



Newsletter – Monday 21st October 2024

Educating 'for life in all its fullness.'

Striving for 100%

Attendance

Week Ending 18.10.24:

Reception	85.4%
Year 1	94.3%
Year 2	92.3%
Year 3	94.8%
Year 4	97.1%
Year 5	94.8%
Year 6	96.7%
Overall	93.8%

Attendance Champions:
Year 4
Well Done!

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

Cumulative (2024-25) total so far – 94.2%

Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT Values for Life

This half term in collective worship we are focusing upon the value of: **THANKFULNESS**



This week's focus will be:
THANKSGIVING

*"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."
Psalm 107:1*

Global Citizenship Thread

This half term our whole school Thread is **DIVERSITY**

Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT ***Dinner Debate***

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

"Why is it important to share what we have with others, especially during Harvest time?"



Dear parents/carers

What a fantastic half term it has been to kick off the academic year! We've enjoyed some wonderful highlights, including our School Heritage Day, Harvest Festival, and a hugely successful Macmillan Coffee Morning, where we raised over £864. Our Stay and Learn sessions focused on reading were well-attended and positive.

We've also had a range of exciting curriculum activities and extracurricular events that have enriched the children's experience. Looking ahead, there's plenty to look forward to this week, including the upcoming spooky disco, Owl Experience Writing Day, and Open Afternoon.

Thank you all for your continued support—let's keep up the great momentum!"

Inspection Data Summary Report (IDSR).



I'm pleased to share with you the recent update from Ofsted regarding our Inspection Data Summary Report (IDSR). Once again, our hard work and dedication are clearly reflected in the results.

Our school is 'significantly above national' in *Reading KS2 Expected Standard*, ranking in the 94th percentile—an outstanding achievement! We also perform prominently above the national average in several key areas, including: • *Grammar, Punctuation, and Spelling (KS2 Expected Standard):* 85th percentile, and Higher Standard: 84th percentile. • *Mathematics Expected Standard:* 84th percentile. • *Reading KS2 High Standard:* 82nd percentile. • *Phonics Y1 Expected Standard:* 81st percentile. • Our *persistent absence* rate is also in the lowest 20% of schools nationally.

For those less familiar with percentiles, this means our school's performance in these areas surpasses 80%+ of all schools in the country, placing us among the top performers.

The report further highlights our achievements in the 70th+ percentiles across many other areas. This success is a testament to our collaborative efforts – the dedicated teachers and staff, supportive parents, and, most importantly, our hardworking children. Thank you for being a vital part of this journey, and here's to even more achievements ahead!

Personnel, Finance & Premises Committee

The PFP Committee met last week and covered a number of important procedural matters. The agenda included the budget monitoring report, staffing, resources, teachers' performance management, and other financial discussions.

Growth in MIND,
BODY, SPIRIT

Calendar



October
Mon 21st – Owl Experience
Writing Day
Tue 22nd – Fire Service Safety Workshop (Y6) / School Nurse (Height and Weight Screening – Y6)
Wed 23rd – Spooky Disco / School Nurse (Dental Hygiene – Y3)
Fri 25th - Open Afternoon / School Closes for Half Term

November
Mon 4th – School Reopens
Thu 7th – Year 5&6 Football V Badsworth
Mon 11th – Fri 15th – Anti-Bullying Week
Tue 12th – Governors Meeting
Wed 13th – Fri 15th – PGL Y6 Residential
Fri 15th – Children in Need

School Calendar Document Link:
[Key Dates 2024-25](#)

"We have some very exciting news to share! Congratulations to Mrs. Bloomer, who recently gave birth to a beautiful baby boy, weighing 8lb 8oz. I'm sure you'll join us in sending best wishes to the proud parents."



Local Issue

Safeguarding – Online Safety

Digital Wellbeing is a focus within school and we are conscious of the risks and benefits of accessing social media applications.

You can find out more about how to help children manage their mental wellbeing online by following the NSPCC link – [Online Wellbeing](#).

Reporting Concerns - Our safeguarding duties do not stop at the school gates. The boundaries between in-school and out-of-school incidents are now blurred, as social media and technology give children 24/7 access to each other.

If you have any concerns around children's online safety and would like to report anything, please contact school. The children know that if they have any concerns, they should talk to a trusted adult. Screenshots and chat logs have made evidencing easier so please keep this in mind whenever reporting.

The NSPCC also have a useful guide that explains what to do if you're worried about something a child has experienced online – [Reporting Online Safety Concerns](#)

School Website - You can also find a wealth of support, guidance and resources on our school website – [Online Safety at Howard](#)



Harvest Festival

Growth in MI ND,
BODY, SPIRIT

On Friday, our children beautifully led our Harvest Festival worship, embodying our vision of 'Educating for life in all its fullness'. Their reflections, songs, and shared learnings were a testament not only to their academic growth but also to their spiritual and emotional development. They made us incredibly proud.

It was heartening to see so many of you join us for this celebration. Thank you for sharing this special moment with us.

Your generous donations for Pontefract Street Kitchen reflect our school's vision. These contributions not only provide meals but also serve as a beacon of hope for many—thank you.



Getting Creative

Growth in MI ND, BODY

Year 1 had a fantastic time in both their DT and art lessons recently. They loved making smoothies, practicing their cutting and pouring skills, and discovering which combinations tasted delicious (or not!). They also took inspiration from artist Molly, using different media and their whole bodies to create circle art.

Sorting Objects

Growth in MI ND

In Maths, the Nursery children have enjoyed exploring different ways to organise and group objects. They sorted the toys into categories of soft/hard and big/small.

Funnybones

Growth in MI ND

Reception are enjoying the book 'Funnybones'. The provision areas have been enhanced with activities, including making skeletons in the dough area, a number treasure hunt, creating skeletons with art straws, and digging for bones. There's lots of wonderful learning happening!

Home Learning

Growth in MI ND,
BODY

We are so proud of 2 of our Year 4s who have built circuits as their home learning linked to their electricity topic. One has switches to control a fan and a bulb, and one controls a built in radio!

Netball Skills

Growth in MI ND,
BODY

This half term, Year 3 have been learning new skills in netball. Last week, they showcased those skills in a mini tournament. Well done, everyone!

Stay and Learn – Reading Sessions

Growth in MI ND,
BODY, SPIRIT

A thank you as well to everyone who attended our Stay and Learn Reading sessions last week. We hope you found it valuable to work alongside your children and experience the way we teach in school.



Howard V Badsworth

Some of our Year 3/4 pupils played an excellent football match against Badsworth School on Friday, showcasing amazing skills and determination. Well done to all!



Stay safe, well and keep the faith – your support is greatly appreciated

Michael Walker – Headteacher

Proud of our partnership with Mshikamano (Solidarity) Primary School

Bega Kwa Bega (Shoulder to Shoulder)

