



Newsletter – Tuesday 22nd April 2025

Educating 'for life in all its fullness.'

Striving for 100%

Attendance

Spring Term

Reception	96.0%
Year 1	96.9%
Year 2	96.6%
Year 3	96.0%
Year 4	97.0%
Year 5	93.5%
Year 6	98.4%
Overall	96.5%

Attendance Champions:

Year 6

Well Done!

Our school attendance expectation is 97%.

Well done to everyone who achieved this.

Cumulative (2024-25) total so far – 95.9%

Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT Values for Life

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

This week's focus will be:

WISDOM:

"Let the wise listen and add to their learning." – Proverbs 1:5

This reminds us to seek understanding and knowledge in all situations, making thoughtful decisions that guide our actions and help others.

Global Citizenship Thread

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

Welcome to Our New Kitchen Manager

We warmly welcome Jenny Barker, our new Kitchen Manager! She's already made an impact, working with the School Council on our summer menu, and we're excited for her fresh ideas ahead.

Dear parents/carers

Growth in MIND,
BODY, SPIRIT

Welcome back to school, I hope that you have all had a lovely Easter with your families.

At the Howard School, our Global Citizenship threads run throughout the year, shaping well-rounded individuals who are prepared to be responsible, compassionate citizens. Last half-term, our focus on Health and Wellbeing provided fantastic opportunities for pupils to engage in meaningful experiences that support both physical and mental health.

From First Aid training for Key Stage 2 to mindfulness workshops in Year 5, our pupils embraced learning that will help them care for themselves and others. Our Wellbeing Ambassadors led worship and events, while OPAL play provision continued to enhance daily wellbeing. We also supported Hands Across Wakefield with NHS charities, encouraged healthy eating through Eat Them to Defeat Them, and strengthened our community links as pupil leaders visited Pontefract Community Kitchen to see how our donations make a difference.

Through these experiences, our pupils are growing into active global citizens, ready to make a positive impact in their school, community, and beyond.

Works over Easter

During the Easter holidays, essential chimney repairs were carried out to ensure the ongoing safety of our original school building. Work is now underway to install solar panels on the roof of the hall and the Key Stage 2 section of the school. Scaffolding has been set up around the perimeter of the building, securely boarded and netted for safety. The installation will take place throughout this week.

Statutory Assessments

This term, children will undertake national statutory assessments. It is very important that your children are in school during these periods:

- Year 6 (KS2) SATs (Mon 12th May – Thu 15th May)
- Year 4 Multiplication Check (Week Beginning Monday 2nd June)
- Year 1 Phonics Screening Check (Week Beginning Monday 9th June).

You can find out more about statutory assessments on our [dedicated website page](#).

School Calendar



May 2025

Friday 2nd May – Concert for Peace Rehearsal School Choir to walk to church in the afternoon.

Friday 9th May – Concert for Peace School Choir to walk to church in the afternoon. Parents of choir children invited – 1:45pm start.

Week Beginning Monday 12th May
Year 6 SATs

Year 5 Bikeability

Friday 16th May – Open Afternoon
Parents invited – 3:00pm.

Tuesday 20th May – Year 4 Class Worship
Parents invited – 9:15am (This is a date change).

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

Recent Letters: [Summer Lunch Menu](#) / [After School Activity Clubs](#)
[Solar Powered Classroom Scheme](#)



Project Biosphere – An Update from the Polytunnel

We're excited to update you on Project Biosphere, our new science and horticulture initiative. The polytunnel is complete, and raised beds are in place, forming the foundation of what will soon be a living classroom.

In the coming weeks, we'll finish the pathways and prepare the beds for planting. Inside, children will care for a variety of plants, from cacti and tropical foliage to carnivorous plants and fruit crops.

An exciting part of Project Biosphere is the integration of science and technology. Children will learn to code automated watering systems to support plant care, including endangered species, linking scientific knowledge with real-world application.

We hope to officially open the Biosphere in the coming months. Special thanks to the HSA for their generous support and additional funding from the Rolls-Royce Schools Prize for Science & Technology. We would also like to extend our gratitude to Wakefield Council's Community Payback Team for their contribution of labour.

We've received some wonderful plant donations but are still building our collection. If you can offer time, expertise, or resources, please contact the Howard School Association. Your support will help nurture the next generation of plant lovers, scientists, and environmentalists.



Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT

Easter Events

Our Easter celebrations were filled with creativity and joy! Highlights included the decorated egg competition, Easter Bonnet Parade, and Great Egg Race—truly egg-ceptional events for all involved.



Year 3 and 4's production of "Resurrection Rock" brought the Easter story to life with passion and enthusiasm. A special thanks to St. Cuthbert's Church for hosting this memorable performance.



We had some cracking entries in the decorated egg competition, including Eggspelliamus, Egg-sploring Eggamanjaro, Eggworth Howard School, Eggsercising with Yolka, Cookie Monster, OPAL Play Pandas, and many more fantastic creations. It's always a joy to see everyone's hard work and imagination come to life.



First Aid Awareness

KS2 took part in a first aid refresher, confidently identifying how to respond in emergencies. Year 3 enjoyed hands-on training with Mini First Aid, learning vital skills including CPR and the recovery position.

Growth in MIND, BODY



Exciting Learning

Year 2 welcomed frogspawn into class, sparking predictions and curiosity about life cycles. They also enjoyed a visit from Rev. Karen to explore how Jesus teaches Christians to treat others.

Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT



Mountain Inspiration

Year 5 impressed with their research and presentations on Sir Edmund Hillary as part of their geography topic on mountains.

Growth in MIND



Egg Hunt Fun

Reception had great fun reading We're Going on an Egg Hunt and taking part in a tricky word egg hunt—with chocolate rewards for reading success!

Growth in MIND



Caring for Nature in Nursery

In their Heart Smart session, Nursery children made bird feeders using cereal hoops to support local wildlife. Boris says: Looking after others makes our hearts grow bigger.

Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT



Three Course Meal

Year 6 finished the half-term by completing their final DT product in cooking. Between them they made a three course meal focused on the main ingredients of peppers, salmon and pineapple. They then rated and judged the courses

Growth in MIND, BODY



Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT

Dinner Debate:

Linked to our Christian value of wisdom and our focus on spiritual development (Self, Others, and World)

How can we make wise choices when helping others?

Attendance Really Does Matter... Analysis So Far This Year...

- 9% of children (18) have achieved 100%!
- 43% of children (88) achieved above 97% attendance.
- 3.8% of children (8) are classed as persistently absent as their attendance is below 90%. This is exceptional compared to other schools but we would love to get this to 0%!

"Thank you for your continued support; it is greatly appreciated."

Michael Walker – Headteacher

Proud of our partnership with Mshikamano (Solidarity) Primary School

Bega Kwa Bega (Shoulder to Shoulder)

