Peripatetic Music Tuition

For parents/carers of instrumental pupils, information has been provided by Wakefield Music Service regarding moving lessons online.

They are hoping that this will be a fairly smooth transition after the successful trial and delivery in the summer term. *‘Those pupils that accessed their instrumental lesson online found them to be a valuable experience, as did the parent/carer that was present with them who found they were far more empowered to support the learning in between lessons (WMS).’*

Please can parents/carers of instrumental pupils email Tracy Gray to set this up - tgray@wakefield.gov.uk Tracy will then send safeguarding and general guidance to families to read and a form to email back to say they have read and understood them. These also include some great guidance and tips for an effective online lesson. WMS teachers will then contact families to set up the times and lessons.



Safeguarding Children is Everyone's Business

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BODY, SPIRIT

This is a challenging period of time for us all, and though children may be out of sight at home, some might not be out of harm's way.

Changes in circumstances and pressure due to COVID-19 means harm to children and vulnerable adults could increase. This could come in many forms.

With children not being seen as regularly by school staff or health professionals, it is harder for them to tell anyone if something is wrong.

Everyone is our eyes and ears in the community right now, and could be crucial in recognising a child or young person who needs help.

If you have a concern, or think something is not quite right, raise it. Call 03458 503503 or seek advice from your local authority.



Howard Foodbank:

Thank you to members of our school community who donated items to our school foodbank in the autumn term. As we had some left over, Mrs Thorpe kindly delivered them to Ackworth Foodbank at All Saints Church who made good use of them over Christmas.



National Curriculum Statutory Assessments

The Prime Minister has announced that the government recognises that due to further disruption, key stage 1 (KS1) and key stage 2 (KS2) national curriculum assessments cannot continue as intended.

The following assessments, scheduled between April and July 2021, have been cancelled:

- KS1 teacher assessments
- KS2 tests and teacher assessments
- phonics screening check

We will continue to use assessment to inform teaching, to enable us to give information to parents on children's attainment in their statutory annual report and to support transition of KS2 pupils to secondary school.

These arrangements will apply for summer 2021 only, and the government are planning for a full programme of assessments to take place in the 2021/22 academic year. This will include the introduction of the statutory reception baseline and multiplication tables check, as previously announced.

Wakefield Parent Carer Forum

Wakefield Parent Carer Forum is an independent parent led forum who work with families of children with special educational needs and/or disability, aged 0-25 years old, living in the Wakefield area.

The forum is led by a small group of local parents who are looking forward to listening to, and representing the views of parents, young people and children in the future.

These parents all have a wide experience of what it is like to be a parent of a child with an additional need or disability in the Wakefield area.

They are keen to work with parents and make a positive difference in improving the quality of life for all children and families in Wakefield.

You can access their most recent newsletter which aims to bring you information that is helpful and supportive to families on our website:

<https://www.ackworthhowardschool.co.uk/sites/default/files/uploads/media/files/wpcf-newsletter-4.pdf>

Growth in MIND,
BODY, SPIRIT

Thank you for your continued support, take care and keep safe.

Mr Michael Walker – Headteacher



Proud of our partnership with Mshikamano (Solidarity) Primary School - Bega Kwa Bega (Shoulder to Shoulder)

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