



Newsletter – Monday 20th November 2023

Educating ‘for life in all its fullness.’

Striving for 100%

Attendance

Week Ending 17/11/23:

Reception	95.0%
Class 1	96.5%
Class 2	95.7%
Class 3	99.3%
Class 4	97.8%
Class 5	98.7%
Class 6	93.8%
Overall	97.0%

Attendance Champions:
Class 3 - Congratulations

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

Cumulative (2023-24) total so far – 96.2%

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:
APOLOGISE

*‘If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over.’
Matthew 18:15*

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:

‘Why do we need security settings on our devices?’

Dear parents/carers,

This week, I’d like to inform you about an exciting opportunity that I am undertaking, and its positive implications for our school community.

Following intensive training, I will be working as a School Inspector for the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS). SIAMS is a vital aspect of the life of all Church of England and Methodist schools in England, aiming to affirm effective practices and highlight areas for improvement.

Approximately once a term, I will be engaged in SIAMS inspections, where I will be contributing my expertise to assess and support other schools within the framework. The income generated from this role will directly support our school budget, benefiting all aspects of our educational environment.

I am particularly enthusiastic about this role as I believe the SIAMS framework aligns closely with our school's values and will provide valuable insights for our continuous improvement. The experience gained will also contribute to my professional development.

I assure you that my commitment to our school's success remains unwavering. I am confident that this endeavour will not only strengthen our own understanding of our Christian vision but will also allow us to share best practices with other schools.

Anti-Bullying Week

Everyone certainly made a noise about bullying last week – Thank you for also joining in!!!

The children have amazed us with their thought-provoking work which has truly left us inspired and moved, particularly after the Stay and Learn sessions. The support from parents was excellent, as we work together to create a safe and inclusive environment for our children.

Governor Recruitment

We are currently advertising for a parent governor and a local authority governor. Please contact school if you have any questions. The closing date for parent governor nominations is this Friday.

Mrs Lucy O’Brien will be leaving the Governing Body shortly after many years of dedicated service to our school, including a substantial time as Chair of Governors. She will be missed and I am particularly thankful to Mrs O’Brien for her wonderful support during the most challenging of times over the years – thank you Lucy.

Change to School Hours for 2024/25 - Consultation

The government have changed their guidance around the length of the school day. To ensure that we are compliant we need to lengthen our school day by five minutes from September 2024. Please read the letter for more details:

[Change to School Hours for 2024/25 – Consultation Letter](#)

Growth in MIND,
BODY, SPIRIT

Diary Dates



November

- Mon 20th** – Parents Evening
- Tue 21st** – Y3 Oral Health Workshop (NHS)
- Thu 23rd** – Parents Evening / Police Visit
- Fri 24th** – Christmas Fair
- Thu 30th** – Y5&Y6 Football V Badsworth

December

- Fri 1st Dec** – Big Me Day
- Mon 4th** – Pantomime / Y6 Class Worship
- Tue 5th** – School Communion
- Wed 6th** – Leeds Playhouse (R-Y2)

[Key Dates 2023-24](#)



Recent Letters – [Parent Governor Letter](#) / [Y5&6 F1 In Schools Pantomime](#) / [HSA Christmas Hamper](#)



Compassion
Forgiveness
Trust

Inclusive

Growth in **MIND, BODY, SPIRIT**
Governors Meeting

Last Tuesday, we conducted our first full Governors meeting of the academic year. The session involved crucial procedural matters and encompassed discussions on significant topics including trauma-informed practice, the Headteacher's report, performance management, safeguarding, SEND, and various other important matters. Additionally, we successfully ratified updated policies, which are accessible through the provided links.



- [Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy](#)
- [Equality Information and Objectives](#)
- [SEND Policy](#)
- [SEN Information Report](#)
- [Accessibility Plan](#)

Growth in **MIND**

Mastering the Running Stitch

A number of children in Year Two have worked hard at home to practise their sewing skills and have now mastered the running stitch! Well done.



Wonderful Weather

In Year 1 they have been measuring how much rainfall Ackworth has had over a week. They made their own rain gauges but they think storm Debi might have filled them up to the top! They are excited to record the data that they find.



Joining Fabrics

Year 1 have also been busy investigating which method of joining fabric would be most suitable for their puppet making. They can't wait to start designing the puppet!



Online Safety Curriculum

We are committed to fostering a safe and positive online environment for our pupils. Our online safety curriculum is seamlessly integrated into our teaching, progressing alongside your child's understanding and use of the internet.

Our approach ensures that online safety is not only a core component of our curriculum but also responsive to specific issues that may arise. In instances where targeted guidance is needed, we conduct additional sessions to address these concerns effectively.

For detailed insights into our online safety curriculum and its progression, you can refer to our Computing progression documents, accessible on our school website. Together, we can empower our children to navigate the digital world responsibly and confidently.



Children in Need

We've raised £223 for Children in Need through our compassionate acts! Well done everyone!



Badsworth V Howard

Growth in **MIND, BODY, SPIRIT**

The Year 3/4 football team played a very tense match against Badsworth on Friday, coming away 2-1 winners. Well done!



Y3 Make a Noise...

Growth in **MIND, BODY, SPIRIT**

Year 3 have been using their coding skills to 'Make a Noise' about bullying!



During their Stay & Learn session, they loved sharing their Anti Bullying Week and scratch projects with their adults.

EYFS Make a Noise...

EYFS enjoyed their Stay and Learn session where they completed a range of activities linked to their PSED focus of being a kind friend.



We all Made a Noise...



Children have worked with their parents during our Stay and Learn sessions. The focus was 'make a noise against bullying.' Together they wrote poems for anti-bullying week that were thought-provoking and inspirational.



The Reading Ambassadors selected book recommendations linked to anti-bullying week.



We also celebrated Odd Socks Day to acknowledge that everyone is different and unique and that this is ok!

Ofsted Parent View

Please could you spare a few minutes to complete the **Ofsted Parent View**:

Parent View asks for your opinions about the Howard School, providing valuable insights on various aspects related to school life. The feedback from Parent View is instrumental for Ofsted in determining school inspections, ensuring your voice contributes to shaping our continuous improvement journey.



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)

