



Newsletter – Monday 1st February 2021

Educating 'for life in all its fullness.'

Growth in **MIND**,
BODY, **SPIRIT**

Remote Education Attendance

Week Ending 29th January:

- Reception – 97%
- Class 1 – 100%
- Class 2 - 100%
- Class 3 – 97%
- Class 4 – 97%
- Class 5 – 100%
- Class 6 – 97%
- Overall - 98%**

Remote Learning Champions: Class 2 - Congratulations.

97% remote learning attendance – Phenomenal
201/205 children accessed our remote education regularly last week.

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

School's Covid Guidance

A copy of our school's [Covid guidance](#) can be found on our website. This outlines our protective measures as well as answering some key questions.

Growth in **SPIRIT**

Values for Life

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

COMPASSION

Ephesians 4:32

'Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.'

Growth in **MIND, BODY, SPIRIT**

Dinner Debate

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

'Are my mind and body different?'

Dear parents/carers

First of all, thank you to all of our families for the continued high engagement we have had with remote learning. We are all trying to manage competing priorities in these difficult times, but everyone is still keeping children learning. It has been wonderful to see the work our pupils are doing at home and in school.

On Friday we held our first remote Celebration Worship and it was wonderful to hear examples of children's positive attitudes to learning, how they were living our vision and values but most importantly, how children were supporting each other through this time.

Last week, the Prime Minister announced that it will not be possible to resume face-to-face learning immediately after the February half-term break and instead hopes it will be safe to commence the reopening of schools from Monday 8 March. This is in response to the national public health data and pressure on NHS capacity. We do not have any further information or detail about this yet. Education settings, as well as pupils, parents and carers will be given at least two weeks notice to prepare for a return to face-to-face education.

Thank you again for taking the time to complete our remote education survey. As a result of this, we have made a number of enhancements to our offer. You will now find on our website a document called '[Remote Education Provision: Information for Parents.](#)' This document outlines our remote provision but also provides clarity in relation to some of the question's parents have asked us such as:

- *How long can I expect work set by the school to take my child each day?*
- *When will learning be available to access on the Google Classroom and Tapestry?*
- *How do we support children who are finding the work difficult or not keeping the same pace?*

Some of the improvements we have made in response to the survey include:

- *The introduction of 'getting ready for learning' live sessions most mornings in Reception where Mrs Tordoff will outline the days activities, share a story and set the tone for learning.*
- *In Year 1, Phonics inputs will be provided live and supplemented by videos to further develop early reading.*
- *'Learning clinics' are being introduced throughout school. These are twice weekly (minimum) half hour sessions where each teacher will be available for a half an hour slot to discuss any learning issues children may be having.*
- *We are aware that a couple of teachers haven't had the 40-minute time limit removed from their Zoom account. We have been working to resolve this with Zoom but this has not been easy! We are aware that there are other platforms out there for live lessons, but having done our own research we believe that Zoom is the easiest and safest platform for our children and staff.*

You will have seen on Tapestry/Google Classroom that we are holding a no screen day tomorrow. Less screen time means a better mind and body and we are hoping that the children will enjoy the activities.

Staff Covid Testing:

In the last week we have processed 59 tests in school - 59 were negative.

The intention is to disrupt infection pathways and generally help reduce the impact of the virus should we have any positive cases.

A big thank you to the staff engaging with testing.

Comparison
Fairness
Friendship
Trust

It is Children's Mental Health Week this week and as well as the 'No Screen Day,' class teachers will be sharing other resources to support healthy minds. There is also lots of information on our website. The theme for the week this year is 'express yourself.'

Finally, I want to thank all of the staff in our school. They have worked so hard on providing our remote provision. Remote education is far harder to deliver than face to face learning. We all would rather have your children in school and we miss them terribly but please, during this time, 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.

Growth in MIND,
BODY, SPIRIT

Diary Dates

School closes for half term on Friday 12th February 2021 and reopens on Monday 22nd February 2021

To assist with contact tracing during the half term break, if anyone attending school tests positive, please email covid@howard.wakefield.sch.uk

R.S.P.B 'Big Garden Birdwatch'

Growth in MIND,
SPIRIT

Class 2 have been learning how to use tally marks in maths. The children were tasked with putting this skill into practise over the weekend by recording the birds that visited their gardens to feed on their bird feeders as they take part in the R.S.P.B 'Big Garden Birdwatch'.

Vincent Van Gogh

Growth in MIND,
BODY, SPIRIT

Year 1 have produced some fantastic Art work in school and at home. After creating some wonderful landscapes and cityscapes, the children recreated possibly the most famous landscape painting of all by Vincent Van Gogh - Starry Night.



Nelson Mandela

Growth in MIND,
BODY, SPIRIT

Year 4 have been learning about Nelson Mandela's life and how he came to be a great leader. They learned that he was originally named 'Rolihlahla' which translates as 'troublemaker' but he was given the name Nelson when he got to school as they thought his name didn't fit into a white-centred world. They discussed how this might have spurred him on to fight against the apartheid in South Africa, and how his fight has impacted the world today.

Castles

Growth in MIND

The children in Nursery and Reception have been learning about the different features of castles this week. They designed their own castles using a variety of media - construction toys, paint, junk modelling, drawing, playdough etc. The children in Reception used their phonics to help them make labels for their castles.

Industrial Revolution

Growth in MIND

In Year 5, the children have been looking at the industrial revolution in History. They have uncovered some interesting facts about the past. Whilst looking at some of the key inventions, the children engaged in thoughtful discussion.



'We took a picture of me with an antique fly shuttle my mum has. It was found under the floor boards of our house when my Grandad replaced the floor in the old post office. Our house was built in 1865.'



Secrets of a Sun King

Year 3 were tasked with challenges linked to their Ancient Egypt topic and class novel Secrets of a Sun King by Emma Carroll. Ewan created an Anubis-headed Ancient Egyptian canopic jar at home that looks great!

Growth in MIND

House Points Update

- Cirrus** – 436
- Cumulus** – 511
- Stratus** – 544
- Nimbus** – 530

Well done Nimbus!



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

Howard Family Celebration Worship

The following children have been recognised for their:

- Outstanding achievements through the school week:
Sebastian (Rec), Hallie (Y1), Isabella (Y2), Oliver (Y3), Leah (Y4), Connor (Y5) and Ava (Y6).
- Living our Christian values:
Bradley (Rec), Isaac (Y1), Madison (Y2), Martha (Y3), Connie (Y4), D'arcie (Y5) and Juno (Y6).
- Living our school vision:
Viktoria (Rec), Greta (Y1), Fraser (Y2), Lottie (Y3), Lailah (Y4), Stephen (Y5) and Ellie (Y6).



Congratulations to staff and families for keeping children working whilst managing competing priorities of their own.

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)

