



Newsletter – Wednesday 21th July 2021
Educating ‘for life in all its fullness.’


Attendance

Academic Year 2020-2021:

Reception	97.3%
Class 1	96.9%
Class 2	98.3%
Class 3	97.5%
Class 4	97.6%
Class 5	97.0%
Class 6	96.8%
Overall	97.3%

Attendance Champions:
Class 2 – Congratulations!

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



Growth in MIND,
BODY, SPIRIT

Dear parents/carers,

As we swiftly arrive at the end of the academic year I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all an enjoyable summer and to thank you for all of your support during this academic year.

Thank you to the staff, members of our community and volunteers who have gone above and beyond to support the work we do in our school and of course the children who have made us incredibly proud this year as always - Thank you!

I would also like to extend a special thank you to the staff who will be leaving us at the end of this week, including a number who have made significant contributions over many years in all areas of school life, helping the school to progress and continue to move forward and having a positive impact on many children’s lives. I am sure you will join me in thanking them all for their commitment and dedication to The Howard School and wish them well in their next steps. They will be missed by all of us.

If your child is eligible for income based free school meals, Wakefield Council have announced that they have lots of fun activities happening this summer as part of their Happy Healthy Holidays programme. You can find out more on our [website](#).

The Covid-19 local support grant will again be utilised over the summer holidays. Wakefield Council will issue £60 vouchers to all eligible families this week as they have done for previous holiday periods.

I will write to you nearer September to outline plans for returning to school as I feel it is a bit premature to commit to plans given our lived experiences during the pandemic so far!

Growth in MIND,
BODY, SPIRIT

Values for Life / Curriculum Thread

This half term in collective worship the children have been focusing upon the value of: **CREATIVITY**

Our Curriculum Thread has been: **ASPIRATIONS**

Psalm 20:4 “May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed.”

Year 6

We are extremely proud of our Year 6 children who are leaving us this week to join their secondary schools.

We hope that the children have enjoyed their time here at Ackworth Howard and are well-prepared for the next stage of their education.

We wish them luck and all the best for the future and we look forward to hearing of how they are progressing in their new schools.

Thank you to all of the staff, parents and other members of the school community who have supported the children during their time in our school.

The children were outstanding in their production of Darwin Rocks and it was wonderful to be able to invite parents in for this for their final experience of an event in school for this group of children.

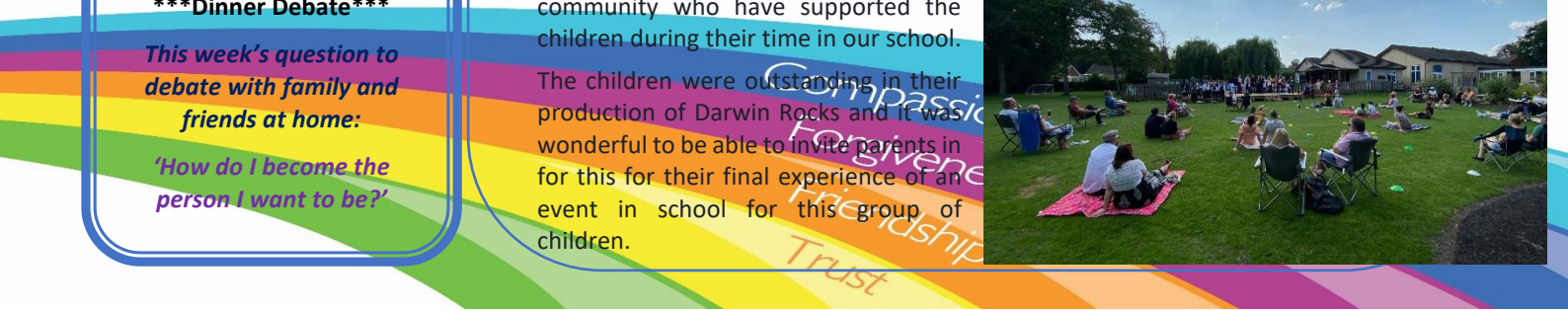


Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT

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

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

‘How do I become the person I want to be?’





Musical Extravaganza

Growth in MIND,
BODY, SPIRIT

As is now an annual tradition, the children have taken part in their Musical Extravaganza. The event is an opportunity for the children to share some of the musical skills they have developed during the year.

This year's extravaganza has been created as a video that you can find by clicking this link:

[Musical Extravaganza 2021](#)

Thank you to Mr. Edwards who has worked with our Year 2 children this week exploring rhythm through singing and the use of ukuleles and boom whackers. The children really enjoyed the experience and the end result can be seen in the musical extravaganza video!

Safeguarding Update

Growth in MIND,
BODY

Police in Wakefield are warning residents of the potential dangers after a large quantity of cannabis-laced sweets were seized – an email has been sent out to all parents to share the press release.

Governors

Growth in MIND

Last week we held our final Governors meeting of the academic year where we talked through the Headteachers update report, preliminary headline data from the recent assessments, school development priorities for the next academic year and approved the proposed pupil premium and sports funding spending plans in preparation for the next year. It was also proposed that we change the INSET days that had already been approved as a result of the additional day (platinum jubilee). INSET days for the next academic year will now therefore be:

Mon 6th September – No Change

Tue 7th September – No Change

Tue 4th January – No Change

Mon 6th June – No Change

Mon 25th July – Changed from Mon 1st November

Tue 26th July – Platinum Jubilee Day

Pastor Ashley Guest Worship

Growth in MIND,
BODY, SPIRIT

It was great to welcome back Ashley from the Community Church to lead our worship on Friday. The children always enjoy his assemblies and relish his story telling.

Spirited Art Competition

Growth in MIND,
BODY, SPIRIT

In the last week, all of the children have been completing art work to enter in a local authority competition organised by Wakefield SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education).

The children used a media of their choice to explore and express the theme of "Where is God?" and submitted a written commentary explaining their thought processes on their artwork.

The children had some amazing ideas and reflections and we are looking forward to seeing the results on a display in the school hall.



Diary Dates

23rd July – Year 6 Leavers Service (9:15am Zoom) / Leavers Picnic

23rd July – School Closes for Summer

6th Sept/7th Sept – INSET Day (School Closed to Children)

8th Sept – School Reopens for the 2021-22 Academic Year

10th Sept – Musical Mindfulness Workshops

20th Sept – Year 3 and 4 Lifesavers First Aid Training

21st Sept – Year 5 and 6 Lifesavers First Aid Training

23rd Sept – School's Community Council Meeting

29th Sept – Year 4 Wilderness Camp (Overnight)

1st Oct – Individual Pupil Photos

Artist in Residence

Growth in MIND,
BODY, SPIRIT

The children have had a brilliant time working with our resident artist, Sue Kershaw, on our Covid-19 legacy mosaic. It has been wonderful to see the children engaging so enthusiastically in the project and reflecting on their own personal journeys over the last 16 months whilst being creative.

Dedicated to the wonderful members of our school community to remember: the challenges we have overcome; the heroes we have encountered who have touched our lives; the courage that has been shown and the losses we have experienced.

Like everyone, our school was affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. This mosaic was created by our school community alongside local artist Sue Kershaw to provide an opportunity to reflect on this challenging period of time but also to represent and remember the courage, sacrifice, dedication and commitment of our children, staff, parents, governors and other members of the wider school community during this difficult time. It also celebrates the wonderful examples of the human spirit at its best.

<https://www.ackworthhowardschool.co.uk/news/2021/july/covid-19-legacy-mosaic>



After School Activity Clubs

Growth in MIND,
BODY, SPIRIT

Mr Baker was very proud of Year 1 and 2 children attending the Forest School activity club last Thursday where they undertook firelighting for the first time. They were very determined and enthusiastic throughout the challenge!

We have arranged a variety of new after school activity clubs for Autumn 1 and a letter including how to book will be sent home when we return to school in September.



Library Reading Challenge

Growth in MIND,
BODY, SPIRIT

This year, Wakefield Libraries are once again offering schools the opportunity to win a prize for taking part in Wild World Heroes Summer Reading Challenge 2021. Wild World Heroes will help children discover how they can make a difference to the environment and stand up for the planet! At the end of the summer, the five schools with the highest percentage of children completing the challenge will be awarded a specially chosen collection of books worth £500 and the two schools with the highest rate will be offered a visit to their school by the poet Matt Goodfellow.

The summer reading challenge offers FREE access to books with fun, creative activities in all Wakefield Libraries during the summer holidays.

- Sign up at your local library and receive your collector folder.
- Borrow and read at least six books during the summer.
- Collect stickers and prizes along the way.
- Claim your certificate and medal at the end of the challenge.

Moving Monsters

Growth in MIND

Year 2 have been creating moving monsters in their DT unit of work exploring linkages, pivots and levers. They have applied their impressive knowledge when making their products following their design criteria.



Butterfly Release

Growth in MIND,
BODY, SPIRIT

Nursery and Reception have released their butterflies in the peace garden. They have been observing the life cycle of the butterflies over the last few weeks.



Space Pop Up Books

Growth in MIND

Year 5 have made their own pop-up books in DT using mechanisms. They have considered their users during the process and have created them for Year 1 and Reception based on the theme of space which links to their Science learning. They are looking forward to sharing their creations with the younger children before the summer break.



Try a New Sport Campaign

Growth in MIND,
BODY, SPIRIT

Well done to all of the children who have been taking part in the campaign launched earlier this year. It has been lovely to see the variety of sports so many children are engaging in, particularly where they have never tried them before!

The campaign links the 33 different Olympic sports and encourages children to try as many sports as possible. The challenge will continue through the summer months.

Festival of the Earth

Growth in MIND,
BODY, SPIRIT

The Festival of the Earth is an exciting collection of events and activities taking place across the Wakefield District from July to October 2021.

'Work with Wakefield Council to make positive environmental changes to your daily lives and help tackle climate change - while having lots of fun!'

'You can do this by visiting an exhibition, taking part in an activity, or researching other ways to make a difference. From visiting the A World of Good Exhibition at Wakefield Museum to joining in the Summer Reading Challenge at your local library, there's so much to do over the summer as we build towards an exciting series of events and installations in Wakefield city centre from 20 August.'

'Join us on the start of this huge journey where everyone can play their part; small changes can lead to big movements.'

For more information on the festival visit

www.experiencewakefield.co.uk



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

Mr Michael Walker – Headteacher

Proud of our partnership with Mshikamano

(Solidarity) Primary School - Bega Kwa Bega

(Shoulder to Shoulder)

