Newsletter – Monday 17th May 2021

Educating 'for life in all its fullness.'

Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT

Dear parents/carers,

I am pleased to inform you that our recruitment process for two new teachers was incredibly successful and we are delighted to have appointed Miss Georgia Delemere and Miss Holly Duckett to the roles. Both bring high levels of enthusiasm, passion for the role and demonstrated that they are right for our school in terms of their values. The way they built such positive relationships with the children in such a short time was inspiring! I look forward to welcoming them to the team.

Last week we were thinking about the importance of keeping our minds healthy and the children participated in various activities to promote their mental health.

As our Christian Value this half term is Courage, with a focus on being 'fearless' last week, we reflected on how this relates to our wellbeing. We are always striving to equip the children of our school with the tools needed to face their fears and anxieties through mindful activities and a good understanding of how to improve their physical and mental wellbeing.

As a school, we practised 'Colour Breathing' during Miss O'Brien's worship - the results were calm and peaceful classrooms, ready for the next learning activities!

Diary Dates

21st May – Year 2 Class Worship
27th May – Year 5 Class Worship
28th May – INSET Day (School Closed to Pupils)
7th June – School Reopens to Pupils (Summer 2)
18th June – Class Photos
23rd June – School Eucharist Celebration
7th-9th July – Y6 Robinwood
23rd July – Year 6 Leavers Service
23rd July – School Closes for Summer

Teaching Staff 2021-2022
Nursery – Miss K. Hunter
Reception – Mrs K. Tordoff
Year 1 – Miss G. Delemere
Year 2 – Mrs J. Albaya
Year 3 – Mr C. Nunn
Year 4 – Miss H. Duckett
Year 5 – Miss S. O'Brien
Year 6 – Mr D. Barstow

Transition arrangements will follow in the new half term.

Attendance

Week Ending 14th May:

Reception	99.3%
Class 1	97.9%
Class 2	100%
Class 3	99.3%
Class 4	96.6%
Class 5	98.3%
Class 6	98.7%
Overall	**98.6%**

Attendance Champions:
Class 2 - Congratulations

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

Growth in SPIRIT

Values for Life

This half term in collective worship the children will be focusing upon the value of:
COURAGE
This week's focus will be:
Valiant

1 Corinthians 16:13
'Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.'

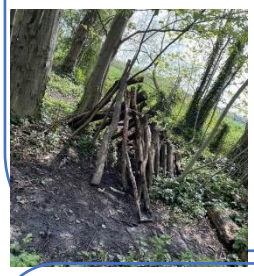
A Journey Through the Bible:
Exile and Prophets: Isaiah and Hezekiah (2 Kings 20, 2 Chronicles 32 and Isaiah 38)

Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT

Forest School Sessions

During Forest School sessions last week, the children took part in some fire lighting, they created mini teepee shelters and in the after school activity club the children built a large bivouac and whittled some Roman arrows.

Forest School is an important part of our provision and has an extremely positive impact on the health and wellbeing of pupils. You can find out more on our website:
https://www.ackworthhowardschool.co.uk/learning/forest-school



Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT

*****Dinner Debate*****

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

'Why are people good when they don't have to be?'

Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT

Persuasive Letters

Year 5 have completed their writing of persuasive letters. These were linked to their previous class novel 'Kick' (an inspirational and eye-opening story) and focussed on the global issue of child labour and poverty. They have gained an excellent understanding of the issue of child labour; investigated fair trade and understand the cycle of poverty that this contributes to. They are developing their prophetic voices and challenging injustices through writing letters, persuading the school to invest in Bala footballs - a Fairtrade sports ball!

We're working towards Artsmark
Awarded by Arts Council England

Orchestra

Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT

Year 1 have enjoyed singing this half term and have done so with enthusiasm, especially when learning the National Anthem.

They have been learning the names of musical instruments and what families in the Orchestra they belong to.

On Friday the children were exploring the percussion section and using a range of instruments. They were playing the pulse and the rhythms along to pieces of music.

Pupil Leadership

Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT

The School Council were incredible during the teacher recruitment day on Tuesday! They interviewed the candidates and took their role very seriously. Their views were taken into account during the day.

On Thursday, Year 5 and 6 representatives attended the virtual meeting of the School's Community Council. This group works together on projects that benefit the local community and is made up of children from each of the Ackworth schools. The children decided they would like to get involved in the Ackworth scarecrow competition, a community litter pick and a virtual step counting competition to raise funds for a charity.

The Worship committee met on Friday to discuss their successes in working with other children to evaluate and reflect upon worship. They have also planned and will be delivering today's worship.

Ancient Greece

Growth in MIND

Year 6 have been finishing off their Ancient Greece topic. In history they have written their essay about: 'Were the Ancient Greeks great?' This essay gave the children the opportunity to explain everything they had learnt during the topic and any extra home learning they had done. They have also built Pantheons out of straws.

Museum Outreach Workshop (Charles Waterton)

Growth in MIND

On Thursday, Year 2 were visited by Kelly Powell from Wakefield Museum who delivered a workshop about the local explorer, Charles Waterton. The children enjoyed finding out about this fearless explorer who travelled to the Amazon and was fascinated by the habitats and wildlife that he found there. They learnt that he was a significant individual who made a difference by creating the first nature preserve at Waterton Hall. They all had the opportunity to make their own bird feeders to take home to help the birds in their own local environments and asked thoughtful questions throughout the morning.

House Points Last Week:

Cirrus – 238
Cumulus – 220
Stratus – 212
Nimbus – 225
Well done Cirrus!

Luke Howard: 'Namer of the Clouds.' (1772–1864)

Digestive System

Y4 have been learning about the digestive system and in the last few weeks, they've focused on teeth. They've learnt about incisors, canines, pre-molars, molars and wisdom teeth and their purpose. Last week, the children planned an investigation to explore the effects of sugary drinks on teeth which they're going to carry out this week.

Growth in MIND

Howard Family Celebration Worship

The following children have been recognised for their:

- Outstanding achievements through the school week:
  Zachary (Rec), Poppy (Y1), Aiden (Y2), Tom (Y3), Ferdinand (Y4), Oscar (Y5) Ethan (Y6).
- Living our Christian values:
  Reuben (Rec), Ava (Y1), Layla (Y2), Isla (Y3), Connie (Y4), Sam (Y5) Ava (Y6).
- Living our school vision:
  Sebastian (Rec), Emie (Y1), Lydia (Y2), James (Y3), Class 4 Role Models (Y4), Faith (Y5), Finlay (Y6).

Congratulations to George for regularly demonstrating leadership skills, confidence and resilience – an excellent ambassador for the Howard School!

Living Our Vision Award

Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT

Relaxation and Mindfulness

Growth in BODY

For Mental Health Awareness Week, Year 3 discussed ways they could improve their mental health and enjoyed taking part in some relaxation and mindfulness activities.

Thank you for your continued support, take care and have a lovely week.

Mr Michael Walker – Headteacher

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

Compassion Forgiveness Friendship Trust